



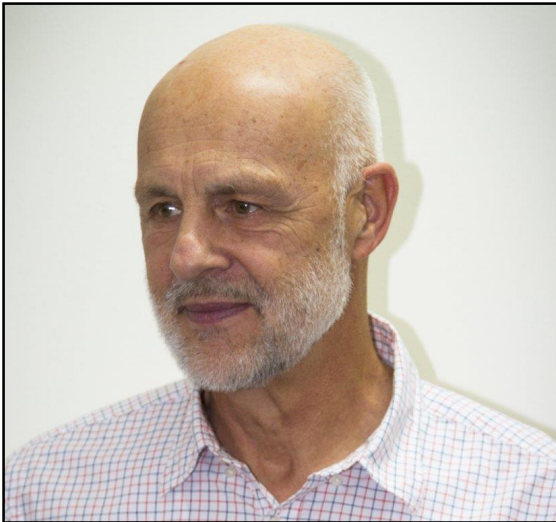
Trump•It

Arana Bridge Club Newsletter

November 2019

Vol 33 No 4

From The President



Another great year of Bridge at Arana is drawing to a close. This is the final TrumpIt newsletter of the year. Thank you to Kathleen and Michael Le Voi for your work on our newsletter. If you have news items, jokes, Bridge trivia or would like to suggest a club member to be profiled in an upcoming TrumpIt, please contact Kathleen. You can email her at kmfahy1@gmail.com.

The 2019 Arana Contract Bridge Club Pairs Championship was won by Ann Smith and Wayne Lambley. The 2019 Pairs Championship was won by Helen and Richard McLaughlin. The 2019 Arana Contract Bridge Club Team Championship was won by Helen and Richard McLaughlan, David Lehman and Gayle McCarthy. Hearty congratulations to our club champions; I invite all members to join in these events next year.

The past year has been a busy one for the committee. The Council's Keperra Parklands Concept Plan is causing concern to committee members. Please see the Council's concept plan on

the notice on the walkway entrance to the Club. Five club members attended the meeting at Keperra Bowls Club concerning the suggested changes that would affect the location of the club and the availability of parking. The members who attended re-iterated our concerns and objections to the Concept Plan. In response the Council stressed that this is only a concept plan and there is no funding for any projects. The Committee has lodged a formal submission re-stating Bridge club concerns. The submission and plan of what we require has been put on the notice board. Our club will now have continuing meetings with the other clubs in the Parklands.

Jim and Deidre Taylor have again conducted beginner's Bridge lessons twice this year. In addition, Jim and Dawn Benes have been conducting short teaching sessions prior to play on Thursdays. Kathleen and Michael Le Voi achieved ABF accreditation as Bridge Teachers. They conducted some free lessons this year and their plan is to conduct teaching and practice sessions designed for beginners as well as players with fewer than 50 Masterpoints in 2020, free to our club members. See Teacher's Corner later in TrumpIt for more details.

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I'm sure all members recall how challenging it is to begin playing Bridge, so I'm particularly pleased with Robyn Grills initiative to commence a Novice player's Monday afternoon session. This has attracted many players and allows beginners and those with fewer than 50 Masterpoints to play Bridge, with or without a regular partner. Monday afternoon Bridge is designed to support new players to build both their confidence and their Masterpoints. I invite you all to be active in attracting and supporting new members; perhaps by volunteering as a Bridge partner for a beginner on Monday or Thursday afternoon. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Robyn Grills for Monday afternoon or John Murphy for Thursday afternoon.

Please actively recruit new members to our club – they are our lifeline and ensure our ongoing viability.

I would like to thank Michael Le Voi who has spent many hours on the purchase and installation of new technology at the club. The large clock/TVs are a great help. The computers and dealing machine have been replaced and are using the latest software. Thanks to all who had input to this project.

I thank all the member-volunteers who do so much behind the scenes – you make this club run smoothly and keep cost to a minimum for the benefit of all. I especially thank committee members for their work and support throughout the year. The next AGM will be held on 11 February 2020. Nominations for committee membership are open; I invite you to nominate for the committee in 2020. Please contact the Secretary, Trish Lye, to obtain a nomination form.

I wish you and your families a happy and peaceful Festive Season and I look forward to next year which will be full of Bridge challenges, fun and friendship.

Happy Bridging
Robert van Beest

2019 Christmas Party

Saturday 14 December. Arrive 12.30 for 1pm start
No partner needed - Wear fancy dress.

Please bring food to share. Please use disposable plates to reduce washing up. Questions and offers to help, please contact the event coordinators: Alan Norman or Olivia Jackson.

K.M.SMITH

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Teacher's Corner

As stated in the President's Report, Jim and Deidre Taylor will again conduct their successful Beginner's Lessons in 2020.

Kathleen and Michael Le Voi will also conduct rookie lessons in 2020. The first seminar series is a set of one-hour lessons which is planned to be held on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons, about 15 minutes after the morning session. This allows time for lunch before the afternoon lesson starts. The standard of this first series of lessons will be pitched at players who have attended beginners' classes in the last one to two years.

There will be seven lessons, six of which are based on chapters from Joan Butt's book "Play Bridge 2". We have added a lesson on No Trump play at Week Five because No Trump play is difficult for some rookie players.

The structure of the lessons is to provide 10-20 minutes for teaching the principles of the topic followed by four example hands to allow participants to practise and reinforce the learning. The lessons are free and open to all Arana Club members. Here is the syllabus for the first set of lessons:

ROOKIE LESSONS ON PLAY in 2020

Planning: Winners and Losers
Making Tricks Through Promotion
Making Tricks Through Length
Mastering the Finesse
Mastering No Trump Play
Making Tricks by Trumping
Discarding Losers/Combining Chances

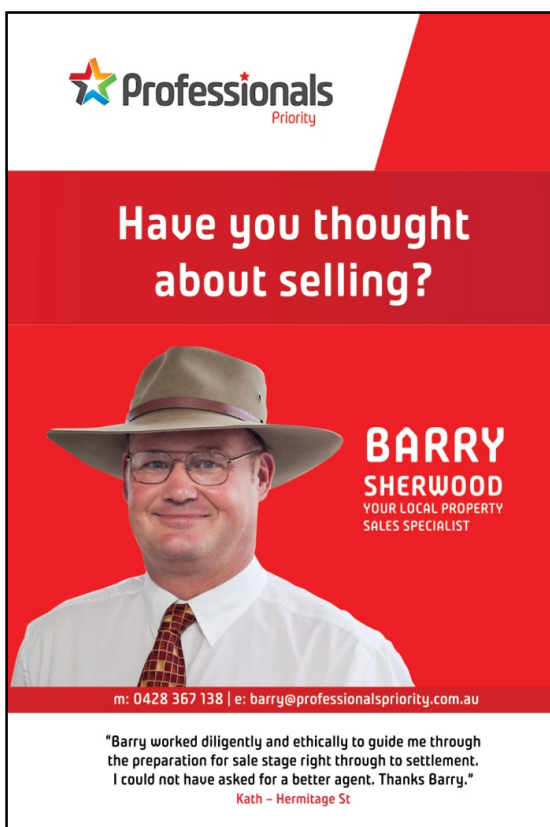
Please register your intention to attend and we will add you to our list and stay in touch with you via email. To enquire or register, please email Michael Le Voi at mikelevoi@gmail.com.

ABF TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Club is planning to host two Continuing Professional Development (CPD) days for ABF teacher trainees and qualified Bridge teachers. The two planned CPD days are: CPD 5-Slam Bidding and CPD 6-A Structured Approach to Help with Play. We are yet to confirm the dates. Having two of these CPD events at our club makes it easy for our members to enrol in the Teacher Training Program. CPD days are free to trainees and registered teachers so members are encouraged to consider commencing ABF teacher training and attend these fantastic workshops.

If you are interested in becoming a Bridge Teacher, please refer to the Teacher Training Program on the ABF website:

<https://www.abf.com.au/education/>



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Computer Clock at Arana Bridge Club

This item was originally printed in the October 2019 ABF Newsletter. Since publication, over 20 Bridge clubs Australia wide have requested a copy of the clock from Michael Le Voi.

This problem has probably been faced by many Bridge Clubs. Arana Bridge Club had an old electronic clock on the wall that was reaching its use by date. We investigated a hardware

replacement, only to realise that the cost was excessive. Not only that, but most players in our large room could not see the clock as it was (a) too small and (b) not in a suitable place. In addition, the Director had to get up and go to the clock to start and stop it if required.



We investigated computer clock replacements. We first considered the clock that is built in to Compscore2. However, there are multiple deficiencies with this clock. Firstly, the sound options are limited and the display options are to show seconds or not. Finally, the clock cannot be controlled from the club room as the cursor is too small to see. We then investigated some shareware computer clocks, but were not enamoured with any of them.

As I am a computer analyst/programmer from way back, it occurred to me that I could design a clock that would suit all the requirements of our many Directors. Accordingly, the clock was tested by all our Directors until it satisfied their needs. The final version caters for the following:

- Assume the round is 24 minutes (4 boards per round)
- The clock counts down in minutes until 3 minutes is reached.
- The clock then changes to a countdown in 15 second intervals, the display changes colour and a bell is sounded.
- At 2 minutes, the colour changes again.
- At 1 minute, the colour changes again and the countdown changes to every second.
- At 0 minutes, the colour changes to red, the clock "buzzes" and the players get 60 seconds to move for the next round.
- Repeat as required.

All sounds are customisable. The sounds can be used, or not, at 3, 2, 1 or 0 minutes as required.

To make the clock as easy to use as possible, a custom Windows cursor, consisting of a large blue dot is used. This cursor is so large that the cursor position can be seen anywhere in the club room. Thus, the director can take the wireless mouse to their table and control the clock without leaving their seat.

The icing on the cake is that we installed 3 TVs – one on the North wall, one on the East wall and one on the West wall. Using an HDMI splitter, all TVs show the clock so that anyone in the room can see the clock at all times. Also, each TV has its own sound for the bell and buzzer sounds. The clock is multi monitor aware – so it can be set to display on the secondary PC monitor and TVs while Compscore2 is only shown in the club office on the primary PC monitor.

The clock runs on any version of Windows from Windows 7 to 10. It is free for all clubs to use.



Your Agents.

Simon Whitehead & Drew Crump

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Director's Corner

The following is an extract from an article by Jim Jackson. It covers that common problem, major or minor penalty card.

“Before you read any further, try to answer these questions:”

1. How do you create a minor penalty card?
2. How do you create a major penalty card?
3. When do you have to play your minor penalty card?
4. When do you have to play your major penalty card?
5. If you have two or more penalty cards, who decides which card to play first?
6. You have a penalty card and your partner gets the lead. Are there any restrictions on what she can lead?

1. A minor penalty card must not be an honour (10 or higher) and must have been exposed accidentally. For example, you play your Q Spades to follow suit and the 4 Clubs falls out at the same time. The 4 Clubs is a minor penalty card. If the J Clubs had slipped out, it would be a major penalty card.

2. Any card intentionally (and erroneously) played is a major penalty card. Often these come about through a revoke or lead out of turn. Sometimes (see #1), an honour jumps out of your hand at an inopportune moment.

3. You must play your minor penalty card at your first legal opportunity, BUT if you have an honour in that suit, you may play the honour instead of the penalty card if you choose (in which case the minor penalty card still remains.)

4. You must play your major penalty card at your first legal opportunity. So, you'll need to play it when the suit is played, or when you gain the lead or if you have to discard, whichever opportunity arrives first.

5. If you have two or more penalty cards, they are all major penalty cards. It doesn't matter how they came about. Dump your whole hand on the table – thirteen major penalty cards. If you can legally play more than one penalty card, the declarer decides which card you must play.

6. If you get the lead while your partner has a major penalty card, Declarer has a bunch of choices. (There are no lead restrictions if your partner has a minor penalty card.) Declarer can let you lead whatever you want, in which case the penalty card remains. Alternately, Declarer can prohibit you from leading the suit of the penalty card for as long as you have the lead or require you to lead the suit of the penalty card. You must comply (if you can) and your partner gets to return the penalty card into her hand and play anything her little old heart desires when it's her turn – as long as she follows the rules, of course.

“If you answered all six correctly, you were way ahead of me. Do you need to remember all these rules? Well, it wouldn’t hurt, but the most important takeaways from this article are these: when a penalty card situation occurs, you should call, “Director, please,” and the director will help everyone at the table understand all the available options. Remember, the director is there to help get the game going again as fairly as possible.”



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Member Support



Liz Marshall is the Club’s contact person who reaches out to members in time of need. On behalf

of the Club, she sends cards to members who, for example, are ill or bereaved. If you know of any member who would appreciate a card on behalf of the club, please let Liz Marshall know by phone (0407652689) or by email:

lizmarshall@powerup.com.au

Happy Birthday



In October, Olivia Jackson celebrated her birthday with her many friends at the club. Jo Mammen brought in a super cake which was enjoyed by all!

Melbourne Cup Day

Melbourne Cup Day was a great success. John Martin and Val Cran did the director duties. Alan Norman and Olivia Jackson did a lot of work in organising the event. In particular, Alan spent many days prior to the event organising the sweeps. On the day itself, he was in charge of sweeps at the expense of playing himself. Thank you, Alan.

A special mention also goes to Warren and Marcia Applegate. They did sterling work in the kitchen, helped with the sweeps and the cleanup work afterwards. Much appreciated, Warren and Marcia!

New Members

The following are new members to the club. Please make them welcome. These club members have all joined in the last 6 months.

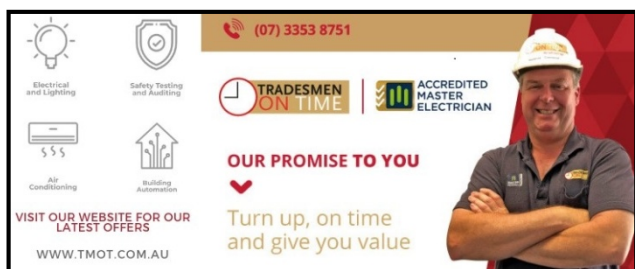
Jane Propsting - Lesley Schwarzrock
 Sharon Halse - Barbra Flynn
 Robyn Summers - Jenny Bennett
 Stephen Bennett - Peter Rhind
 Patricia Roche - Chrissie Carter
 Judith Carfrae - Rodney Lumer
 Paul Roberts - Allison Brown
 Ian Uhr - Michael O'Hara
 Keith Burnett.

Hand 4 (k)
 ♠ K 10 7 5
 ♥ Q J 9 8
 ♦ 8 3
 ♣ A J 5

Hand 5 (l)
 ♠ A J 7 2
 ♥ K J 10 8 5
 ♦ 5
 ♣ 10 5 3

Hand 6 (o)
 ♠ Q 7 2
 ♥ Q 8 3
 ♦ K Q J 9 4
 ♣ 5 3

Reference: Audrey Grant. (2006) Improving your Judgement 1: Opening the Bidding. p.48-9
 (Answers will be posted on the notice board later.)



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Bridge Quiz

Opening light in 3rd or 4th seat (with as few as 9-10 high card points) may give your partnership a tactical advantage. Since your partner has already passed, they are not obliged to respond and if they do respond, a new suit response is not forcing.

You are South and neither side is vulnerable. You are in 3rd seat. Partner and your RHO have passed. What do you bid with each of the following hands?

Hand 1 (a)

♠ K 9 8 6 3
 ♥ A Q J 9 5
 ♦ A
 ♣ 6 4

Hand 2 (c)

♠ K Q 5
 ♥ Q 9 6 4
 ♦ K 9 7
 ♣ J 8 3

Hand 3 (h)

♠ J 9 7 5 2
 ♥ K J 3
 ♦ Q 9 5
 ♣ Q 7



Pairs Championship Winners
Richard and Helen McLauchlan

Editorial Team

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Email: editor.aranabridgeclub@gmail.com

Contributions may be by email (preferred) or by placing a note in the ideas box at the clubhouse



Bridge Topic of the Week

INADVERTENT BIDS

- If you make a bid that is inadvertent (rather than just careless), it may be possible for it to be altered without penalty.
- Whether or not your pen is still on the bidding pad is not relevant.
- The Director will need to decide whether the inadvertency provisions applied.
- Inadvertency may still apply even after LHO has called.



Bridge Topic of the Week

HESITATION

- Hesitation is not an infraction in itself. An infraction occurs when their partner is influenced by the hesitation in the action they take.
- Hesitation generally reduces the options available to partner. They may not take any action that is suggested by the hesitation where other logical alternatives to that action exist.



Bridge Topic of the Week

INSUFFICIENT BIDS

- It is never in a player's interest to:–
 - a) alter an insufficient bid before the Director has advised them of their options;
 - b) announce to the table what they meant to write.
- Many insufficient bids can be corrected without further redress once the Director has assessed the situation.



Bridge Topic of the Week

CONCESSION BY DEFENDER

- When a concession is made by a Defender, their partner may dispute it. The director must be called, but the concession can be withdrawn and play can continue.
- Any comments made by the player in making the concession, or any cards exposed in this process, remain as Unauthorised Information to their partner.
- The Director should be called if this happens.
- You cannot concede a trick that you can not lose.