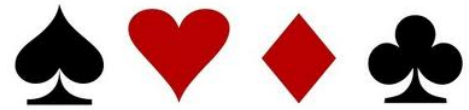


# Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



April 2026

Vol. 14 No 4

---

## President's Report

Going by the feedback I received from various participants, the Easter Congress was well enjoyed. Many thanks for all those that assisted over the two days and in the preparation prior. Particularly to Elaine and Penny, without whose work behind the scenes, the Congress could not have been such a success.

Many people (members and non-members) contributed to setting up for the congress. Thank you to Judy and Neil Hansen, Lynne Henley (and husband Mark), Lynn and John Kelly, Janet Leggo and Pat Tan for rolling up their sleeves and cleaning our club from top to bottom.

Malcolm Corney and his wife Diane, along with Judith Bennett's daughter-in law Sara Bennett, came into the club on Saturday afternoon and set up the entire upstairs area – a huge thank you to them.

Our kitchen helpers Trish Alldridge, Clive Carter, Linda Groves, Arne Jonsberg, Lynn Kelly, Hazel Lahey, Heather Meinecke, Kerry Pope, Deb Stokes, Marion Swann and Pat Tan kept the food, tea and coffee flowing, and clean cups available throughout – thank you.

Thanks also to our terrific directors Chris Snook and Jo Neary for such a well organised, happy and smooth two days, and to our caddies Marie Buckley and Elaine Jonsberg.

Also my thanks to all those that provided such tempting morning and afternoon tea.

The help of so many players who stacked the tables and chairs and helped clean up after the congress is also greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to all winners - a full list appears later in this newsletter. It is pleasing to see so many BBC members featuring in the winners' lists.

Remember we do have major event on Sunday 17th of May, the Graded Butler Pairs. We would appreciate any assistance in preparation and kitchen help on the day.

After 15 years of exemplary work as our Treasurer, John Kelly has advised that, due to health reasons, he will not be seeking re-election. John has advised that he will assist with the role over the next year. In order to make this task less onerous, it is proposed that the role be split into various duties, so that a few people can perform partial roles. If you think you can help with this, please see John.

I ask all members to consider taking over this role, or part thereof. Our club will not be able to continue to operate without a Treasurer.

On behalf of the Club I thank John for his years of dedication and hard work.

On a personal note, I will be away from the club 10th May until 6th September.

Neil Hansen

## Penny's Administrator's Corner

### New members

This month we enrolled 3 new members –

- Nerida Stark
- June Hagar
- Ann Elliott

A big welcome to you all.

### BBC Easter Congress – Pairs and Teams

The 2026 Easter Congress was held on Sunday 5th April and Monday 6th April. This was a very well attended event with 34 tables in the Pairs and 42 tables in the Teams.

A big thank you to all those volunteers who helped prepare for the day at the working bee, and on the day in the kitchens. Your help contributed greatly to the success of the event.

### BBC Graded Butler Pairs

The next major event at BBC is the Graded Butler Pairs which will be held on Sunday 17 th May. This is a red points event. The cost is \$40 (40 bridge credits) and entries are open on MyABF. BYO lunch. Please get your entries in and support the Club.

### BBC GNOT

This is an early notice that the BBC GNOT heats will be held on Sunday 21st June. More details to follow next month.

### South's Rugby Club

Please note that the footy season has begun and the fixture for the Souths Rugby Club home games is on the noticeboard. If you are playing on Saturdays, please arrive early when there is a home game to ensure a parking space.

### BBC Badges

A second order for badges is currently being prepared. If you would like a new badge, please let me know. The cost of the badges is \$15 and they are available with a pin clip or a magnet.

### Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have been promoted this month –

- Barbara Chandler – Bronze Local
- Barry Winning - Regional

Happy Bridging!

Penny Grace

## Easter Congress Results

Congratulations to the following players:

### Easter Pairs:

- A Grade:
1. Ivy Luck & Meta Goodman
  2. Kate Macdonald & Paul Gosney
  3. Normand Maclaurin & John Luck
- B Grade:
1. Sonya & Shane Palfreyman
  2. Margaret Giebels & Mick Fawcett
  3. Robyn Clark & Joan Jenkins
- C Grade:
1. Neil & Judith Hansen
  2. Lynn Kelly & Judith Bennett
  3. Linda Neil & Sue Calthrop

## Easter Teams:

- A Grade: 1. Parker  
2. Skeate  
3. Evans (John Kelly, Peter Evans, Carmel Martin, Abby Wanigaratne)
- B Grade: 1. Knox  
2. Clifford  
3. Sun
- C Grade: 1. Henry (Malcolm Corney, Jane Tagney, David Sydes, Marge Henry)  
2. Wilson (Clive Carter, Rod Wilson, Pat Tan, Rob Swann)  
3. Lee

Full lists of players and results are available on the QBA Results website.

## Bridge Hand: Morton's Fork Revisited

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

After West opened the bidding with 1H, North doubled for takeout and South got very excited. Not seeing a clear or simple way to investigate the possibility of a grand slam, South settled for 6S.

West leads the ♣K and when dummy appears, South, relieved that he had abandoned the hopes of a grand slam, realises that 6S is by no means a certainty. There appears to be a loser in diamonds and in hearts. So how do you play this small slam?

The key play here reverts back to my old adage about thinking carefully to your play of the first

trick. Most players would instinctively play dummy's ♣A and discard from hand, but there is no rush to do this. Ruff the opening lead in hand and draw the outstanding trump. Then lead the ♦7 from hand towards dummy. If West rises with the Ace you will be able to eventually discard one heart on the ♣A and one heart on the ♦Q. If West ducks the ♦7 you win with the Queen in dummy and discard the ♦K on the ♣A. You can then give up a heart trick and make the slam.

The slam cannot be made against competent defence if you take the ♣A at the first trick. When the ♦7 is led at the third trick West is caught on the Morten's Fork – if he plays the Ace he loses a trick and if he doesn't play the Ace he loses a trick. I told you it's an easy game.

Arne

*The Morton's Fork Coup gets its name from Archbishop Morton who was the Chancellor under Henry V11 in the fifteenth century. He extracted taxes from the population on the basis that if you lived well you could obviously afford it, and if you lived frugally you had savings so you could also afford it. Heads I win, tails you lose. Neat.*

## Heard at the Bridge Table

A Bridge match is a test of your skill against your opponents' luck.

If you really want to get better at Bridge, go back and take it up at a much earlier age.

Man who plays Bridge once a week is sociable. Man who plays 4 times a week is competitive. Man who plays every day has no life.

Unlike most sports, you only need 15cm of space to play bridge -- the distance between your ears.

Bridge is for people who like to do puzzles without answers.

There is more to life than Bridge, but not much more.

Ms. Bertha never partners men, as she firmly believes that all men were created equal. Equally incompetent, that is.

There are no blind opening leads, only deaf bridge players

It was unanimously agreed among all the top bridge players that the most important factor to win a tournament is to show up.

Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.

The difference between genius and stupidity at bridge is that genius has its limits.

Takeout Double - the one that your partner passes.

Rule of Eleven: the inevitable trick total whenever you bid a slam.

Bridge is a self-inflicted punishment for people with too much time and intelligence.

Sign that you are a Bridge Addict -

Your idea of a good time on a beautiful weekend is to go indoors and play.

Eternity is hard to conceive unless you are partnering a novice in a tournament.

My partner is 20 years behind the times. Nowadays you just need 13 cards to bid. My partner still thinks you need high cards to open the bidding.

## Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at [arnejuser2@bigpond.com](mailto:arnejuser2@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](http://www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org)