



# ARANA

## *Contract Bridge Club Inc*

August-September 2016

Vol 30 No 4

### From the President



GREETINGS to everyone. I am happy to let everyone know that **our** club is doing really well. Our last congress in June was a great success both financially as well as the response from all players. This was possible because of all the members that donated food, money, or their time. A special mention and thank you to **Rosemary Matthew** who organised both sides of the congress. This is why it is with great sadness I advise that **Rosemary** wishes to hand over those tasks to other members. Our Vice President **Allan Norman** has volunteered to organise the admin side. I would invite other members to put their hand up to assist with organising the food side of the congress. So please if you would like to help the club out please contact one of our committee members.

We are still waiting to hear from the council about when they will do the work on our building. I am receiving lots of requests and advice on how to improve our internal facilities. We do appreciate these requests and have noted them: as soon as our building has been levelled we will make some improvements and give our clubhouse a fresh look inside.

We received a letter from a club member suggesting we phase out giving out the free game for the winning team each session. The committee has decided against this. We think that this will make us different from other clubs and this way we give something back to our members. Financially we have planned this cost in our yearly budget.

Our marketing committee member **Phil Chappel** has been busy putting notices out in several libraries to join our club and an article in The Senior paper. We changed our pencils to ballpoint pens on the tables thanks to donations from the Professionals Real Estate agency at Ferny Hills. We are trying to get more support from them. If anyone has more ideas regarding donations please contact one of us.

Congratulations to **Dawn Benes** for achieving 14 tables on a Wednesday morning session. All the hard work over the past years has put Wednesday's play well on the bridge calendar for our club. Thank you Dawn for your persistence. You have given a lot of new players the chance to enjoy their bridge.

Sunday play attendance is improving and all who played enjoyed the afternoon session.

Partner search is now available on Friday and will be managed from the club's computer. We thank Lynley Mason for managing the system over the past months.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August our club's team championships were played and team **Wilkinson** is the 2016 winner. We congratulate Judy Wilkinson, Margaret McNee, Liz Marshall and Gary Lynch.

Our providore for our daily tea break supplies (tea, coffee, milk, sugar and biscuits) has resigned. I personally thank **Jenny Walker** for giving her time and effort to look after us for nearly four years.

We invite members who would like to take on the position of providore to contact one of our committee members.

Coming up we have Melbourne Cup on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> November (I am looking for your ideas to make it a special day) and we could start planning our Christmas party/play.

As you can read, we are all busy making the club bigger, better and bolder. If anyone has anything that needs attention please write a note and put that in the box on the front bench. I promise we will respond. I wish everyone happy bridging and enjoy your social outing at our club.

**Robert van Beest (President)**

## Apology

IN the last edition of this newsletter **Phil Saunders** was stated to be the contact for obtaining free advertising or publicity for the club. This should have been **Phil Chappel**. Sorry to Phil and Phil.

## Welcome New Members

THE following people have joined the club since February this year. A warm welcome is extended to all.

Muriel Bell  
Annette Hyland  
Sally Irwin  
Peter Isaacs  
Fay Jeppesen  
Bert Luchjenbriers  
Byron Lye  
Warren McIlwraith  
Lynne Nunan  
Mary Ryan  
Flemming Scholler  
Judi Sunman  
Rod Thomson

## Important dates

- 29 Aug & 6 Sep, Monday (am) Pairs (members only) - 2 week event
- 3 Sept, Current beginners lessons at 10:00 am Saturdays are ending
- 18 Sept, Sunday Bridge 1:00 pm
- 2 Oct, Sunday, Club Pairs Championship
- 4 & 11 Oct, Tuesdays (am) Presidents Pairs 2 week event

## Tony's Tip

### TIMING

ONE of the most important things for declarer to consider is the correct timing of play of the cards. Timing refers to the order in which you play your tricks. The technique applies to almost every hand. The following couple of hands illustrate the best chance to make your contract by making good plays at the right time.

4S by S	♠ J972	
DQ lead	♥ KQ4	
	♦ A95	
	♣ 1086	
	♠ 4	♠ AK
	♥ A985	♥ J1073
	♦ QJ106	♦ 832
	♣ 7532	♣ QJ94
		♠ Q108652
		♥ 62
		♦ K74
		♣ AK

You have 4 losers: 2 spades, 1 Heart, 1 Diamond. There is one good play to make your 4 Spade contract. You must find west with the heart ace so as to establish the KQ to discard a losing diamond. Therefore you must win the opening diamond with the king and immediately lead a heart. If west ducks, win with either the K or Q and return to hand with a club to play another heart. If West rises with the ace you have time to discard your losing diamond on the now established heart.

If you carelessly commence trumps first you lose the correct timing and the opponents will have time on their side to establish a diamond winner to set your contract. East will win the trump lead and return a diamond forcing your ace. When west gets in with the heart ace he will cash his established diamond trick.

Establishing a trick in a short suit first - the timing element.

3NT by S	♠ 76	
S Q lead	♥ 854	
	♦ QJ10	
	♣ AQ1074	
	♠ QJ1092	♠ 843
	♥ J72	♥ Q1096
	♦ A86	♦ 9752
	♣ 53	♣ K6
		♠ AK5
		♥ AK3
		♦ K43
		♣ J982

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South allows the spade queen to hold as it can't hurt and may in due course strip east of spades. South wins the spade continuance. First impulse may be to take the club finesse and if successful there are 9 tricks off the top so what can go wrong? Well, a simple count of tricks shows only 8 winners are available if the finesse loses. East will return a spade thereby establishing the suit and when west gets in with the diamond ace he will set your contract, taking 3 spades, club K and diamond A.

So we must first establish the ninth trick by immediately leading a low diamond to trick three. If west holds up dummy's 10 will win. With 9 tricks now safely established south can return to hand with the ace of hearts and safely take the club finesse. Note too, that should west take his diamond ace immediately you will come away with 10 tricks.

The safety play of the diamond suit first merely guards against a 5-3 split in spades. If they are 4-4 you cannot lose but your safety play cannot be defeated.

These 2 examples are taken from William S. Root "How to Play a Bridge Hand" and Watson's classic "The Play of the Hand". Both are in our library. The latter was first published in 1958 and rates in the top 10 bridge books to this day. The quality of the books lies in the extended reasoning applied to the various plays mentioned.

**Tony Agar**

## Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31st July 2016

Graduate Master	Jo Mammen
Club Master	Andy Gerber Philip Saunders Anastasia Watson Robyn Woodrick Barbara Sheppard
Local Master	Rosalind Geschke
National Master	Dot Allen
Silver Life	Liz Marshall

**Robert Matthew (MP Sec)**

**ARE YOU AWARE** that all members of the Australian Bridge Federation are entitled to a very good deal on travel policies with TBIB, so much so that we have quite a number of members of our bridge club who do not play bridge at all but have joined solely to benefit from the deal.

If you are interested please visit

<http://www.tbib.com.au/abf-travel-insurance.php>

## On the lighter side

### Annual Neologism Contest...

Once again, The Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternative meanings for common words. The winners were:

**Coffee** (N.), the person upon whom one coughs.

**Flabbergasted** (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained

**Abdicate** (V.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.

**Esplanade** (V.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.

**Willy-nilly** (Adj.), impotent.

**Negligent** (Adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.

**Lymph** (V.), to walk with a lisp.

**Gargoyle** (N.), olive-flavoured mouthwash.

**Flatulence** (N.) emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.

**Balderdash** (N.), a rapidly receding hairline.

**Testicle** (N.), a humorous question on an exam.

**Rectitude** (N.), the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.

**Oyster** (N.), a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.

**Frisbeetarianism** (N.), (back by popular demand): The belief that, when you die, your Soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.

**Circumvent** (N.), an opening in the front of boxer shorts worn by Jewish men.

## Recent Winners

### *Friday Pairs*

First: Joan Mills - Gayle McCarthy  
Second: Helen McLauchlan - Pam Horton  
Handicap: Pauline Ford - Beth O'Reilly

### *Club Teams Championship*

First:  
Judy Wilkinson - Margaret McNee,  
Liz Marshall - Gary Lynch  
Second:  
Richard McLauchlan - Helen McLauchlan,  
David Lehmann - Joan Mills

## Director's corner

### COVERING THE BIDDING SLIP

An Arana player was recently chided for covering the bidding slip after the first round of cards of a hand were played. But this action was quite correct. Players should be aware that while this is not always observed, it is a correct action and should not be taken personally.

Quoting QBA Guidelines:-

“Covering the bidding sheet. The bidding sheet must remain in view until the third player (on Declarer's right) has played to the first trick, whereupon dummy should turn the bidding sheet over or otherwise remove it from sight.”

A player is always free to ask what the contract is if they are in doubt after the removal or covering of the slip.

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

## Politics

**Susanna Gross** wrote (in part) in the Bridge column of The Spectator on 30 July 2016:-

‘The rise of Donald Trump in the US presidential race has had at least one very peculiar consequence: millions of American Bridge players are suddenly bidding no-trump contracts with great gusto.

A recent *New Yorker* cartoon encapsulated it perfectly, depicting four players at a table with the caption: ‘One no-trump. Oh please God, no-trump.’ And it hasn't stopped there: at tournaments up and down the country, vendors are doing a roaring trade in jaunty hats declaring ‘No-Trump’. Meanwhile, a team of social scientists has caused a stir by publishing a study showing that no-trump contracts are being bid with greater frequency than ever.

Admittedly, that study has turned out to be satirical – but, who knows, maybe on some unconscious level political sentiment really is prompting some players to eschew suit contracts just so that they can utter the words: ‘no-trump’.

Thanks to **Judy and Sid Cantamessa** for this snippet.

### From Our Sponsor

Health & Hearing is an independent audiologist with clinics in Ashgrove, Chermside, Chapel Hill, Lawnton and Cannon Hill.

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