



# ARANA

## Contract Bridge Club Inc

March-April-May 2011

Vol 25 No 2

### From the President

THE Congress (February, Arana Swiss Teams) was a great success thanks to Jan McRobbie who did a good job under difficult circumstances. We made a profit of about \$1600.

Welcome to all of our new members from the last lessons and from Toowong.

Charity day netted \$560 which will be given to the Flood Relief fund.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April is our Club Team Championship Day. We would like as many members as possible to make this Day a success – make up a team!

**Val Acklin (President)**

### Management committee

At the AGM in February the **new committee** was elected, as detailed below.

- |                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| President                 | Val Acklin      |
| Vice President            | Gary Lynch      |
| Secretary                 | Tony Agar       |
| Treasurer                 | Gay Hull        |
| Other committee members:- |                 |
|                           | Judy Carr       |
|                           | Terry Nowitzki  |
|                           | Gordon Broadley |
|                           | Jan McRobbie    |
|                           | Janelle Cuffe   |
|                           | Daphne Buse     |
|                           | Ann Wood        |
|                           | Mike Wills      |

Also at the AGM, Val Acklin was voted a life member of the club. More about this further on in this newsletter.

### New Phone Numbers

SINCE printing the 2011 Members' Booklet, we have new members who have joined the club and some phone numbers have changed. Please note these numbers.

We welcome the following **New Members**:

- |                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Pam BREWER.....         | 3366 0347    |
| Aaron CHALKER.....      | 0430 491 777 |
| Clive DUNSTAN.....      | 0409 643 402 |
| Annette GARBE .....     | 3354 3294    |
| Kim KIMBER.....         | 3300 2825    |
| Muriel KIMBER.....      | 3300 2825    |
| Trish LYE .....         | 3876 2249    |
| Liz LYSAGHT .....       | 3355 5526    |
| Sue NORTON.....         | 3351 8300    |
| Ben PERKINS .....       | 0412 282 310 |
| Cathy ROUGH.....        | 3289 8282    |
| Ray SKILBECK.....       | 3289 1166    |
| Raymond STEWART .....   | 3264 7533    |
| Deidre TAYLOR .....     | 3289 0033    |
| Jim TAYLOR .....        | 3289 0033    |
| Pat THOMPSON .....      | 0412 878 707 |
| Rhonda WIECKHORST ..... | 3876 2249    |
| Barry WILLIAMS.....     | 0418 747 078 |

These members have **Changed Numbers**

- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Dawn BENES .....   | 0411 468 722 |
| Bill DIAMOND ..... | 3366 4370    |
| Pauline FORD.....  | 3851 4781    |
| Les GILSON .....   | 3351 2235    |
| Judith HOMAN ..... | 3354 4380    |
| Bill MAYO .....    | 3355 1592    |
| Robyn ROGERS ..... | 3511 0152    |
| Jill TAPSALL.....  | 3353 9880    |

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## Tony's Tips

### “DEFENSIVE (QUICK) TRICKS AND THE PENALTY DOUBLE”

DEFENSIVE tricks are honour card combinations that you expect to win tricks if the opponents play the hand.

They must be likely to win a trick on the first or second round that the suit is led. After the second round declarer is likely to trump.

AK	AQ	A or KQ	Kx
2	1 1/2	1	1/2

Most opening hands hold about 3 (or 2 1/2) defensive tricks.

A long suit headed by AK and supported by partner may yield only 1 trick before declarer will trump. AKQxxx vigorously supported by partner may produce no tricks.

If Right Hand Opponent bids a suit strongly in which you hold AQ you may expect to win 2 tricks. However if the suit has been bid by your LHO count AQ as 1 trick.

Similarly if you hold Kx in a suit bid strongly by your right hand opponent count as 1 trick. If suit is bid on your left it may not produce a trick.

Be quick to double when short in partner's suit. You have potential for an early ruff. Be more cautious when holding as many as four of your partner's suit. That suit may yield 1 trick at most. Declarer will be short.

When holding 4 cards in the opponents trump suit count this as 1 trick even though no honour card is held. The nuisance value of 4 small trumps should not be underestimated. He must play 4 rounds to exhaust trumps or if forced to ruff once he will probably be reduced to your length in trumps.

In doubling the opponents be conscious of a possible rescue bid and can you do damage to the rescue suit. Also they may switch to No Trump where your length in the former trump suit may have little or no value.

When counting partner's expected tricks to defeat the contract apply this test:-

- If partner has opened 1 of a suit expect him to produce about 3 tricks.
- If partner has opened 1NT count on 4 tricks from him.
- If partner has made a takeout double count on 3 tricks.
- If partner has merely overcalled count on only 1 trick.

If partner has opened with a pre-emptive bid don't count on him for anything much. Any penalty double must be based entirely on your own hand.

Tony Agar (Secretary)

## Library News

We have been fortunate to have 39 books donated to our library. Most of these have come from the personal collection of life member Judy Valentine. For those of you who don't know Judy, she was the driving force behind the foundation of our club. Some of the books are personally signed by the authors. Whilst a few augment copies already held in the library, there are 23 new titles added to our catalogue. Your committee has sent a “thank you” letter to Judy. We are extremely fortunate to benefit from her generosity.

I've picked out a few that have potential to be real gems and will try to review some of them over the coming months:-

**Squeeze Play made Easy** by Terence Reese and P Jourdain (Catalogue S12)

**Winning Bridge Trick by Trick** by Ron Klinger (Cat W 13 (a,b))

**Precision Bidding and Precision Play** by Terence Reese (Cat P 22)

**Test Your Play as Declarer** by P Lukacs & J Rubens (Cat T 10)

**Bid Better, Much Better** by Ron KlingerZ (Cat B 40)

**Bridge Tips by World Masters** by Terence Reese (Cat B 42)

For those of you who are looking to further your bridge knowledge but have difficulty in making a selection, we now have a separate catalogue listing books under the following key subject matters:

Bidding Systems and Learn to Play  
Conventions  
Bidding  
Bridge Stories  
Declarer Play  
Defence

Our librarian, Rosemary Matthew, has a complete list of the donated books. Also in the library are three copies of Paul Marsten's “**The Principles of Card Play**”; Reference number P16, and particularly suitable for new players.

David Lehmann

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## Val Acklin: Honorary Life Member

At the AGM in February members supported a proposal to make Val Acklin an Honorary Life Member. This nomination recognised her tireless work for the Club over a long period of time.

She has:

- been President on a number of occasions and agreed to take on the position again last year when it seemed that no-one else was willing to do so,
- arranged congresses,
- taught the beginners' classes,
- instigated the Thursday social bridge which she continues to actively support,
- organized the rubbish recycling,
- given private bridge tuition in her home.

When work needs to be done Val assists willingly, whether she is on the Committee or not. As some of her work for the Club is not in the public arena many members may not be aware of all she has done and is doing for the Club.

Her proposers pointed out that while there are many members who do voluntary work for the Club, Val's meritorious service for many years should be recognized by making her an Honorary Life Member.

## Gold Coast Congress

by Joan Mills

The Editor has asked me to do an article on the Gold Coast Congress. I hope the following is of interest. Some of you would not want to subject yourselves to many hours of concentrated bridge, stressful matches and a considerable expenditure of money. Despite these negatives, most players enjoy the competition and social experience, catching up with old friends and meeting a variety of new people.

The Congress lasts for about ten days with Pairs and Teams matches (Open, Seniors, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice). The cost of entry for the main Pairs event is \$260 per pair; the main Teams event is \$600 per team and the Butler Pairs event is \$160 per pair. They are the main drawcards, but there are also Walk-in Pairs (much cheaper and only last for a short time) and some other events which are less popular. Over 2,000 players attended this year's 50<sup>th</sup> Congress. It is larger than similar events in Europe.

In addition to the above entry fee (or fees if you go in more than one event), there is the cost of accommodation. Most players share unit

accommodation to reduce costs. These units can range from around \$145 to \$200 per night. Then, of course, there is the food bill. It is a good idea to take your own breakfast and go out for lunch and dinner. The restaurants at Broadbeach are not cheap, even taking into account that some offer discounts for the bridge players.

This year we only contested the Intermediate Teams event (for players with less than 500 MP). I will therefore give you a bit of an insight into that. Each team member received .56 of a gold point for each round won, plus additional gold points if your team finished in the top third of the field after the last match. Our event started on Tuesday at 1.00 p.m. You play six sessions over three days (12 matches in all). Each session consists of two 14-board rounds. After the first session you are desperate for dinner and a well-earned drink (most of us had the alcoholic variety).

Then back to the Convention Centre at 7.30 for another session ending at 11 p.m. You are now wondering why you put yourself through this, having played 56 boards during the day. You are exhausted and there are two more days to go. Sometimes you played against pairs who berated one another for their mistakes, which is rather off-putting. Most players, however, are polite and friendly. Disaster has occurred on a number of occasions and you are grateful for your partner or team mates getting great scores on other boards to make up for your blunders.

It is important to have a partner who is understanding, does not tick you off when you do something stupid, e.g. bidding too high or too low; not bidding when you should; not making a contract that was obviously "gettable" when you see the record sheet, and is generally easy to get along with. Also your other team members need to be people who do not get annoyed when you have just given away a huge number of points because, for example, the opposition doubled you and you went off, you doubled the opposition and they made the contract, or you were in a slam that you messed up.

Maybe you did something wrong and the director was called. This happened to me when I had claimed the last two tricks. The result depended on my play of the cards. The Congress director who came to sort out the problem gave one ruling but was not sure if it was right. He asked the Head Director who changed the ruling (unfortunately not in my favour). You learn something every day and I will remember what not to do in future.

If you reach the final (the top two teams at the end) you have to go on Friday to play more boards before the winner is decided. That calls for another night's expense and more meals. At least the prize money is fairly good if you get any of it.

While it can all be rather deflating when you are stalling one day, then giving away some high scores the next, it is worth entering the competition for the experience. Your opponents play a large variety of systems including Standard American, ACOL, Precision, 2 over 1 and others that you have never heard of before. We played pairs from interstate and overseas with interesting differences from our normal systems. You only learn from playing against people who are better than you are and play other systems.

For those of you who are interested in improving your bridge I recommend you go to the Gold Coast Congress at least once. It is a good idea to play in some of the shorter congresses that are on throughout the year to get competition experience e.g. Novice events (for fairly new players) or Graded events (for those who have more experience). After you feel comfortable playing in competitions you can then give this more competitive and exhausting congress a try.

## Director's Corner

### "Run the Suit"

DECLARER, having a long suit in Dummy, asks dummy to "run the suit". After 2 or 3 leads, Declarer discovers that one Defender has the necessary length to block the suit. At that stage Declarer can stop running the suit and switch if he desires providing the next defender has not played to the trick.

"Run the suit" is not a recognised term in the "Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007", because bridge is played one trick at a time. Strictly speaking, when Declarer says "run the suit" Dummy is required to play only the first card in the suit and then wait for further instructions. At that stage (or in a subsequent round) Declarer can stop running the suit and switch if he desires. But the opponents could get redress if they have reasonably assumed that all the suit will be cashed. Law 45B

Usually, Declarer plays a card from Dummy by naming the card, after which Dummy picks up the card and faces it on the table. In playing from Dummy's hand declarer may, if necessary, pick up the desired card himself.

**Daphne Buse**

## This Issue

This issue covers March April and May of this year, and will be followed by the third issue covering June, July and August. Travel in May and June make this necessary.

## Next issue

An article written by Pam Horton on the Gold Coast Congress with a historical focus, and a book review by Peggy Whittaker are planned for the next Trumpit.

## Submission of material for Trumpit

All material intended for the Trumpit should be given or sent to the Trumpit Editor, Michael Walker, contact details below – email preferred. Written material can be addressed to the Editor and placed in the box in the clubrooms.

Editor: Michael Walker

Phone: 3359 8907

Email: [walkermj1@bigpond.com](mailto:walkermj1@bigpond.com)

(Please note; after walkermj is the numeral one, not a lower case L. They look very similar to one another.)

(Thank you Lynley for all those past Trumpits)

## Please support those who support our club and it's members.

AVEO, and Arana Leagues Club, provide aid to the club (funding or goods), while Flight Centre and IGA SUPA, both at Brookside, provide discounts to club members who identify themselves as a member of Arana Bridge Club by showing a club ID Badge. Any badge you use to identify yourself at Bridge which has the club name on it will suffice.

I am also advised that purchases at this IGA SUPA are tracked by them and an annual gift made to the club based on member purchases through the year.

## Test your knowledge

Q: How much do pirates pay for their earrings?

A: A Buccaneer!

Q: What is an archaeologist?

A: Someone who's career is in ruins!

Q: Who are some of the werewolves' cousins?

A: The whatwolves and the whenwolves.

Q: Why are Venetian blinds the greatest invention in the history of mankind?

A: If it wasn't for Venetian blinds, it would have been curtains for all of us.