



# ARANA

## *Contract Bridge Club Inc*

September October 2011

Vol 25 No 4

### From the President



I would like to commence this report by thanking the many members who contribute to the successful operation of our bridge club. The current committee members are all very enthusiastic and are ably supported by a large number of volunteers who carry out all of those essential tasks that can easily be taken for granted, such as:

- Directing the play sessions
- Scoring the play sessions
- Dealing the cards
- Keeping Bridgemate operational
- Organising the kitchen functions and sourcing supplies.
- Running lesson classes
- Publishing the "Trumpit"
- Organising the major events
- Assisting at major events
- Organising fund raising activities
- Helping at working bees
- Finding playing partners
- Managing the library
- Undertaking maintenance tasks
- Maintaining membership lists

This list is not exhaustive and the people involved know who they are. We should all be grateful for their fine efforts.

Fortunately our club avoided any flow on effects from the floods earlier this year. However, we did gain from increased attendances due to a temporary influx of Toowong players. We have a reputation for being a very friendly club and some of these visiting players were obviously impressed with the welcome they received, as they have since joined as paid members.

I would also like to congratulate Jo McKitrick on the quality of the lessons that she continues to provide. The latest round of lessons started in July with a new group of potential members. Largely due to Jo's lessons, the club has already signed more than the usual number of new members this year. As a continuing inflow of new members provides the lifeblood of any organization, Jo has to be commended for her efforts.

The committee has noted the declining interest in the Novice teams event. It has therefore decided to replace that event this year with a team of three event. Three novice players, that is players with fewer than 100 master points, will be allocated a more experienced player, who will play on a rotating basis with each of the other team members. In fulfilling this role, it is intended that the experienced player provide guidance and advice to his partners. We look forward with great anticipation to the success of this new venture.

The committee is aware of the deteriorating condition of the paint on the exterior of the building and is seeking a grant from the

Gaming Community Benefit Fund to pay for a new paint job. The committee is also determined to maintain the internal appearance of the hall. At the last committee meeting, the committee decided to have the carpet shampooed and the fabric on the chairs cleaned prior to the first major event next year.

The finances of the club continue to be sound and I look forward to the ongoing success of the club with a growing membership and with current players improving their playing skills in a friendly and supportive environment.

**Val Acklin (President)**

## Book Review

### **BID BETTER – MUCH BETTER (by Ron Klinger – Index B40)**

HOW would you bid the following hand after a NT opening by West

WEST		EAST	
Spades	Q 7 2	Spades	J 9 5 3
Hearts	A K T 6	Hearts	J 7 5 4
Diamonds	Q 9 8 2	Diamonds	A 3
Clubs	A 7	Clubs	Q J 8

Using simple or extended Stayman the bidding would go 1NT by West, 2 Clubs by East, 2 Hearts by West, 3 Hearts by East, all pass. Unfortunately, with North holding the Heart Queen, the contract fails by one trick.

The author goes on to pose various other bidding problems involving transfers over a 1NT opening where the bidding can get too high, and offers a bidding solution whereby you can stop at the appropriate level.

The bidding system is known as “Puppet Stayman” and in typical Klinger style, the subject is thoroughly explored and explained with many sample hands.

The basic system summary to Puppet Stayman after a 1NT opening has the following 2 level responses by responder:

- 2 Clubs = a puppet to 2 Diamonds. Opener is obliged to bid 2 Diamonds.
- 2 Diamonds = transfer to Hearts,
- 2 Hearts = transfer to Spades,
- 2 Spades = range enquiry, asking opener are you minimum or maximum?
- 2 NT = transfer to Clubs

Thus in the sample above Responder would bid 2 Diamonds, Opener would accept the transfer by bidding 2 Hearts (and showing minimum opening range) and responder would pass.

Chapters are devoted to explaining in full the range of options after a 1NT opening – signing off in a suit, inviting game in a major, inviting game in NT, inviting game in a minor, force to game and locate a 4 card or 5 card major, force to game with at least 5/4 in the majors, force to game with at least a 5 card major and a 5 card minor, force to game with a 6 card major, and force to game with a 5 card major and no second suit. The author also explores some advanced methods, including bidding Splinters after 1NT and offers some ideas for slam bidding. A chapter is also devoted to coping with interference.

120 practice hands (and solutions) are given to help the reader adapt to the system.

This is one of the recently donated books new to the library and is recommended for those intermediate players who are looking for a way to bring more accuracy to their No Trump bidding.

**David Lehmann**

## Tony's tips

### **What do you lead from three card suits?**

#### ***When partner has bid a suit and you hold:***

Axx- lead the Ace against a suit contract and low against no trump.

Kxx, Qxx or Jxx lead low against either suit or no trump contracts. Leading a low card in partner's suit infers you hold an honour card.

10xx and xxx. Opinions differ. Some experts prefer low and others the 10. Few prefer the middle card. Note this is a suit your partner has bid. Leading from an unbid suit try MUD- middle up down- from 3 low cards. 853.

Keep in mind that the adage "never say never" applies doubly to which card to lead from a three carded suit. If you and partner agree to lead lowest from 972, the bidding of the next hand may give you reason to prefer the 9 in the next hand, indicating you don't want the suit returned or the 7 or 2 for other reasons.

Whatever method of leading you use, be sure you and partner know what each other tend to do.

**Tony Agar**

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## Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31<sup>th</sup> June

Graduate Master	
Club Master	Kerry-Ann Anderson
Local Master	Judith Nelson
*Local Master	Ivo Giacheri
**Local Master	Gabriel Boross Raymond Rooney
Regional Master	Joyce Bell Doreen Spenser
*Regional Master	
State Master	Ann Wood
*State Master	
National Master	
*National Master	Tony Agar
**National Master	
Life Master	Valerie Cran

**Robert Matthew (MP Secretary)**

## A Reminiscence

### My Memories of the Gold Coast Congress

By Judy Valentine

My first Gold Coast Congress was in 1966. I was living in Mackay at the time and Marg Haughton was very keen to play in this event. Through the QBA we were able to arrange team-mates from Sydney. Apart from a few players attending from Brisbane, Toowoomba and possibly Dalby clubs, the remainder came from southern states. I believe Marg and I were probably the first Queensland country players north of Brisbane to attend.

What wonderful memories I have of the congresses I played in during the 1960s. The Chevron Hotel venue boasted luxury, from its accommodation (designed in a tropical style), to the Pink Elephant Bar where bridge players enjoyed beers, spirits and cocktails, and the pool area that was frequented by the bridge-playing guests. The Corroboree Room, part of the Chevron complex, was a modern Convention Centre with very large floor space, and, in the early days, we occupied only a small portion due to low attendance. Small numbers meant we all knew one another. This gave an intimacy that

disappeared as the congress grew in numbers. Vivid green carpet adorned with huge red hibiscus flowers covered the playing area. The Chevron staff never seemed to change. Year after year, under the supervision of Shirley, they attended bar and coffee stations offering table service to bridge players. Although players dressed in casual gear that was appropriate attire for the afternoon session at the Gold Coast, the dress code changed at night when players dressed in their fineries. Tight girdles were dragged on under tight fitting evening dresses to emphasise the tiny waists of that period. As the years passed, long flowing evening gowns without the tight girdles were a welcome change for evening. I have very clear memories of the beautiful dresses and expensive jewellery worn by some of the more affluent southern women who represented a large contingency of players attending in the 60s and 70s. I guess the inclination to dress up for night sessions belonged to this bygone era. The hairdressers in Surfers Paradise did a rip-roaring trade when the bridge players were in town and it was difficult to get an appointment, especially on the night of the Victory Dinner. The most popular hairstyles of the 60s and 70s were the French Knot and the Bee Hive, styles that were better managed by a visit to a hairdressing salon.

The Gold Coast Congress always began with a Welcoming Cocktail Party held on the patio area of the Convention Centre and was a formal affair in the true tradition of a cocktail party of that period. Benson & Hedges was the major sponsor of the congress in those days and the cigarette girls, dressed in the company's colour of gold, walked amongst the guests hating out free cigarettes from the tray supported by a strap around the neck. Even the Official Programme cover was made of the gold paper that was used to line the company's cigarette packets.

James de O'Sullivan, then President of the ABF, was the perfect host, greeting all the visitors and making sure that Marg and I were introduced to southern players. James was a charming host and I am sure that those who remember him in this role will agree with me that he had no peer. He held parties in his room at the conclusion of play each night and everyone was invited. I attended many of his parties over the years and I will always remember his generosity and charm.

**Editor's Note: The above reminiscence was kindly provided by Pam Horton.**

## **Director's Corner.**

### **FACE-DOWN lead not a played card**

A **face-down lead** is not a played card until it is faced. Therefore if a **faced** opening lead is made by the *wrong* hand before the correct opening lead has been faced, the *face-down* card, since it is not a played card, is withdrawn and the faced card is treated as a 'faced opening lead out of turn'.

### **Clarification period**

This is a new term with the 2007 Laws and refers to the period after the last pass of the auction and before the opening lead is faced. During this period the *declaring side only* may consult their own System Cards [Convention Cards].

### **Review of bidding**

*The last moment for declarer to ask for a review of the bidding is just before he plays a card from dummy to the first trick (lead from LHO). He may ask for explanations about a call whenever he has to play a card, either from dummy or from his own hand.*

### **"Run the clubs"**

Declarers do say this when running a long suit in dummy. It is no more than a statement of intent, however, and declarer cannot be held to it. For example, if declarer finds to his surprise that they are not all winners he is allowed to change to an alternative line.

Val Cran

### **NOTICE BOARD**

EACH player must have a completed system card on the table during red and Gold Point events.

Each pair must have a completed system card on the table for Green point sessions.

System cards must not be placed on side tables, or kept in handbags or shirt pockets etc. They must be placed in clear view on the table for the opponents during play.

### **Did you know?**

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'

## **Winners**

Lynley Mason, Dawn Benes, Sue Kennard and Ross Shardlow were winners in the Australia-Wide Novice Pairs



Dawn wrote:

*"Mid April, Dawn Benes and Lynley Mason partnered for the first time. The Match-up proved successful when they, playing North-South, won the Arana Bridge club segment of the Australia-Wide Novice Pairs Competition held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011 with a 56.65% win out of a field of 21 pairs. Their passion for the game was no doubt a major factor in their victory,"*

Ross and Sue took Ray Cowie's lessons in early 2010 and have played Bridge together for over 12 months.

We congratulate all four winners.

## **New members**

The following members have joined the club in June and July this year.

Matthew DOYLE  
Joyce O'BRIEN  
Jan POWELL  
Sophie QUINLIVAN  
Frank SPEARE  
Judy SPEARE  
Pat WATSON  
Jeff SMITH  
Phil SAUNDERS  
Margaret SMITH

I am sure we are all making them welcome at Arana.

### **Did you know?**

The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

## A profile on Clive Dunstan



CLIVE Dunstan is one of our energetic, enthusiastic new members. Clive took bridge lessons last year (2110) and has already become addicted to the game!

He was born in Melbourne and attended school at Oakleigh Technical and Huntingdale High School. After joining the Commercial Bank, his number came up and at 20 was drafted into the Australian Army and did National Service. Clive's father had had a hard time in WW2 and was so very upset when Clive was sent to Vietnam.

For 11 months, in 1968-69 Clive was a rifleman, a foot slogger in the jungle of South Vietnam. There were more casualties in his battalion in Clive's 12 month tour than in any other battalion in the Vietnam War. He was in the TET offensive. His battalion 9 RAR (Royal Aust Regiment) lost 13 soldiers killed, in the heaviest fighting in the war.

In an operation called "Coral" there were 4 Vietcong battalions in the valley where Clive and his battalion were sent. The Vietcong struck on the first night.

When Clive returned home, he returned to his position with the Bank and was asked where he wanted to live. He said Brisbane and was posted to Enoggera, where he met his wife Janelle and reared two children.

Clive has always been interested in football. He joined the local footy club Wilston/Grange (the Gorillas!), and coached the under 17 and under 19 Aussie Rules teams.

He became president of the Club, was vice-president of the QAFL league for 7 years and president of the QAFL league for 8 years.

He then became Foundation Manager in charge of development throughout Queensland. In fact, as Foundation Manager, Clive instigated the claim with the Council for all the Ferny Grove land around and including where our club is situated.

We, as members of Arana Bridge club can thank Clive for all the groundwork he put in. He must ponder all this with satisfaction as he drives up the hill to play bridge.

We thank Clive too for giving us a tiny insight into the horrors of the Vietnam War.

Enjoy your bridge, Clive!

**Jenny Walker**

## Your Bid

All vul, you pick up this 3 loser 8 hcp hand –

♠ – ♥ – ♦ Q 8 7 6 4 3 2 ♣ K Q J 6 4 3

only to hear an opening 1H bid on your right. What do you bid?

What? These things don't happen in real life. Well they do. Sunnybank teams congress, match 5, board 7, all vul, dealer South. Does it make any difference if your opponents are Ralph Parker & Nathan Van Jole (team 1 and ultimate winners).

Playing the unusual 2Nt or Ghestem, you have an easy 2Nt (at least 5/5 minors) bid. Reasonable for an 8 count but a bit anaemic for a 3 loser hand.

I tried 4Nt.

"Is that Blackwood" says Ralph.

"No, it's pick a minor" says Judy Carr.

♠ A K Q J 8 7 4

♥ Q 9 8 6

♦ --

♣ 8 5

♠ --

♥ --

♦ Q 8 7 6 4 3 2

♣ K Q J 6 4 3

♠ 10 6 3

♥ 10 7 5

♦ K J 10 5

♣ 10 9 2

♠ 9 5 2

♥ A K J 4 3 2

♦ A 9

♣ A 7

South	West	North	East
Ralph	Richard	Nathan	Judy
1H	4Nt	5D <sup>1</sup>	X
XX <sup>2</sup>	/	5S <sup>1</sup>	/
6C <sup>1</sup>	X	6D <sup>1</sup>	/
6H	/	7H	

1 Cue bids: first or second round controls.

2 Tell me more.

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Even though I chewed up all the bidding space through to 4Nt, they still reached the grand, although the final 7H bid was a bit slow coming.

After they disallowed my 8D bid, I led the KC and asked Judy to ruff it. When that didn't happen, Ralph claimed 15 tricks.

It was surprising how many Wests overcalled only 2Nt or 2D. That included San Kamalarasa against Pam Horton – Helen McLauchlan. Helen simply bid 4Nt over his 2D and they found 6H which cost us 13imps.

In retrospect (always easier), my best bid is 5Nt. Full marks (11 out of 10) to anyone who finds that bid. Next best is 4Nt. About 2 from 10 for 2D and nothing for 2C, minus 1 for X or pass.

**Richard McLauchlan**

## **An older Dog**

AN older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of.

He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head. He then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.

An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 - he's trying to catch up on his sleep.'

Can I come with him tomorrow?

## **Did you know?**

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden' and thus, the word GOLF entered into the English language.

## **Bridge Too Competitive?**

THERE are some who say Bridge is too competitive. In my opinion, roller skating is way more competitive than Bridge.

Years ago, at Sandringham in Melbourne, my son wanted to go roller-skating, so I joined the club with him to keep him company. We roller-skated around the rink trying to stay upright when someone suggested we come every week and learn to skate properly.

It went swimmingly for a while, and we even passed the first level exam. Great, we could skate and we were really enjoying it! Then we discovered that in order to continue skating, we had to reach ever higher skill levels and sit for an exam every three months.

There was speed skating, pirouetting, jumping through hoops and other nonsensical skating activities, probably in keeping for training for the Olympics, but not what a nine year old boy and his enthusiastic but out of condition mother thought appropriate.

Not only did we decide not to practice to improve our skating skills, we did not get to keep the 1st level award we originally achieved. This had a devastating effect on the nine year old, not to mention his mother, and we quietly faded from the scene.

At least with Bridge, they let you keep your masterpoints, even if you never play again, and they don't mind if you come first or last, as long as you play with a smile on your face.

**Jenny Walker**

**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.

## **Did you know?**

The first novel ever written on a typewriter; "Tom Sawyer".