



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

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April 2024

Ed: Glenys Clift

## Management Committee 2023-2024

<b>President</b>	<b>Greg Munck</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Tim Porter</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Trevor Henderson</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Marie Steger</b>
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Paul Barrett</b>
	<b>Suzanne Brazier</b>
	<b>Michael Kaiser</b>
	<b>Adrienne Montague</b>
	<b>Ken Orange</b>
	<b>Elizabeth Thorne</b>
	<b>Ngairie Wills</b>

## Office Holders

<b>Grounds Maint.</b>	<b>Tony Thorne</b>
<b>Teaching Co-ord</b>	<b>David Roberts</b>
<b>MP Secretary</b>	<b>Chris Snook</b>
<b>Tenancy</b>	<b>Bruce Hinchliffe</b>
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>Barbara Davies</b>
<b>Recorder</b>	<b>Ian Jesser</b>
<b>Chief Tournament Director</b>	<b>Chris Snook</b>

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The Club staged a themed social event during March – the Autumn Classic Program. The event was very well received with 56 players in “professional” and “amateur” pairings, both providing and receiving guidance on playing techniques followed by a sumptuous afternoon tea.

Many thanks to Glenys for organising the event and for Adrienne and her team for the sensational catering. Our next themed event is the Winter Wolly Pairs scheduled over lunch on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – add to your diary and don't miss out!

On the more serious bridge front, one of the Club's major Honour Board events, the Ivy Dahler Pairs, was held during the month. After three gruelling Monday afternoons the pairing of Kathy Duke and Paul Matthews triumphed in the Open event. Pauline Curin and Debra Coward proved victorious in the Novice section. (cont Page 2)

## THE TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB DEALING TEAM



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (cont.)

Congratulations to those pairs and well done to all others who participated. The Clubhouse was almost at capacity for each of the three sessions which was great to see.

The Club is further investigating the cashless payment system offered by the ABF and is instigating a trial using the Tuesday night session. As the trial progresses, we will get back to you with more information.

Happy bridging *Greg Munck*

## WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT



Hi, I've been welfare officer for the club for a few years. I send out birthday cards with the free game voucher early each month.

Please let me know if you haven't received yours.

I also phone/contact/send cards for members who are rather unwell, been hospitalised or have been bereaved and their families.

This depends on hearing about our members. Discretion is also important as members do value their privacy.

Cheers and Happy Bridging *Lib Thorne*



## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Table fees received in February were \$6,851, plus \$320 for lessons. As at 29 February 2024 the club held \$119,397.57 in a Term Deposit and \$14,816.19 in the working account

There was a cash flow deficit of \$609.45 in February due to payments for Toowoomba Regional Council rates of \$2,483.64 plus \$1,873.24 for advertising in the Toowoomba Chronicle for beginner classes commencing in January. We have also upgraded our smoke detectors at a cost of \$1,200.

After much research, the committee agreed to go ahead with an upgrade to our current solar system. We will be purchasing an additional 25 panels, plus battery storage unit, at a cost of \$31,514.00. Our research has indicated this will give a good return to the club on our investment.

Enjoy your bridge! *Marie Steger*

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT



We currently have 327 members, comprising 271 Home, 49 Away and 7 Life Members.

Please welcome the following new members

*Julie Pigdon, Steven Lee, and Tracy Colleen*

Cheers *Ngaire Wills*

## TRIBUTE TO THE DEALING TEAM

When we turn up for a bridge session, be it directors or players –we just assume there will be boxes of boards available for us to use. So this is a thank you and acknowledgement of our dealing team who give their time every week to ensure there are sufficient boards both club play, weekend competitions and congresses.



My name is Lynette Vary and I am a proud member of the vibrant Toowoomba community where I was born and raised by a loving family.

As a young woman I faced the profound loss of my husband thrusting me into the role of a single mother raising two children. I embraced the challenge and beyond this I found solace and joy in the company of fellow bridge enthusiasts. An avid player for over a decade, I have honed my skills (some days better than others) and fostered lasting friendships that are greatly valued.

For six years I have been dealing cards in preparation for the competitions and enjoyment between fellow players. *Lyn*



I joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2009, just prior to my retirement from the Queensland Police Service. I spent my childhood years on a sugar cane farm in Bundaberg prior to joining.

the Police Force in 1972, I have been stationed in Brisbane, Thursday Island, Bundaberg, Roma and Toowoomba during my 38 years in 'The Job'.

I came to Toowoomba in 1989 on promotion to Sergeant 1/c as Officer in Charge of the Toowoomba District Clerical Functions. I also worked in General Duties as well as the Communications Centre.

I have enjoyed the challenge of playing Bridge and operating the Dealing Machine.

I am used to being blamed for all sorts of things, so the cards dealt are what you get.

*Dave*



I was a registered teacher with the Qld Education Dept for 50 yrs. My first position in Toowoomba was at Toowoomba East State School. After a break of 13 yrs of raising our sons, I did supply teaching and then was offered a permanent position at

Glenvale State School and remained there till my retirement – when I decided to learn bridge.

Denis & I are keen walkers, we have had a number of hikes in Oz and NZ .and are grateful for all the opportunities we have had to travel.

For about 15 yrs, I have been a member of this vibrant and friendly club. To give something back to the club, I offered to help with the card dealing and have been doing so for about 12 yrs. I am sorry if the cards are not always to everyone's liking. *Kerry*



I was born and lived in England, near London until age 11, moved to Wales till 18, then USA till 22, back to England till 24 and finally moved to Australia in 1971.

During this time because of the shifts, I learnt the Culbertson, Standard American, and Acol systems.

I was a teacher at the Toowoomba Grammar School and after a 20-year absence from bridge, mainly due to family commitments, I rejoined the TBC in 2018.

With help and encouragement from several players, I have now caught up with modern bidding techniques and joined the dealing group as a way of saying thank you.

*Oliver*



## Masterpoint Secretary's Report

In March, I processed results for 39 sections from 31 sessions yielding 102.34 green and 75.70 red masterpoints. It was a big month for red points due to the Ivy Dahler Pairs and Tuesday Night Pairs competition. Our top ten masterpoint earners this year are:

1	Zeller, Elizabeth	45.49
2	Hartwig, Denise	32.94
3	Snook, Chris	24.12
4	Wood, Jim	19.85
5	Churchett, John	17.71
6	Higgins, Will	17.05
7	Duke, Kathy	16.88
8	Fulcher, Robert	16.64
9	De Zoysa, Hema	15.85
10	Mladen, Joan	14.93

### Master Rank Graduations

Brilliant, Rod	Bronze National	Jan-24
Thorne, Elizabeth	National	Jan-24
Ryan, John	Bronze Regional	Jan-24
Flynn, Jan	Regional	Jan-24
Hawker, Ann	Silver Local	Jan-24
Anderson, Elizabeth	Local	Jan-24
Foley, Steven	Club	Jan-24
Quick, Brenda	Club	Jan-24
Brazier, John	Graduate	Jan-24
Wright, Rozalyn	National	Feb-24
Fitzgerald, Helen	Bronze Regional	Feb-24
Alroe, Michele	Bronze Regional	Feb-24
Oxenham, Lynda	Regional	Feb-24
Kemp, Helen	Regional	Feb-24
Shield, Val	Silver Local	Feb-24
Robinson, Lorrie	Bronze Local	Feb-24
Rudorfer, Eric	Local	Feb-24
Beaumont, Robert John	Local	Feb-24
Mallory, Yvonne	Club	Feb-24
Brady, Brian	Club	Feb-24
Mitchell, Beverley	Club	Feb-24
Pietsch, Elizabeth	Graduate	Feb-24
Pigdon, Julie	State	Mar-24
Graf, Gretchen	Bronze Local	Mar-24
Roberts, Margaret	Bronze Local	Mar-24
Nugent, Stephan	Local	Mar-24
Adsett, Don	Club	Mar-24
Keating, Chris	Graduate	Mar-24

Also of note is Pauline Curin who is Queenslander who started the year as a regional master and earned the highest number of masterpoints (13.59). Cheers *Chris*

## Winners are Grinners

In recent club competitions:

### Ivy Dahler Open Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> : Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews  
2<sup>nd</sup> : Jim Wood & Jenni Buckley  
3<sup>rd</sup> : Elizabeth Zeller & Adrian Mayers

### Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> : Debra Coward & Pauline Curin  
2<sup>nd</sup> : Kerry Gibson & Ann Hawker  
3<sup>rd</sup> : Kerry Brown & Rachel Klupfel

### March Monthly Winners

- |                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Tuesday Night           | Greg Munck & Lawrence Price        |
| Wednesday AM Restricted | Michael Kaiser & Adrienne Montague |
| Wednesday PM Open       | Glenys Clift                       |
| Wednesday PM Novice     | Ian Costin & Trevor Mallory        |
| Thursday Night          | Jim Harvey                         |
| Friday Morning          | Michael Walsh & Ken Orange         |
| Friday PM               | Adrian Mayers                      |

### Tuesday Night Pairs competition

- 1<sup>st</sup> : Denise Hartwig & Rozalyn Wright  
2<sup>nd</sup> : Will Higgins & John Elrandson  
3<sup>rd</sup> : Jenni Buckley & Jim Wood

Well done everyone ☺ Cheers *Chris*

## That's not right, is it?

The curse of the Tournament Director is to have big ears (not like Noddy's hobgoblin friend, nor being a clone of King Charles, but merely the implied meaning of "having good hearing"). It means we often pick up on things said at the bridge table that makes us cringe. Some of these are:

1. **"I'm declarer so I can just pick that up"**. If declarer has played a card, and it is a legal card, then it has been played and there is no takesey-backsey. The Director might tell declarer to pick the card up if it was an unestablished revoke or otherwise exposed, or if the play was based on incorrect information from the defenders – otherwise it has, and must be, played.
2. **"The rest are ours"**. Claiming is quite reasonable for declarer or either defender, but dummy must not engage in play and must not say this. It is not correct procedure and it is possible that declarer might have misplayed the hand, until dummy interfered when they shouldn't. It would be horrible if Director had to rule against you because your dummy found an illegal voice. The term *dummy* came about because the hand opposite declarer is played by a dummy (an imaginary extra player) under declarers instruction. Dummy must keep quite.
3. **"Having none."** Declarer may ask a defender who has failed to follow suit whether he has a card of the suit led. Dummy may ask declarer. Dummy may not ask a defender (otherwise they are trying to play the hand again). Defenders may ask declarer and one another (at the risk of creating unauthorized information). Nowhere does it say that you can triumphantly tell your partner "Having none". If you are a defender against 4 hearts, and partner leads a winning spade so you throw away a losing diamond hoping that partner will lead spades again so you can trump in – then this is good luck when it works. Your blurting out "having none" is just a wakeup call to partner to continue the suit so you can trump in – and this is not fair, so don't make the comment. It also is off-putting to many declarers who are trying to concentrate on their hand.
4. **"If you don't do XXX, I'll call the Director"**. Calling for the Director to give a ruling is a natural part of the game. You don't call the Director "on someone", you ask for help to correct an error in procedure and the Director will apply the appropriate law and judgement as required. You should always call the Director, not just when you are not getting your own way (probably by illegally making your own decisions at the table).

There are plenty of others, these are just some I have heard myself or are matters that players have brought to my attention.

Cheers  
*Chris*

## DDIAE ??



**DDIAE** You may know what it stands for, but do you know why it was important in the club's history?

**Col Martin** We have the Col Martin Shield each year, but do you know how important this person was in the club's history?

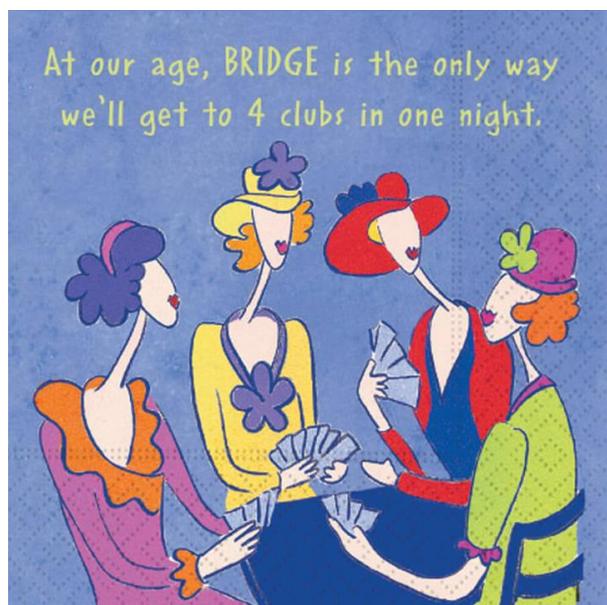
**Ivy Dahler** - The club has just played the Ivy Dahler Cup but do you know how important this person was in the club's history?

**Ralph Geddes** - There is a plaque with his **name** near the main door, but do you know how important this person was in the club's history?

**Masterpoints** - You cannot deny that masterpoints are important, but do you know how important their development was in the club's history?

The answers to all these questions (and maybe more) are available in "A History of Toowoomba Bridge Club 1959 - 2022".

Copies are still available at the club at the members price of \$25.00. Sales are being looked after by Ken Orange (Mob: 0412336326). However, if you cannot catch him, then just see anyone on the committee and they will let Ken know. *Ken Orange*



## VALE MAUREEN GRAYSON (REEN)

6/11/1940 – 31/1/2024



Reen joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2005 after retiring from a very prestigious career as an architect. Whilst Reen never took on any official role in the club, Reen was always available to help where she could. Reen remained a member until 2021. Reen was also a Life Member of the Toowoomba Art Society, won several prestigious art prizes including the Fred Gardner Memorial Prize twice.

### HOW LUCKY CAN YOU BE.....

**Two of our members booked to play at the recent Gold Coast Congress, and when they arrived at their accommodation, found they were a little too early to book in.**

**So being practical women, they decided to head off to the supermarket and buy their supplies. Only to find when they arrived back at the motel, one of them had left her handbag (with money, phone, credit cards, contact books etc inside it) in the supermarket trolley.**

**You won't believe this – when they went back to the supermarket, they found the handbag (contents intact) in the trolley. How lucky can you be!!!**

# PRO-AM

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KITCHEN CATERING & DRINKS TEAM



Adrienne Montague and her team really excelled themselves when they catered for the Pro-Am event on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March. The wonderful afternoon tea was cooked and supplied by Adrienne, Lynda & John Oxenham, Dale Bury and Murray Pietsch. Lynda, John, Dale & Adrienne started their day at 10am when they met to cut up and prepare the nibbles trays for the end of the day.

And of course, let's not forget those two good looking blokes who ran the bar – John Clift and Murray Pietsch – thanks fellas, you did a great job.

### PRO- AM WINNERS WEST SIDE N/S

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Paul Matthews/Jim Harvey
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Shea Stanley/Pat Fenaughty
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Marlene Mirtschin/Brenda Quick

### PRO AM WINNERS WEST SIDE E/W

- 1<sup>st</sup> Helen Rutledge/Dennis Lincoln
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Joan Mladen/Judy Bodkin
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Margaret Tucker/Elizabeth Pietsch



Brenda Quick Dennis Lincoln Marlene Mirtschin Helen Rutledge



Shea Stanley Elizabeth Pietsch Pat Fenaughty Margaret Tucker



Jim Harvey Robyn Bell, Paul Matthews Sandy Fraser



Joan Mladen Pam Steele Judith Bodkin Jenny Pendlebury

**WINNERS**  
**EAST SIDE N/S**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> John Churchett/Gretchen Graf**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Ngaire Wills/Kerry Brown**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Laurie Marie McRoberts /Dale Bury**

**WINNERS**  
**EAST SIDE E/W**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> Will Higgins/Terry Sheedy**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Ian Jesser/Murray Pietsch**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Robyn Jackson/Hema De Zoysa**



Ngaire Wills, Peter Taylor Kerry Brown Trevor Henderson



Carol Wilson Hema De Zoysa Adrienne Montagne Robyn Jackson



Genevieve Reeves Ken Orange Roz Wright Alan Davies



Brian Brady, Oliver Dashwood Greg Munck Maree Neale



Paul Matthews Lawrie Price Jim Harvey Jeanette Dalton



Cecily McLeod Ian Costin Kathy Duke Dianne Dwyer



Jenny Pendlebury Elizabeth Pietsch Pam Steele Margaret Tucker



Thea Hayes Robyn Bell Michelle Alroe Sandy Fraser

# PRO AM

Partners



Susanne Gregor Sandy Fraser



Greg Munck



Sandy Fraser Kerry Brown John Erlandson



John Churchett Kathy Duke

Michael Walsh Glenys Clift Ian Costin Debra Coward Carol Wilson

Will Higgins



Adrienne Montagne Dale Bury Murray Pietsch Margaret Tucker John Clift



## HOW TO CLAIM CORRECTLY

How many times have you found yourself in the following situation. The opposition claim the rest of the tricks saying, “the rest are mine” and they wave their cards in the air. You are hardly given time to look at their hand and if you query their claim, you are made to feel stupid because you couldn’t work out their line of play in two seconds.

It is not being clever or showing off when someone claims. Law 74.B – “As a matter of courtesy a player should refrain from prolonging play unnecessarily...” when you know you have the rest of the tricks. This saves the opposition the anguish of trying to determine what cards they should keep when really, it is not going to make any difference what they keep and speeds the game up.

Anyone can claim. Declarer or either one of the opposition.

When a player claims, it is illegal for play to continue unless the non-claiming side requests play to continue and all 4 players agree. The person claiming must face their cards on the table and state the proposed line of play.

- If one of the oppositions dispute their ability to win the remaining tricks – the Director must be called and the person claiming cannot now add anything or change his original statement.
- There is a sound reason for this: once a player hears his claim queried, he realises that there may be a problem and will adjust his play accordingly. When the Director is called to the table on a disputed claim, the Director will first require the claimer to re-state his statement of claim and will then have all four hands faced. The director then hears opponents’ objections to the claim. However, Law 68.D (b) allows play to continue if the non-claiming side requests it and all four players concur.
- For example, If there is an outstanding trump and it seems likely that claimant has forgotten about it, then he will lose a trick to that trump if he can do so by any careless play, eg. cashing side suit winners without drawing the last trump. The Director would need to be convinced that the claimant knew there were trumps outstanding before allowing trumps to be drawn.
- If only trumps are left, they must be led from the top down. If cross trumping, claimer is required to trump from the bottom up. Claimer may over-ruff if the opposition have ruffed prior to his turn.
- When you claim, the opposition must be given time to see your cards and evaluate your line of play. This is particularly important when you are playing against new players.

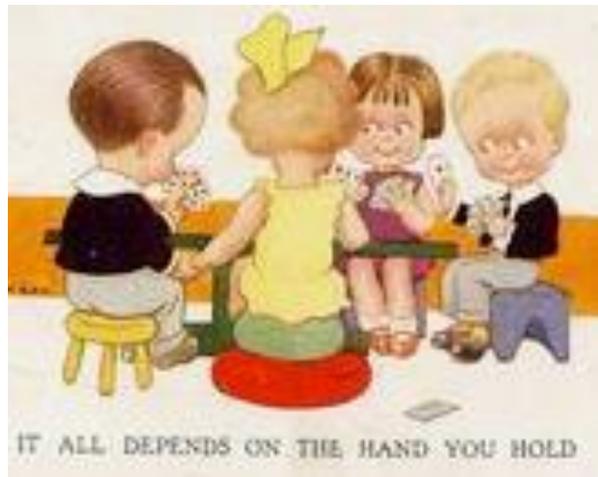
## CONCEDING

There are similar rules when a player concedes the rest of the tricks to the opposition. Once again play must cease. However, if you are defending and your partner concedes the rest of the tricks, you have the right to say that you are not agreeing to the concession if you feel you have a trick in your hand. Unfortunately, in this situation you have alerted Declarer to the fact that there is a possible loser still outstanding.

I was taught a very valuable lesson by Ivy Dahler years ago about claiming. I was playing a Small Slam against her, put my cards down and said “the rest are mine” and didn’t state my line of play.

Well, according to Ivy, because I didn’t say how I was going to play my hand, Ivy said ***“I will tell you how you are going to play the hand “.***

Whether this was strictly legal, is a moot point – but of course I ended up going off big time. *Glennys*



## Squeeze Play



The squeeze play is often considered the hallmark of the expert. Accordingly, the average bridge player assumes the whole subject must be exceedingly difficult. This isn't the case. In fact, **the majority of squeezes are fun to execute and require almost no serious thought.**

### Giving up losers

**Most squeezes will not operate unless Declarer first gives up the trick(s) he can afford to lose.**

Let us look at this 6 NT contract, as an example. **West leads the ♠ K. And declarer can count only 11 tricks. The ♠ 10 and the four clubs are threat cards** and result in a squeeze if one defender (in this case West) is obliged to guard both these suits (spades and clubs).

South needs 12 tricks so he can afford to give one away. **The correct play is to duck the opening lead.** West continues with the spade queen and declarer takes the ace and runs the hearts and diamonds. Before the last diamond winner is cashed, the situation is as follows:

		North		
		♠ A 10 6 5		
		♥ A K Q		
		♦ A K Q J		
		♣ 3 2		
West		East		
♠ K Q J 9		♠ 8 7		
♥ 7 6		♥ J 10 9 8 5		
♦ 8 6 5		♦ 10 9 7		
♣ J 9 7 6		♣ 10 8 5		
		South		
		♠ 4 3 2		
		♥ 4 3 2		
		♦ 4 3 2		
		♣ A K Q 4		

Now declarer leads the ♦ J. **This last winner is often referred to as the 'squeeze card'** because it turns the screw on the defender who is trying valiantly to protect both menaces. Poor West has to hang on to his ♠ J (dummies ten is, staring him in the face), so he is forced to throw a club, and South makes the last four tricks with the Ace, King, Queen and four of clubs.

		North		
		♠ 10 6		
		♥ -		
		♦ J		
		♣ 3 2		
West		East		
♠ J		♠ -		
♥ -		♥ J 10		
♦ -		♦ -		
♣ J 9 7 6		♣ 10 8 5		
		South		
		♠ 4		
		♥ -		
		♦ 2		
		♣ A K Q 4		

### Alternative Play

**Let's see what happens if declarer neglects to lose a trick first.** Suppose he takes the opening lead with the ♠ A. Just before the last red winner is cashed, the situation becomes as follows: As before, the declarer cash's the diamond Jack, but **this time** every everyone has one extra card, and **West is under no pressure**, he simply discards his extra spade, and the small slam fails.

### Rectifying the Count

In bridge terminology, **giving away this early loser is called rectifying the count.** This simply means that you have 11 tricks and you need 12 and must give up one trick early. So that in the end position, the defender, who is about to be squeezed, won't have an extra card left.

**It is generally wise to give up this loser as soon as possible.** On this hand, it is essential to give the opponents the first trick. **If declarer wins the first trick, he can never afford to lose the lead, because he will be wide open (vulnerable) in spades.**

*Ian Jesser*



Director Chris Snook

# IVY DAHLER CUP



## CONGRATULATIONS



**OPEN WINNERS**  
Kathy Duke & Paul Matthews



**NOVICE WINNERS**  
Pauline Curin & Debra Coward



**OPEN PLATE WINNERS**  
N/S Sandy Fraser & Susie Fraser



**E/W Ruth Hanson & Diana Drummond**



**NOVICE PLATE WINNERS**  
E/W Helen Fitzgerald & Ann Downs

**N/S Jan Flynn & Robyn Jackson**



## Fair Movements

### Duplicate Bridge

We play *duplicate bridge* which means in a session (also called an event or tournament), hands are played more than once and the score or measure of performance is how well you played the board compared to all the other people who also played the board under the same conditions. So, the story goes ....

*'Duplicate whist' came about because some (poor) players complained that they got worse cards than (better) others and that was the reason why they lost money.*

*So, an event was held whereby after a hand was dealt (between good players and bad players), the cards were kept separate and then given to another table where the good players were playing in a different direction.*

*Surprise, surprise, the good players did better.... And duplicate was born.*

A logical extension of the above was to do the same thing with the emerging game of bridge, and then the focus on finding ways to play with many tables without having to have a multitude of cards – and this led to development of bridge movements which have come to know as Mitchell, Howell and other movements. A major task for the Director is to choose a movement that is as fair as possible given the constraints of the session. These might be:

- How many boards do we want to play (the norm overseas is 24, some big clubs 27-30, in Queensland some clubs still try for as many as possible ... 33-36)?
- How many tables do we have?
- Do we need one or more stationary pairs (eg players with limited mobility)?
- Is there a half table?
- How much time is available?
- Do we “lose” time for a tea-break or lunch?
- What are players used to?

### Mitchell movements?

Let's start with a bread-and-butter bridge movement, and for this example use an 11-table Mitchell with 22 contestants. In a Mitchell movement, the NS pairs and EW pairs make up two independent separate fields. This is because the score for any NS pair is only compared to the other NS players. Your NS score comes from three main sources:

1. On each board, your score is compared to the other 10 NS pairs. You get two “matchpoints” for each score that you beat, one matchpoint for each score the same as yours and zero matchpoints if your score is lower than another pair. In our 11-table movement, there are 10 pairs to beat so the maximum score you could get is  $10 \times 2 = 20$ . If my nearest competitor is NS5, then I am fighting with them for 33 boards  $\times 2$  matchpoints = 66.
2. For each board that I play directly against someone, I can do brilliantly, and this pushes their score down. If I get a top on a board (20) then they get a bottom (0). I play three boards against each opponent, so I am fighting for  $20 \times 3 = 60$  matchpoints.
3. Thereafter, each time some other EW plays against a NS with those boards, I need the EW to do well so they knock the NS (my competitors) down. EW were my opponents for three boards and my ally for 30 boards!

In our club you might hear some people say “Welcome to our table. I wish you good luck at all the other tables”. Think about why this is so.

## Balanced fields

Now, our 11-table Mitchell is one of the most simple and fairest movements. Everyone plays the same 33 boards, everyone plays three boards against each EW opponent, everyone has their score compared to the same NS competitors. It feels fair, but you still have the randomness of the cards. As NS, if the three boards that I play against the weakest EW were flat boards – I do OK, but if my nearest competitor has tricky boards against the weakest pair then there are more chances for them to get a good score or their EW opponents a poor score. I can't control this, but it does influence my results.

*A fun way to reduce the effect of player seeding, is if we removed the humans from EW and replaced them with bridge playing robots – all of which play the same system. Technology is not there yet, and it wouldn't feel like bridge if we did, but it does make you think.*

Now, we look at what happens if we decide to play ten rounds instead of eleven.

- As NS, I miss one EW pair. If I miss the strongest pair in the EW field then I will, no doubt, do well. I get a bigger boost if my nearest NS competitor misses the weakest EW pair and thus miss their chances for a good score. I suffer if these two EW were sitting in different seats to start with. At least it is only one round, but it is a significant effect.
- As NS, I miss one set of three boards. My nearest competitor (at table 5NS) plays these boards but misses a different set of three boards. So now our scores are only being compared 27 times out of the 33 boards – we are only actually competing on 81% of the boards. We still get some comparison and still find a winner – but the fairness has been reduced. This is why I do not like to see us curtail movements (cut them short).

## Big movements?

What happens when we have many tables (say 15)?

- **Mitchell** – one way to do this is to have one big field with 15-tables, and everyone playing 15x2-board rounds. This is fair, but not popular (except in NZ). It is also a nightmare for Directors and players because of the time lost with so many moves.
- **Two fields** – another way is to divide the field into two fields, a 7-table Mitchell playing 4-board rounds and an 8-table Skip Mitchell playing 4-board rounds. Now the trick is how to divide players into these two sections at the last minute after most are already seated (otherwise the unfairness of seating dominates). I picked an example here that works but try 17-tables where you have an 8 and a 9 table section.
- **Web movement** – another choice, often used at the Gold Coast congress and in many large clubs around the world. It is named after its creator, John Harris (whose nickname was 'spider'). The Web name comes from the man, not the way the boards move. In the Web movement, we can set the number of boards, and guarantee that everyone plays all the boards and thus have the same number of comparisons against their competitors. In our 11-round Web, you only meet 11 out of the 15 opponents, but on average this is fairer than the critical situation where you only miss one (the strongest or the weakest). Provided the field strength is reasonably well distributed, you might miss one strong, one weak and two average pairs.

This is why Directors like to emphasise the importance of where we sit, either NS or EW, and where in the room. Strictly speaking, via Law 5A the Director decides initial seating. We often let players choose themselves, but if a Director asks you to move then you do have to comply.

I'll talk more about Web Mitchells and Howells in a later article.

Cheers

Chris

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



Bridge is a medium through which I can exercise what is left of my brain and enjoy peoples' company. It is not the winning, nor the scoring or the cheers, it's the friend-ship and the memories.

Because there is more to life than bricks, mortar and master points.

*Ann*

**Ann Hawker**



I was born in Dalby and lived on a farm at Cecil Plains where I attended a 2 teacher school. My family later moved to a farm near Dalby where I remained a farmer until I retired. We sold the farm and moved to Toowoomba for a cooler climate and better facilities. I have completed beginner lessons and am enjoying Bridge. *Harold*

**Harold Coggan**

Moved to Toowoomba in 2020. Learnt to play bridge when an ex-classmate at a school reunion recommended it after my husband died, - so I did. Played baritone saxophone in several bands and am learning traditional Irish music with the tin whistle as a member of the DD Irish Club. My 2 dogs, garden and family keep me busy when I am not ruminating over bridge intricacies. *Dianne*



**Dianne Dwyer**

I was born in Nottingham, UK. Moved to Adelaide at age 23 but lived all over Australia and worked as a professional entertainer for 25 yrs. I then went teaching as a multi-instrumental music teacher.

Retired now but still enjoy singing, playing and recording. *Shea*



**Shea Stanley**



**Margaret Savage**

Grew up near Warra, attended "Fairholme", then did a Commerce Degree at QU. Worked as an accountant then changed to computer implementation working in Sydney & London then Paris as a consultant for 17 years working around Europe. Moved to Toowoomba in 2010. My mother played bridge in Dalby and we came to lessons at TBC after we retired in 2020. *Margaret*



**Steve Savage**

Born in the UK and worked in medical research. Met Margaret in 2003 when she was on assignment for the Royal Bank of Scotland. Arranged a job exchange for 2 years in Sydney then moved to Toowoomba where we operated a luxury B&B from our home for 9 years.

As bridge was something we could do together, attended lessons and now enjoy playing + our bridge partnership is surviving!! *Steve*

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



**Jeanette Dalton**

Coming from cattle and sheep properties at Surat and Jondaryan led me to be amongst the first females to study at QAC, Gatton. I then gained degrees in Education and spent my working life teaching Science. I retired in 2020 to work part-time on our orchard at Grantham, learning bridge in my spare time for mental and social stimulation.

*Jeanette*



**Judy Barkla**

I am a Toowoomba girl. My working career was related to educating children as well as providing support for dis-advantaged children via a children's charity. I taught in various schools in the Toowoomba region as well as South Africa and Botswana.

After retiring, having experienced many happy hours playing 500 with my family, I felt learning to play bridge may help to keep my mind active and allow me to meet new people in the community.

*Judy*

Born in the UK where I worked as mid-wife. We emigrated in 1986 with our 3 teenage children and lived in Ipswich. I worked for a few years as a mid-wife before doing a complete back flip and ended up in aged care. In 2022, we moved to Toowoomba after two floods and I found this move quite difficult and lonely until I joined the bridge club and made friends. I now love coming to bridge.

*.Brenda*



**Brenda Quick**

I served in the RAAF in Sydney from 1972 to 1978 as a Radar Plotter - where I met my beautiful wife, Beth -2024 being our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

Moved to Bundaberg where I worked blending Bundaberg Rum until 1985 when we moved to Toowoomba for our daughter to complete an Arts Degree and I worked for Telstra for 11 years.

*Jim*



**Jim Harvey**



**Judy Bodkin**

After finishing school in Toowoomba, I did my nursing training at the PA in Brisbane.

Married, went west then returned to Toowoomba where we had a business for 12 years. Educated the kids then the bush called us back where I learnt to play bridge at Roma (260 km round trip).

After 32 years, we are now back in Toowoomba and am enjoying playing so close to home. *Judy*



**Genevieve Reeves**

When I retired from physio practice, I took up bridge again after a 30-year break. The classes and supervised play were stimulating and more enjoyable & detailed than my previous experience.

I have a small property at Stanthorpe where I was born, love travelling, bird watching & gardening.

How lucky we are to have such a vibrant club with thanks to Committee & volunteers. *Genevieve*

**JOYCE BENSON CUP**  
**OPEN & NOVICE SECTIONS**  
**3- WEEKLY RED POINT EVENT**  
**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



Joyce was a founding member of the Toowoomba Bridge Club, who taught hundreds of people to play Bridge. She was a greatly loved gentle and caring person who continued to teach even when she became blind.

Chris Snook will be putting entry details on our website during April and to qualify for the event, you need to play all 3-weeks with only one substitute (if needed).

However, you are more than welcome to play even if you cannot play all three sessions, as long as you let the director know you are coming, in order to include you in the seating.

**VALE RITA FATSEAS**  
**1/2/1944 – 17/3/2024**

Rita was a member of the of the QCBC and joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club in 2015.

Rita died from an aneurysm whilst gardening. Her funeral service will be held on 2/4/24 at 1pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish, 121 Main Road, Sunnybank.

**DATE CLAIMER FOR APRIL**

**6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup> April**  
**DALBY TEAMS CONGRESS**

**21<sup>ST</sup> April**  
**WARWICK BUTLER PAIRS CONGRESS**



**FROM YOUR ED.**

The reason I started “Getting to Know our Members” was due to COVID and the last time we had welcomed new members was January 2021. So, I thought, I would do a catch-up and do a short profile on all the members who have joined since then who play on a regular or semi-regular basis.

Once the May newsletter goes out, I will have caught up except for those members who have joined recently. Personally, I have found it so interesting – we have so much talent and so many interesting people in our club – I am going to continue and include members who joined prior to 2021 working backwards plus of course, new members as they join.

It is purely up to you if you want to be included, but everyone – and I mean everyone, has a story to tell.

*Glenys*

### *Session Rules Reminder*

- Players should be **seated** 15 minutes prior to the start of play for a session.
- The Director makes the final decision on seating arrangements and on playing arrangements in the room (e.g. windows, air-conditioning).
- Only **green** and **blue** systems are permitted in club events.
- System cards are compulsory for competitions and red master point events and strongly recommended for all other sessions.
- NS are primarily responsible for the playing conditions at the table (bridgemates, management of boards and moving them if instructed to do so by the Director).
- EW are primarily responsible for tidy up and leaving the table in a good condition ready for the next session.
- All players should offer to help with general room clean-up to assist the Director.
- No notices are permitted on the noticeboards unless approval is given from the Management Committee.
- No trading is permitted on the club premises unless written permission is given via the Management Committee.
- Smoking is only permitted in the Designated Smoking Area or in the parklands off the premises.

### **Five Reasons why Bridge is better .....**

1. Nobody expects you to give up bridge if your partner loses interest in it.
2. Your partner will never say, "Not again, we just played bridge yesterday!"
3. Your partner will never say "Is Bridge all you ever think about?"
4. Your partner will not complain if you finish quickly.
5. Nobody expects you to play bridge with the same partner for the rest of your life.

