

# Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



August 2020

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## President's Report

Greetings to all members and friends, I hope that you and your families are staying safe and well.

Our Club is managing to maintain a steady number of sessions thanks to Julie Jeffries who is working valiantly to enable our members to continue playing both in the Club and on BBO. Our sessions at the Club, whilst successful, could be enhanced by a bit more support. We are legally allowed to play 12 tables and so far we have been well short of that. Whilst I do not expect members to do anything other than follow their own feelings and conscience, I can assure you that the Club offers an environment that scrupulously follows the Covid 19 rules and regulations, and is certainly a more safe environment than your local supermarket.

Julie has recently sent out details of changes to our play schedules, the Monday morning club session is back on and the Tuesday night session returns to the computer. I hope members support the Monday session, which has always been popular and fun, and Nanette will be back directing again. Please keep an eye on the Club website for any changes to the play schedules and do remember that you have to register with partner, on the website, if you wish to play in a Club session.

To underline how quickly the year passes I would like to remind members that the AGM is coming up and it is important that we have a quorum of members present on Saturday Sept

19<sup>th</sup>, although the meeting will be restricted to 50 in-person attendees. One important aspect of this year's AGM will be the membership ratification of our revised constitution, and of course the election of a new committee for 2021.

Anybody who feels that they would like to join the Committee, please see the "2020 Annual General Meeting" email dated 18<sup>th</sup> August for the attached nomination form, or you can collect a nomination form from the club.

You are all probably aware that the Gold Coast Congress has regrettably been cancelled for 2021. We will have to see if our own Easter Congress will be possible next year, but sadly there does not seem much reason for optimism for the foreseeable future.

Some sad news to impart - Mary Wilson lost her husband Geoff on the 31<sup>st</sup> July. Our thoughts and commiserations are with you Mary, from all your friends at the Club.

Our deepest sympathy also to Bronwyn Turner, who very recently tragically lost both her brothers.

We have two new members this month:

Jenny Thompson

Clare Petrie

We wish them a long and happy association with Brisbane Bridge Centre.

Elaine

## Bridge hand: A Curious Case of Powerful Sevens!

I recently read about the following interesting hand in the *Letters to the Editor* section of a US bridge magazine. The writer held the lovely hand shown here with zero high card points:

♠ 10 7 5 3    ♥ 9 8 7 6    ♦ 7 5 4 2    ♣ -

Can you believe that this hand actually took **three** tricks where there was no ruffing or running a long suit involved? In fact, the writer was defending a contract of 1NT, and the tricks taken were in three different suits. Here's the full layout with the writer sitting East.

|             |             |  |             |
|-------------|-------------|--|-------------|
|             | ♠ 9 8 6     |  | ♠ 10 7 5 3  |
|             | ♥ Q J 2     |  | ♥ 9 8 7 6 3 |
|             | ♦ A 10 6 3  |  | ♦ 7 5 4 2   |
|             | ♣ 10 3 2    |  | ♣ -         |
| ♠ A K 4     |             |  |             |
| ♥ A 5       |             |  |             |
| ♦ Q 9 8     |             |  |             |
| ♣ A J 9 8 6 |             |  |             |
|             | ♠ Q J 2     |  |             |
|             | ♥ K 10 4    |  |             |
|             | ♦ K J       |  |             |
|             | ♣ K Q 7 5 4 |  |             |

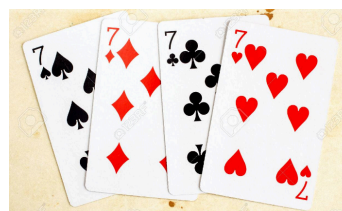
|             |              |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| 1♣          | Pass         | Pass        | 1NT          |
| All Pass    |              |             |              |

West led the ♠ A K on which East played the 10 and 3. (They were using high-encourage signals and there was no reason to encourage a switch.) West continued with the 4♠ and South won with the queen. Our hero's 7♠ was now the only ♠ left.

At trick 4, declarer led the K♣ which West ducked and East threw a low ♥. After finding out the bad news in ♣s, declarer then tried the K♦ and the J♦, covered by the Q♦ and won in dummy with the Ace.

Declarer then led a low ♥ from dummy to the K♥ and West's Ace. West exited with a low ♥, so declarer cashed the ♥ Q J in dummy (East's 7♥ was now high).

Declarer cashed the 10♦ in dummy and led a low ♦, hoping to end play West for an overtrick. Now, our hero won the 7♦ and cashed 7♠ and 7♥! Who needs high cards when you have 7s?



John Kelly



## Awards

The **Richard the Lion Heart Award** goes to Richard Wallis, who, playing on StepBridge with John Kelly, opened the bidding holding:

♠ J     ♥ AK874     ♦ AKQJ4     ♣ K9

.....with a PASS!. After a second pass, John bid a weak 2S and Richard cautiously bid 3NT. Asked "why the pass?" Richard explained that he felt he was 2 aces short of a safe opening bid.

The **Highwayman Award** is won by Archie Smith who was accosted outside the Club, by director Chris Larter, in possession of a Bridge Mate. Asked why he would purloin something as intrinsically useless outside the Club, he replied "I thought it was my mobile phone." He couldn't however explain the 14 bidding pads, 27 biscuits, 16 pens and 3 boards that were found in his possession.

## Heard at the Bridge Table

Bridge skill does not drop off with age, it's the drive and killer instinct... and when a player isn't primed to kill they makes mistakes.

Good Bridge comes from experience, and a lot of that experience comes from bad Bridge.

I don't suffer from bridge addiction; I enjoy every minute of it.

The correct way to make the contract will become obvious as soon as you have finished your play.

The more you practice, the luckier you get.

Four hearts is a very good bid -- but on some other hand.

Bad enough when the trumps are 4-1, but when the singleton trump gets a ruff, that's downright unfair.

Since losing finesses come in groups of three, a fourth consecutive losing finesse is actually the start of the next group of three.

Bridge is essentially a social game, but unfortunately it attracts a large number of antisocial people.

I hate bridge players. They always seem to be having a better time than I am.

The good thing about bridge is that you only need to be healthy above the neck.

Bridge advice is always given by people least qualified to do so and received by people most likely to ignore it.

"Tough Luck, Partner" actually means "You screwed up an easy one, idiot!"

Bridge is a non-violent game played violently from within.

As long as you make your contract, who cares if the method is wrong.

Bridge can't make you happy ... but it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery.

And finally, a few funnies from Richard:

An Officer came to my house and asked me where I was between 5 and 6, I replied, "Kindergarten."



*A WINNER listens to his partner's point of view;*

*A LOSER just waits until it's time to express his own.*

## Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at [arneuser2@bigpond.com](mailto:arneuser2@bigpond.com), or contact Arne by phone at 3342-0105. Current and past newsletters available for viewing and download on BBC's web-site: [www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org](http://www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org)