

REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB



TRUMPIT



JANUARY 2021

Hi Everyone,

I am sure you are all happy to say goodbye to 2020, the year that changed our lives forever. **Welcome to 2021!** With a vaccine for COVID on the near horizon, the New Year offers hope that our lives can return somewhat to normal and we can spend time with family and friends without the restraints of social distancing. It is amazing how much pleasure we can get from the simple things in life, like being able to have a cup of tea or coffee at the club!

Although our lives have been negatively impacted during the last year, we have seen some positives. People are generally kinder and more thoughtful to others, and there have been less colds and flu due to better hygiene such as hand washing. This is a good habit to continue, after all, isn't this what your mother taught you?

I would like to pass on a big thank you to Pauline Curtis who has done a fantastic job as editor of Trumpit for many years. Hers are big shoes to fill, and I hope I can do half as well as I take on this role. Any suggestions and any contributions would be most welcome. You can email me at: robina21@bigpond.com

Happy Bridging



Robina Cooper

Last year is another fallen leaf from the tree of life. It shows the shredding of experience for getting to the new leaves of life.

FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- As fewer members are now visiting the clubhouse to play face-to-face Bridge, there will be NO membership list placed on the notice board this year for members to check their phone numbers before printing of the annual **members' booklet**. It is assumed that all members updated their phone number when they paid their 2021 levy. It is hoped to have the booklet printed in January. If you are aware of any errors in the 2020 booklet please advise me urgently.
- Paper copies of the 2021 **Club calendar** are available at the front desk. The calendar is also on the club's website.
- There will be no **Neville Langford award** made in 2020 as there were insufficient red point events to enable a proper evaluation of a winner. The only Honour Board event that was held in 2020 was the Club Championship teams.
- Please remember that if you are **self-serving tea/coffee** at the clubhouse, that you sanitize your hands immediately before you touch the coffee jar, the milk bottle and the hot water tap. Also sanitize your hands immediately before you touch the cold water tap and the fridge door handle. Thank you.
- Remember to book online your desire to play on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to ensure that the table limit of 32 pairs in not exceeded. Also you need to book for Thursday sessions to ensure that sufficient members are available to make the session viable.
- All the club's regulatory requirements have been carried in 2020 despite the disruption of COVID-19.

Notice is hereby given that the *Annual General Meeting* of the Club is planned for **Saturday, 6 March commencing at 10:30 am**. Nominations for committee members, including office bearers, will open on Friday 5 February and close at 12 noon on Friday 19 February.

In addition to the four office bearers, the committee must have a minimum of three and can have up to a maximum of six general members. The current committee is short by two members. Members are asked to consider allowing their name to be put forward for election to the committee.

In the Trumpit each month this year, Donna Noble has prepared articles describing some of the jobs required to be carried out at the club to enable members to play Bridge each week. Please consider how you can contribute.

If you have any item of business for the AGM or wish to put a motion at the meeting, items for the agenda must be in the hands of the Club Secretary by 12 noon Friday 19 February.

Doug Sands – Club Secretary

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE

by Patricia Back



Dealing with Aces

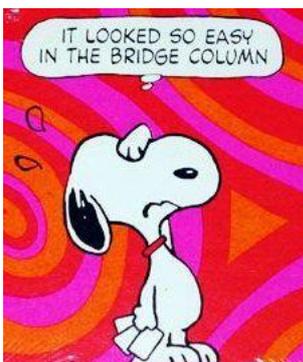
There is a well-known saying from the early days of bridge, which says “*Aces were meant to capture Kings.*” One way to interpret this piece of enduring wisdom when making the opening lead to the opponent’s contract is “*Do not lead an Ace unless you also hold the King of that suit.*” You will often find that declarer holds the King, which cannot make, unless the Ace has been led. Wait for your partner to lead that suit, so that you capture the King. On the other hand, an even worse decision is to **underlead an Ace** against a Suit contract. This can lead to the unfortunate, but rare, situation when dummy hits the table with the singleton King in your led suit. When leading against a NT contract, however, it is quite OK to underlead an Ace.

When holding an Ace, ‘hold your horses’ and keep it to capture someone else’s King. This also applies when your partner has bid that suit. They may have a holding such as QJ1098.

WHAT’S ON THIS MONTH

- Thurs 7th January – members only **RED POINTS**
- Mon 11th January – New Year Graded Pairs* **RED POINTS 1/2 R&C**
- Mon 18th January – New Year Graded Pairs* **RED POINTS 1/2 R&C**
- Tues 26 January – Australia Day **Green Points**
- Fri 29 January – Club Teams Championship **RED POINTS 1/2**

Note: *Register on the notice board as well as on line. Restricted to 15 tables.



“OH, THANK HEAVENS!! A FOURTH!”

Bridge Topic of the Month

SLOW PLAY & POST MORTEMES

Players should endeavour to avoid any delay to the completion of a round by excessively slow play, prolonged post mortems or social exchanges. All boards should be played and scored within the time limits set by the Director.

Players should move as soon as possible after the Director has called for a change of seats. Unnecessary delays, apart from those due to slow play by other players, may lead to a failure to complete subsequent rounds in the allocated time and to incur penalties.

At any table, if for the first time, bidding on the board has not been completed nor the lead card placed on the table by the three minute warning signal, then, at the discretion of the Director, both pairs may be required to cease play and have an AVERAGE score awarded for any uncompleted board/s. After a pair is given an average score because of their slow play in two rounds, any subsequent slow play by the same pair will result in an Average minus (40%) being given to the offending pair.

On subsequent occasions where the same pair is found to be late in completing a round, the play of any uncompleted board/s will be terminated at the discretion of the Director. Offenders will be awarded an AVERAGE MINUS (40%) score with an AVERAGE PLUS (60%) score being awarded to the non-offending opponents.

Discussion of hands played at the table is not recommended and is to be discouraged even if all boards in a round have been played and scored and there is no likelihood of delay to the progress of play. In any event, discussions must not be audible to players at other tables, and must not be continued to another table in the presence of new opponents. Any violation of these requirements may incur a penalty from the Director.

From ABF Rules and Ethics

The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you sit at the bridge table.

Behind the Scenes

by Donna Noble

As ordinary members, many of us are not fully aware of the many tasks that are undertaken by volunteers at the club to ensure its smooth running. In an endeavour to make our members better informed, each month a task or two undertaken by volunteers will be featured for your information. It may just spur you on to put your hand up for a job!

Directing

A director is responsible for the setting up and running of all tournaments and sessions. This includes a multitude of things including creating the tournament, managing it, registering entries, handling calls at individual tables, monitoring player behaviour and checking and publishing results. On top of all that the club now has COVID to manage and so the director must ensure all players adhere to the requirements for a COVID safe environment. Our current directors are Ros Putland, Michael Souter, Chris Mayfield, Bruce Johnman, Neil Casey, Warren Moore, Anne Ormerod and Max Latimer (in training). No bridge could be played in our club if it weren't for one or two of these people making themselves available for every session each week.

Thank you...thank you...thank you!

Mentoring

As we all know the initial lessons are just the beginning of our learning to play bridge and I am beginning to understand there is never going to be an end to it! Mentors play an important role in that learning for new members as they begin to play in sessions and experience firsthand the various scenarios the cards can present. Playing with a mentor allows a new player to have one on one time with a more experienced player, giving them time to ask questions and be guided in bridge etiquette and play. Our current mentors are Deirdre Giles, Carmel Denaro, Jan Argent, Ian Argent, Betty Bowdler, Bill Morgan, Doug Sands, Bruce Johnman, Molly O'Donohue and others. Thanks for sharing your expertise!

A bridge teacher explaining duplicate bridge protocol tells a lady to make her opening lead face down. She promptly puts her head on the table and leads a card face up.

WE WARMLY WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS



Jacinta Fromm Jan Priest
Val Lovett Susan Rankin
Dana Peterson Brian Siebert
John Peterson Esti Siebert

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



70%ers for December



THOMAS & PAT FRANCE 70.5%

SPECIAL 80th BIRTHDAY



Congratulations to
Sandra Berns – 9th December

Club Badges

As we welcome our new members and encourage them to play in the sessions, we get to know them with the help of their name badges.

It is helpful for the new members if we also show the same courtesy by always wearing our own name badges.

Official club name badges are available from Ben Whitehouse for \$10. Please see Ben (Tuesdays and Fridays) or phone 0407 929 492. The badges are generally available within a couple of weeks.

Please note ***Supervised Play*** will resume on Wednesday 13 January and continue 2pm to 4pm each Wednesday afternoon. Players are encouraged to advance to a competitive playing session as soon as they are able to do so.

The next ***Beginners' Class*** is planned to start in March 2021. Please invite your friends to consider learning to play our much loved game.



Christmas celebrations 2020 Style

Due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to celebrate with our usual club Christmas Party. To offer some Christmas cheer to members, lunch boxes of sandwiches, cake, crackers & cheese and soft drink were available to members who played in the week prior to Christmas. Thanks to members who provided positive feedback and especially a big thank you to Donna Noble who organised these lunches.

News from across the Ditch

Margaret Wienk and her husband have happily settled in and spent Christmas with her daughter while they wait for their house near Christchurch to be completed - hopefully by the end of February.

They quite enjoyed their quarantine on arriving in NZ as they were lucky enough to be in a good hotel, and in a room that had both a queen and double bed. Fortunately the food was excellent, and the manager personally came to check that they were OK as they were the oldest people ever to be in quarantine.

It was a welcome break for Margaret, as she was a little worn out after the sale of their house and organising the transportation of their household effects to New Zealand.

From the Queensland Bridge Association

- * The QBA has updated the Qld **regulations**, mostly just tidying up formatting, reducing repetition, and eliminating contradictions. The new version is available on the QBA website.
- * The QBA will continue to run red point single imp **online sessions** each Saturday afternoon at 1:00 pm for as long as there is a demand.
- * The 2021 **state calendar** is now available on the QBA website.
- * The 2021 **Barrier Reef Gold Point event** will proceed with a limit of 70 tables. Book early if you are interested.
- * QBA continues to recommend the following **COVID** actions:
 - a) That sessions be restricted to members only (to facilitate contact tracing); b) That temperature checking continues; c) That all tables, chairs, side tables and Bridgemates be sanitized at the end of each session.
- * The ABF has published on its website a document on **cheating**, which covers both online and face-to-face Bridge.
- * The ABF has offered clubs a reduction in its **levy** for 2021 to help clubs which incurred a loss of income in 2020 due to COVID-19. This is a one-off reduction from \$16.10 to \$10.



QBA Certificates of Thanks

The Queensland Bridge Association has awarded Certificates of Thanks to members who have shown dedication, expertise and enthusiasm in supporting Qld bridge players during the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

Congratulations and sincere appreciation to our two members who have been honoured:

Doug Sands: Who researched all the Covid-19 restrictions and drafted our Covid-19 Safety Plan. Without his dedication and hard work, the club would not have opened so soon.

Colin Gorton: Who provided online bridge opportunities by acting as a director for BBO bridge competitions between the Redland and the Sunnybank Clubs.

Membership Subscriptions / Booklets

The cut-off for the Membership Booklet will be early in January. Please make sure that your subscriptions are paid before then, and that your details have been updated. Don't forget to advise if you have changed your address, phone number or emergency contact details. Subscriptions can be paid by EFTPOS at the club.

The teacher asked Little Johnny if he knew his numbers.

"Yes," he said "my father taught me."

"Good. What comes after three?"

"Four" answered the boy.

"What comes after six?"

"Seven"

"Very good," said the teacher. "Your dad did a good job. And what comes after 10?"

"Jack".