



# ARANA

## *Contract Bridge Club Inc*

February 2002

Vol 16 No 2

### LET THE PLAY BEGIN



#### **BRIDGE with TONY JACKMAN**

(Courier Mail – Wednesday 13 February 2002)

It's always a long struggle but in the end well worth it. I am talking about the tortuous path from the beginning of a bridge club – usually a few enthusiasts getting together in someone's home – to the point, often many years later, when the club finally owns its own clubrooms.

Queensland is fortunate. We have a higher proportion of our clubs with their own premises than any other state. This has often been achieved by help, hard won, from the local council or shire. Such help is much appreciated.

Helen McLauchlan has advised that the Arana Contract Bridge Club has finally reached this point (following Sunnybank last year).

Arana commenced play in its new club house last week. There will be an official opening next month.

Meanwhile, there are morning sessions Monday, Tuesday and Friday and an evening session on Wednesday. Contact is Geoff Gulley (3951 3687) or Liz Marshall (3511 7791).

The address is Tramway Street, Ferny Grove, entrance next to the Bowls Club.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB

**12 FEBRUARY 2002**

The AGM was called to order at 9 am by President Bob Dancer. There were 97 financial members in attendance with 22 apologies given. The minutes from the 2001 meeting were approved as were all of the reports submitted. The new executive committee was duly appointed with the addition of Gay Hull as Vice President.

Thanks for a "Job Well Done" and flowers were presented to Bob Dancer and Gary Lynch (in absentia) by Margarett Golden.

Discussion was called for in regard to the increase of table fees to \$4.00 for members and \$5.00 for visitors. Speaking to the issue were Neil Hamilton, Betty Willson, Helen McLauchlan, Deslie Den Haan and others. The new fees were passed with the committee to look at additional options.

Thanks were given to Margarett Golden for volunteering to act as tea lady during the opening weeks of play at the new clubhouse.

The meeting was closed at 9:28 am and play began directly.

#### **BEGINNERS LESSONS**

The club will be starting 2 beginners' courses in our brand new club on Monday night, 25<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30 pm and on Thursday morning, 28<sup>th</sup> February at 9:30 am. The courses will last 8 weeks with an option of 6 weeks supervised play to follow.

If you know anyone who is interested in learning how to play the world's most popular card game, let them know about these lessons. They will make history as the first group to take lessons in our new clubhouse!

For enquiries and registration phone:  
Ailsa Smith on 3353-2055 or  
Liz Marshall on 3511-7791

Olga Coleman wrote a poem about Bridge. She has come up with some valid comments and wise counsel. Olga and Mort have generously offered to have the poem printed and framed as a gift to commemorate the opening of our new clubrooms. Many thanks from us all.  
Liz Marshall

### **CAPTIVATING BRIDGE A LIFETIME PUSUIT**

The desire and need of a new clubhouse  
Has been a goat to those who were keen to  
Make such a dream a reality.  
Words fail to express our gratitude,  
As at last our building has taken shape,  
And the joy of possession is really ours.

The game of bridge is four seasonal.  
It's frustrating and also a lot of fun:  
The younger we are when we start to learn,  
The better we'll be as the years pass by.  
There are so many systems played near and  
far,  
The challenge is constant and keeps us alert.

There are days we cringe with utter despair,  
And also days we revel with glee.  
The agony of disastrous play  
Can be remedied by ecstatic rewards.  
For the way we play the hands we're given,  
Reveals the extent of our personal skill.

The people we meet are keen and bright.  
Their backgrounds are varied and interesting.  
When time permits it's just great to converse,  
And lovely friendships often result.  
World news and intriguing events are  
discussed,  
And some members commute on the Internet.

Bridge tables are limited in size,  
So respect should be shown to everyone,  
Some people in keen competition forget  
To be courteous when the air is tense.  
It's important to realise when we play,  
That a good attitude should reign supreme.

The language of bridge is quite unique.  
The humour of our words is lost  
On all who do not know this game,  
And family members have often been known  
to raise their eyes and heads in despair  
When their parents discuss their latest results!

We can learn many lessons of life from  
bridge,  
The people we meet and the cards we play.  
Though it's humbling when we just grope in  
the dark,  
There are times we seem to reach the stars!  
But this magnetic pursuit attracts  
All ages who love their game of bridge.

**By Olga Coleman**

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

The first two weeks' operation of the club in the new premises has gone very smoothly, helped by an army of volunteers, and by the tireless efforts of Pam Horton. It was very encouraging to have record or near-record attendances at this time, together with an encouraging attendance of 7½ tables for the first Friday session. These attendances mean that we can confidently plan for the rest of the fit-out for the clubrooms. As always, we are continuing to pursue grants for some of the fit-out. Our new curtains are in the grant application which should be decided by mid-March. The first group of side tables is to be ordered immediately.

We of course have had learning curves on both the security system and air-conditioning. I think I can claim to have learned the security system by making all possible mistakes. The main lessons are that before taking any action on the keyboard, the operator should check the status before changing any settings, and that the satellite communication links, which have many advantages, have a few surprises in store. We now know what caused the beeps every minute on the first Wednesday night, and can fix the problem quickly.

The first lesson from the air-conditioning system is that in summer the units need to be switched on at least an hour before play starts, so they can cool the building down before the people arrive. The second lesson is that the units do not cool any faster if they are set to a lower temperature setting, because climate-control units always cool at full power until they reach the desired temperature setting. The third lesson is that setting two units at different temperatures can result in an air

temperature between the two settings, with one unit on full power heating and one on full power cooling – not a pretty outcome. The last lesson is that these units do not display the temperatures at which they have been set, so one person must control all temperature settings. Until the incoming committee has had a chance to set some policies, the person who comes in early to set the air-conditioning will remain in control for the session.

Preparations are well advanced for the official opening at 3.00 pm on 9<sup>th</sup> March, with the celebrations taking place in two main sections. First is an outdoor ceremony with six speakers, which is the official opening of the whole complex. This will last around 45 minutes, with little shade or seating. Members are advised to bring hats, sunscreen and possibly folding chairs. We then have a fairly long refreshment break, followed by an indoor dedication of the Judy Valentine Bridge and Community Hall, followed by bridge and football demonstrations. All activities are open to the public.

Many thanks are due to the financial contributions made by members to the fitout and initial operation of the clubrooms. The incoming committee will decide how these are to be acknowledged, but all of us are grateful for the tremendous response.

Please tell your friends about the Friday session!

**Bob Dancer, President**

## **ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB INC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday 15 January 2002

At The Clubhouse Ferny Grove Parklands

### Business Arising from the Minutes:

1. Training – Frank has spoken to Lorraine Fredericks and the following lessons will be held: Monday – 7.30 pm and Thursday – 9:30 am.
2. Director's Roster – Frank advised that Daphne has given a list of days thru to June next year to each director. Daphne will produce a roster.
3. Web Site – Margaret Dancer will have our Web Site up to date by our first day of play at the new clubhouse.
4. 2002 Booklet – The booklet is to include details of our training program.
5. Geoff and Margarete are to determine the best deal re the purchase of a mobile phone.

### Reports:

1. Property Sub Committee – the following areas were covered: Keys, pin numbers for the doors, Conditions of hire for the hall, Graffiti – removal of.

2. Project Report – a plaque and sign is to be obtained recognising the Government support, Parking outside of car park is being investigated, telephone line is still an outstanding issue, final expenditure by the club is still to be determined but is estimated to be under \$230,000. The meeting noted its satisfaction with the conduct of the project, being completed on time and to budget.

3. Building Fit Out Committee – A list of Clubhouse requirements was tabled, and each item discussed and if not to be supplied immediately placed on hold until further funds become available.

### New Business –

1. Keys/Security/Air-Conditioning – Six sets of keys are to be made to be available to Cleaners, Property Management, Directors, President and Secretary.

2. Opening/closing – Whoever opens the building will also be responsible for closing and the setting of the alarms.

3. Tea Lady – It was decided to hire a Tea Lady. Margarete has offered to assist for the month of February.

4. Table Fees – Bob presented possible budgets based on static table fees and increased fees. A proposal is to be presented at the AGM.

5. Service Awards – Committee unanimously nominated bob Dancer and Gary Lynch as joint winners of this award, for their outstanding efforts with regard to the new clubhouse.

6. Official Opening – March 9<sup>th</sup>.

7. Honour Boards – Vonnie Wallace has offered to donate to the club an honour board which will show all club presidents. Also a board donated by the City club will be used to show Club Championship Pairs and Teams events.

Next meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 pm

**Geoff Gulley Secretary**



## **LIBRARY LINES**

**by Ilene Bishop**

**Arana Bridge Club Librarian**

The members of the Griffins Club play quickly, for they feel that it is more dignified to make mistakes through lack of forethought than after mature deliberations.

Some of the ‘Dramatis Personae’, as quoted in **“Bridge in the Menagerie” (B7)** by Victor Mollo, have very similar thoughts to most bridge players.

For example: R.R. The Rueful Rabbit ‘One gets used to abuse. It’s the waiting for it that is so trying.’ Peregrine the Penguin ‘A technician is a man who knows exactly what to do the moment he has done something else.’

The author says that we may find it irksome to come across so many hands with exactly the same number of cards, always thirteen, never more, never less. This statement may give you a not so subtle clue as to the tone of this funny, original and instructive book. Even though it is not one of our library's newer tomes, it still makes for an enjoyable read.



## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

### QBA regulations

#### Systems and systems cards

Unless otherwise stated, green and blue systems only are permitted during club sessions at Arana CBC. It is mandatory for each pair to have a neatly completed current ABF system card on the table before play begins. Players should familiarise themselves with the details of opponents' opening bids – especially 2 level opening bids – before commencing each round.

(For those with computers, systems cards are available on line from the ABF Web Site. )

#### Alerting

Any artificial/systemic bid which the opponents may misinterpret must be alerted and quickly circled by the bidder's partner up to the level of 3NT.

#### Opening Leads

All opening leads must be made face down. For information on system classification and more detailed alerting rules, contact a club director. Whilst Arana, in common with other bridge clubs, promotes a social, friendly atmosphere, like all games and sports, rules are made to provide a common framework within which the game is played.



### Important Phone Numbers –

#### Clubhouse when attended - 0407 730 545

(A mobile will be used until a phone line is installed)

President – Bob Dancer – 3300-3414

Vice-President – Gay Hull – 3300-2444

Secretary – Geoff Gulley – 3851-3687

Treasurer – Warren Holmes – 3300-6654

Partner Contact – Betty Willson – 3355-2519



### Important Dates

- Feb 16-23 – Gold Coast Congress
- March 3 – Dalby Swiss Pairs
- March 4 – Arana CBC Red Point Monday
- March 9 – Official Opening of Arana Clubhouse 3:pm
- March 10 – Toowong Novice Pairs
- March 10 – Sunshine Coast Pairs
- March 17 – Surfers Novice Pairs



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## Queensland Government

**Getting more people active through sport and recreation**

The **Queensland Government** provided \$263,900 to the Arana Contract Bridge Club for the development of the Ferny Grove Sports and Recreation Centre to get more Queenslanders active through sport and recreation.