

# REDLAND BRIDGE CLUB

# TRUMPIT



**July 2026**

*Hi Everyone,*

*We are halfway through the year and still keeping calm and smiling. There is lots of reading in this edition, suggest you sit down with a drink*

*Thank goodness for bridge: it keeps our minds active, and the company of fellow players is always welcoming.*

*Good bridging and keep smiling!*



*At one level, a double simply means:  
Do something intelligent, Partner*

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I hope you have noticed how clean and fresh the clubhouse looks now that the painting and blind cleaning have been completed. For the information of club members, the cost of the painting was \$9,295.00. This was offset by the Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant of \$9,845.00. Now that the work is finished, we should not have to paint again for at least 10 years. To make the rooms ready, everything that was not fixed to the floors or walls had to be moved into the playing area. This involved: emptying all cupboard/cabinets, packing the contents, moving empty freestanding cupboards/cabinets and packed contents, removing books and jigsaw puzzles from the library, and taking down wall fixtures. On the following Saturday, all items were returned to their original locations. Thank you

again to everyone who contributed to this important work. Your help made a demanding task much more manageable and was greatly appreciated.

During June, we held two competitions. The first was the Australia Wide Novice Pairs. The club winners were N/S: Margaret Hunt and Ronda Pomeroy, E/W: a tie between John Clarke and David Crocker, and Sandra Devine and Helen Zerphay.

The second competition was the GNOT Qualifying event, held over two Fridays. The three top teams were the Sherrell, Thompson and Denaro teams. We wish them the best in their future endeavours.

Looking ahead, we have the Under 500 Graded Pairs on Sunday. The deadline for entries is Thursday. Avra is looking for helpers in the kitchen, even for a few hours, and donations of food (preferably savoury). If you can assist and/or donate food, please place your name on the list on the noticeboard.

The Winter Teams are being held over two Fridays – 24 and 31 July. Entries are now open

We are halfway through supervised play, and we should thank all the people who donate their time to help and encourage new players to keep playing after lessons and to venture into general play sessions.

In early June, the Club welcomed a visit from a representative of Redland City Council as part of ongoing engagement between the Club and Council. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase the Club's facilities and operations, including the resources, equipment, volunteer support, and learning programs that contribute to a successful and active bridge club, while also providing Council with insight into the important role we play in supporting social and cognitive opportunities for members of the local community. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss a range of matters relevant to the Club's ongoing operations and future needs. These discussions will help support

continued communication between the Club and Council. The Club values its positive relationship with Redland City Council and appreciates opportunities to work collaboratively to support community participation and wellbeing. The visit was a productive opportunity to strengthen this partnership and share information about the Club's ongoing contribution to the local community. The club relies heavily on the time and commitment of our volunteers, and we are very fortunate to have so many members willing to contribute. Whether assisting with events, helping in the kitchen, supporting supervised play, or taking on day-to-day tasks, your efforts make a real difference.

On behalf of the committee and all members, thank you for your ongoing support and generosity—it is truly appreciated. I hope we continue to maintain the welcoming and congenial atmosphere that makes our club so enjoyable.

*Michael Souter – Club President*

### **Under 500 Graded Matchpoint Pairs Congress, Sunday, 5 July 2026 at Redlands Bridge Club.**

- Eligibility: Under 500 masterpoints, as of 30 April, (perfect for beginners/novices)
- Format: Red Points, Graded (you play against pairs with similar points), Generous prize money
- Cost: \$70 per pair
- **Deadline: Entries close Thursday, 2 July**
- Catering: BYO lunch; complimentary tea/coffee, our club's mouth-watering snacks provided during play, with drinks and savouries following the event.

*For more information or assistance, please contact our Convenor, Jane Whelan*

### **COMPETITION RESULTS**

#### **Australia Wide Novice Pairs.**

The club winners were  
 N/S: Margaret Hunt and Ronda Pomeroy,  
 E/W: a tie between John Clarke and David Crocker, and Sandra Devine and Helen Zerphey.

#### **GNOT Qualifying Rounds - Gold Points**

S Sherrell, C Mathieson, D Maher, A Ormerod  
 P Thompson, M O'donohue, A & B Kempthorne,  
 C Denaro, P Ruppin, J Boxer, P Neville

**LET'S DO LUNCH**  
**(Especially greet our newer members)**  
**TUESDAY, 18 AUGUST AT 1.00PM**  
**ROOF CAFÉ**  
**(1/1 George Thorn Drive, Thornlands**  
**(5 mins by car from club)**  
**Interesting, varied Menu**  
**Lunch Special \$20.00**  
**Coffee, Alcohol, Juice available**

**Please indicate your attendance on "Lunch list" on Notice board, so we can organise a group setting**

**Gabriel**

**ON THIS MONTH**

**Redlands Under 500 Graded Pairs Congress**  
**- 5 July**

**Winter Teams – Red Points**  
**24 July (2 days)**

**JULY PROMOTIONS**

Warren Moore	Bronze State
Sue Sherrell	State
Ronny Tollemache	State
Cathy Mathieson	National

#### **Ron Ruhland's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday**



*Jo Trvlian, Sammy Ziada, Ron Ruhland, Turut Manli*



**Carridine Lucas 80<sup>th</sup> birthday**

### **What is psych bidding?**

Psych bidding is the deliberate and substantial misstatement of a hand's strength or suit length. It is legal in bridge only when it is not based on a partnership agreement or understanding (it is illegal to psych your system's strongest bid, e.g., 2C in Standard American, 1C in Precision). Because a psychic bid misleads both opponents and partner, it should be used with care, particularly against opponents who may not know how to defend against it. Players who choose to psych are advised to do so only against opponents of a similar or higher standard. Frequent psych bidding may create an unfair advantage and can indicate an improper systemic agreement. Repeated occurrences may therefore be reviewed as potential evidence of cheating or an undisclosed partnership understanding.

### **Partnership Understandings**

A partnership understanding exists when the frequency of psychic calls is sufficient for the bidder's partner to take that possibility into account, whether or not they choose to do so. Any understanding that gross violations of the normal meanings of calls may occur, particularly where the type of violation can be anticipated, must be disclosed. These understandings may be explicitly agreed, or they may arise

from partnership experience or shared knowledge that is not available to opponents. Explicit agreements that psychic calls are expected, or providing systemic protection for them, are classified as Brown Sticker. Brown Stickers are not permitted at club sessions and in the lower grades of congresses.

### **Psychic Calls Register**

The Psychic Calls Register is the club's official record of psychic bids. It helps protect opponents and supports fair, ethical competition. The register is not intended to imply impropriety or to discourage legitimate psyching. Its purpose is to maintain a central record so that the frequency of psychic bids by particular partnership's can be identified. Partnerships with a record of frequent psyching may be at risk of developing an implicit agreement and should be warned accordingly.

### **Reporting and Director Action**

A player who makes a psychic bid must report it and record it in the Psychic Calls Register. Failure to do so before departing from the session may be penalised as a breach of regulation. The director may award an adjusted score without a complaint from the opponents if the director considers that the psychic bid has been fielded, meaning partner acted as though they were aware of the possibility of the psych. It is important that if a player believes that an opponent has made a psychic bid, they should call the director immediately. If the director agrees, the director may award an adjusted score to the aggrieved players.

**Please make sure you return any  
Bridge Library book once finished**

### ***Musings of a neophyte bridge addict***

After more than 50 years as a doctor, I thought I had seen all of the addictions: drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, gambling, sex. Then I retired, and shortly after this, I was introduced to a new addiction.

It started innocently enough with a visit to a nondescript building in a suburb with the unlikely name of Pinklands. A man greeted me at the door: "Call me Nigel" he said – obviously not his real name- Dealers know to use pseudonyms... He seemed affable enough, but I detected an underlying hardness, a steeliness, that was confirmed a month or so later when, in the middle of the morning in a room full of addicts, his menacing voice came over the P.A.: "The money is short, someone hasn't paid!" There were a few moments of silence then a woman tentatively raised her hand. "I may have forgotten" she said in a tremulous voice- Yeah sure! But I felt a pang of sympathy for her – everyone knows what happens to addicts who don't pay their supplier...

Experienced dealers know to offer freebies to their intended victims and "Nigel" was no exception: "Come along for a few

practice sessions and see if you like it”, he suggested. I did and I was soon hooked. After a month or so, I was allowed to join the long-term addicts. Surprisingly I found the room to be clean and light and airy especially the injecting room, sorry bathroom. There was no blue light in the toilet and no posters on the walls advising of needle exchange programs. To my surprise I could discern none of the usual signs of addiction among the players – no ceaseless scratching and sucking of chupa chups seen in heroin users. There were no bulbous noses and broken facial capillaries, unmistakable signs of alcohol misuse. I could hear no recurrent wheezing and constant productive cough that identifies the cigarette victim - (well, maybe one...). Quite the contrary- to a man and, (the majority), to a woman, they were clear eyed, their wits about them, and elephantine memories for any numbers from 1 to 52. I was amazed to discover nonagenarians into their third and fourth decades of addiction, still turning up for their weekly \$7 fix!

I started with one session a week and soon this wasn't enough- one became two and this morphed into three. I read books on the addiction, I studied, I made notes of the particular likes and dislikes of my addict partners. I sometimes woke in the morning, realizing I had experienced nightmares about not making contracts. One morning my wife asked what I wanted for breakfast: “6 spades!” I snapped before apologizing.

I began to reflect on what programs were available for this addiction. Was there, I wondered, an FOBA (families of bridge addicts) support group? I searched online and could find no evidence of such a group. I wondered what a bridge detox. program would look like. I pictured the addict, sitting at a table in a windowless room, opposite a faceless individual who dealt them hand after hand of pictureless cards. Finally, after three or four days of this and several hundred hands, the addict would fall to their knees crying and pleading: “Alright I give in, I give in! please, no more Yarboroughs! I promise never to play again”. But again, such programs didn't seem to exist. And suddenly it dawned on me- that lightbulb moment, which had obviously come years earlier to those articulate actuarial addicts in that innocuous “injecting room” among the gum trees:

***There is no downside to bridge addiction!!***

***Bring it on!!!***



### **5 Ways to stay sharp in the last round**



- **Reset after every board - Don't carry a bad result in the next hand**
- **Hydrate Early – even mild dehydration can reduce concentration**
- **Fuel your Brain – A banana, nuts or protein snack beats a sugar crash**
- **Take 30 second visual break – Look away from the cards between rounds**

➤ ***Slow down on the last board – The biggest makes happen when tired players rush***

#### **REMEMBER**

***Bridge isn't won on Board 1***

***It's won on the last board***

***When everyone else is exhausted***

## **RESULTS UPDATE NO. 2**

(Q8). Responses indicate that the Club Newsletter is very much appreciated. Our thanks go to Robina who carried that task for many years, and to Glynnis who has now taken over the role as editor.

### **(Q10). CLUB IMPROVEMENTS:**

(From newer members perspective)

Over 15% of replies suggested a separate playing section on a Tuesday, for players with less than 50 points. This is now in operation, and players in Section B have indicated their appreciation. For the sake of adequate numbers in both sections from a timing perspective, the Club has adopted -100 points as the criteria. Players in section B Earn half points, and most agree that half points are better than Nil of full points!

**NEW PLAYER** Badges are available for daily use and can be obtained from reception.

**SUPERVISED PLAY** Is open for all members and runs continuously on a Wednesday at 2 pm , in between the six lessons given for new players (which can also be repeated by members at no cost).

Players going through this education system, have expressed gratitude for Nigel's patient advice. Supervision is also available at Wednesday night play thanks to Michael Gibbons and Dan Maher.

### **PARTNER CO-ORDINATION:**

If the Director of the day is contacted beforehand, a partner can often be organised. Tuesday play is Come without a Partner if one is not available and text Avra Bowler beforehand for a Thursday partner. Michael will also assist in co-ordinating partners.

### **MENTORING:**

Hopefully, experienced players are ready to encourage and give helpful advice to new players. However, Robina Cooper, Jan Davis and Avra Bowler are offering themselves available for mentoring advice. Newer players are encouraged to seek out these members for any playing questions.

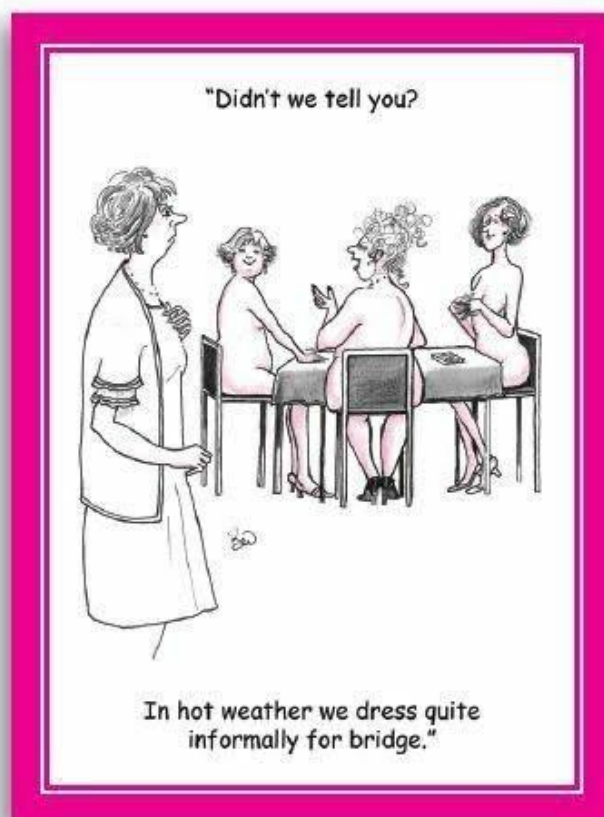
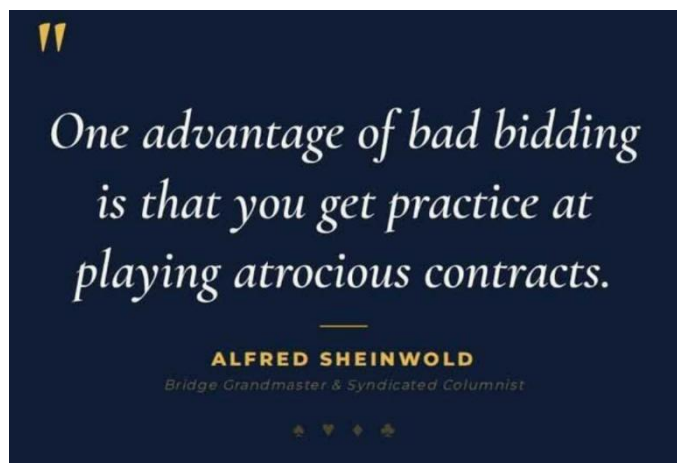
### **SOCIAL LUNCHESES:**

All players, old and new, are invited to our first luncheon, a Meet and Greet, at the Roof Cafe, Thornlands, on Tuesday 18th August. This will be a special opportunity for new members to be introduced. Please place names on 'Lunch List' on board, so we can organise seating. Next Month follow -up is to focus on encouraging competitive play.

**Gabriel Ruhland**

## Supervised Play

Supervised Play is on **Wednesdays from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm** for new members and those who wish to refresh their skills.



## Why do zebras have stripes?



## Because they don't want to be spotted.