

REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

TRUMPIT



FEBRUARY 2024

Hi Everyone,

*The first session of **Sunday Bridge for 2024 will be held on Sunday, 4th February at 1.00 pm.** Please enter your name on the booking list or contact Avra Bowler. Could you also please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.*

*The **Annual General Meeting** will be held next month – see details on page 2. As our club runs with the assistance of volunteers, we are always looking for extra people to help. Perhaps you could consider nominating for a position on the committee.*

Several of our members will be competing at the Gold Congress later this month. We wish you lots of luck, and if you are competing for the first time, hope you have an enjoyable experience.

Good bridging and keep smiling!



Robina Cooper

*Good judgement comes from
experience.
Experience comes from
poor judgement.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The hot dry summer that was predicted by the weather bureau hasn't eventuated. Instead, it has been a hot wet summer, and it is a real comfort to get inside the clubhouse when the conditions are so steamy outside, and the air-conditioning has been running for long enough to get the temperature down to about 24° inside. It also pulls the humidity level down, so there's a double effect on your comfort. We've also been using the de-humidifiers so that we don't get another mould infestation. The heavy rain spells don't seem to have penetrated the building – unlike last year.

The air-conditioning system is our main power user. With the upgraded solar panels, the electricity bill for the club is now reduced by around \$1000 a quarter compared with the previous system.

The New Year Graded Pairs was held on two Tuesdays last month. We managed to attract 28 pairs, so we split the field into two grades. The grades are done by ranking according to the total Master Points held by both players. It was the first time I'd been responsible for setting up and running a complex event like this. Fortunately, we got through with only a minor glitch in the operation. Thanks for your patience when things got a bit slow at the start. Congratulations to the winners of both grades. See details on p.3.

We are in the process of setting up the Club Championship Teams event, to be run on two Fridays in early February. Currently we have 10 teams nominated. More teams will always be better, as long as we have an even number to balance the draw. With a relatively small number like this we are looking at a round-robin event, so every team will play against every other one.

Supervised play has restarted and will continue until the end of March. We are getting 2 or 3 tables of people at these sessions. Beginning players are welcome to come and refresh their skills. I have a number of new helpers in this task, and their help is greatly appreciated. The next set of lessons will start on the 3rd of April. If you have any family or friends who might like to learn, then ask them to get in touch.

Please take the opportunity to check your name and contact phone numbers as printed on the notice board before we produce this year's member booklet.

Nigel Cleminson – Club President

Notice is hereby given that the *Annual General Meeting* of the Club is planned for **Saturday 16th March 2024** commencing at **10:30 am**.

Nominations for positions on the Management Committee will open on **Friday 16th February and close at 12 noon on Friday 1st March**. If nominations exceed the positions available an election will take place. In addition to the four office bearers, the committee must have a minimum of three and up to a maximum of six general members. Elected committee members are expected to attend monthly committee meetings and be ready to volunteer for roles required for the smooth running of the Club. Committee meetings will be held at 1.30 pm on the second Tuesday every month until the following AGM in 2025.

Absentee voting will be possible for any elections required. Forms will be available soon after 1st March from the Club Secretary, Cathy Mathieson. These will need to be signed for in person. The completed absentee voting forms must be returned to the Club Secretary prior to the AGM. No proxy voting will be allowed for the elections.

If you have any item of business for the AGM, or wish to table a motion at the meeting, you must provide the relevant details to the Club Secretary by 12 noon Friday 1st March.

The agenda for the AGM will be available prior to the meeting for the perusal of members.

Cathy Mathieson – Club Secretary

DECLARER PLAY

Gary Brown



Count Your Top Tricks

Count the number of top tricks you could win by cashing your top cards in each suit. Count them only; do not play them yet. Subtract the

number of top tricks from the tricks required to make your contract. The difference is the number of tricks you must develop in order to succeed. Additional tricks can be developed by promoting high cards, establishing long cards, and ruffing.

Promoting High Cards

The simplest way to develop tricks is to promote the king, queen, jack or 10 (sometimes even the nine or eight) in a suit. Lead that suit to let an opponent win the Ace or other card that is higher than yours. This is easiest to do when your high cards are in sequence, such as the K-Q-J between your own hand and dummy.

When convenient, try to lead a low card from one hand toward a high card in the opposite hand. This is called a "finesse", and it increases your chances of success.

Establishing Long Cards

If your hand or dummy's hand contains a five-card or longer suit, or a four-card suit facing three cards in the opposite hand, it may be possible to establish the long card or cards. Lead the suit as many times as necessary to remove the enemy cards, after which any remaining card will be able to win a trick regardless of its rank. The longer your suit is, the more you will benefit from this.

As an example, assume you hold ♦A-K-7-6-5 and dummy holds ♦4-3-2. After winning the A-K and losing a trick to the opponents (not necessarily in that order), your remaining two cards will be winners if the suit divides as expected. *Establishing long cards often requires a lot of work and must be done early.*

Ruffing is possible only at trump contracts. A plain suit (not trumps) is led from one hand and a trump is played from the opposite hand. Besides developing tricks outright, the ruffing process may assist you in promoting high cards or establishing long cards.

In general, ruff in the hand with shorter trumps (or from either hand if you have equal trump length).

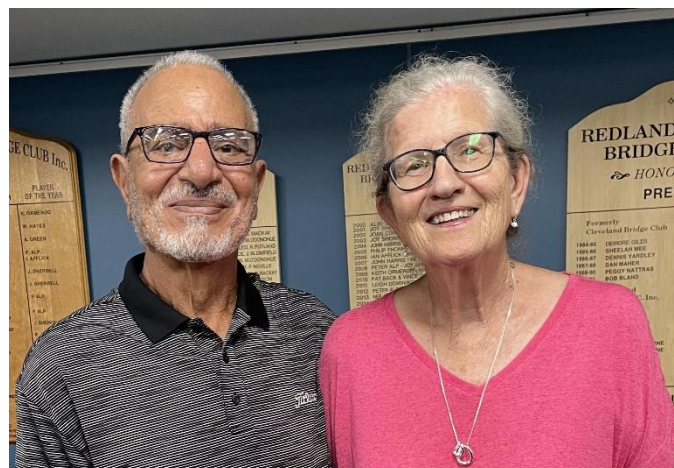
BRIDGE TOPIC OF THE MONTH

CLAIM BY DECLARER

- When a claim is made by Declarer, the declarer must state the proposed line of play. This should make mention of any outstanding trumps (eg “drawing trumps”), and how they plan to travel between hands if relevant.
- A careless or incomplete claim may cost you tricks that you would otherwise make.
- Claims should be made where possible – it is discourteous to continue play when the outcome is certain.

From ABF Rules and Ethics

The winners in **Group B** were **Sammy & Wilmy Ziada** (pictured below), with **Robyn Esdale and Neal Healy** second, and **Neil & Chris Niemand** in third place.



Sammy & Wilmy Ziada

Many thanks to Glynis Hendricks who provided a lovely morning tea for the players on the first day of the competition.

COMPETITION RESULTS

New Year Graded Pairs

Our first competition for the year was held over two weeks on 9th and 16th January. Many players who normally only play on Tuesdays were encouraged to compete. This resulted in a total of 28 pairs who were divided into two sections of 14 pairs.

The winners in **Group A** were **Philip Thompson & Molly O'Donohue**, who just managed to beat the second placegetters **Nigel Cleminson and Shirley Burgess**. **Michael Souter and Penny Cory** were third.



Philip Thompson & Molly O'Donohue

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

**** Sunday, 4 February – Sunday Bridge ****

Friday, 2 February – Club Championship Teams 1/2,
Red Points

Friday, 9 February – Club Championship Teams 2/2,
Red Points

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Liz Maguire
Dawn Mead

AND HOPE THAT YOU HAVE A LONG AND ENJOYABLE ASSOCIATION WITH THE CLUB

DECEMBER PROMOTIONS

Caroline Attard	Club
John Bullion	Local
Colin Gorton	Bronze Local
Sandra Devine	Silver Local
Barbara Richards	Silver Local
Robyn Esdale	Regional
Barb McGorman	Regional
Sammy Ziada	Regional
Irene Mullan	State
Cathy Mathieson	Bronze State
Robyn Green	National
Janelle Williamson	Silver National

2023 QBA Masterpoint Awards:

Neil Niemand – second place for best post-graduate for 2023. Congratulations Neil.



Rest in peace

*Our sincere condolences go to
Richard and the family of
Jan Peacock
who passed away recently.*



Bits and Pieces

Supervised Play has recommenced on Wednesdays, from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. and will continue to the end of March.

New Lessons will begin on Wednesday, 3rd April. If you know of anyone who may be interested in these lessons, please ask them to phone or text Nigel Cleminson on 0419 642 498. Alternatively, they can email the club: redlandsbridgeclub@bigpond.com.

Partnerships Co-ordinator after many years of helping members to find a partner to play with, Betty Bowdler is now stepping down from this volunteer role. Many members have appreciated her help over these years, and we sincerely thank Betty for her dedication.

This role will now be handled by Max Latimer.

*If you really have to
tell your partner of
his/her mistake, it
costs nothing to be
polite.*



I knocked on my neighbour's door and said,
"Your daughter owes me a new van,
I've just crashed mine into a tree
because of her."

"You must be mistaken," she replied.
"Our daughter is upstairs getting changed."

I said,
"I know, she's left the curtains open."

Why did the sheep cross the road?

- to go to the baaarbers.

Why did the cow cross the road?

- to go to the mooovies.

Why did the horse cross the road?

- to go see his neigghbours.

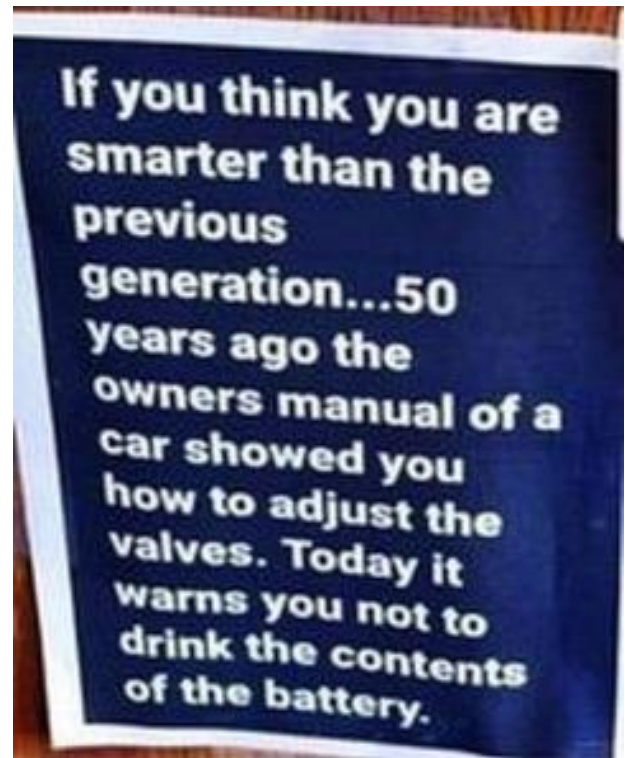
Why did the one-armed man cross the road?

- to get to the 2nd hand shop.

Why did the hedgehog cross the road?

- to visit his flat mate.

- How does an attorney sleep? First, he lies on one side, then he lies on the other side.
- I have a few jokes about unemployed people, but none of them work.
- How do you make holy water? You take some regular water & boil the hell out of it.
- Will glass coffins be a success? Remains to be seen.
- What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo? One is really heavy, and the other is a little lighter.
- Hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There's no menu - you get what you deserve.
- I went to buy some camouflage trousers yesterday but couldn't find any.
- What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind? A maybe.
- I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- A cross-eyed teacher couldn't control his pupils.
- She had a photographic memory but never developed it.
- I wasn't originally going to get a brain transplant, but then I changed my mind.
- My ex-wife still misses me. But her aim is starting to improve.
- The guy who invented the door knocker got a no-bell prize.
- I saw an ad for burial plots, and I thought: "That's the last thing I need!"
- I used to be indecisive; now I'm not so sure.
- Sleeping comes so naturally to me; I could do it with my eyes closed.
- What did the grape say when it got stepped on? Nothing – but it let out a little whine.
- What do you call a super articulate dinosaur? A Thesaurus.



Three dead bodies turn up at the mortuary, all with very big smiles on their faces. The coroner calls the police to tell them of the results after his examination.

"First body: Frenchman, 60, died of heart failure whilst making love to his mistress. Hence the enormous smile, Inspector," says the coroner.

"Second body: Scotsman, 25, won a thousand pounds on the lottery, spent it all on whisky. Died of alcohol poisoning, hence the smile."

The Inspector asked, "What of the third body?"

"Ah" says the coroner, "This is the most unusual one – Paddy from Belfast, 30, struck by lightning."

Why is he smiling then?" inquires the Inspector.

"He thought he was having his picture taken."

*5 ants rented an apartment with 5 other ants.
Now they're tenants together.*

My wife got stung by a bee on the forehead. She's at the Emergency Department now, her face all swollen and bruised. She almost died. Luckily, I was close enough to hit the bee with my shovel!

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