



# BRIDGING THE GAP

Volume 38

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## EDITORIAL

Hello Club Members

At the recent AGM held on 12<sup>th</sup> August, Rob McMahon was welcomed as the new President along with John Shinnick as Vice President and Dianne Barker as Treasurer. Carole McMahon had elected to stay on as Secretary, a position she has held for 2 years and Rob had previously been Treasurer for 6 years.

This quarter has certainly been a busy one with our usual Christmas in July celebration, our Annual General Meeting in August, and teams and pairs events in September, which have all come to pass. These events take a great deal of organisation and they couldn't take place without our enthusiastic committee members carrying out their duties so efficiently. Many other club members also carry out additional responsibilities and you can find these members names listed in the Club Handbook. Each one of us could not simply turn up at the regular sessions and play bridge without these amazing people.

Julie Bechelli



**If you are a newcomer and wondering who the office bearers of the Management Committee are:**

**Office Bearers:**

**L to R:** Dianne Barker (Treasurer), John Shinnick (Vice President), Rob McMahon (President) and Carole McMahon (Secretary)

**Committee:** Kaye Prance, Carole Littlechild, Anita Davis, Bruce Cowan, Cherry Zamudio and Denise Borger (Director)

Cherry Zamudio is also the new BAWA Representative

**WELCOME TO NEW CLUB MEMBERS – July To September, 2017**

**KDBC welcomes four new members to our Club.** How wonderful it is to have new members in our regular sessions. Enjoy your bridge!

**Below L to R:** Jenny Reid & Dianne Dwyer are both members of the Avon Valley Bridge Club and are now Alternate members at KDBC. Jenny works as an Administrator for medical students for UWA in Northam for the Rural Clinical School. Dianne is a high school teacher at Northam Senior High School.



**Right:** Jean-Claud Pondevie is a member of the Swan Bridge Club but is now an Alternate member of KDBC. He is a retired but was a Chef for 18 years in the family business of Le Traiteur also known as Café François of Midland. Jean-Claud has certainly come to the right bridge club as KDBC is known for its appreciation of fine food.



Peter Barankewitsch served 21 years in the Army and rose to Warrant Officer – 1<sup>st</sup> Class. Whilst in PNG he was awarded the PNG Independence Medal of which only 60 were ever awarded.



## CLUB EVENTS

Christmas in July celebration at KDBC is always looked forward to with great enthusiasm. The Catering & Functions Committee decorate the Club, organise the lunch, and the prizes for the many raffles. Club members then feast on the incredibly delicious food and, then we play bridge!



L to R: Carolyn Dickie & Cliff Wells



L to R: Elizabeth Bazen, Valerie Parker, Denise Borger and Guy Gaudet



Table laden with raffle prizes



L to R: Dan Cheyne-Johnstone, Sita Weggelaar, Pat Cheyne-Johnstone & Liz Houghton



L to R: Dianne Barker, Kris Nunne, Rob McMahon, JP Tedeschi, Carole McMahon & Mike Barker

L to R: Janet Stirling, Joan Andrews, Murray Stirling & Julie Bechelli



L to R: Alan Harper, Jenny Tedeschi, Margaret McRobbie & Jackie Harper



L to R: Jane Pike, Jim Steel, Marie-France Van-Hall & Jaqueline Keir



Club members were delighted to share in the celebrations of Alan Harper's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on 11<sup>th</sup> July. He has been an invaluable Club member for over 35 years, contributing in many positions such as President for 2 years, Secretary for 7 years, Head of the Directors Team, Director since 1985, Editor of BTG from 2004 to 2011 and bridge teacher for 10 plus years all of which has enabled our Club membership to grow and flourish. Alan continues to work tirelessly for the Club and we wish him many more years of good health and bridge playing.

## KALAMUNDA BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

### Mixed Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bente Hanson & Joe Louis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Carmen Jackson & Mel Foster
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sheila Pryce & Gordon Brown

### Men's Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter Clarke & Joseph Gaudet (Guy)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon Brown & Brian Davidson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Alan Harper & Stephen Thyer

### Open teams

- 1<sup>st</sup> Carmen Jackson Team-Bente Hansen, Madge Myburgh, Carmen Jackson & Wendy Harmen
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sheila Pryce Team- Sheila Pryce, Gordon Brown, Joe Louis & Nicolous Moniodis
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Joseph Gaudet Team- Joanne Payne, Elizabeth McMillen, Guy Gaudet, Peter Clarke & Betty Roberts

### Restricted Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Robert McMahon & Carole McMahon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Judith Poole & Robin Ward
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Eleanor Rowley & David Harris

### Women's Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sandra Hoffman & Jackie Harper
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandy Sutton-Mattocks & Arfah Yusof
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Marie-France Van Hall & Jane Pike

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT - SEPTEMBER 2017**

■ **Rob McMahon**

The AGM this year was another straightforward event with the new committee being elected without the need for a ballot. I welcome John Shinnick to the position of Vice President. He is an executive member of the Mundaring Sporting Club and will bring welcome experience and new ideas to our club. Di Barker is our new Treasurer and will fill that position towards the end of October when she and Mike return from an extended caravan trip through central Australia. Until then I'll hold the reins for her.

A welcome also to our new committee member Bruce Cowen who'll bring his enthusiasm and expertise to the group.

A big thanks to Denise for her large contribution as President. She was tireless in her work and dedicated to improving the club. I'll certainly be calling on her for advice when needed

As I said at the AGM, no group is more important to the club than the Recruitment and Training subcommittee and the Directors group. We depend on new members joining our club every year. For the first time in ten years the annual table money went down by a small amount. This is significant as we were achieving a healthy yearly increase. The Directors appear to be gaining at least two new members which is encouraging to see.

The Social subcommittee has been renamed 'Catering and Functions' to better reflect their responsibilities and importance. All bridge clubs must strike a balance between social and playing activities and I believe that this club leans slightly towards the social side. Our past president Garth once said that this club is a second home for many and I see that as a big plus.

After the successful completion of the new Constitution, a subcommittee has now been formed to rewrite the club's By-laws. My aim is to have an easy to read single By-Laws document that is accessible by all.

This year we are looking towards the future and developing a plan to improve our clubrooms. We have money to spend so a subcommittee will be formed to address those plans. Anyone who has expertise in this area is invited to join. Some ideas are: a new social room, an extra ladies' toilet, large TV monitor etc.

We must also look at removing many of the trees that surround the building. The block was largely cleared forty years ago but many new trees have regrown and are a significant fire risk or in danger of falling on the building. The rear drainage ditch was also clogged with roots and leaves. The kitchen area was inundated with water recently because the ditch was non-effective.

The new Management Committee is a good combination of long term, experienced and newer members who will bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to managing the affairs of the Club. I am confident we will work effectively as a team for the benefit of all members.

We are fortunate as a club to have members who give freely of their time and expertise to make sure everything runs smoothly. I would like to thank them all for their contribution.

Enjoy your bridge

## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

### **■ Alan Harper**

BAWA newsletter FOCUS carries an excellent article by National Director Matt McManus relating to incorrect description of your partner's bid.

This is a simple precis to clarify what you should do when your bidding goes awry!

If your partner fails to alert, or incorrectly describes your bid, you must **give NO INDICATION** that there is anything wrong.

You are not permitted to use the information gained from partner's explanation when deciding your future actions.

Here is an example

Opposition opens 1NT.

You hold: ♠Q43, ♥J96, ♦AK10985, ♣8 and you bid 2♦.

Your partner alerts and bids 2♠.

When asked, your partner explains that your bid shows 5/4 or 5/5 cards in the majors.

You know that your partner has misunderstood your bid which was a simple overcall **but you can take no action based upon this knowledge.**

Thus, partner's 2♠ bid must be considered natural and you should take no action to correct it.

Your opportunity to correct the explanation depends on whether your side wins the contract and on your systemcard:

- a) If you win the contract and your partner's explanation was incorrect according to your system, you should call the director and correct the explanation before play starts.
- b) If you end up defending, you should do and say nothing until play finishes. (Any attempt to do so before play ends may incur lead penalties). When play has ended call the Director and correct the explanation if it was not according to the system.
- c) If the explanation was correct according to the system and you made the wrong bid you should do and say absolutely nothing at the table. You may consider apologizing to your partner at the end of the session!!

## **THE MONTHLY HANDICAP EXPLAINED**

### **■ Alan Harper**

The reports on our monthly handicaps have not been easy to read or understand. This is partly because the process is completely run by the computer and only the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> handicap places are printed on the main results sheets, with no explanation.

Starting from the first week of October we will be printing the full handicap result sheets along with the main results.

## **How the Handicap is Calculated**

The average performance of each pair is computed and subtracted from a datum (currently 50%) to produce their handicap.

On the day of the Handicap session, each pair's handicap is added to their session (Gross)% result to obtain their Handicap (%) result.

For those who would like to see the mathematical explanation of this please contact

## **HOW WELL ACQUAINTED ARE YOU WITH ROYALTY?**

I wonder how many members are acquainted with the Royalty that is present every session that is played at KDBC?

1<sup>st</sup> Which kings hold a sword?

2<sup>nd</sup> Name the one-eyed Jacks.

3<sup>rd</sup> Which is the one-eyed King?

4<sup>th</sup> Which Queen looks to the right?

Yes, I could tell you right here, but it is much more fun to find out for yourselves!



## **BRIDGE ETIQUETTE**

Here we are again promoting bridge etiquette and ensuring that it is taking place at all tables within our Club.

We all know the rule that once a trick has been played and turned face down by all four players, the Declarer, or anyone else for that matter, does not have the right to ask for the cards to be shown again. However, Alan Harper has advised that as long as one card is still faced anyone can ask for all the cards played to that trick to be refaced. If necessary, call the director

It frequently happens that some people turn the cards face down too quickly, not allowing the Declarer the chance to see it and, in some instances, a player's hand will obscure the face of a card as it is turned over. Many players will oblige if asked to show a card. On the other hand, many will say no and it is their right. So, we must play fair and take care when placing the cards face down to allow the opposition the opportunity of seeing it clearly.

When asked to view the card again, ask yourself if you have allowed enough time for the opposition to see it. Remember, we have a mix of players such as newcomers, intermediate and advanced players within our Club sessions, so play fair and don't turn the cards face down too quickly as we all want to make, or defend the contracts well, but within the rules.

**Happy Birthday to KDBC on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Our first bridge session was played on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 1970...47 years ago in the Anglican Church Hall, Kalamunda.** As we sit in our wholly-owned, air conditioned, well-lit premises, it is easy to forget the difficulties that our first ever committee had to overcome. Apparently, we rapidly outgrew the first hall and were thrown out of the next one ('Stop that nasty sinful card-playing at once') and many of the other premises proved unsuitable. Six venues in the first six years and seven if we count the session in the awful Lesmurdie Agricultural Hall.

I have gleaned this information from previous BTGs and in particular an article in the September 30, 1990 issue by Peter Hart, a Foundation member. Peter says, "Have bridge club will travel", but he admits to everyone having lots of frivolity at Christmas in the Lesmurdie Community Hall. Oh, to be a fly on the wall!

In some places our players had lots of space, but at the Walliston CWA Peter says, 'It was like playing bridge in a railway carriage'. Most of the halls they played in were cold and bare. They operated literally out of a large metal cabinet in which they were able to pack 'the club' and lug it around the shire.

KDBC eventually arrived at Kalamunda Senior High School with carpeted floors and heaters...pure Heaven! However, before play could take place all the school desks and chairs needed to be moved to one side and then, yes you guessed it, they then had to be dragged back into place afterwards.

After many frustrations and setbacks, the first concrete pour for the new clubrooms in Ledger Rd, Gooseberry Hill took place in early January 1981 in 40°C heat. Don Burgess and Derek Townsend were there to put in the anchor bolts for the erection of the walls. Derek told me recently that even before the roof was erected, some enthusiastic ladies carried in a card table and played a game of bridge. Wow! That's enthusiasm. A past BTG reported that the first bridge session was played on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1981. However, Derek laughed and asked what sort of a session it could possibly be? One can only imagine the many hurdles and problems that accompanied the construction of the clubrooms. By November, 1984, Monday, Wednesday and Friday sessions were happening and in November of that year they had 25 tables on a Wednesday.

Thirty-six years later, we can look back in awe at the tremendous effort, determination and pure physical effort that our past and present members contributed to ensure the success of our Club.

## TALENTS OTHER THAN BRIDGE

Do you ever wonder about the talents and life skills that our members bring along with them when they join our Club? As you know, it's usually a quick hello to the opposition when moving from one bridge table to the next. It is only at the social functions, such as the once a month Friday afternoon drinks and nibbles after the bridge session or the sausage sizzle on President's day that we are able to socialise.

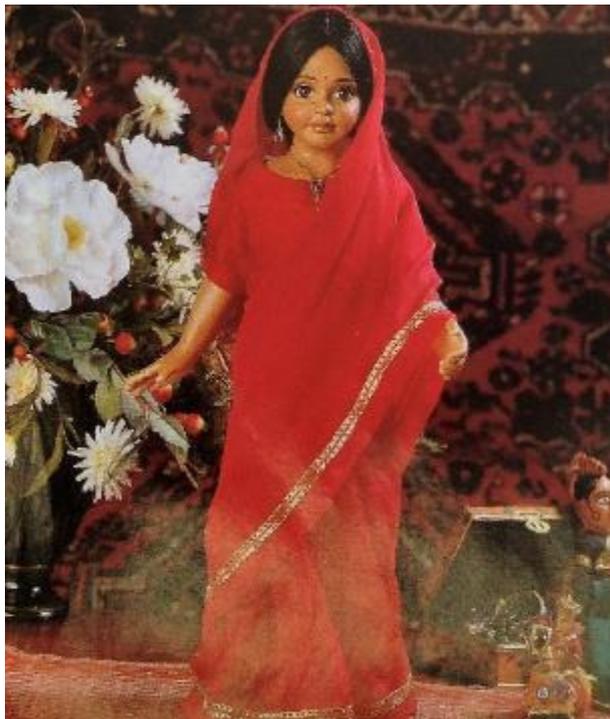
Therefore, I was very pleasantly surprised to discover that our very own



Marlene Robertson, not only spent many years hand-crafting porcelain dolls, but her work has been published on the front cover of the Australian Dolls Bears and Collectables magazine which is read Australia wide.

Now that is some achievement! The front cover features one of her life-like dolls in all her finery with the caption: **Stunning Dolls by Marlene Robertson.**

I have taken several excerpts from the 7-page article such as: Marlene attended a workshop where she learnt how to sculpt a baby's head and use it to produce a mould. From then on, her desire to create her own dolls took over.



Also: Marlene works in a spacious studio separate from the house which allows her to create whenever she desires. She says, 'Much research goes into the costumes and dresses and I have spent many hours with a sketchbook and camera in museums including the costume department of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.' She also says, 'I like to keep the costumes as authentic as possible and always make everything myself, including the wigs.' The article finishes off saying, 'It is the research and attention to detail which has won awards for Marlene's dolls. I am certain you will all agree with me that it is this attention to detail that Marlene applies to her bridge playing, which in turn allows her to achieve well within our Club.'

## NOT A HAND FOR THE HCPS COUNTERS

■ **Len Pratt**- A Founder and a Life Club member now living in New South Wales.

You are sitting East, with Partner as Dealer, and you pick up ♠Q4 ♥AKQJT54 ♦864 ♣7. What thoughts are going through your head?

How do I bid this hand if:

- (a) Partner bids
- (b) Both Partner and North pass
- (c) Partner bids and North overcalls

At my table, East's problem was easily solved by her Partner, a very competent player, who opened 4 spades! East passed. The complete deal was:

Board 11 Dir: S Vul: Nil	♠92 ♥AK97532 ♦AK64 ♣AK64	
♠AK987632 ♥873 ♦Q ♣Q		♠Q4 ♥AKQJT54 ♦864 ♣7
14 11 12 3	♠JT5 ♥6 ♦JT ♣JT98532	N: 6♣6♦ S: 6♣6♦ E: 4♥5♠ W: 5♥5♣

You will note that North/South have a small **slam in the Minors** with a combined HCP count of 17. While East/West can only make 10 or 11 tricks in the majors on a combined HCP count of 23. The possible 4 heart contract by East is interesting. South has to lead a spade for North to trump to hold the contract to 4 hearts! **Inspiration!**

The Full Result is set out here:

The 5 spades making 13 will excite all those members who endured my Card Playing Tutorials where I preached "Never lead away from an Ace when defending a suit contract!"

1	7	1190		16.0	0.0	6♣X	S	13	♠A
9	5	100		14.0	2.0	5♥X	E	10	♣J
2	9		450	8.0	8.0	5♣	W	11	♣K
5	6		450	8.0	8.0	5♥	E	11	♦J
6	8		450	8.0	8.0	5♥	E	11	♦J
7	1		450	8.0	8.0	5♣	W	11	♣A
8	3		450	8.0	8.0	4♣	W	11	♦A
4	4		510	2.0	14.0	5♣	W	13	♦2
3	2		650	0.0	16.0	5♥X	E	11	♦J

## **CLUB WELLBEING REPRESENTATIVE**

■ **Carole McMahon**

Anita Davis took on the New position of KDBC Welfare Representative one year ago. During this time, she has been contacting our members who have been unwell, in hospital, or suffering a bereavement. Anita has sent cards, visited people in hospital and home, and offered support and assistance. This has been very much appreciated, particularly by people who have limited family support.

If you are aware of any member who is unwell, can you please let Anita know, and she will respond with a card, telephone call or whatever action is appropriate. Anita can be contacted on 0487 200 666.

We have now changed the title of her role to 'Wellbeing Representative' as this more truly reflects the work she does. Anita's commitment to this role is valued by all of us.

## **THE INTREPID BUSH TURKEYS**

■ **John Shinnick**



### **BACKGROUND**

Whilst on our previous 4WD adventure into the outback of the Goldfields in November last year, we the Kalamunda Bridge Club Bush Turkeys hatched the idea of a trip to the Esperance to Albany coastline by caravan. Now there were a few firsts with this idea, namely:

1. The Barkers didn't have a caravan, caravan experience or strong enough vehicle to pull a caravan.
2. The Tedeschi's had a family caravan, but Jean-Paul was yet to convince Jenny back home it was a good idea, and
3. The Shinnick's who were novice caravanners were nominated the tour organisers.

The idea all seemed so wild and unattainable, but as was our experience, the Barker's focussed their energies on obtaining a new Landcruiser and Kokoda caravan and removed the major hurdle within a few months. Jenny who had never seen the southern wheatbelt or Esperance to Albany coastline was the most willing of adventurers. The rigs and will were all aligned – all that remained was for the Shinnick's to organise the routes, park stays and obtain group consensus on tour options and dates.

## The Plan

We all anticipated the thirteen days would be full of fun as the agreed plan was to:

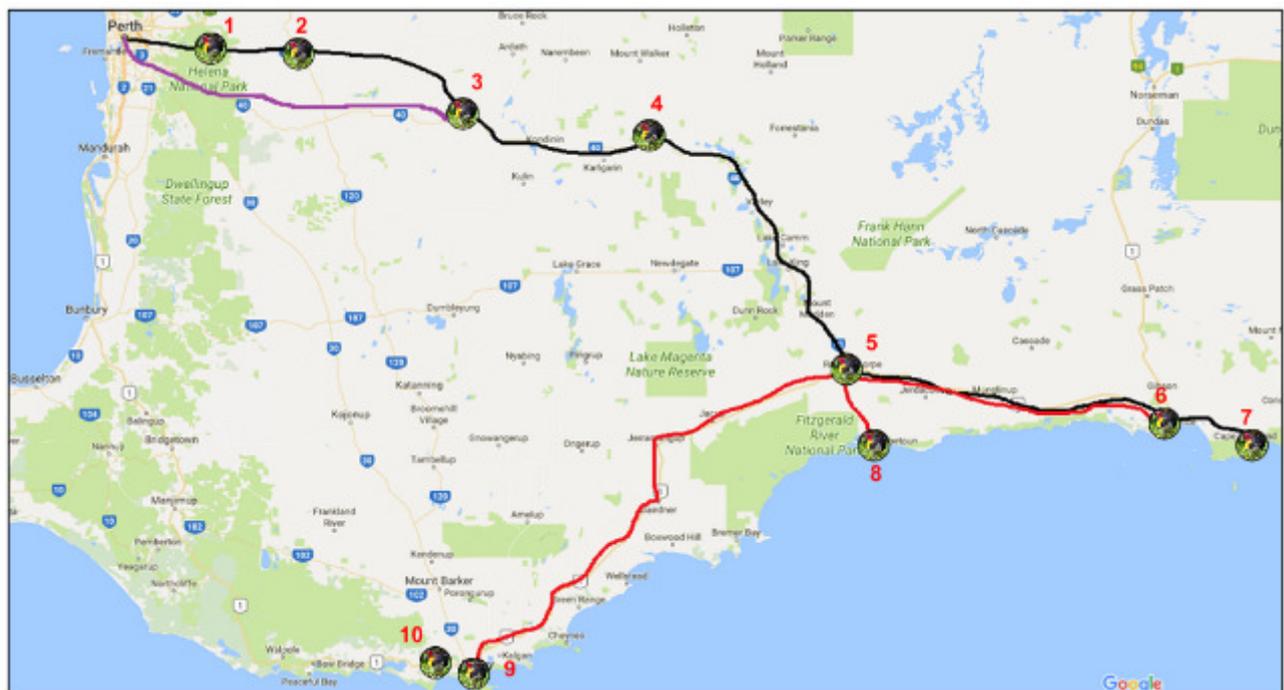
1. Take in all of the tourist attractions at each spot.
2. Play at least one game of competition golf.
3. Play Bridge in Esperance and Albany.
4. Fish from the local beaches and Jean-Paul's tinny.
5. Occasionally enjoy the local restaurants and
6. Get as much pleasure as possible from the caravanning experience.

The agreed plan on day one was for the Tedeschi's and Shinnick's to travel via York to meet up with the Barker's in Corrigin and overnight at Hyden. We were then to spend five days in Esperance, one in Hopetoun and five in Albany. The Shinnick's who are not pedal to the metal travellers would take two days to get home with an overnight stay in Narrogin.

It was easy to predict that with our six-likeminded people the trip was going to be amazing.

## The Route

The following map and legend was agreed, and the Shinnick's (Lynette) went to work with the bookings:



### Legend

Reference	Description	Reference	Description
	Perth to Esperance	4	Hyden
	Esperance to Albany	5	Ravensthorpe
	Perth to Corrigin (Barkers)	6	Esperance
1	York	7	Cape Le Grande
2	Quairading	8	Hopetoun
3	Corrigin	9	Albany
4	Hyden	10	Denmark
5	Ravensthorpe		

## THE ADVENTURE

As with our Goldfields Outback Adventure the team members had a most memorable trip. The following extracts are a snapshot of the adventure:

### OUR TRIP PROTOCOLS

Without any formal discipline, the team soon applied the following successful daily protocols:

- i. On road convoy leadership was shared.
- ii. Each couple organised their own breakfast.
- iii. The day generally started by 8:30.
- iv. Caravan Park Dinners and happy hours were shared by each couple.
- v. Having a daily plan and specific tourist targets for each day were generally decided at dinner.
- vi. A full day was the agreed norm.

### THE TRIP

This is our travel story; enjoy:

#### The Tourist Attractions

Our planned route and stops took in some of WA's most sought-after destinations; we all hold the following as the highlights of the adventure:

**Quairading** - the Tedeschi's and Shinnick's travelled through York and stopped for a break in Quairading. Quairading is a very proud town and its council has been very active in providing services to the RV tourist. The new caravan park facilities should be every caravanners stopover destination.

**Corrigin** - the Corrigin dog cemetery was our rendezvous point with the Barkers. The cemetery tourist attraction is extremely well maintained and is adorned at its entry with a larger than life kelpie statue. This is a must-see attraction.

**Hyden** - tourism in Hyden was established only 40 years ago; Wave Rock, the Caravan Park and tourist shops, museum, walk trails and wildlife park are a testimony to local farmer and tourism founder Russel Mouritz.

**Esperance** - the attractions are boundless; multiple lookouts over postcard scenery, pristine beaches, museums, RV friendly parks, Cape Le Grand, Lucky Bay, Hellfire Bay, "Stone Henge", Pink Lake and the foreshore developments were remarkable.

**Hopetoun** - a beach holiday town, Hopetoun has also been home for the now hapless employees of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Mine. The town has wonderful housing and we visited the unbelievable causeway washaway from the March rains of this year.

**Albany** - The Anzac Centre, numerous museums, unbelievable beaches/fishing, The Gap, Whaling Station and "other half" shopping opportunities were just a few of our tourist destinations; a great town with obvious local pride and history.

**Denmark** - the Rivermouth, Elephant Rocks, Bakery, wineries, galleries and eateries (particularly our lunch at The Lake House) were all enjoyed on our day trip.

#### Team Competitions

Apart from our tourist pursuits the team couples were competitively involved in sporting pursuits, namely:

**Golf** - the three partners played nine holes at the Pink Lake course. The Tedeschi's took the Bush Turkey Trophy by one stroke over the Shinnick's. It was a circus on the last hole with the Shinnick's having five puts to close out the hole.

**Bridge** - we played an afternoon of Bridge in Esperance and Albany; the Tedeschi's did us again!!!

**Fishing** - the boys beach fished in Esperance and Albany and went out in Jean-Paul's tinny in Albany. No surprise - Jean Paul took bragging rights again.

**Shopping** - the ladies went shopping on the day the boys went tinny fishing. Rumour has it that Jean-Paul has just made the last payment on the credit card. We think the Tedeschi's won again!!!

### **Caravanning Experience**

The fun we all had over the thirteen days is just the start of our future plans. We currently have plans to visit the Kimberley next year under the tour leadership of Jean-Paul. For now, however, the teams latest caravanning pursuits include:

**Barkers** - have been down South again on three occasions and are currently on an eight week challenge through the Great Central and onto Queensland. The bug has bitten these two!!!

**Tedeschi's** - they have let a seven-week European trip get in the way of caravanning. However, we know for a fact that caravanning is their future priority.

**Shinnick's** - are home and recovering from a 13-week tour of the West Coast, Top End and Central Australia. Apart from a five-week bus/cartour of New Zealand in October, they are planning another three weeks at Cheyne's Beach before Christmas.

### **The Bug Has Truly Bitten**

#### **PHOTO GALLERY**



**The proud new rig owner**



**The Tedeschi rig**



**Winners are grinners**



**Denmark Elephant Rocks**



**Lucky Bay Esperance**

**AN UNUSUAL FACT:**

The tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end. As you know, health authorities recommend regular stretching exercises as we age, but in our friendly club, the tongue gets plenty of exercise. I am sure the directors would heartily agree with me.

“Spring is nature’s way of saying ‘Let’s party!’” said the wonderful Robin Williams and that is what will be happening in November at all the Melbourne Cup celebrations throughout the country, our Club included. More delectable food and more challenging bridge! But there is more.... our Christmas party is to follow on 9<sup>th</sup> December. So many celebrations, with us heading towards the silly season, so please take care whatever you are doing as you are all valued members of our bridge family.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie".

**Julie Bechelli**

**KALAMUNDA DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB SPONSORS**

Thank you for your support!! We are truly grateful!



KALAMUNDA  
HOTEL

43 Railway Road, Kalamunda, WA, 6076

The Best Drop Tavern  
Kalamunda