



ISSUE 207 DECEMBER 2023

President's Report

May I first take this opportunity to wish you all a time of fabulous catch-ups and celebrations with family and friends. World Kindness Day was Monday 13th November. I hope we all celebrated with random acts of kindness and that these acts of kindness continue throughout the holiday season.



Our Christmas Party is on the 2nd of December, and we are all looking forward to a great day at the club. The fabulous raffle with proceeds to "Orange Sky" will be pre-drawn with winners announced at the party. Heartfelt thanks to those who contributed to the prizes and to Liz Linderman.

Melbourne Cup Day was a treat, with great food, (thanks to the inhouse catering team and helpers), beautiful decorations, well organized sweeps, dazzling fashions and bridge. See photos below of some of the members on the day.

This past month has been extra busy with competitions and a particularly well attended and well organised Teams Congress sponsored by Heritage Funerals. Thanks to Congress Convener, Alan Kestenberg. There was food galore and the feedback from players was very positive. It was great to see younger players and some of the best bridge players in Queensland attending. Like many players I really enjoy team competitions.

The Board is constantly trying to make the best playing conditions for our players, and we try to accommodate member requests. The Monday open session has been reinstated from Monday 27th November, starting with a competition continuing for three weeks. There will an added bonus for the winner who pays with Bridge Credits. The use of MyABF bridge credits is increasing.

With warmest wishes for the festive season.
Carolyn

Artwork

You may have noticed that this newsletter has a new banner, all thanks to some fine graphic design work by Joanna Reid. Joanna has also re-designed the club's letterhead. Thank you, Joanna.

Games Podcast

This link will take you to podcasts about bridge and all things interesting to bridge players. Presented by bridge partners Catherine Harris and Jocelyn Startz. Recommended as a learning tool and for a good laugh.



Gold Coast Congress 2024

This annual event will be held at the Gold Coast Convention Centre, Broadbeach from 18th to 24th February 2024. Go to websites www.qldbridge.com.au or www.myabf.com.au for full details. Entry fees paid before 12th February will attract a discount. Many of our members participate each year in this blue-ribbon bridge event from rookies to grand masters. Give it a go. It is well worth the experience.

Vale Estelle Fluxman

Very sad to hear of the passing of Estelle, a very popular member of the club and mother of another long-standing member, Merle Bogatie. Our condolences to Merle and her family. Estelle was a fine lady and a worthy opponent at the bridge table. May she rest in peace.

GCBC By-Laws

A review of the club's by-laws was recently undertaken (thank you Paul Brake) and it is recommended that all members read this document which contains important information relating to many matters, to name a few such as:

- Player conduct and etiquette at the club.
Bring lots of patience and smiles to the club and leave any negativity at the door.
- Observing best practice when unwell.
With a recent new wave of Covid coursing its way through Queensland at present, we need to be ever vigilant of our health and hygiene.
- Arrival time, system cards, competitions and other club rules governing a session of bridge.
All players need to have arrived at the club and be seated at least 15 minutes before start of play. Each player should have a completed systems card available for viewing by the opponents. Rules around play may vary for certain competitions.
- Director's powers. These are wide and varied and too many to mention here. Members are reminded that the director of the day is King or Queen of the Castle. What he or she says, goes, including how the movement is set up, how many boards are played, at what time the tea break occurs, control of air conditioning, windows open etc. and moving pairs where appropriate to create the most efficient and fairest session for all concerned. This may include moving one or more pairs who have a higher number of points than is regarded the cut-off for a particular section.

The by-laws can be found on the club's website at www.goldcoastbridgeclub.com under Club Documents. Other documents such as the club's Constitution, Privacy Policy and Grievance Procedure can also be found in this link.

November Events Winners - Congratulations.

Geoffrey Roberts Memorial Pairs

1. Sue Robinson and Jennifer Sawyer
2. Bijan Assaee and Kevin Steffensen

Shiraz Red Point Teams

1. Palfreyman Team: Sonya Palfreyman, Shayne Palfreyman, Trish Anagnostou, Margaret Pisko
2. Somers Team: John Sear, Bob Hunt, Merle Bogatie, Lauren Somers, Krystyna Homik.



December Events

Saturday 2nd December. - **Christmas Party**

Mondays 4th (day 2) and 11th (day 3) December. - **Bridge Technology Pairs, under 50MPs.**
Sponsored by Frank Hymus.

Tuesdays 5th and 12th December. - **Alan and John Pairs, >50MPs and Open.**

Sponsored by Alan Kestenberg and John Lemarchand.

Wednesdays 6th and 13th December. - **Stan Pogacic Memorial Pairs, >50MPs and Open.**

Melbourne Cup - in pictures

A great day was had by all as evidenced by some photos, *below*.

Thanks to Liz Linderman, looking resplendent in pink, for outstanding decorations and a huge thanks to those who contributed to the catering.



Promotions

Regional - Alan Kestenberg

Bronze Local - Jo-anne Martin

Local - Diana O'Ferrall, Janie Smith, Kevin Hall

Graduate - Pamela Rowney

New Members - Welcome

Jenny Bennett, Heidi Li, Kevin Gosling, Rosette Galea, Theo Armenis, Roger Schultz, Diane Schultz, Angela van Daal, Carol Kelly, Ludwik Tomalak

December Birthdays.

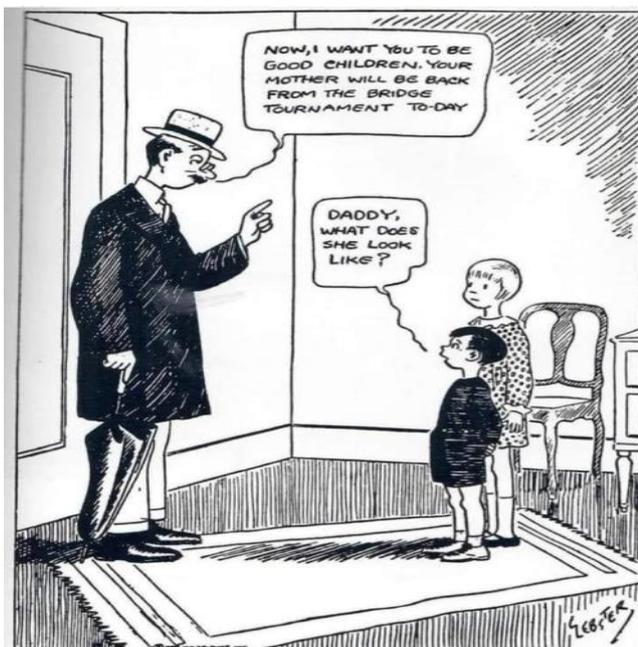


4th - Shelley Moodie; 5th - John McNamee; 6th - Edda Strong; 7th - John Brady; 8th - Karen Curtis, Laura Ryan; 9th - Carole Millar; 10th - Charles Howard; 12th - Dulcie Miller, Heather Reid; 14th - Barbara Huddy, Lee Lethbridge, Ann Liu; 16th - Christiane Boulay; 17th - Brian Pearson; 18th - Rosalie Hofman; 19th - Nola Saunders; 20th - Lesley Sutherland; 21st - Ralph Spinks, Ruth Young; 22nd - Judy Fitzgerald; 23rd - Keith Archos, Maida Beale; 25th - David Lewis; 26th - Saftica Popa; 28th - Louise Hartnell, Lynley Jenkins; 29th - Michelle Zukerman; 30th - Lynda Hall.

Bridge Quotes.



- A bridge teacher explaining duplicate bridge protocol tells this lady to make her opening lead face down. She promptly puts her head on the table and leads a card face up.
- Helen Sobel, probably the greatest woman player of all time, was a chorus girl before taking up bridge. Not forgetting her roots, she used this little ploy when she was missing an important queen in a slam or grand slam contract playing against two men: she raised her skirt a little above her knees before playing. It never failed that the fellow without the queen would look and the one with the queen was so intent on taking a trick with that card that he didn't. Helen always found the queen.
The author of this story tells ladies in his classes that if they are playing against him in a tournament not to pull that one on him. Whether he has the queen or not, he will always look!
- A bumbling bridge player explained to his friend how he planned to improve his game. Every night when I go to bed, I think about the mistakes I made that day at the bridge table. Gee, his friend said, how do you get any sleep?
- Student in class had xxx facing AQJ in dummy. She leads low and puts on the jack which holds. She plays the ace next. Teacher asks why she didn't take the finesse again. She says: You told us that only one of two finesses work.



A note from the Editor:

You may have noticed that Jeff and I have been missing from the club for nearly six months. This is not by choice; we have not abandoned GCBC and gone elsewhere. Unfortunately, Jeff has been dealing with serious health problems during this time. I would just like to thank everyone who has either contacted me, or asked other members how Jeff is and to pass on their best wishes. This is very much appreciated by us both and reinforces the fact that the club is not only made up of formidable bridge players, but is also a caring community, one that we greatly miss. Jeff is making slow progress and we hope to return next year.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

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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