

ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

October-November 2014

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From the President



At a recent committee meeting Natalie Bloch accepted a marketing role for the club. One of Natalie's first initiatives has been the creation of a club Facebook page. If anyone is using Facebook to research bridge clubs that they may potentially join, then the page provides a useful insight into the nature of our club. The more people that "like" our page the more visible it becomes on the internet. To this end all our members can help. If you do use Facebook please make sure you search for our page and "like" it. If you do not then you can still help. Most of you would certainly have children and/or grandchildren who use Facebook. I am sure if you ask them nicely they will happily find and "like" our page even though it is of no interest to them.

While many of you may have no interest in joining Facebook I am sure you still enjoy looking at photos. Natalie has already uploaded lots of nice pics and I am sure she will continue to do so especially when we have special events such as the Melbourne Cup day and the Xmas party.

If you want to look at these you can do so simply by going to our normal Arana Bridge website and clicking on the Facebook logo at the bottom left corner of the homepage.

Another initiative Natalie has undertaken is to contact The Senior newspaper and arrange for them to publish a small article about our club. I wrote the piece, but unfortunately I was limited to 150 words and so it is not the literary masterpiece to which you have become accustomed. Anyway if you do get to see a copy of The Senior, look out for our article.

Dawn Benes has agreed to mastermind this year's Melbourne Cup day. I am sure Dawn will do a great job so it is something to which we may all look forward.

Congratulations to Joan Mills and Gayle McCarthy for winning the 2014 pairs championship. Special thanks to John Martin for giving up his Sunday to act as non-playing Director.

Happy Bridging.

Allan McIntyre (President)

New Member

A WARM welcome to our new member in August-September: Karen Garner. We hope you enjoy playing at Arana, Karen.

Masterpoint movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 31st August

<i>Club Master</i>	Rosalind Geschke
<i>Local Master</i>	Carol Bellis
<i>*Local Master</i>	Lyn Holden
<i>**Local Master</i>	Sue Norton
<i>State Master</i>	Kathy Burgess
<i>*National Master</i>	Gordon Broadley

Robert Matthew (MP Sec)

Director's Corner

Etiquette at the bridge table

BRIDGE Regulations require a player to be friendly, greet opponents, act as a good host or quest at the table and help to make Bridge enjoyable for everyone.

A player should carefully avoid any remark or action that might cause annoyance or embarrassment to another player or might interfere with the enjoyment of the game.

e.g. You should not say – Oh look! We came first. If you come first, your poor opponents have come last.

Every player should follow uniform and correct procedure in calling and playing.

Be courteous regarding noise. If there is a table still playing when you have finished your round, they need to be able to concentrate and loud noise can be distracting.

Val Cran (Director)

DAWN Benes has noticed some bad habits carrying over to GNOT's and makes the following reminders.

Too much unauthorized information is being spoken at tables.

Players must announce 1C and 1NT (opponents are not obliged to ask). The Director may be called at the end of the game if not announced.

Players must alert where necessary.

If a player suspects a revoke, do not replace your cards in the board. Wait for the Director to make a ruling.

And remember, a Double is not personal: it is part of the game.

Dawn Benes (Director)

Tony's Tip

Duplicate Strategy

THE majority of bridge sessions at club play are duplicate. That is, the same boards are played by each side. The only difference being that you are sitting either NS or EW.

So who are your opponents? Say you are sitting EW at table no. 6. Are your opponents the NS pair at table 6 or are they the other EW players sitting in the room?

A good duplicate player realises that his true opponents are the other players sitting EW. Your score must be better than theirs!

At some point during the auction or play, take time to pause and think "what is happening at the other tables." The answer can affect bidding and play strategy. This is particularly so if you get a bad trump break. Your revised strategy now becomes one of limiting your losers rather than making your contract. One down may be the best result rather than pursue an unrealistic play and fail by two. You may still get a top board against the EW field.

Your NS opponents are your "playing opponents" being the people you score points with. What is crucial is the number of EW pairs you can score better than. You do not win if you get a high score but only if your score is better than the other EW pairs. And it does not matter by how much or how little. It does not matter if you are defending 1NT or 7NT.

Match point scoring is on a relative basis. It is your score compared to your *true opponents* score. Therefore over tricks do count.

The authorities say for example, it is better to favour a major fit over a minor fit, where possible. So it may pay to play in a major suit with seven trumps (4-3, 5-2, 6-1) than in a minor with eight trumps.

More on this in future articles; meantime experiment with the concept of assessing the outcome of your results against corresponding pairs at the other tables. There is always much during play to think about, so perhaps start with a hand that you believe most players on your side, NS or EW, will be in, but will fail due to bad breaks. Try to minimise your losses and check Bridgemate result to compare the outcome.

Tony

Important dates

Presidents Pairs - 2 week event

Tuesdays October 7 and 14

Monday (pm) Pairs - 2 week event

Monday, 3 November 2014

Melbourne cup day Tuesday Nov. 4

See separate advert for this.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BRIDGE

Sessions 9:30am to 1:30pm

For a friendly and relaxed game

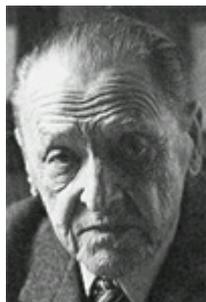
Morning tea/coffee provided

NO PARTNER REQUIRED

Phone Dawn Benes 0411 468 722, or

Lorraine Steele 3351 6173

Quotable Quote



S. MAUGHAM

Bridge is the most diverting and intelligent card game that the wit of man has so far devised.

I would have children taught it as a matter of course, just as they are taught dancing. In the end it will be more useful to them, for you cannot with seemliness continue to dance when you are bald and potbellied; nor, for that matter, can you with satisfaction to yourself or pleasure to your partner continue to play tennis or golf when you are well past middle age. But you can play bridge so long as you can sit up at a table and tell one card from another. In fact, when all else fails - sport, love, ambition - bridge remains a solace and an entertainment.

W. Somerset Maugham

Bridge Poem (author unknown)

It's amen to Stayman, I give up the fight

The insults and muddles are giving me troubles

And I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles.

My cards are all rotten and I have forgotten

Who's played and what's trumps and what's gone on my right!

So for now it's all over- I'm off to the back wood

I'm bidding good-bye to Gerber and Blackwood.

I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain

I'm getting those bad cards again and again.

So I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's a bad night

Declarer is horrid and nothing's going right.

My partner's a dope and I'm losing all hope

And when she says "double" I know we're in trouble

My points are not high and I'm wondering why

She kept on bidding right up to the sky.

We're in seven spades and all my hope fades

When surprise, surprise, the high bidding pays!

We're winning all tricks, the defenders feel sick,

And I have to admit my partner's a brick.

But I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's my last night

Farewell to conventions- I give up the fight.

So I leave with few words but some that are true,

Bridge is a game- not for me but for you.

So be kind to your partners and don't mind their cheek

For it's only a game- Oh! Yes. I'll see you next week.

WebSite Update

www.aranabridgeclub.com

THERE is more to our website than the Results Page! Natalie Bloch (our publicity officer) has been hard at work on Arana's Facebook Page. Just click on the  icon on the bottom of the our website Home Page. You'll find lots of photos of people having fun at Arana.

Several links to bridge convention websites have been added to our Contact Page. They are in the Useful Links section. You'll find just about every convention known on at least one of the sites.

Just a reminder that we do publish entries to those club events requiring entry forms. They are on the Events Page. So if in doubt as to whether or not you have entered a particular event. Just check the website.

Richard McLauchlan



Melbourne Cup at Arana
Tuesday 4 November
Please arrive 8.45-9am
Come dressed for the race.
Hats , fascinators encouraged
Small plate to share most welcome.
Sweepstakes available before start of
game
RACE is at 2PM

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Paraprosdokians - *Winston Churchill loved them - are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected, frequently humorous.*

- "There but for the grace of God—goes God." —Winston Churchill.
- "You can always count on the Americans to do the right thing—after they have tried everything else." —Winston Churchill.
- "A modest man, who has much to be modest about." —supposedly Winston Churchill, about Clement Attlee.
- "He was at his best when the going was good." —Alistair Cooke on the Duke of Windsor.
- "If I am reading this graph correctly—I'd be very surprised." —Stephen Colbert
- "On his feet he wore...blisters." — Aristotle.
- "I've had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it." —Groucho Marx
- "If I could just say a few words...I'd be a better public speaker." —Homer Simpson
- "I haven't slept for ten days, because that would be too long." —Mitch Hedberg
- "She was good as cooks go, and as cooks go she went." —Saki
- "I sleep eight hours a day and at least ten at night." —Bill Hicks
- "I don't belong to an organized political party. I'm a Democrat." —Will Rogers
- "On the other hand, you have different fingers." —Steven Wright

And some without author credits:-

- Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
- Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

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Contributions may be by email (preferred) or by placing a note in the ideas box at the clubhouse