

Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



December 2025

Vol. 13 No 12

President's Report

The Christmas Party followed by red Point session was a great success. Congratulations to the session winners, Alan McKenna & Judith Milliner and Carol Loth & Lynn Henley. And a big thank you to all that provided such a wonderful array of delicious temptations for us to feast on.

The Christmas hampers were won by Carol Loth (pictured) and Rob Swann (not present on the day) – congratulations! Elaine's hamper raffle was once again brilliantly supported by club members with a significant profit paid back to the club.

Our longest serving director, Richard Wallis, has decided to retire. His last session will be Thursday 18th December. Richard was a founding member and has diligently served in varying capacity at our club. I thank Richard for

his years of service and look forward to seeing him still playing bridge. More details of Richard's bridge career appear later in the newsletter.

I wish all members a joyful Christmas and a great 2026.



Neil Hansen

Penny's Administrator Corner

Hello BBC members

New members

This month we enrolled one new member, Jane Harris. Welcome, Jane.

Brisbane Zone Interclub Teams

This all day event was held on Sunday 30th November

Thank you to the organisers, especially Elaine, Julie Jeffries and the kitchen helpers, for a very well run event.

BBC Diary for 2026

The new club diary is now available and some were given out at the BBC Christmas party. Please make sure you take a copy when next at the club.

BBC Christmas Party – Saturday 13th December

The Christmas party was a lovely casual day with lots of champagne and goodies to eat. Thank you to everyone who participated towards making this a happy occasion.

Membership Renewals

Annual club membership renewals will become due from 31st December and renewal advices have been sent out. For 2026, there is a small increase in the annual membership fees, due to increases in fees from the ABF and QBA.

If you have not done so already, please pay

before 31st December.

The club's preference for membership payment is to the club's bank account. Alternatively, fees

can be deducted from your MyABF account if you send an email to the club with this instruction. Payment by Eftpos is also available but please make sure your name is registered by the director on the sheet provided.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following who have recently been promoted –

Nicky Denholm – Silver National

Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year to all BBC members and their families and I look forward to working with you all again next year.



Happy Bridging!

Penny Grace

A Message From The Treasurer

New Playing Fees and Coupons

Beginning next month on 1 January 2026, playing fees for regular BBC games will rise from a current \$7 to \$8 for members and to \$9 for visitors. Please note that BBC fees have not changed since 1 January 2014, and the club is currently running a financial deficit. Also note that this increase of just \$1 is well less than that of the Australian CPI in that same 12 year period, over which a \$7 fee, in line with inflation, would have seen a \$2.40 increase to \$9.40.

Because of this change, our price for a pack of 10 playing coupons will rise from the current \$65 to \$75, and new coupons (of a prominently green colour) will be issued showing this. From January 1, the old maroon and white coupons will no longer be sold, but any of these currently held by members can be used for payment in conjunction with an additional \$1 in cash for the first 3 months. After 31 March, the maroon coupons will no longer be accepted at all.

John Kelly

Tribute to Richard Wallis



Sadly, Richard is no longer able to direct at BBC. He was a founding member, past president, director, teacher, and QBA representative. He has been a BBC stalwart, playing in regular sessions and congresses. Apart from his almost amazing ability to know the exact content and distribution of the opposition hands after the play of one or two cards, Richard will be remembered fondly for his unfailing good humour and for his tolerance towards less gifted bridge players. We all hope that he will continue to play here at BBC.

That he was a top-class bridge player is evident from the following taken from the QBA website:

QBA president 1984-1985, 2017-2020

National Titles

- 2015 Australian Senior Butler
- 2013 Australian National Seniors Teams Championship 1st [with Ian Afflick, Paul Collins, Therese Tully, Tony Jackman, Tony Hutton, David McLeish (NPC)]
- 2013 Australian Senior Butler
- 2009 Interstate Seniors Pairs – [with Tony Jackman]

State Representation

- Australian National Championships – Queensland Open Team 2018 (NPC), 2014, 2003, 1989, 1981, 1980, 1979, 1977
- Australian National Championships – Queensland Seniors' Team 2015, 2013, 2009, 2005

State Titles

- 2023 Queensland Open Teams Reg Busch Trophy [with Anne Lamport, Greer Tucker, Paul Gosney, Ewa Kowalczyk]
- 2022 Queensland Senior Pairs [with John Gough]
- 2022 Queensland Graded Pairs – [with Anne Lamport]
- 2017 Queensland Open Pairs – [with Lyn Carter]
- 2016 Queensland-Wide Pairs – [with Therese Tully]
- 2015 Queensland Graded Teams – [with Therese Tully, Kerry Wood, Charles Howard]
- 2012 Queensland Mixed Pairs – [with Therese Tully]
- 2011 QBA Senior Pairs – [with Tony Jackman]
- 2010 Queensland Open Teams – [with Richard Ward, Bill Hunt, Tony Jackman]
- 2010 Queensland Men's Pairs – [with Tony Jackman]
- 2008 Queensland Open Teams – [with Richard Ward, Lindy Vincent, Sue Mabin, Therese Tully]

- 2006 Queensland Open Teams – [with Tony Jackman, Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward]
- 2005 Queensland Open Teams – [with Lindy Vincent, Richard Ward, Therese Tully]
- 2004 QBA Senior Pairs – [with Tony Jackman]
- 2002 Queensland Mixed Pairs – [with Therese Tully]
- 2002 Queensland Open Pairs – [with Therese Tully]
- 1999 Queensland Open Teams – [with Jim Wallis, Siegfried Konig, Therese Tully]
- 1999 Queensland Open Pairs – [with Therese Tully]
- 1995 Queensland Graded Teams – [with Therese Tully, Bill Hunt, Magnus Moren]
- 1995 Queensland Men’s Pairs – [with John Summerhayes]
- 1992 Queensland Open Teams – [with Joan Butts, Therese Tully, Jim Wallis]
- 1989 Queensland Open Teams – [with Paul Lavings, Therese Tully, Joan Butts, Malcolm Carter]
- 1984 Queensland Mixed Pairs – [with Margaret Drake]
- 1983 Queensland Open Teams – [with Bill Hunt, Therese Tully, Colin Stone]
- 1975 Queensland Open Pairs – [with John Craig]

Other

- 2015 Northern Territory Swiss Pairs – [with Margaret Bourke]

Richard has asked for these words to be placed in the newsletter:

“I thank all those who sent me their support and best wishes following my decision to quit my active involvement in contract bridge”.

Heard at the Bridge Table

I never drink alcohol while playing bridge. It interferes with my suffering.

Winning does not really matter, as long as you win.

Some people are so busy learning the various conventions and gadgets of the game; they never fully enjoy the game.

A champion Bridge player is an amateur who did not quit.

Don't let worries get you down – play Bridge instead

Bridge is like a hot bath. It feels good while you’re in it, but the longer you stay in, the more wrinkles you get.

(He) is so bad that he admits to mistakes before he makes them

People shouldn’t be allowed to use conventions they don’t understand. It’s not fair to the opponents.

Through constant practice, I have become an expert loser.

I am so good I only need a partner who can tell one suit from another.

I know no one whom I would rather see in charge of the dummy.

My partner plus 12 sure tricks equals 11.

I do not doubt your luck and I know no one who needs it more than you.

If you cannot annoy somebody, there is little point in playing Bridge.

Bridge is about making mistakes and learning from them.

My Partner got half of it right.

Some humour from Neil

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa?

Claustrophobic

What do you call a kid that doesn't believe in Santa?

A rebel without a Claus.

What goes oh oh oh?

Santa walking backwards.

What do you learn at Santa's helper school?

The Elf-a-bet

What do you call an elf who sings?

A wrapper.



Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arneuser2@bigpond.com, or contact Arne by phone on 0404 085 712. Current and past newsletters available on BBC's web-site: www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org