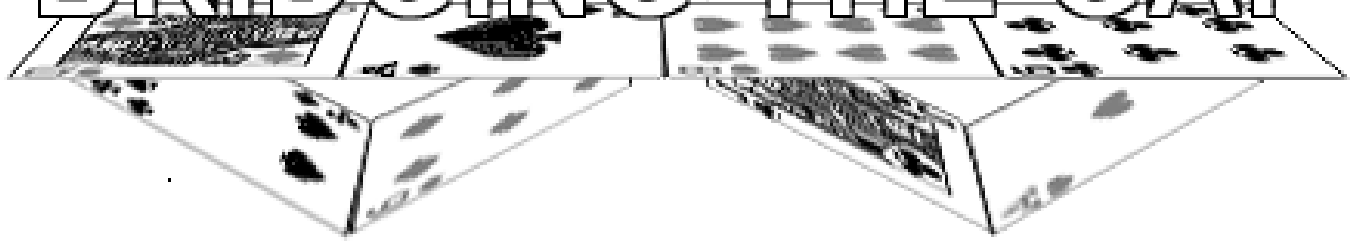


# BRIDGING THE GAP



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## CRABB'S KALAMUNDA



### Grants

I met with Noreen Townsend from Bendigo bank about their grants and we will be submitting a bid for 22 new bridgemates in July (which is their next round of bids). They offer a maximum of 5k so we will have to contribute a few hundred from our funds. Following our discussion I think I understand what we need to write in the bid so am optimistic. Mind you I always am! I am however working on the assumption that we will succeed in this bid when talking to other funders.

I have also met with Sue Rollinson from the Lottery. Unfortunately they cannot pay for soundproofing the roof as that is considered structural and so outside of their remit. They did however agree that a bid for a new computer linked to a large TV screen on the wall where the current whiteboard is would be looked on favourably and that they would also entertain a proposal for a new kitchen. We will be

applying for the cost of both but this will involve us installing the kitchen. Currently detailed costings are being obtained. Mark Goddard has kindly offered to build the computer free of charge.

If the bids are successful then with our contribution (the time spent fitting the kitchen and Mark's time) we will have spent over 20k and we will use this as matched funding for a bid to the Shire's community fund. I have met with Travis Byrne and Katie Gordon from the Shire and they have confirmed we are eligible and did not seem fazed when we discussed the cost of soundproofing the roof and a new dealing machine (both of which are eligible). The deadline for their bid is 28<sup>th</sup> February but I intend to have theirs and the lottery bid submitted by the end of January.

The total cost of all three bids will be in the region of forty thousand. The object of these bids is to enable us to become one of the premier teaching clubs in WA.

The computer and screen will enable us to utilise modern technology in the provision of lessons and the soundproofing will ensure a good teaching environment. With the new structure it will be possible to learn, practise with mentors, play in beginners sessions before joining mainstream sessions. With the booklets and practice hands in place we are ready.

The other facilities are necessary as the club will be growing much larger and some things need upgrading.

### **Unsung heroes**

I thought it would be nice to sometimes have a section in which we can mention and thank some of the members who work behind the scenes (so not committee members) and whose efforts are therefore not always appreciated by the wider membership

Ian Medicott has been systematically repairing and strengthening the chairs.

Diane Barker has been painting the side tables over the last year or so.

Rob McMahon. Before the busy bee Rob was up at the club cleaning the outside and preparing for the fire season. As treasurers do not usually do this I have included it.

Bert Littlechild has been busy undertaking those little (and sometimes large) plumbing jobs and keeping the loos unblocked. Again this is not a committee role.

Sue Collinson has been logging teaching hands into the dealing machine. We now have over two hundred teaching hands.

Julie has prepared both learning booklets from the drafts for Jean Paul to print. There are over 160 pages. Thanks to both of them as the booklets are crucial to the lessons.

Alan has kept the dealing machine and computer running.

Cherry stood in for Carole when the latter was unavailable.

And finally to Len and Alan Hunnisett for being there every Monday to help the learners.

Thanks to you all. Your efforts are really appreciated and apologies if I omitted to thank anyone else!

### **Congress**

Our congress is on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March. The Saturday is a pairs' event. It differs from last year. It will take place over two sessions. In the morning there will be a separate competition. The top twelve pairs will play against each other in the afternoon and the others in a separate movement. There will therefore be two competitions in the afternoon. This will improve the chances of the average player winning a prize. Sunday will be the teams' event. The congress will be open to other clubs in January so see Denise to enter now. Last year we were not full on the Saturday. Let's make certain we are this year.

## **Busy Bee**

At the recent busy bee we discovered termites in the kitchen and the SW corner of the clubhouse. They have now been terminated and we are advised there will be no further problems.

In January we plan to revarnish the outside tables and repaint the front door by having an all male Busy Bee. Nothing sexist, it is just I felt the men weren't doing enough!

## **Kalamunda Learning Centre**

I have been in touch with the centre and next term we are offering a 16 week bridge course for beginners at the centre. Obviously I am offering these with a view to increasing numbers in the Club as they will supplement our lessons. We are also commencing new beginners' lessons in February in the club. From now on we will be offering beginners' lessons for most of the year so we do not lose potential members to other clubs.

## **New Learners classes**

At the time of writing BTG we still have over twenty attending lessons and I hope to have at least ten pairs playing on another day apart from the Monday night. As indicated above new lessons start next month.

A booklet on intermediate bridge has been prepared and will be available in the new year for lessons.

We are currently creating a structure for the new lessons. Peter Cameron and Liz Bazen have agreed to join the teaching team and the committee will be discussing the best way forward. The current players will be joining club sessions in the next couple of months. It is proposed to run a separate session on Thursday night alongside the current session for the beginners and less experienced players so we have a system that integrates the new players into the club. It would help beginners if we could wear name tags when they start. If you have lost yours please see Julie.

## **Duty Dummy**

Peter Clarke has kindly agreed to act as a duty dummy on Fridays so anyone wanting a game can just turn up. If two turn up then they can play together and Peter will go home! We hope the idea catches on so if you are at a loose end on a Friday, if you come to the club you know you will get a game.

## **The Urn**

This has been cleaned and the filters replaced. There is little more we can do and if you are still unhappy then I am afraid it is the kettle!

## **Restricted League Pennants**

Our team finished as runners up in their division and then played Undercroft (the winners of the other division). Having won that match we qualified to meet WABC in the final which we hosted on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The

team of Peter, Ruth, Carole and Cherry stuffed the opposition! Congratulations to them and to Margaret, Jane, Jenny and Nick who filled in during the season. BAWA sent us a cheque for winning.

### The club competition winners for 2011 were

Novices cup	Roger Pattersen and Mark Pezzali
Individual	Gerry Daly
Mixed pairs	Peter Cameron and Sue Collinson
Daytime Open Pairs	Anita Davis and Jane Pike
Women's pairs	Bente Hansen and Madge Myburgh
Men's pairs	Joe Louis and Nick Moniodis
Open Teams	Peter Clarke, Denise Borger, Alf and Sheelagh Dupont
Knock out pairs	Day Sue Collinson and Carmen Jackson
Knock out pairs night	Carmen Jackson and Wendy Harman:
Most improved Pair	John and Rosemary Offer
Most master Points	Jackie Harper

### *Champion pairs*

Monday	Gordon Brown and Sheila Pryce
Wednesday	Alan and Jackie Harper
Thursday	Gordon Brown and Sheila Pryce
Friday	Jan and Murray Sterling

### Christmas party

Another amazing success thanks to all those attending. Thanks to all those who helped with the catering.

Also some congratulations. Alan Hunnisett was due to play with Roger Patterson but the latter had to cry off on the Saturday morning for family reasons. Sue Wellbourne agreed to partner Alan at the very last minute and they won. Congratulations to both of them.

I would also like to congratulate two pairs from the Monday night sessions. Yvonne Hannam and Mark Simpson played in a club session for the first time and came a creditable seventh and Kay and Kerrie came sixth. Does that show the lessons and the mentoring are working?

And finally. Congratulations to Rory on his ninety first birthday.

### Bridge is easy for the experts

**North**  
 S A 10 3 2  
 H J 9 5  
 D Q J 4  
 C K 10 8

**South**  
 S K Q J 9  
 H A 4  
 D A 10 9 8  
 C A J 9

You are playing 3NT and will no doubt discuss the bidding with partner to discover why you are in 3NT rather than four spades.

But how do you make 3NT after west leads the three of hearts? Hopefully you play the nine which is beaten by the ten which you duck. East continues with the king of hearts. Where do you go from here?

First, avoid the finesses. You don't have to take them! Assume west has no more than five hearts (reasonable on the lead-fourth highest) and less than four spades. Again reasonable. First you play the king, queen and nine of spades to dummy's ten., retaining the ace as an entry. Now the jack of hearts, discarding a diamond. East can take two more hearts on which you discard another diamond and club and two diamonds from dummy. West must now open a minor and either play gives you a ninth trick.

## **Jokes**

Seen in the day surgery ward of St John of God Subiaco:

The two most beautiful words in the English language are "Cheque enclosed".

(not if you are writing them!)

An Arab prince was studying at Cambridge. In a letter home to his father he said he was embarrassed driving to lectures in his white Rolls Royce as the lecturers came in by bus. His father wrote back and in the letter was a cheque for five million. The letter simply said "Stop embarrassing the family. Go buy a bus".