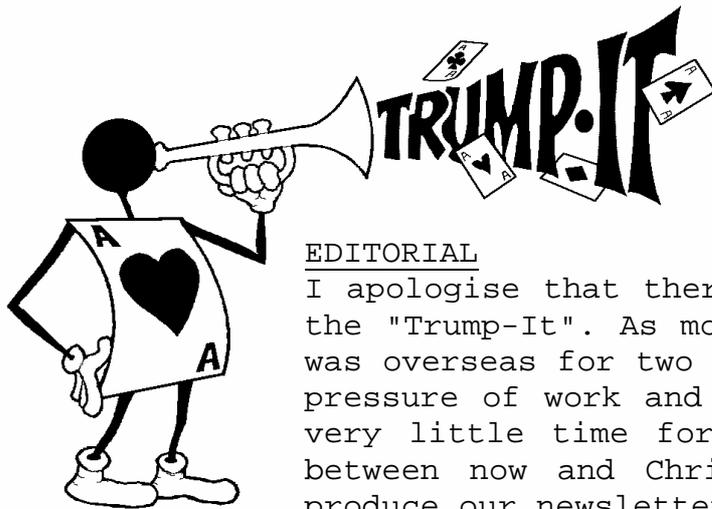


ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB



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EDITORIAL

I apologise that there was no August edition of the "Trump-It". As most of you will be aware, I was overseas for two weeks of this month and the pressure of work and family commitments left me very little time for anything else. Hopefully, between now and Christmas, I will be able to produce our newsletter on a regular basis.

In this issue of the "Trump-It" I start the history of the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA). The mammoth task of collating the information fell upon the shoulders of Mrs. Margaret Thomason. It took her a couple of years to piece together the sketchy information, much of which she pulled from the memories of the 'older' generation of Australian bridge players. Today, thanks to her efforts, we have a fairly precise record of Queensland's achievements in bridge. I hope members will find the articles written by Margaret and reproduced from the QBA Bulletins interesting.

J. Valentine (Editor)

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QBA HISTORY

This is the first of a series of articles about the Association from the days in 1932 when a handful of bridge enthusiasts, at a private function, decided to form a bridge association in Queensland.

Among those present at the inaugural meeting were the late Frank CAYLEY and Kivas TULLY. Frank returned to New South Wales soon afterwards; Kivas was later to play a very active part in bridge administration in Queensland and he represented Queensland at National Championships on many occasions in the fifties and sixties.

A few games were held in the Griffith Tea Rooms, 309 Queen Street, then rooms at the Portland Lounge (in the Equitable and General Life Building, Queen Street) were hired. When membership increased, the rooms at the Portland Lounge would not hold all the people interested in playing bridge and the weekly tournaments were transferred to rooms at the Canberra Hotel, Ann Street.

In the meantime, Messrs W.F.R. BOYCE and M.J. (Mick) SULLIVAN opened a proprietary club, the Brisbane Bridge Club at 455 Adelaide Street and on the suggestion of Mick SULLIVAN, the Queensland Bridge Association moved its headquarters to this address in 1936.

The premises of the Brisbane Bridge Club were impressed by the Army in 1943 and the club became defunct. This compelled the Association to move to much smaller rooms (and shared occupancy with the Town and Country Women's Club) in the building of the Commercial Bank of Aust. Ltd., 231 Albert Street; although attendances dwindled to five or six tables, the Friday evening tournaments and the Association itself managed to survive. After the war the headquarters were moved back to 455 Adelaide Street and, following the sale of the building, the Association was on the move again in 1957 - this time to the hall behind the Holy Trinity Church, 111 Brookes Street, Fortitude Valley. A transfer to the Totally & Permanently Disabled Soldiers Association building, 154 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane was made in 1959 and two nights a week were then available for bridge.

As a State body, the Association did not seek or receive applications for affiliation until 1959 when Northern Suburbs Bridge Club applied and was accepted. By the close of 1960, there were clubs at Toowoomba, Dalby and Gatton (Lockyer) and it was decided that the Association should be reconstituted as a governing body only.

Club playing activities were transferred to the "Brisbane Bridge Club" (though the original proprietary club of this name ceased to exist in 1943 some players still referred to the Association as the Brisbane Bridge Club). At a meeting attended by delegates from existing clubs, it was decided that a committee, headed by the officials of the newly formed Brisbane Bridge Club, would manage the affairs of the Association pending the adoption of a new constitution. The first officials of the reconstituted Queensland Bridge Association were elected in December, 1952.

QBA Council meetings were held at the headquarters of the Brisbane Bridge Club (154 Melbourne Street) and when the club purchased its own premises at 17 Manning Street, South Brisbane in 1966 - and reformed as the Queensland Contract Bridge Club - Council meetings were transferred to the new address.

The 'History of the Queensland Bridge Association' will be continued next issue. (Ed.)

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Club members will be saddened to hear of the recent death of our Tuesday morning member, Mrs. Ann North. Ann joined the beginners classes early this year and was a very conscientious and enthusiastic member. Flowers were sent to her husband from all club members.