

REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

TRUMPIT



JANUARY 2024

Hi Everyone,

Hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas with your family and friends and that in 2024 you will enjoy lots of laughs, good health, good luck, and good friendships.



As you make your resolutions for the New Year, it is a good time to consider how we can all help to make ours a friendly club that people enjoy visiting. Think of what you can do for our club to help make it better. We are always very grateful for suggestions and for the help of volunteers.

Good bridging and keep smiling!



Robina Cooper

*Be decisive - right or wrong,
make a decision.*

*The road of life is paved with flat
squirrels who couldn't make a decision.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A happy New Year to everyone. I hope you had a great time over Christmas, and you're looking forward to 2024. As predicted in last month's trumpet, hot cross buns have appeared in the shops already. I'm hoping to get some soon, although it does seem that any underlying significance has disappeared.

The Open Teams Congress was held on Sunday 3rd of December. We had a large field of 24 teams entered. It turned out to be a great event, with very positive messages from the visitors about the environment, the food, and the way it was run. The volunteers who contributed are all to be congratulated on their efforts. This sort of message will certainly encourage people to enter our congresses. We've been given the task of hosting the Brisbane Inter-Club Teams this year to go with our three congresses, so the later part of the year will be very busy.

The next event on our calendar is the New Year Graded Pairs. For a change, this year we're holding this significant red-point event on Tuesdays. This will mean you'll have to have a partner and have your names on the nomination sheet to play on these two days – the 9th and 16th of January. Please remember that if you put your name down to enter a special event like this, then you're making a commitment to appear on both days. There won't be any other type of session on those two days, so I encourage you to give it a go. There will be either two or three sections depending on the number of entries. At the time of writing, we have 18 pairs entered.

Supervised play is going to restart on the 10th of January, and the next set of lessons will take place around March.

Some of the beginners from previous lessons are getting close to starting play. The normal day for beginners to enter the fray has been Tuesday. This was originally set aside for those with very few master points. There has been a gradual change as players accumulated points, and there is now little difference with other sessions in terms of those playing. We still accept people without a partner, and the Tuesday field is one of the largest sessions that we have in a normal week. We're considering ways to make it easier for new starters – including a separate group on the Tuesday. If you have any suggestions about this then please let me know.

The calendar of club events has been settled, and if anyone wants a copy there are printed versions at the front desk.

Nigel Cleminson – Club President

BRIDGE TOPIC OF THE MONTH

SECRET AGREEMENTS

1. Your systems and methods must be transparent. Your opponents are entitled to know everything about your bids and plays that your partner does.
2. This includes system agreements as well as matters of style, and also any agreed temporary departure from the system.
3. All players must have system cards, and opponents are entitled to ask questions of the player's partner about bids or plays and are entitled to a full answer.

SYSTEM CARDS

System details are to be recorded on approved ABF System Cards. They must be legible to anybody and show the names of the relevant pair and an indication of the classification of the system.

For ordinary weekly Club events, each pair must have at least one relevant system card on the table during a session. For Club Championships, Red point events and Congresses, each participating pair must have two identical cards on the table throughout the event.

From ABF Rules and Ethics

SIMPLE PREFERENCE REBIDS

Gary Brown



As responder you hold:

♠ AQ984
♥ J9
♦ J87
♣ 983

Partner opens the bidding ♥1 and you bid 1♠. Consider the following auctions:

Partner	You
1♥	1♠
1NT	?

I would now pass and be happy to play 1NT with a balanced hand opposite a balanced hand. Partner may well have a doubleton spade so a rebid of 2♠ is a shot in the dark.

Partner	You
1♥	1♠
2♣	?

You know of nine cards in partner's hand (5 hearts and 4 clubs) so don't insist on your 5-card suit, as partner rates to be short in spades! Show simple preference for hearts. Bid 2♥.

Partner	You
1♥	1♠
2♦	?

Show simple preference. Bid 2♥, preferring a 5-2 fit over a 4-3 fit.

Partner	You
1♥	1♠
2♥	?

Partner is showing a 6+ card heart suit and 13-16. You should Pass.

Partner	You
1♥	1♠
2♠	?

Partner is showing 4-card spade support and a minimum hand (13-15). Pass. There are ways of uncovering 5-3 fits without rebidding a five-card suit. Try not to rebid your primary suit (first suit you bid) without having six cards in the suit.

When choosing which of partner's suits you prefer, opt for a 5-2 fit rather than a 4-3 fit! Reviewing the first auction above: 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♣, you expect partner to have five Hearts and four Clubs. So, you have a 5-2 fit in Hearts and a 4-3 fit in Clubs. A 5-2 fit is easier to handle than a 4-3 fit. In both cases you are missing six trumps. Six cards usually split 4-2 which means one of the opponents rates to have the same number of trumps as your partner if you play in a 4-3 fit. Hence, the 5-2 is preferred.

COMPETITION RESULTS

Redland Open Teams Congress

Our final congress for the year was a great success with 24 teams competing. We thank all the contestants who came from other clubs and in particular our own members who supported us on the day.

The Bugler team were the outright winners which consisted of Patrick Bugler, Neville Francis, Ralph Parker and Tony Hutton.



President Nigel Cleminson with Tony Hutton.



Second place to John & Ivy Luck, Terry Strong and Jill Magee.



Third place to Nikolas Moore, Lary Moses, Normand MacLaurin & Seb Langdon-MacMillan.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Tuesday, 9 January – New Year Graded Pairs 1/2,
Red Points

Tuesday, 16 January – New Year Graded Pairs 2/2,
Red Points

Friday, 26 January – Australia Day – **Green Points**

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Terry Coman
Dawn Higgins
Dorothy (Dot) Russell
Jennifer (Jenny) Wilkinson

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

Supervised Play will recommence on Wednesday, 10 January from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. The next **Lessons** scheduled for March. If you know of anyone who may be interested in these lessons, please ask them to email the club: redlandsbridgeclub@bigpond.com or phone or text Nigel Cleminson on 0419 642 498.

Most bridge players prefer consistency in their partners rather than brilliance



Managing the Bridgemate



Recently some of our new members had a lesson on the use of Bridgemates – our very invaluable tool which makes scoring very easy and enables results to be provided quickly. However, the onus is on the person entering the details and the person who is checking to make sure that what is entered, is correct.

What's the best way to use the Bridgemate? Efficiently, to save time, is the trick. At the beginning of a round, use the Bridgemate to check that the right players are in the right position at the table, and that you have the right set of boards. Discovering after the first board that the wrong boards are at the table (it has happened) means the players have lost six minutes and the Director has a problem to fix.

The responsibility of entering the correct details on the Bridgemate is either the North or South player, whose responsibility is to:

1. Enter the board number at the *beginning* of playing each Board.
2. Enter the contract once it's been decided!
3. Enter the lead card.
4. Enter the number of tricks won and press OK.
5. Ask East or West to accept the entry.

If you're dummy, a good time to do Steps 2 & 3 is after the opposition plays the lead card and you've put down your dummy hand and declarer is planning the play. If you're not dummy do Steps 2 & 3 while the dummy hand is going down. Doing it this way will save time and not hold up valuable playing time.

If you are the verifier, it is important that you understand what you're verifying. Check the Bridgemate entries very carefully after each board. Once you hit 'Accept' only the Director can fix an incorrect entry so please ensure you check carefully before accepting.

Bits and Pieces

Leisure Activities Survey

The President of the ABF has asked all clubs and club members to complete a survey by the World Bridge Federation (WBF) exploring what types of leisure activities people do and why.

Please help us, our community, and our beautiful game by taking 5 minutes to complete the survey, and by asking friends to complete it (even those who don't play bridge).

The survey is available on the following link:
<https://pip.surveymonkey.com/r/DKJW93X>

Because this survey is aimed primarily at bridge players, the end result will be a better understanding of why different groups of people around the world like and play bridge, and how bridge compares to other activities that bridge players and potential bridge players like to do.

This will help bridge administrators, teachers and promoters design better ways to identify, attract and teach potential bridge players, and also ways to encourage players to keep playing the game.

The Empty Christmas Tree Appeal

We have received a letter of appreciation from The Redland Community Centre who were extremely grateful for the contribution that our club and members made to their appeal, especially the donations of toys for the children in our local community. Thanks everyone!

Thank You

A big Thank You to **Di Eliott** and **Ros Putland** and the many others who helped to make our Christmas Party a huge success. Many people have said it was one of our best Christmas parties ever.

Having two violinists to entertain us was an enjoyable surprise and appreciated by all, along with the party games and prizes.

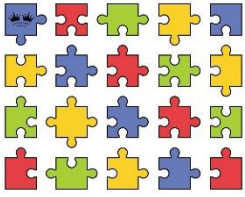
A little message to Brian: when someone says, "Put a cork in it", that's not what they mean!

Also, a big Thank You to all who contributed to the success of our recent congress, especially for those who worked in the kitchen and kept the food coming, and those who made donations of food.

Christmas Party celebrations



Jigsaw Puzzles Library



Quite a number of our members enjoy testing their skills with the jigsaw puzzles which are in our library.

Members are very welcome to borrow the jigsaw of their choice. Many of the jigsaws donated to our club are still of considerable value, and we do expect them to be returned.

A trial period will begin shortly where a small number of jigsaws will be separated and required to be signed out. Thus, we can keep track of them allowing for the enjoyment of others later. Thanks in advance for adhering to this system.

Betty Bowdler

*Our dog can find anything!
He is a Labragoogle*

A Little Poem For Seniors, so true it hurts!

Another year has passed And we're all a little older.
Last summer felt hotter And winter seems much colder.
There was a time not long ago When life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand About 'Living in the Past'
We used to go to weddings, Football games and lunches..
Now we go to funeral homes And after-funeral brunches.
We used to go out dining, And couldn't get our fill.
Now we ask for doggie bags, Come home and take a pill.
We used to often travel To places near and far.
Now we get sore asses From riding in the car.
We used to go to nightclubs And drink a little booze.
Now we stay home at night And watch the evening news.
That, my friend is how life is, And now my tale is told.

So, enjoy each day and live it up...

Incredible

Before you're too damned old!

*Behind every husband who thinks he wears
the pants....*

*Is the wife who told him which pants to
wear.*

A woman was talking to a co-worker, "I don't know what to do. My husband is such a mess maker that you can't imagine. He doesn't put anything away; I am always going around the house cleaning up after him."

The friend says, "Take a tip from me. The first week after we were married, I told my husband firmly, 'Every glass and plate that you take, wash when you are done and put back in its place.'"

The first woman asked, "Did it help?"

Her co-worker replied, "I don't know. I haven't seen him since."

When you can't find your reading glasses!



Wife: I have a bag full of used clothing I'd like to donate.

Husband: Why not just throw it in the trash? That's much easier.

Wife: But there are poor starving people who can really use all these clothes.

Husband: Honey, anyone who fits into your clothing is not starving.

Husband is recovering from a head injury now.

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"