



Volume 39

Issue 3

September 2018



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

**KDBC**

**Forty-eight years ago, on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 1970 our first bridge session was played in the Anglican Church Hall, Kalamunda. Today our membership continues to grow and members play five days a week in our very own club rooms in Ledger Road, Gooseberry Hill.**

## KDBC WELCOMES FOUR NEW CLUB MEMBERS – July to September, 2018



**Meg Bowness** has taken the leap from social Bridge to duplicate bridge and has now decided to join in the competitiveness of our club.



Graeme Hartley has just completed the Beginners Course and will soon be joining the Monday evening supervised group.

### **Kit Lemann**

Came to Australia from Malaysia in 1995 and moved to Roleystone with husband Tom who is also a member of our Club. She had bridge lessons with Nigel Rosendorf and would now love to play more often. We look forward to seeing more of her at the KDBC.

**Hans Guldemon** is also an Alternate member whose home club is the Swan Districts Bridge Club. Hans has been playing bridge for many years.



## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

### ■ Rob McMahon



Hi Everyone

Another AGM has passed to welcome in the new committee. Dianne, Carole and I are in the second term of two years in the executive group and we welcome Brian Daxter as Vice President. Also new to the committee are Ted Brereton and Robin Ward. It's great to see new faces who I'm sure will bring new ideas and support to the Club.

Sad to say that Bert Littlechild died recently. Bert was President and a Director and was a Life member of the Club. His contribution as resident handyman saved the Club many thousands of dollars. When his health started to deteriorate I took over the handyman role but Bert always insisted on helping me and it wasn't easy persuading him to stop climbing on the roof cleaning gutters or fixing leaks. The Club is poorer without him around.

Another member who died was Naomi Gates. Naomi was from the old school and you couldn't afford to be thin skinned playing against her. E.g. Me after my partner bid 1 club "that's minimum of three" : Naomi "*rude word!!* tell someone who cares". She also will be missed.

Jenny and her support group have managed to field ten beginners for lessons with Fiske Warren. Considering that there was not much interest early in the year by beginners it was a pleasant surprise to see the numbers. Jenny always was confident though.

My thanks to Jackie Keir and Carole Mc for producing the new table cards. The table numbers are printed on each corner so now the card can be situated under the bridgemate and still be seen. They also have the section letters printed on them so the bridgemates can be correctly entered.

Ted Brereton and I have lodged a submission for a Federal Government grant to purchase a defibrillator. Even without the grant the Club will purchase one. We also noticed that grants were available up to \$50,000 for capital works but an Australian Business Number was required. Large grants from the Lotteries Commission also require an ABN, something we don't have or are entitled to.

The club improvements were put on hold as the possibility of the club moving to the new Community Centre in Kalamunda was explored. Initial enquiries with Kalamunda City indicated that was a possibility but that has now evaporated. I'll be preparing a progress report on the improvements and organising a meeting in the next few weeks.

Regards

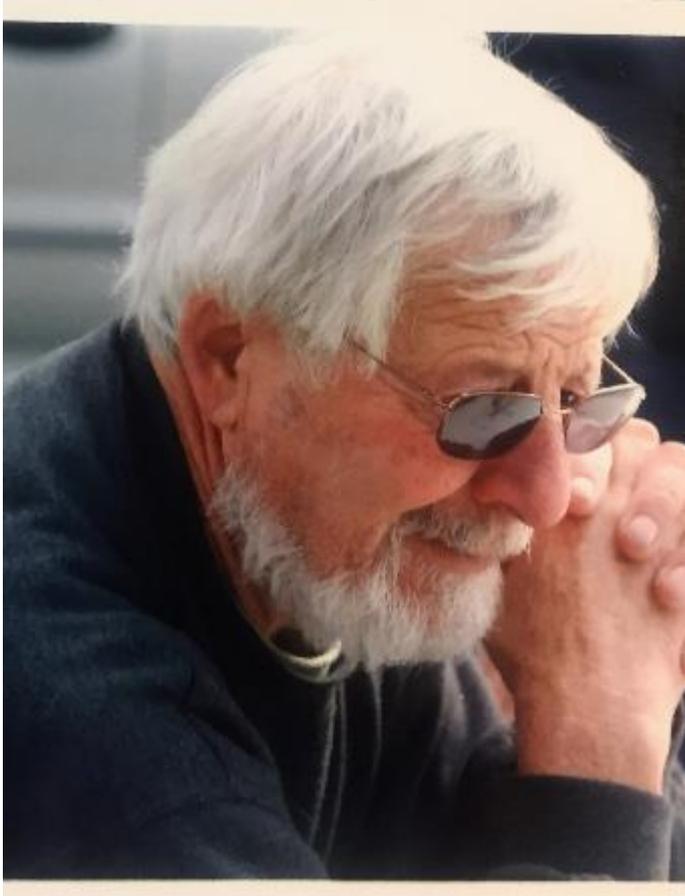
Rob

### VALE -NAOMI GATES

Naomi, along with her husband Jack, joined our club 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2013. They played regularly until transport became a problem. Sadly, Naomi passed away in August, 2018.



**VALE – BERT LITTLECHILD**  
**25<sup>th</sup> April 1940 to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018**



Albert Littlechild, fondly known as Bert, joined KDBC in the early 1990's. It was not long before he made his way onto the Management Committee and to eventually becoming President. Bert carried out his duties, not only as President, but he could be found on weekends at the club, knee deep in gravel or clambering on the roof, repairing or maintaining any one of a number of plumbing jobs. He saved our club a great deal of money by carrying out the maintenance and never asking for anything in return. Such was his generous nature. Bert was also instrumental in installing a completely new kitchen in our clubhouse along with the help of Rob McMahon and Garth Scotford. Now for some background – Bert and Carole married in the United Kingdom and travelled by ship to Australia in 1968. I am told by Carole that the journey on the ship was a hoot and she laughed saying

that is as much as she is telling us. I am only limited by my imagination as to what the pair got up to. Perhaps it's better not to ask!! On their arrival they went straight to a unit in Dianella - a far cry from Peppermint Grove which was Carole's first choice. She had studied all the brochures before sailing and knew exactly where she wanted to live. Bert must have been very persuasive as they then set out to purchase a block of land in Lesmurdie – once again Carole had ideas of living near the beach in Sorrento but they both came to love the home they built in Lesmurdie and were blessed with two children, Jason and Jodie. Bert always derived so much joy from playing with his three grandchildren, Aiden, Maddie and Luke and was known to make and fly paper planes and sit patiently doing jig saws.

He was also well-known for his volunteer work at Apex, Oasis & Rotary where he was the President for one year. During that time, Carole became interested in social bridge and played twice weekly and eventually Bert joined in. They both attended Audrey Townsend's lessons and that was the beginning of Bert's bridge life! After that he won many awards and trophies over the years as he became a very astute player. They travelled extensively around Australia, the UK, America, Europe, India, Nepal, Egypt and Malaysia. Unfortunately, South America was on the agenda but didn't eventuate.

Bert's illness progressed over three years and Carole would like to thank everyone at the club for being so patient while playing with him during his very difficult journey. She would also like to thank everyone for taking the time to attend his funeral.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF:

### Open Pairs June 16 – June 30th

1<sup>st</sup> Valerie Parker & David Kininmonth



2<sup>nd</sup> Brian & Carole Daxter



### Mixed Pairs July 16<sup>th</sup> – July 30th

1<sup>st</sup> Sheila Pryce & Gordon Brown



2<sup>nd</sup> Kaye Prance & Ted Breerton



### Ladies Pairs Aug 24<sup>th</sup> - Aug 31<sup>s</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Betty Roberts & Carolyn Dickie



### Men's Pairs Aug 24 – Aug 31st

1<sup>st</sup> Peter Cameron & Doug Hegarty



**Restricted Pairs (Fewer than 50MPS)**  
**Wednesday September 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**1<sup>st</sup> David Harris & Eleanor Rowley**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Kerry Elliman & Derick Johnston**



**Our Club Members out and about –**



**Winners of the Under 150MPS  
Pairs at the South Perth August  
Congress – Carole Dickie & Betty Roberts  
also  
Winners of the Under 300 MPS  
Pairs - Valerie Parker & David Kinnimonth**



## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

■Alan Harper

### **The Do's and Don'ts of the Auction**

I have noticed a few people do not fully understand the appropriate actions during the auction, so I am writing this to clarify certain aspects.

The auction period begins when one person removes their cards from the board and ends when the opening lead is faced.

This is the time when each pair is vying to reach the most effective contract for themselves. The auction itself ends after three consecutive passes.

There are certain rules that apply to the auction.

### **Alerting**

You must alert your partner's bid if:

- a) The bid does not refer to the suit held
- b) The bid DOES refer to the suit held and another (i.e a Heart bid that promises Hearts and a minor)
- c) The bid has a meaning that the opposition may not understand. (Splinter bids etc:)
- d) A response of 2♦ to partner's Stayman bid

You should NOT alert the following:

- a) Cue bids (a bid of the suit bid or identified by the opposition.).
- b) Doubles or re-doubles
- c) 2♣ Stayman over partner's 1NT
- d) Bids higher than 3NT

1) If the alerted bid may affect a bid you intend to make, then at your next turn to call you may ask: "What does that bid mean?" (Not: "Is that weak or strong?"; "Do you play 4 or 5 card majors?" etc.)

2) The person you ask is the person who alerted the bid (i.e. the partner of the person who made the bid.)

3) If asked about a bid that you alerted, you MUST provide a COMPLETE description of all possible meanings of the bid and any possible alternative calls.

4) If you do not intend to bid, then you should WAIT UNTIL THE AUCTION ENDS and then ask for an explanation of the bidding. Drawing attention to a specific bid is inappropriate and may incur lead penalties.

You should NOT ask about a specific bid, interrupt or curtail this explanation; doing so may RESTRICT YOUR PARTNER'S LEAD OPTION.

## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER continued**

### **Slow Play.**

Time is one of the elements of Bridge.

Taking extra time to bid, or play a difficult board is unfair to other contestants, who are trying to play it within the time constraints of the round.

Directors will normally prevent the play of a board on which the opening lead has not been faced before the warning bell.

Directors will not permit the board to be played at the end of the session.

In a normal Club session, (but not in Championship events) and depending on the situation, the Director MAY permit the board to be played in the break if he/she considers the players had good reason for the delay.

Otherwise the Director may award an artificial score on the board and MAY penalize the slow players. The normal penalty for slow play is 2 Match points for each instance after the first.

This is not a debate situation and players should not try to influence the Directors decision. So **PLEASE** try to play all your boards within the time allowed.



#### **Editor:**

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Please forward articles of interest, photos or news to me to be included in the next BTG

Editor's apology to Eleanor Rowley for giving her the wrong surname in the June edition of the BTG.

Do you think that our President, Mr Rob McMahon – a former tower controller, was on duty in the Control Tower at Perth Airport when this conversation took place?

## **Air Traffic Priority**

Pilot: This is United 480 approaching at 240 degrees. Request clearance to land.

Pilot [repeating]: This is United 480. Do you copy?

Pilot [once again]: This is United 480 to Tower. Come in please.

Control Tower: Copy, United 480. Level off at 3000 feet and maintain heading while we finish this hand.

## Christmas in July (Special Event)

**Date: Saturday July 28th**

**1<sup>st</sup>** Elizabeth Bazen & Denise Borger (N/S) **2<sup>nd</sup>** Catherine Gabites & Joanne Payne (E/W)  
Michael Barker & Dianne Barker (N/S) Mark Pezzali & Peter Clarke (E/W)

Back row: Elizabeth Bazen & Jenny Reid  
Front row: Denise Borger & Lorraine Stivey



L to R: Bernadette McStravick, Sita Weggelaar  
Carole Sexton & Cora Brown



Back row: Judith Bull & Carole Dickie  
Front row: Anita Davis & Judy Poole



L to R: Jenny Reid, Jane Pike & Helen Brown-Cooper



L to R: Joan Andrews & Mary Simmonds



L to R: Mary Pepper, Dianne Dwyer, Jenny Tedeschi & Peter Clarke



Back row: Russell Bourne, Jim Steele  
Front: Ian Purcell



L to R: Sheila Pryce, Mark Pezzali & Gordon Brown



Back row: Marie-France Van Hall, Cherry Zamudio & Margaret McRobbie

Front Row: Valerie Parker, Elizabeth McMillen & Dianne Barker

## WORLD BRIDGE NEWS

### Top International Bridge Players caught cheating.

The article titled “House of Cards” by John Colapinto from Vanity Fair appeared in the Readers Digest dated March 2018. It outlined how top international bridge players cheated and won many awards before their cheating was detected.

Apparently, Norwegian bridge player, Boye Brogeland aged 43, ranked 64<sup>th</sup> in the world said, “It will give us a tremendous momentum to clean the game up.”

For those of us who do not recognise the name ‘Brogeland’, his website ‘bridge-cheaters.com’ gives an outline of his successes in the international bridge world. The website also shows a large photo of Lotan Fisher and Ron Schwartz, a young Israeli pair, who began playing international bridge in 2011 winning a number of the top trophies. Above the photos is a heading ‘The greatest scam in the history of bridge’.

I immediately looked up bridge-cheaters.com and found this to be accurate. Brogeland accused the pair of playing ‘suspiciously illogical hands’. Rumours were abound that they were cheats and as a result Fisher and Schwartz hired lawyers to defend the accusations and sent Brogeland a letter demanding \$1,000,000 as a settlement, or a lawsuit!

## **Top International Bridge Players caught cheating** continued

In the final of the 2015 Springfield in Chicago, Brogeland's team won by a single point against a team that included Fisher and Schwartz. Fisher contested the result on a technicality. Not only was the win overturned, but Brogeland's team now lost by one point and was out of the tournament. Brogeland protested but the loss remained.

Brogeland didn't know how. but was certain that Fisher and Schwartz were signalling to each other. He contacted the ACBL (The American Contract Bridge League), the games governing body in North America but the CEO replied, saying that it could take a year or longer to draw a conclusion and that they weren't the only pair suspected of cheating. Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes of Italy, ranked first and second in the world in the 2014 European Championships, were expelled by ACBL in 2016.

Brogeland used YouTube videos of the pair in match plays and in one of those videos Fisher made a suspicious heart lead. It was noticed that the board that holds the cards was to the right – in an unusual spot. After viewing all the matches from the European Championships, Cullen – a semi-professional bridge player, was also convinced that the placement of the boards signalled which suit to lead by the partner.

Fisher and Schwartz were eventually suspended by the ACBL and placed under investigation by that body as well as the European Bridge League (EBL). In May 2016, EBL had issued Fisher and Schwartz a five-year ban from its events and a lifetime ban on playing as partners.

***Only those who risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.***  
***T.S. Eliot***



Is it possible that T. S. Eliot played bridge and was contemplating a 7S or 7NT contract?

Dignity is the fundamental right of every person, especially at the bridge table.

*Gulbe*

**KALAMUNDA DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB SPONSORS**

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



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