

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



November 2019

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President's Report

The Melbourne Cup day last week was well attended and, as usual, brilliantly organized by Peter Evans. Despite some hiccoughs due to protests and result changes it all sorted itself out in the end. A slight oversight was our failure to announce the winner of "best dressed", and this is rectified later in this newsletter where there is a selection of Bronwyn's photos from the event.

This Sunday sees the annual Brisbane Inter-Club competition. BBC are current holders having won convincingly last year. The policy of this Club is that we select players who have contributed in a variety of ways to the well-being of the Club. I wish the team the very best of luck for Sunday and I hope to persuade

Richard to contribute a short article for the December newsletter.

It was lovely to see Lesley Focks return to the Club recently having suffered a variety of health issues of late. Welcome back Lesley and hope to see you back on a regular basis.

For those who are interested there is a fabulous free bridge magazine available on the Internet, which was recommended to me by Rosa Lachman. It is a British publication running to about 180 pages and has contributions from a range of top international players. It is called A New Bridge Magazine and is well worth a look.

Elaine

Administrator's Corner

Queensland Wide Pairs

The BBC will be participating in the Queensland Wide Pairs at the Tuesday 9.30am session, 26 November. This is a state-wide competition where clubs from all over Queensland can participate, playing the same boards. A hand commentary of the boards played is written by Andy Hung. Green points are offered at the club with red points offered for the overall event by the QBA.

The cost will be the usual table fees/coupon plus an extra \$3.50 per player.

Please note:

- 9.30am session on Tuesday 26 November may not finish until 1pm, depending on the number of tables and the movement used.
- You may only play in one Queensland Wide Pairs session over the week (so if you play at other clubs, please check when they are offering this event).

Annual Membership Renewal Notices

All members will receive their annual membership renewal notice in early December. The due date is 31 Dec 2019.

The preferred payment method is internet/online direct deposit.

If you are paying by cash or cheque, place the correct money in a sealed envelope and drop the envelope in the white box outside the office. Please do not give the money to the director or ask the director for change in order to pay your membership fees.

A reminder that the Concession/Pensioner price is only available for members who have an Australian Pensioner Concession Card.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

A tradition at BBC for many years is the Christmas Hamper Raffle. This is a chance for members to win a hamper full of Christmas goodies.

This year, the draws will be at each regular session between Saturday 7 December and Friday 13 December. Members may purchase 1 ticket per session for \$2 each.

Christmas Party

The BBC Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 14 December. This is for all players who attend any bridge session at BBC – not just those who attend the Saturday afternoon session.

Lunch will commence at 12 noon and we ask everyone to bring a plate of food to share. The club will supply the drinks. Lunch will be followed by a red point bridge session at

1pm. You may come without a partner for the bridge.

Come and enjoy a social afternoon. All are welcome.

Christmas - New Year Period @ BBC



There will be NO bridge at BBC at the following times during the Christmas - New Year period:

- Tuesday Morning & Night 24 December
- Wednesday 25 December
- Thursday Morning 26 December
- Tuesday Night 31 December.

All other sessions will be held as usual.

Masterpoint Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received a masterpoint promotion.

- Judith Bennett –**National
- Margaret Cooper – National
- Bev Ranson – Regional
- Michael Bennett – *Local
- Marg Lane – *Local
- Blair Waters – *Local
- Julie Clark – Club
- John Simmons – Club

Bridge Hand

Apologies from Elaine – I typed this incorrectly in the original newsletter. Never do anything in a rush!

Continuing my previous theme on the occasional frustrating experience of doubling oppositions making contracts – here is a little beauty devised many years ago by Ely Culbertson and used in a James Bond novel.

<p>♠ 6 5 4 3 2 ♥ 10 9 8 7 2 ♦ J 10 9 ♣ -</p>	<p>♠ 10 9 8 7 ♥ 6 5 4 3 ♦ - ♣ 7 6 5 3 2</p>	<p>♠ A K Q J ♥ A K Q J ♦ A K ♣ K J 9</p>
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James Bond, sitting South, opened 7 Clubs (who wouldn't??) and East naturally doubled only to be re-doubled by Bond. The Grand Slam is lay-down against any defence – but don't expect this sort of thing to happen on a Friday morning.

Arne

Forgive Me, Partner

On Tuesday Night, 5 November (Melbourne Cup Night), I lost the plot on Board 16. It just shows you that we are all human and that an understanding partner is always required in this game. Also that I am stupid enough to admit this stuff up to all the bridge players at the BBC. The bidding went as follows.

West	North	East	South
P	1S	P	2H
P	4H	P	P
P			

<p>♠ K 10 9 4 ♥ 3 ♦ J 10 4 2 ♣ A 8 7 4</p>	<p>♠ Q 7 2 ♥ A 9 8 6 ♦ Q 7 5 ♣ K J 2</p>	<p>♠ A J 8 5 3 ♥ Q J 7 ♦ 8 6 ♣ Q 10 5</p>
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As you can see from the hand record, why on earth did I open 1S? Was I thinking of opening 1C and then wrote 1S? I honestly do not know.

To make it clear, I am not promoting psychic bidding.

To make the situation funnier, when I placed my hand on the table as Dummy, John questioned me about my hand. It took John pointing out the 1S bid to me, for me to realise what I had done.

It just goes to show you we are all human in this game we play.

Thank you to our opposition, Muriel Baker and Janette Hiatt, who were also very understanding and had a good laugh. They took it on the chin as they missed finding a spade fit due to my mistake.

Chris Larter

Melbourne Cup Day



I asked a neighbor to make the decision – she finally decided that Judy Hempel wins the Best Dressed Award. But everyone looks fabulous! Elaine

Heard at the Bridge Table

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

"Your play was not much better tonight, Partner, but your excuses certainly were."

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

"Bridge is one of the few games you can enjoy without being good at it."

The more you practice, the luckier you get.

When in doubt, put the opponents on lead. Why should you make the mistake?

Bridge is played by four people. Making a mistake is yours to savour alone.

Since the average person's small supply of politeness must last a lifetime, he can't afford to waste much of it on bridge partners.

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

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

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

If you can't be kind to your partner, at least have the decency to be vague.

"I never attend bridge courses. Why should I pay money to a professional when my wife knows bloody everything?"

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.

Awards

The Stakhanovite Award for prodigious work effort goes to Gillian Baker whose gardening labours during the recent Club working bee was nothing short of amazing.

The Rabbi Award for compulsive pruning, lopping and topiary is won by Julie Clark, another gardener extraordinaire.

The St. Augustine Award for selfless generosity is awarded to all those fabulous members who turned up for the working-bee and worked so hard. The Club thanks you.

The Kleptomaniac Award goes to Cath O'Hagan – for trying to collect playing cards by hiding them in her hand bag.

8H had fallen into Cath's handbag from board 17 during round 1. It was only discovered two tables later when North counted the cards when taking them out of the board. After not finding the missing card on the floor, Chris suggested to Elaine that the missing card could be in Cath's handbag ... which it was.

Till Bridge do us part

She's my partner in life till death do us part
She's my partner collecting coins, seashells and art
She's my partner in travel and raising the kids
She's my partner in wealth, or if we're on the skids
She's my partner in owning a washer and fridge
She's always my partner – unless we play bridge.
(Courtesy of Ron Klinger)

Puns etc

"It takes me 5 minutes to walk from my house to the pub. But it takes 35 minutes to walk from the pub to my house. The difference is staggering!"
(thank you Graham)

Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

I was wondering why the ball was getting bigger. Then it hit me!

Last night, I dreamed I was swimming in an ocean of orange soda. But it was just a Fanta sea.

I lost my job at the bank on my very first day. A woman asked me to check her balance, so I pushed her over.

The man who survived pepper spray and mustard gas is now a seasoned veteran.

Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arnejuser2@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