



## ISSUE 215 AUGUST 2024

### *President's Report*

I recently attended a Grandparent's Day at my grandsons' school which was wonderful. What struck me was the emphasis on community, of us all being part of a mutually beneficial group. That is what the Gold Coast Bridge Club is to me, and I hope to us all, a community which supports its members.

If you have under 500 masterpoints, please enter your Club Congress for restricted players on August 11th. The Olympic Games will have just finished so you will need a diversion from synchronized swimming and Greco Roman wrestling. This Novice Congress is a great introduction to Congress play with the opportunity to play at your own standard. Red points are allocated for each match. So, there is an excellent chance of winning some of these elusive points. Get behind the GCBC and support your own congress because congresses are lost if they are cancelled due to lack of numbers.

We received a bequest of \$10,000 from the estate of Danny Hatcher. He will be fondly remembered with a competition each year in his name. We are always very honoured and extremely grateful for any bequest to the club. We have also learned that Bev Aird is able to play the organ so look out for upcoming events!

*Carolyn*

### *Annual General Meeting, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 11am*

This year's AGM is fast approaching. Members can nominate for a position on the Board, put forward a motion or speak up about matters on the agenda. Nomination for Board positions will open on 10th August. Proxy forms, if required, will be available on request. All members are invited to attend, and the normal session of bridge will follow.

### *It's Renewal Time*

Our hardworking Membership Secretary, Penny Grace, has just sent out renewal of membership notices. Your current membership expires on 31<sup>st</sup> August. Prompt payment would be much appreciated. Please contact Penny, John Lemarchand (Treasurer) or send an email to the club ([gcbridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:gcbridgeclub@gmail.com)) if you have any queries regarding your membership.

### *Vale David Browne*

It was very sad to learn that David Browne recently passed away. We send our deepest condolences to his life partner and bridge partner, Wendy, and their family. David joined the club in 2002 and he and Wendy were well liked members of our bridge community. In his professional life David was a doctor. He had a delightful soft caring nature and, although not having played at the club of recent times due to ill health, he will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

### *Vale Helen Glennie*

Beloved wife of John, mother to Nigel, Marcus and Derek, grandmother to Jackson and Ava, and a dear friend to so many. Passed peacefully recently. There will be a celebration of life for Helen on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August. Please see the noticeboard at the club for full details.

## *Australia Wide Open Pairs*

The Australia-Wide Pairs, sponsored by Australian Bridge Magazine, gives you the opportunity to be a part of Australia's most popular event. It has a rich history that goes back 40 years with thousands of players from all around the country coming together in the spirit of friendly competition. As usual, the event is scored across the field, as if all 4,000 players were together in one room.

As well as getting to play in Australia's largest ever scored across-the-field competition, without leaving the comfort-zone of your own club, each player receives:

- A souvenir booklet of the hands, with valuable bidding advice and items of interest from the play.
- A personalised second booklet, available online after the event, with travelling scoreslips and results analysis from all around Australia.
- Exclusive discounts on a selection of popular products from our bookstore. Go to [www.australianbridge.com](http://www.australianbridge.com).
- The top-ranked players win prizes, with some additional spot prizes for lower-ranked players.

## *Sponsor of the Month*

Our commercial sponsors are listed showing their logo on the final page of each month's newsletter. Many, if not all, of you have played in sponsored events at our club and lucky winners have come away usually with a cash prize. These winnings are generously donated by our sponsors and members are asked to acknowledge this generosity by supporting their business.

Each month one of the sponsors will be featured. This month Kieser is sponsoring our Graded Pairs Congress on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August.

For more information about Kieser go to the website [www.kieser.com/au](http://www.kieser.com/au).



PROUD SPONSORS OF THE GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB

# KIESER

PHYSIO | REHAB | STRENGTH



[www.kieser.com.au](http://www.kieser.com.au)  
106 Bundall Road, Bundall

### The Kieser Difference

"We're here for the Australians who suffer injury and pain; those who have a chronic disease; and for the healthy, young at heart who want to stay ahead of the curve. We're here to keep you strong, active, pain-free and healthy. We empower our clients to restore the strength and confidence they need to keep doing the things they love.

Various members also sponsor events so please be sure to thank them personally if you play in their sponsored event. The club's Sponsorship Secretary is Alan Kestenberg and he would welcome any suggestions or contacts you may have for potential sponsors.

## *A Word from Librarian Lisa*

As the librarian, and on behalf of the members of our Bridge club, I would like to give heartfelt thanks to Michael and Coral Aikin for their generous donation of many excellent bridge books to our library. Let's read and enjoy these books.

To quote Dr Seuss:

*“The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you’ll go”*

### ***Bidding Two Suited Hands..... Frank Hymus***

First, an apology and a correction for an error in describing a convention last month, the Meckwell convention. Eagle eyes perhaps noticed that the faulty description had no way to bid a two suited hand with the major suits! So quickly here is the convention properly described.

(1NT) ?

X shows EITHER a minor one suiter OR both majors. If the next hand passes, partner is obliged to bid 2C. The doubler then passes with Clubs, bids 2D with Diamonds or 2H with Hearts and Spades. This is the big thing I had omitted from last month’s description.

2C shows Clubs and a major

2D shows Diamonds and a major

2H/2S shows that suit

2NT shows both minors.

3C/3D shows that minor, but more distribution and length than X above.

### ***Now for this month’s thoughts, bidding Two Suited Hands.***

In particular, conventions such as the Unusual No Trump and Michaels Queue Bid. Let me give you my guidelines for when and when not to use such conventions. I use them in a pre-emptive manner, a narrow range of 5-5 distribution, decent suits but a narrow range of overall strength. Strength for me will be something like 8-11 points. Why this limited range? Why not on stronger hands?

The main reason is that it can be left to partner to make final decisions, not you. Partner is now The Captain, in charge of “what to do next.” Partner has a good idea of your hand, but you have no idea what they might have!

Partner can now simply compete, pre-empt further, even to “save” over opponent’s game contract at proper vulnerability or to take stronger actions. Or if the opponents are in the bidding even to pass when fit is bad or action might indeed prompt the opponents to bid and make a game they might not otherwise have reached.

With stronger hands, a good opening hand or better, I try always to bid my suits, planning if necessary to bid them both. Many people reverse the meanings, bidding the suits with a weaker hand and the two suited convention with stronger hands. That is fine, but permanent partnerships should have an agreement as to which way things are to be.

Some players don’t abide by these guidelines, bidding the convention on all types of hands, trusting in partnership “Table Feel” to guide them as to how far to take it. Or perhaps they just like to turn the convention handle! I really advise club players not to do this. Be disciplined and I think you will find that you have better results.

For this to work though, partner must take on the responsibility of The Captain, bidding it up when fit is good, or staying out of trouble when fit is bad, not tempted to bid a silly 3NT with strength in the opponent’s suits and not yours. Partner should be well placed to make the correct decision knowing what your hand will look like. So don’t shirk your responsibility! It takes both of you to get to the best result.

So, agree with your partnerships what your approach is and stick to it. You should find you have better results than the free-for-all approach. Oh, and please don’t cheat with 5-4!

I know it can be tempting for the distributional two suiter to get involved again and bid “one more for the road.” Like all pre-emptive style bids, however, say your piece once and then leave the rest to partner. OK, with 6-6 perhaps it is right to do that, but on “normal” 5-5 hands, if you are tempted to do this, it is probably a sign that your decision to “turn the convention handle” was probably flawed in the beginning.

Other players, some certainly better than I, may strongly disagree and feel that the free-for-all approach works best. It doesn't for me, and for the average club player I think you will find it won't either.

To summarise all what I said above in one simple sentence - with good hands I bid my suits in their natural order but with “average” hands, I use the convention if applicable.

**Frank**

### *July Events Winners - Congratulations.*



#### **Club Pairs Championship**

1<sup>st</sup> - Trevor Fletcher and Ed Hahn

2<sup>nd</sup> - Usher Zeng and Ann Liu

#### **Geoffrey Roberts Night Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> - Bob Hunt and Jane Swanson

2<sup>nd</sup> - Linda Norman and Erin Waterhouse

### *Augusts Events*

- **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August. Graded Pairs Congress. <500mps and <100mps.**  
Sponsored by Kieser
- **Tuesdays 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August. Turtle Teams. <50mps and Open.**  
Sponsored by Jeff and Julie Wicks
- **Wednesdays 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August. Stan Pogacic Pairs.**  
Sponsored by Stan Pogacic Trust Fund
- **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August. Australia Wide Open Pairs.**
- **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August. Red Point Pairs.**  
Sponsored by Mudgeeraba Colour & Cutting Shoppe

### *Promotions*

**Gold Life** - Dot Piddington

**Silver Local** - Wayne Mitchell

**Local** - Lynette Arnold

**Club** - Angela Van Daal, Kevin Gosling

## *New Members - Welcome*

Jim Roche, Lynn Bain, Jandra Faranda, Margaret Lovell

## *August Birthdays*

1<sup>st</sup> - Lexie Yeates; 2<sup>nd</sup> - John Rivers; 4<sup>th</sup> - John Leach; 5<sup>th</sup> - Suzanne Davis; 6<sup>th</sup> - Kim Morrison;  
8<sup>th</sup> - Kerry Hiscocks; 9<sup>th</sup> - Marilyn Bidey, Fiona Evans, Bill Peters; 13<sup>th</sup> - William Guthrie,  
Johnnie Smith; 14<sup>th</sup> - Carol Wright; 15<sup>th</sup> - Jenny Michael; 16<sup>th</sup> - Paula McLeish;  
17<sup>th</sup> - Di Court, Maggie Fisher, Elizabeth Linderman; 18<sup>th</sup> - Melanie Mills, Gregory Parry;  
19<sup>th</sup> - Ken Moschner; 20<sup>th</sup> - Neven Burica, Jack Luke-Paredi; 22<sup>nd</sup> - Charlie Dacey, Joanna Reid,  
Pamela Rowney; 23<sup>rd</sup> - Patricia Adam, Annabel Forster; 25<sup>th</sup> - Kay Simpson; 27<sup>th</sup> - Donald Robey;  
28<sup>th</sup> - Helen Cunynghame; 30<sup>th</sup> - Michael Murtagh, Bryan Weyburne; 31<sup>st</sup> - Peter Hartnell,  
Alan Kestenber.

## *Happy Bridging*

### *Julie Wicks*

*Would you like to contribute to the newsletter? Please forward to the editor,  
[juliekwicks@gmail.com](mailto:juliekwicks@gmail.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.*

**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

**I believe this to be a fine example of an oxymoron!**



## MAJOR SPONSORS



**TBIB**  
PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT  
**ABF ENDORSED**  
**INSURANCE BROKER**



**Heritage Brothers**  
FUNERAL SERVICES  
*The Heritage Family...Funeral Directors since 1934*

**ROBERTS LAW**  
SOLICITORS & NOTARY  
DECEASED ESTATES | FAMILY LAW  
CONVEYANCING  
5530 5700  
*For our Community*




**Shiraz**  
PERSIAN RESTAURANT + BAR



**BACK PAIN?**  
TRY **KIESER**

## MINOR SPONSORS

Your **Local** Newsletters



**JUST JEWELLERY**  
ON BROADBEACH

**TOLEMY STEVENS**  
*Luxury Specialist*



**Mudgeeraba Cutting & Colour Shoppe**

**Surf Parade**  
**Hair Salon**  
Broadbeach

**Shoetique**  
Southport



**ZEPPELIN TRAVEL**  
*Wherever you go...*  
GO WITH ZEPPELIN TRAVEL  
SPECIAL OFFER for Surfers Club Members



**John-Paul LANGBROEK MP**  
Member for **Surfers Paradise**  
*Working hard for our community*  
Surfers Paradise Community Centre  
Surfers Paradise Community Centre  
Surfers Paradise Community Centre  
Surfers Paradise Community Centre



**chempro**  
CHEMISTS  
Surfers Renaissance



**PROFESSIONAL**  
LENDING SOLUTIONS  
0755976049  
HOME LOANS - BUSINESS LOANS  
CAR AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE  
<https://professionallendingsolutions.com.au/>