



ISSUE 206 NOVEMBER 2023

President's Report

My focus this month is our community and how **“The Director is Your Friend”**.

During my early sessions of Bridge, I had basically no idea what the Director did, except look slightly threatening (my perception) and tell me to hurry up or I would be averaged. I thought at the time “it’s not very nice to tell people they are average, but after all, I’m not very competent”. (At that time, I seriously thought I would understand Bridge completely some day!!) Over the years I have come to know, albeit not in detail, what these wonderful people do, and I want to share this, particularly with the newer members of the club.

To become a Director, you must pass a very difficult exam. On any bridge day the Director is in charge and runs the session. No Director, no bridge. Firstly, after table numbers are known, they calculate the best and fairest way to play by selecting the appropriate movement and number of boards from multiple different options such as a Mitchell or Howell (not howl) etc. They then get the deal files, (thank you to the dealers and yes, the cards are randomly dealt), work their magic with the bridge software, and off we go. The bridge mates record the results, and the winners are calculated all within a certain time frame. At all times during play the Directors are there for you. If there is a mistake or misunderstanding at the table, please call the Director. It is their job to sort out any issues and they are happy to do so. It is much easier and more equitable to have the Director involved rather than try to sort things out yourselves. Please be respectful of them and their decisions. They are an integral part of our enjoyment of our great game.

Best wishes,
Carolyn



Christmas 2023

It’s fast approaching that time of year again and GCBC will be celebrating this annual event on Saturday 2nd December in the club house with catering from our very special team. The cost is \$40 including a two-course lunch, champagne, wine and beer. Starting at 11.00am with presentations and finishing with a session of fun bridge (no masterpoints just elf credits). Purchase your ticket at bridge. Raffles will be pre drawn with some fabulous prizes to be won.

Vale Tom Lyons

Tom joined GCBC with his brother, Peter, in April 2019. Sadly, Tom has passed away and the following was written by Peter.

“I am sad to inform you that my wonderful brother, Tom Lyons, left us on Friday 29 September, after a lengthy battle with cancer. Throughout this, he showed great courage and good humour. He loved his bridge, and particularly playing at the bridge clubs, and his interactions with other members. I am sure those who played against him found him a competent and courteous opponent.”

May he rest in peace.

Vale Valmae Smith

Val sadly passed away recently aged 95. She joined GCBC in July 2014 and has not played at our club since 2019. She was a highly respected member and will be remembered by many members still playing at GCBC.

May she rest in peace.

October Events Winners - Congratulations.

Anniversary Red Point Teams.

1. Peter Schmidt, John Rivers, Dewi Eastman, Winny Chan
2. Tom Strong, Edda Strong, Lou Tillotson, Roger Weathered

Masters Pairs under 50 mps

1. Louise Hartnell and Peter Hartnell
2. Greg Tosh and Judy Stephens

Masters Pairs under 500mps

1. Cheryl Hensel and Odette Hall
2. Melanie Mills and Connie Cassar

Masters Pairs Open

1. Andrew Richman and Sandra Richman
2. Pat Beattie and Robyn Fletcher

Platypus Pairs

1. Shane Whiting and Judy Stephens
(pictured with sponsor Julie Wicks)
2. Sandra Hendry and Michael Rootes



November Events

Thursday Evenings 2nd, 9th November. Geoffrey Robert Memorial Pairs.

Saturdays 4th, 11th November, Open and Under 35mp Pairs. Sponsor Di Hodges

Tuesdays 14th, 21st November, Teams. Sponsor Shiraz Persian Restaurant + Bar

Sunday 19th November, GCBC Teams Congress

Mondays 27th November, 4th December, Pairs under 35mps. Sponsor Frank Hymus

Promotions

Regional - John Lemarchand

Bronze Local - Sandra Hendry

Local - Caroline Barton, Judy Stephens

Graduate - Vivien Henesey-Smith, Brian Pearson, Gren Duce, Karin Nay.

New Member - Welcome

Brian Borrell

November Birthdays.

2nd - Gwenda Brennan; 4th - Pat Gaudet; 5th - Greg Tosh; 6th - Lorraine De Nett, Charles Rees;
8th - Joseph Aarons; 9th - Susan Aarons; 10th - Lindi Chapman; 11th - Michael Cockerell,
Cheryl Hensel, Lyn Keogh, Carole Stone; 12th - Noni Affleck; 13th - Diane Perry;
15th - Elizabeth Foster, Catherine Hegarty, Colin Lewis; 16th - Grenville Duce;
17th - Nynke Heida; 21st - Ray Bailey; 22nd - Eva Berger; 25th - Catherine Beatty;
26th - Peter Lyons; 28th - Sue Howard; 29th - Bev Payne; 30th - Carolyn Sargeant.

Rules for Dummy

When displaying dummy make sure all 13 cards are visible. An adjusted score may be necessary if the opponents are damaged because a card was hidden.

Dummy May:

- At the end of play dummy may point out a revoke.
- Dummy may try to correct any irregularity. Once an irregularity has already happened, dummy must say and do nothing until play has been completed.
- If declarer has failed to follow suit dummy may ask if he has revoked eg. "Having none?" or "No spades partner?". (Note that declarer and defenders are not required to say "having none" when ruffing or discarding). A defender should not say this because it draws partner's attention to the fact that he is void.
- Dummy may tell any player that his most recently quitted trick is pointing the wrong way. This right ends for dummy (and for the other players) when his side has led or played to the next trick.
- Dummy may give information, in the Director's presence, as to fact or law.

Dummy May Not:

- Play a card from the dummy unless told to do so by declarer.
- Suggest a card be played by moving a hand towards it.
- Ask a defender if he has revoked.
- Call attention to an irregularity before the hand is finished.
- Call for the Director during play unless another player has already drawn attention to an irregularity.
- Look at a defender's hand while play is in progress.
- Leave his seat to watch declarer playing the hand.
- Leave his seat needlessly.

In the beginning..... Tom Strong

I first learned about Bridge as a child at my parents' social bridge games where I was allowed to be dummy when my mother went to prepare a snack for the table. By the time I was 10, I was occasionally permitted to play a hand. Later, at University, there was "serious" bridge for money during some lunchtimes. There I met Edda and decided that lunchtimes were better spent with her. After that I did not play much until 1975, our first visit to Australia, when I played a few times at GCBC.

When we returned to Canada, a friend introduced me to Bridge Clubs and Congresses. We returned to Australia in 1978 and I started to play regularly at GCBC with Peter Schmidt with whom I won my first Congress. Over the years I played more as my children grew older. I eventually came second in a few bigger events like the Open Pairs in Canberra.

My favourite partner was my son, now a much better player than me. I was also fortunate enough to play in the 1990s and early 2000s with good players like Charlie Howard, Ross Steinwedel, Anthony Tuxworth, and against others like Kathy Johnson, Eva and Tony Berger and Roger and Barbara Weathered.

I also ran a Beginners' Wednesday Night Supervised Play for many years, started a Beginners' Game Wednesday night and ran and directed Monday Night bridge until recently. I wrote a bridge column for about 20 years in the GC Bulletin. In my spare time I was on the Executive of the QBA and on the Club Board for several years and was Vice President.

Over my bridge career I have won Club Pairs and Teams Championships, a few State Championships and was on the Queensland Teams several times.

I would like to thank my wife, Edda who, as a mother of 3 children with a very busy career of over 30 years, supported my love of Bridge. GCBC has always been special to me, and I commend the many people who made it that way.

Bridge Quotes. 

- The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in.
- A winner listens to his partner's point of view. A loser just waits until it's time to express his own.
- I'm still playing with a full deck. I just shuffle more slowly now.
- I say banish bridge; let's find some pleasanter way of being miserable together.
- At bridge we have optimists and pessimists, but what about the realists? A bridge realist is one who knows that the pessimist is right.
- A bad day at the bridge table is still better than cleaning house.
- Some days I have a crush on the game of bridge. Others I feel crushed by the game of bridge.
- Ever since I started playing bridge, it is impossible to have any free time.

Happy Bridging
Julie Wicks

Need a Partner: Use your Pianola account to request or find a partner or contact:

Mon - Sat Judy Fitzgerald.....0412 739 984
Thursday Night. Tom Strong.....0421 106 986

Welfare Officer: Cheryl Millar 0409 879 081

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