

REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

TRUMPIT



FEBRUARY 2025

Hi Everyone,

Sunday Bridge is returning. The first session for 2025 will be held on **Sunday, 2nd March 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 on **Sunday, 16th March** – see details on page 3. If you would like to contribute to the running of the club, please consider nominating for a position on the committee. We are always appreciative of people willing to help.

Several of our members will be competing at the **63rd Gold Coast Congress** in the first week of this month, and we wish all competitors lots of luck. Sadly, this is the last year the GCC will be run. Walk-Ins are still available up to Thursday 6 February for those who wish to participate.

Good bridging and keep smiling!



Robina Cooper

*Truth does not mind being questioned,
a lie does not like being challenged.*

Trumpit Newsletter Editor – Robina Cooper
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With the hot and humid summer, we're experiencing, 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. When I'm at the front desk, I often see people sigh with relief as they come into the building.

I'd like to draw your attention to the efforts of some committee members whose work has a low profile but still has a significant result for the club. We had a working bee in the outside area last year. Since then, a lot of the garden work has been continued by Tom France. He's been taking care of watering, planting, weeding, pruning and the occasional spot of mowing. Our surroundings wouldn't look as good without his continuous efforts. Another worker is Max Latimer, who has taken on the role of recycling manager. All the rubbish from our recycle bin in the clubhouse is sorted by Max, and he transports offsite all of the waste that can be put into that category. He also collects the cans and bottles that can be taken for the 10c return. For another example, a lot of the work associated with organising the catering has been done by Avra Bowler and her helpers. We had a lot of events in the last few months of last year – congresses, Inter-Club Teams, Melbourne Cup, Christmas party – and multiple overlapping catering arrangements had to be dealt with. I'd also like to thank all of the other people whose efforts allow us to keep operating smoothly.

The New Year Graded Pairs was held on two Tuesdays last month. We managed to attract 28 pairs, which is less than last year. We split the field into two grades with 7 tables each. The grades are done by ranking according to the total Master Points held by both players. There were just enough competitors to run a Swiss movement. See details on page 3.

We are in the process of setting up the Club Championship Teams event, which will be run on two Fridays in mid-February. At the time of writing, we have 10 teams nominated. More teams will always be better. If we have an even number, we can set up a round-robin event, so every team will play against every other one. With an odd number of teams, then a Whist movement is easy to run.

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 helpers in this task, and their input is greatly appreciated. The next set of lessons will start on the 2nd of April. If you have any family or friends who might like to learn, then ask them to get in touch.

The next AGM isn't too far away. We will soon be putting up nomination forms for committee positions and notices of motions to be voted on.

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

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Friday 14 February – Club Championship Teams 1/2, Red Points

Friday 21 February – Club Championship Teams 2/2, Red Points

**** Sunday, 2 March – Sunday Bridge****

Principles of Opening Bid at One Level

Gary Brown



Assuming you have the strength to open.

1. No Trump Opening

Whenever you can open the bidding with 1NT do it! You show your strength and a balanced hand with one bid. Balanced hand means one of the following distributions:

a) 4-4-3-2 b) 4-3-3-3 c) 3-3-5-2

1 Two Five Card Suits

With two 5-card suits - bid your higher-ranking suit first, regardless of which suit has the most strength. This applies to opening bids and responses.

2 Powerhouse Hands

Whenever you have a hand with 23+ points or practically game in your own hand, you should open the bidding with **2♣**. **2♣** is a forcing bid and cannot be passed.

3 Opening 1♦ With a three Card Suit

A **1♦** opening bid promises a 4-card suit. There is only one exception: When you hold 4 spades, 4 hearts, 3 diamonds and 2 clubs. (4-4-3-2) *Then, and only then - open 1♦!*

4 Two 3 Card Minors – Open 1♣

With two 3-card minors and an opening hand that is not suitable to open with NT or a major suit, you should always open **1♣**. This is regardless of suit strength.

5 Two Four Card Minors – Open 1♦

Whenever you hold two 4-card minors (not suitable for opening in no-trump) open **1♦**. Regardless of suit strength.

6 Rule of 20

With dodgy hands that lack high card points (less than 13 points) but are distributional, add the number of HCPs you have to the number of cards in your two longest suits. If it adds up to 20 - open the bidding. i.e. In the first hand below, the hand adds up to 20 with 10 HCP and two 5-card suits. In the second hand you have 10 HCP + 6 + 4 = 20. (6-card heart suit and a 4-card club suit).

a) ♠ A J 9 7 3 ♥ 7 ♦ A J 10 7 3 ♣ 5 2 10HCP + 5 (spades) + 5 (diamonds) = 20 Open **1♣**

b) ♠ 2 ♥ K Q J 10 9 7 ♦ 9 3 ♣ A 9 5 2 10HCP + 6 (hearts) + 4 (clubs) = 20 Open **1♥**

The Redland Bridge Club's **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, 16th March 2025** commencing at **10:30 am**.

Nominations for positions on the Management Committee will open on **Wednesday, 12th February** and close at **12:00 pm on Wednesday, 26th February**. 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 2026.

Absentee voting will be possible for any elections required. Forms will be available on 28th February from the Secretary, Jane Whelan. These will need to be signed for in person. The completed absentee voting forms must be returned to the 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 (secretary.bridge@outlook.com) by 12:00 pm Wednesday, 26th February.

The agenda for the AGM will be emailed/posted to members at least 14 days before the AGM.

Jane Whelan – Club Secretary

Please note: After the meeting there will be a sandwich lunch and a free game.

REPORT BY TREASURER

I have posted the unaudited financial results of the club for 2024 on the notice board for members to review. I am eager to help by providing further details and answering any questions you may have. Feel free to contact me in person or via email at treasurer.bridge@outlook.com.

Colin Gorton - Treasurer

COMPETITION RESULTS

New Year Graded Pairs

Our first competition for 2025 was held over the first two weeks of January. Our regular Tuesday players joined in which resulted in 28 pairs dividing neatly into two sections each of 14 pairs.

Group A winners were **Brian Gamble & Loren Leader**. In second place were **Michael Souter & Penny Cory** with **Philip Thompson & Molly O'Donohue** third. It was an exciting finish between the next three pairs with only 2 matchpoints between fourth place and the joint fifth placegetters. Well done everyone.



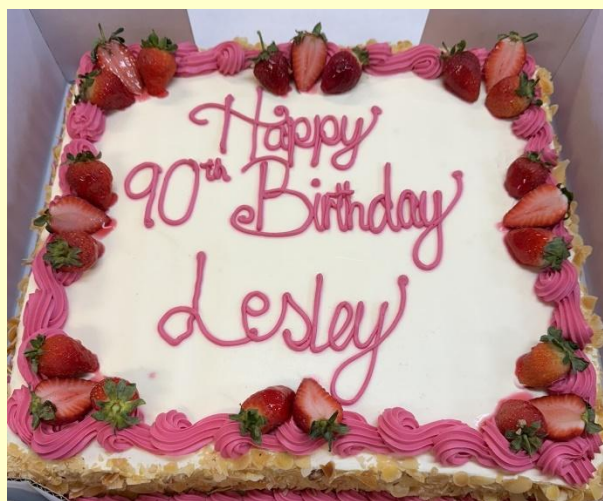
Brian Gamble & Loren Leader

Group B winners were **Graham Applegate** partnered with Pat Twomey in week one and Jan Davies in week two. Second placegetters were **Colin Gorton and Sebastian Raciti** with **John Bullion & Neal Healy** third. It was also a very close finish between second and third with only 3 matchpoints separating them. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

DECEMBER PROMOTIONS

Louise Nowland	Graduate
Angus Henderson	Club
Di Henderson	Club
Sebastian Raciti	Bronze Local
John Bullion	Silver Local
Colin Gorton	Silver Local
Sandra Devine	Regional
Jane Whelan	National
Janelle Williamson	Life

SPECIAL 90th BIRTHDAY



Congratulations to
Lesley Beasley

*Mr. Perfect Player
is the only one
qualified to criticise.
He is not a member
of this club.*



70%ers for January ★

Agnes & Barry Kempthorne – 73.3%

HELP WANTED

We are in dire need of more Directors and Dealers.

Directors – Please talk to Nigel if you are able to direct any sessions or are interested in learning how to direct.

QBA Director Training. Training/Workshops for the New Director to be held on Saturday 22nd March 9:00- 12:00 and 1:00-4:00 online via Zoom.

Dealers – Please talk to Carradine if you are interested in learning how to operate the dealing machine.

Both of these positions are very crucial to the operation of the club, as without their help our playing sessions would be very limited.

Bits and Pieces

Supervised Play

Supervised Play sessions are held from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm on Wednesdays. The last session will be held on Wednesday, 26th February, and will resume when the new lessons have been completed.

New Lessons

New lessons will commence on **Wednesday, 5th March**. There are places available for newcomers, so if you know of anyone who may be interested in learning to play bridge, please ask them to phone or text Nigel Cleminson on 0419 642 498. Alternatively, they can email the club: redlandsbridgeclub@bigpond.com.

Wednesday Night Play

These sessions will recommence shortly. In the meantime, a Watts App Group has been formed for Wed night social play. Please contact Michael Clibbon.

Donations Needed



Do you have any old prescription spectacles laying around in your drawers that you no longer need or use? (*Come on, you know you have!*)

The local Lions Club is collecting unused spectacles to forward to overseas countries for those less fortunate than us. Please bring your donations to our club and our local Lions Club representative, Irene Mullan (who brings the yummy Christmas cakes every year), will pass them onto the Lions Club.



We are also seeking the donation of a 5 – 6 ft. step ladder as ours was accidentally taken by one of our contractors. If you can help, please speak with Tom France, who would be very grateful.



I was so suspicious and paranoid about my wife having an affair, that we moved to a new town 700 miles away.

I couldn't believe my luck when we still managed to keep the same gardener.

Changes to System Regulations

Chris Snook, QBA Bulletin

In August this year, the ABF System Regulations were updated, and these changes are also reflected in the QBA System Regulations. The biggest change is to the definition of Green Systems which now state:

- All one-level opening bids are natural and non-forcing
- An opening bid of one of a major guarantees length (4+ cards) in the denomination named.
- 1NT should be balanced or semi-balanced

(Note: this does not preclude individual assessment of some hands, e.g. a hand with a singleton honour or a weak longer suit. The subsequent bidding methods however, should not be able to identify such hand types).

- All one-level opening bids must, by agreement, promise at least 8 HCP.

The previous version of this part of the System Regulations included:

- ~~An opening bid of one of a suit guarantees length (3+ cards) in the denomination named (Exception: 4-4-3-2 and (4-3)-4-2 shaped hands may be opened 1♠)~~

The removal of this clause and the exception clarifies matters well.

To be a green system, 1♣ and 1♦ openings must not be artificial (that definition of "artificial" has moved to Red systems) and must not be forcing. 1♥ or 1♠ show at least 4+ in the denomination named and must not be forcing.

A point of contention has been the "short club" or "very short club". If, in an otherwise standard system, 1♣ only promises 1+ or 2+ then it will still be a green system if responder will pass with less than (say) 6 points. If, instead, the partnership agreement is that responder "must call no matter what because opener might be short" (in clubs not stature) then the 1♣ bid has an additional meaning of being forcing and this then fails the Green test. Such a system will most likely fail the Blue test, and the system is classified as Red.

Player education is the key here especially in cases where players have modified their system from the norm.

Due to a power outage, the house was very dark so the paramedic asked Kathleen, a 3-year-old girl to hold a flashlight high over her mommy so he could see while he helped deliver the baby. Soon little Connor was born.



The paramedic lifted him up by his feet and spanked him on the bottom, and he began to cry.

The paramedic then asked the wide-eyed 3-year-old what she thought about what she had just seen.

She quickly responded, "He shouldn't have crawled in there in the first place, spank him again."

During my job interview yesterday, the interviewer asked, "Why do you think I should give you this job?"

I replied, "Because my best friend Dave works in your IT Department, and he told me you're having an affair with your secretary."

One day, I'm going to judge a spelling bee. I'll ask one of the kids to spell the word "there." When he asks for it in a sentence, I'll say... "Their car is parked over there and they're late."

**I hate that feeling after surgery when you're not sure if you're awake or asleep...
...or if you operated on the right patient.**

When I married Miss Right, I had no idea her first name was **Always**.

My wife and I decided we don't want kids ... we will tell them tonight.

Did you know that if you garden naked in your backyard, your neighbours will build you a privacy fence for absolutely no cost to you.

Finally! Blonde Men Jokes:

A blonde man is in the bathroom and his wife shouts "Did you find the shampoo?" He answers, "Yes, but I'm not sure what to do...it's for dry hair and I just wet mine."

A blonde man spots a letter on his doormat. It says on the envelope "DO NOT BEND." He spends the next two hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

A blonde man shouts frantically into the phone "My wife is pregnant, and her contractions are only two minutes apart!" The doctor asks, "Is this her first child?" He shouts, "No! this is her husband!"



Whenever I must fill out a form that asks "who to call in case of emergency" ... I always put "ambulance" because no one in my family is going to answer a call from an unknown number.



Once I went with my husband to a party that was full of people he knows (from his work) but I didn't.

A guy came up to us, turned to me and said, "You must be his wife."

I turned to my husband and said, "You have a WIFE?" Should've seen the guy's face!