



# ARANA

## Contract Bridge Club Inc

*The Friendly Club*

July-August 2010

Vol 24 No 4

### President's Report:

Congratulations to the winners of our Club Teams Championship: Helen and Richard McLauchlan, Irena Hall and Janelle Cuffe, and to our Tuesday Teams winners: Judy Carr, Terry Nowitzki, David Lehmann and John Black.

Judy Wilkinson has donated a computer to the club- it will be put to good use as it is powerful enough to deal and complete the hand analysis- Thanks Judy.

Don't forget... Monday afternoon and Saturday afternoon is a come without partner session – one will be provided for you. Thursday social day is limping along. If you know anyone who would like a relaxed game, ask them to come along.

Following our survey on whether to restore percentages on Bridgemate or leave it as is, the majority voted to leave it as is.

We only have a limited number of Red Points per year and we have tried to distribute them as fairly as possible. Not all of our competitions are for Red Points. Please check the calendar.

Due to lack of response to our Novice Teams event in October we have decided to trial an in-house teams event for those with below 100 points. IGA Brookside is one of our sponsors and will give our members 5% discount on presentation of their club badge.

We have had some sinking of the building which will need repair , estimated cost being \$2000.

Lastly, welcome to our new members: Ross Shardlow, Barbara Gannon, Judith Cowie, Marie Hogan, Bill Mayo, Sue Kennard, Ivy Woodrow, Joyce Maris and Bev O'Hara.

**Val Acklin**

### MEETING FOR DINNER

A group of 40 year old girlfriends discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the waiters there had tight pants and nice buns.

10 years later at 50 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the food there was very good and the wine selection was excellent.

10 years later at 60 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they could eat there in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

10 years later, at 70 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the restaurant was wheel chair accessible and they even had an elevator.

10 years later, at 80 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally it was agreed that they should meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they had never been there before.

**If only they'd taken up bridge they'd have kept their wits about them! (Ed.)**

Flight Centre Brookside is offering 1% discount to members who book their holiday there!!

EDITOR

**Lynley Mason**

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♣ ♦ Important Phone Numbers ♥ ♠

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President:	Val Acklin 3851 3059
Vice-President:	Gary Lynch 3300 9472
Secretary:	Tony Agar 3851 1362
Treasurer:	Gay Hull 3300 2050
Committee members:	
	Jan McRobbie 3355 2425
	Terry Nowitzki 3851 3363
	Carole Vardy 3366 5397
	Gordon Broadley 3351 3091
	Judy Carr 3351 5914

**NEED A PARTNER??**

**Contact-**

Monday a.m.	Carole Vardy	3366 5397
Monday p.m.	Ray Cowie	3359 6162
Tuesday a.m.	Helen McLauchlan	3263 9024
Wednesday p.m.	David Lehmann	3205 7276
Friday a.m.	Lorraine Steele	3351 6173
Saturday	Val Cran	3300 1447

**Dawn prepared the raffle prizes for another successful Congress at Arana Bridge Club**



**MASTERPOINT MOVEMENTS**

To 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010

**GRADUATE MASTER**

Carol Bellis  
Joie Day  
Dianne Swift  
Kerry-Ann Anderson  
John Murphy  
Perry Morgan

**CLUB MASTER**

Robert van Beest  
Joan Mackay  
Cynthia sharp

**LOCAL MASTER**

Dawn Benes  
Ivo Giacheri  
Carla Webb  
Mike Wills

**\*LOCAL MASTER**

Gabriel Boross  
Geoff Doyle  
David Reller  
Pam Ryan  
Heather Salzgeber  
Andrew Sokolowski  
John Spencer

**\*\*LOCAL MASTER**

Ann Wood  
Alan Boyce  
Mary Carton  
Gary Cran  
Frank van der Woude  
Gary Ypinazar

**REGIONAL MASTER**

Diana Irwin

**\*REGIONAL MASTER**

Ada van der Woude

**STATE MASTER**

Heather Mackay  
John Nibbs  
Mary Ewing  
Terry Nowitzki

**\*STATE MASTER**

Gordon Broadley

**NATIONAL MASTER**

Ray Cowie  
Ibrahim Diallo  
David Lehmann

**BRONZE LIFE MASTER**

Jan Rae  
Kath Rooney

**SILVER LIFE MASTER**

Judy Valentine

**Robert Matthew (MP Secretary)**

## Robert Matthew reflects:



I grew up in Cairns where I was born in 1938. I have hazy memories of being taken south as a 3 or 4 year old and later learning this was an evacuation of women and children when Japan entered the 2nd world war. We (my mother and 2 brothers) returned to Cairns within a few months. Very quickly an American forces camp was established nearby and my younger brother and I felt free to roam through the camp talking to the soldiers, collecting stamps and lollies. We also roamed over the salt flats, creek banks, wharves and Australian defence force establishments.

We moved from the inner city to a developing suburb on the edge. I took on after school work for the local grocer, lawn mowing and paper runs to earn pocket money. Primary school was a breeze and I was quite unprepared for High school, giving a very lacklustre performance. After Junior level, I worked in sugar mills during the crushing season while furthering my education at the Brisbane Central Technical College during the slack (May to June).

Life as a shift worker soon lost its appeal and I moved to Brisbane, joined the Dairy Research Branch of the Dept. of Primary Industries and enrolled for more part time study at the Technical College. I lived in a seedy boarding house in Spring Hill ("Bartley Mansions" to its inhabitants) with other students, office workers and itinerants. Money was short among the students and we entertained ourselves and friends with card games, Oh Hell! and Rickety Kate were the games of choice. It was in these noisy evenings that Bob Dancer and I sharpened our card skills.

With the College course completed I qualified for entry to a Science course at the University of Queensland. The first year I was a correspondence student working at the Gatton Agricultural College where the Dairy Research Branch had agreed to place a researcher, principally into the problem of butter hardening. Relieved at the end of the year and due to misadventure, now without a car, I shared a flat in Highgate Hill with Bob. My chief memory of the next few years is of the long, cold, winter walks home from the West End ferry.

Life changed when Rosemary joined the staff at Dairy Research. We joined forces as we were studying similar subjects, and shared the long hours of learning. At the end of the academic year we needed something to fill

the hours. Rosemary had a device called Auto Bridge, a book by Goren and we had friends with an interest in card games. Bridge evenings became a way of life and frequently ended in the early hours of the morning. The game was introduced to our workplace friends and it took over the tea breaks and the lunch room. Bidding systems were primitive and play a learning process.

Rosemary and I married on Friday the 13th June 1969, Rosemary being the first woman to marry and remain in a permanent position in the Queensland public service. Our marriage created some problems for us as the Director of our branch could not accept us working in the same building and one or other was always being shunted out to a subsidiary laboratory.

Our studies continued and I was introduced to computer programming as part of my course work at the university. This was something that sparked my interest and on completion of my science degree I enrolled in a diploma course in computer science and transferred to the Main Roads Department when they advertised for computer programmers. Our first child was born as I completed the diploma.

I was interested in combining computers and laboratory work and moved to the Pathology Department at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. The department had installed a "small" computer with software developed in South Australia to store and make available the results of tests in the various laboratories within one section of Pathology Department. Results from the major automatic instrument were fed into the computer on paper tape and all other results were entered by office staff. Entered test results were immediately available for the office staff to answer telephone enquiries and printed results were distributed to the wards and clinics. Plans were in place to expand the system to other disciplines within the department but were frustrated by its lack of capacity and its unreliability.

Early in the 1980s the hospital and the Health Department agreed to fund a replacement computer system. Work became exciting, I was one of a team of three programmers developing software to serve all of Pathology. Two additional programmers were added and my time was largely devoted to creating direct communications between the computer system and the many automated instruments within the various disciplines. Our system met with success and our communication lines spread throughout the three hospitals at Herston, then to other hospitals in Brisbane.

Pathology was always a 24 hour business with staff on call to provide the out of hours service. This changed with increased demand from the medical staff of the hospitals and a need for availability of a wider range of tests. Pathology staff were rostered to work all days and all hours and the computer system had to follow suit, without additional staff. We took great pride in the level of reliability and availability we achieved. Development work slowed when the Health Department selected a computer system to become the preferred system for all hospitals for all purposes and I moved to the hospital wide computer services section as network manager.

As the 1990's progressed, Rosemary and I were increasingly dismayed by the difficulties with work in the public service, Rosemary with the Brisbane City Council and I with the Health Department. We both opted out in July 1999 (anything to get away from the madness of the millennium bug). We took lessons at classes organised by the Arana Bridge Club, joined up, and with some trepidation, entered the big room...

## BOOK REVIEW – SAFETY PLAYS

BY Marc Smith and D Bird – Index S8

How would you play the following card combination?

North: Hearts K 10 6 5 3

South: Hearts A 9 4 2

The correct answer is to answer a question with a question – How many tricks do I need from it?

If you need 5 tricks you will tackle the play in quite a different way than if you need a certain 4 tricks.

See if you can work it out for yourself, but the answer is below (Don't cheat now!). Get it wrong and you may only make 3 tricks.

This is one, in "The Bridge Technique" series by these 2 authors written for intermediate players (refer to full list below). I'm a great fan of them as they are all about 60 pages, are easy to read, contain some ingenious solutions and are very instructive. This book discusses how to tackle the various card combinations, and as with the example above, the approach differs depending on how many tricks you need. But the main

lesson to be learnt from each combination is the specific safety play to guarantee you the optimum number of tricks.

OK, you say, how am I supposed to remember the myriad of possible combinations and the plays for each combination? The answer is not to be daunted by the number of combinations. Read the book and even

if you only remember two or three, I guarantee that you will change the way you think about your declarer play and how to optimize your tricks.

Other books in the series are:

- Defensive Signaling (D1)
- Entry Management (E1)
- Planning in Suit Contracts (P14)
- Planning the Defence (P8)
- Planning the Play in Notrumps (P20)
- Reading the Cards (R3)
- Squeezes Made Simple (S10)
- Tricks with Trumps (T9)
- Tricks with Finesses
- Eliminations and Throw-Ins

If you want to take your bridge to another level, you could start by reading the books in this series.

Answer: Needing 5 tricks from the suit you should cash an honour, first – say the Ace. Should this drop the Queen or Jack from the East hand, the odds favour finessing the ten next. Suppose you can afford to lose one trick to assure your contract, but you cannot afford to lose 2. The 100% safety play is to lead a low card from one hand or the other covering any card that the defender plays, or rising with an honour if he shows out. (This guards against all 4 missing cards in one hand.)

David Lehmann



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