



BRIDGING THE GAP

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EDITORIAL

Hello Club Members

This is our Club House as it stands today. The last two BTG magazines have traced the history of our Club from its earliest beginnings to the present, and our President, Rob McMahon, has formed a sub-committee to discuss the various options. Will we extend our present premises, build or shift to accommodate more club members at our sessions or visitors at our congresses? Or will we give the grand old lady a long overdue makeover as the Royalty are now demanding? The Kings, Queens and Knaves deserve a grand residence, but how far can we go? More people attending our sessions, congresses and teams' events means more cars in our limited car park, more upgraded facilities for the ladies and gents - not forgetting the dreadful acoustics!



Julie Bechelli

WELCOME TO NEW CLUB MEMBERS – October To December, 2017
KDBC welcomes two new members to our Club.

Meri & Tim Comber are playing in our regular sessions as well as playing Monday evening in the supervised session. Tim, now retired, is a Civil Engineer. He emigrated from Hampshire England in 1970 and worked initially for a Consultant. He also worked throughout PNG. He enjoys cycling weekly and bush walking.

Meri was born in Yorkshire. She has worked for the last 15 years for the Kalamunda Shire and is also now retired. Meri loves to sew, read and to play bridge of course.



KALAMUNDA BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

Most Improved Pair

- 1st Jacqueline Keir & Jim Steel
- 2nd Anita Davis & Brian Davison

Men's Pairs

- 1st Peter Clarke & Joseph (Guy) Gaudet
- 2nd Gordon Brown & Drian Davison

Mixed Pairs

- 1st Bente Hansen & Joe Louis
- 2nd Carmen Jackson & Mel Foster

Daytime Teams

- 1st Sheila Pryce, Gordon Brown, Stephen Thyer & George Bozanich
- 2nd Bente Hansen, Wendy Harman, Ann Todd & Carmen Jackson

Open Pairs

- 1st Joanne Payne & Stephen Thyer
- 2nd Jackie Harper & Alan Harper

Knockout

- 1st Carole Sexton & Cherry Zamudio
- 2nd Joseph (Guy) Gaudet & JP Tedeschi

Individual

- 1st Stephen Thyer
- 2nd Carmen Jackson

Ladies' Pairs

- 1st Sandra Hoffman & Jackie Harper
- 2nd Sandy Sutton-Mattocks & Arianna Yusof

Daytime Pairs Championship

- 1st Arianna Yusof & Nic Moniodis
- 2nd Sandy & Don Sutton-Mattocks

Open Teams

- 1st Bente Hansen, Madge Myburgh, Carmen Jackson & Wendy Harman
- 2nd Sheila Pryce, Gordon Brown, Joe Louis & Nic Moniodis

KDBC Restricted Pairs < 50 Masterpoints

- 1st Carole McMahan & Rob McMahan
- 2nd Judith Poole & Robin Ward

Champion Pairs - Monday Morning

- 1st Joseph (Guy) Gaudet & Stephen Thyer
- 2nd Brian Dexter & Carole Dexter

Champion Pairs – Wednesday afternoon

1st Joseph (Guy) Gaudet & Joe Louis
2nd Jackie Harper & Alan Harper

Champion Pairs – Thursday evening

1st Wendy Harman & Carmen Jackson
2nd Gordon Brown & Sheila Pryce

Champion Pair – Friday afternoon

1st Alan Harper & Stephen Thyer
2nd Ian Brown & Mark Pezzali

Champion Pair – Saturday afternoon

1st Mary Pepper & Mike Pepper
2nd Margaret McRobbie & Jane Pike

Novices Plate

1st Dawn & Phil Snook
2nd Judith Bull & Renee Wylie

Most Masterpoints

1st Stephen Thyer
2nd Joseph (Guy) Gaudet

The following players have achieved an incredible result of 70% or over during the last three months and have been listed in the 70% Club.

The 70% Club – Oct, Nov & Dec

Joanne Payne & Stephen Thyer 73.3%
Peter Clarke & Ruth Ledger 72.42%
Sheila Pryce & Gordon Brown 70.6%
Peter Clarke & Ruth Ledger 70.5%



What a celebration! Our fabulous Christmas parties attract more members each year - 18 tables in total. It was a day to remember, with the Club decorated, the food prepared and laid out, drinks available and the presentations made to the winners of the many categories, we bridged our way through the day.

Daytime Teams Rob McMahon (President) George Bozanich (not available), Stephen Thyer, Sheila Pryce & Gordon Brown

Open Pairs
Rob McMahon, Joanne Payne & Stephen Thyer



Most Improved pair

Rob McMahon, Jacqueline Keir & Jim Steel



Knockout Rob McMahon, Cherry Zamudio & Carole Sexton



Thursday evening Champion Pair

Rob McMahon, Carmen Jackson & Wendy Harman



Individual & Most Master Points (two trophies)

Rob McMahon & Stephen Thyer



Novices Plate

Rob McMahon, Phil & Dawn Snook



Champion Pair – Saturday afternoon

Rob McMahon, Mary & Mike Pepper



VALE - IAN BROWN

Ian recently passed away after a long battle with cancer. He will be remembered for his sense of humour, always ready for a laugh and always a joke to be shared among friends. He will be missed by all.

FROM THE PRESIDENT - SEPTEMBER 2017

■ **Rob McMahon**

Another year is drawing to a close and with Christmas approaching it's time for most of us to look forward to being with family and good friends.

Sadly, Ian Brown passed away this month and he will be greatly missed. His funeral service at Hartfield Park Golf Club was a fitting tribute to a "good bloke" and it was heart-warming to be part of a strong group of bridge players to witness the testaments from his family and friends. He was a champion golfer (his golf clubs were placed out in front) and a fine family man. One of his sons sang a truly moving verse of Amazing Grace during his eulogy. It's a well-worn cliché but our Club will be the poorer without Ian.

Also, we're thinking of those who are in poor health or recovering from an illness.

The new committee is earning its pay by not only discharging their regular duties but upgrading our Website, rewriting our By-laws and embarking on a Club improvement programme. Lots more work to be done but hopefully this time next year we'll have a new look.

Our table numbers are only slightly up for the year but it's heartening to see many newcomers who will carry the Club well into the future. Being only a small club of around 150 members we have to juggle being a social club while providing an avenue for members to play competitively. I've had many a member say to me that we need to remain the unique club that we are.

No finer example of this was at last Wednesday's bridge when Janet Stirling got up to announce she and Murray were moving to Busselton. She had a tear in her eye when she thanked the Club for its friendship and support and said that we would be sorely missed. Murray is a past President and I valued his support and advice. We'll reserve seats 1A and 1C for you and the best of good luck.

And finally, we should all acknowledge the work and time that various members contribute, which makes it possible to play bridge. When the worthy people get up to receive their annual trophies as competition winners for the year I hope they understand that many members have worked hard to making those prizes possible.

And, be good to your partner. She/he is the only one on your side during a session

Happy Christmas

Rob

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

■ Jean-Paul Tedeschi

I have heard from time to time that directors are the "No Fun Brigade" and far too controlling. Well yes, **SOMETIMES**, but for good reason.

Rules are not there only to be known by directors. Apart from knowing how to play, every bridge player should also have a basic understanding of rules and mechanism of the game.

Here are a few, that I hope will help the "younger players" to understand the dilemma the directors are going through.

- 1) Don't reach for the bidding box until you know what call you are going to put on the table. Players can be penalised for fondling bidding cards.
- 2) Place your thumb on the bid you intend to make, then take that card and all the cards behind it. The call should be placed facing away from the bidder as a courtesy to other players at the table.
- 3) If a player accidentally places the wrong bidding card on the table (as in reaching for 1 spade and taking 1 heart instead) that bid may be corrected **BEFORE PARTNER** of the mis-bidder has called. Intervening calls may be withdrawn or corrected with no penalty. This change of bid must be due to a mechanical error in picking the card from the bidding box, not suddenly noticing a bid (including X), misplaced card (say a diamond in with the hearts), or a hidden card.
- 4) Players can be penalised for delaying the timely completion of a hand; this normally comes after one or two warnings, but remember that bridge is a time event.
- 5) All players at a table **MAY** be penalised at the director's discretion if wrong boards are passed. The north-south pair receiving the wrong boards may also be penalised.

When starting to play North should enter the Board number into the Bridgmate **BEFORE** the cards are removed from the board. This will prevent looking at the wrong boards.

- 6) Players should use the "ALERT" card, in addition to saying "ALERT" as a courtesy to hearing impaired players at the table.

There are many more rules and regulations and it is up to the players to make themselves aware of them. Remember when you call a director do not frighten the *!!*##*##* out of your opponent as he or she might not even know what they have done wrong if anything, especially in regard to beginners.

Budding director
J-P

Many stories are told of dizzy blonde females, so when I found this little gem I thought I would include it in the BTG as this farmer was no fool. He probably would make a very good bridge player!!

Australian Farmer

An elderly man in the Atherton Tablelands in Queensland had owned a large farm for several years.

He had a large pond in the back. It was properly shaped for swimming, so he fixed it up nice with picnic tables, a barbecue and some apple and peach trees. One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over.

He grabbed a twenty-litre bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end.

One of the women shouted to him, 'we're not coming out until you leave!'

The old man frowned, 'I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked.' Holding the bucket up he said, 'I'm here to feed the crocodile...'

Some old men can still think fast.



BRIDGE ETIQUETTE

Bridge enjoys immense popularity partly because of the high standards of ethics and etiquette which are observed by the players who are expected to conduct themselves in a highly civilised manner.

It is an extremely ethical game. All good players strive to ensure that their bridge ethics are impeccable. Beginners are, of course, excused for their lapses, but in serious competition your bridge demeanour must be beyond reproach.

When you are dummy, it is poor form to look over at opponent's hand. After the play of a hand is over; do not take an opponent's cards and look at them as it won't be appreciated.

Conversation at the table in serious games is generally unwelcome. Post-mortems after each hand are best kept until the session is over and you can go over the score-sheets with your partner at leisure. During the session, it is extremely poor taste to abuse or criticise partner or an opponent. Never speak harshly and you will be a sought-after rather than a shunned partner. Prefer to say too little than too much. If partner has bid or played the hand like an idiot, say 'that's bad luck - we can discuss that later' and perhaps make a note of the board number and leave it at that. However, discussion after the bridge session can help clear up any misunderstanding or mis bid but do not raise your voice or speak sharply concerning their errors, as most certainly, errors of judgement are made by both partners.

Some men will say it with diamonds, some will say it with perfume, others will promise romantic holidays in faraway exotic places. But not so our Rob McMahon. He is a man with a desire for adventure. You could say he has spent his working life with his head in the clouds – almost. This is his story:

Carole's Pressie

Carole's 70th was fast approaching and I needed to do something special. She had organised a great 70th party for me and I had to do something to make up for all the times I wrongly accused her of not bidding properly in bridge. Like most ladies she loved going out to restaurants but that seemed a bit tame. I was aware of a helicopter company that organised flights to Millbrook Winery in Jarrahdale so after a few enquiries I organised the excursion.

It was difficult keeping the secret but had to have Carole ready to leave the house at 11.30 spot on. I heard the chopper approaching so I said we have to go and headed for the garage. "What's that helicopter doing she said" "Probably bushfire spotting" I replied. "bit low isn't he and OMG he's landing on our block"

The pilot landed metres from our front door and Carole then realised what was happening. Troy the pilot shut down and we made preparations to leave but typically Air Traffic Control they had lost his flight plan. We live close to a flight path out of Perth and they needed to know his flight details. Eventually all was solved and we departed with Carole in the front seat. We landed at the winery on a postage stamp size lawn and had a great meal with one or three glasses of local Shiraz Viognier while Troy slept under a tree.

Three hours later we flew back home to be greeted by a bunch of Grandchildren as excited as could be. Troy allowed the kids inside the cockpit and they loved it. A successful and great day

"a bit too friendly pilot" says Rob



Our Melbourne Cup Day was a great success. Members attended dressed for the occasion with many women wearing their most elegant hat or fascinator. One man in particular, Stephen Thyer, donned a Darth Vader fascinator.....hmm fascinating!!



L-R: Jenny Tedeschi, Marie-France Van Hall, Darth Vader, Margaret McRobbie & Barbara Maitland

Jean-Paul Tedeschi & Carole Sexton (best hat)



Eleanor Bennett, Anita Davis & Lorraine Stivey

Meg Bowness, Elizabeth McMillen, Cherry Zamudio, Carole Sexton & Sheila Thomas



Barbara Hart & Sita Weggelaar

Barbara Guelfi, Audrey Totterdell & Kaye Prance



Lunch at a KDBC event is always a treat, followed by more bridge & then sweets then more bridge...

This face has been missing from our Club for some time. So, it was such a pleasure and surprise to see our dear friend Rory O'toole amongst us once again. Rory is now living with his daughter in Darwin, so we were absolutely delighted to have him with us for a short time. At 97 years young, he is still a keen and astute player. In fact, he and Carole Sexton took out first place at our Monday session on 18th December. Please visit us again Rory.



I asked Ian Purcell to share his many, many years of experience with our Club members as we have so little time to socialise as we play bridge, and I think you will all agree, Ian is a power of energy in his workplace, whether his workplace is in Australia or overseas. We have an enormous amount of talent within our Club which makes for very interesting reading so let us continue to uncover these talents.

A LIFE TIME OF POWER STATIONS

■ Ian Purcell

Julie asked me to write an article, but the brief remained a secret. The word Power Station was bandied around. I therefore concluded that I had plenty of licence and would write a brief and chronological history of the Power Stations I have been involved.

The first Power Station was the Broken Hill Mines Central Power Station. It comprised six Sulzer Cathedral diesel generators and several large diesel driven compressor units. CPS provided power and compressed air for the four-large lead zinc and silver mines. For that time, it was a marvel of vision, cooperation and foresight by the mining companies.

I worked at CPS as a fitter's mate on the electrical gang during the Christmas break in a very dim and long-ago distance past. Various dirty tasks came my way including scraping out the diesel cylinders. **Yes, I could fit into the cylinders then.**

After graduation I set off to Manchester UK to serve post graduate apprenticeship with a huge electrical company called AEI. At the time they were manufacturing the largest generators being built 500 to 600MW.

With AEI, I ended up at a Aberthaw B Coal fired Power Station consisting of 3x 500MW steam turbines with associated boilers, coal handling plant and conveyors. It was one of the biggest power stations being built in the UK at the time. It also had a large Gas Turbine used for providing black start up power. The experience of working on this project during

construction and commissioning was fascinating and I learned a lot which helped me considerably in my profession of electrical engineering.

During this time, after the two-year apprenticeship was completed, I joined Merz and Mclellan whilst still working at Aberthaw. It wasn't long after I joined that I was asked to go the Roseries Hydroelectric project on the Blue Nile in Sudan. Not far from the Ethiopian border. The excitement of far off lands, how could I resist.

The power station comprised of four 30MW vertical variable blade Kaplan turbines and generator. The Kaplan turbine looks like a large ships propeller. The power was sent to Khartoum by a 220kV transmission line. It was an exciting project located near a game park and river. We spent many a weekend camping and fishing. The tiger fish makes particularly good fishing.

The next move was to Zambia where for a while I worked on small hydro schemes before moving to Kariba North Bank project.

The hydro electric power station is located on the North (Zambian) side of the Kariba Dam on the Zambesi river. A massive inland lake was formed once the dam was completed. On the other side of the dam was then Rhodesia and the south hydroelectric power station. The North Bank Power Station comprised of four by 150MW Francis turbine driven generators which is probably the most used type of turbine for large outputs and medium water heads. The turbine blades are shaped like curtain drapes. The civil works required to build the underground caverns and waterways are extensive and made up the bulk of the cost the project. My wife and I lived there for five years before deciding enough was enough and we moved back to Australia.

During the first two years I was involved in the design and construction of the Alcoa Wagerup steam power station comprising two by 20MW steam turbine with gas fired boilers.

After two years in Australia I was asked to go to Fiji for another hydroelectric project based in a village at the top of the mountains called Monasavu. We had a beautiful tropical type house to live in. Hydro Schemes are invariably built in beautiful locations at the end of lousy roads.

The hydro power station was called Wailoa and the water power came from a dam located 600m up the escarpment and connected mainly by underground tunnels. A real feat of civil engineering and construction. By contrast the power station construction was relatively simple.

There are four 20 MW vertical turbine generators with the turbines being Pelton wheels. These are generally used for such high heads. They look like a row of double buckets on a wheel.



This became Fiji 's (island of Viti Levu) source of power replacing all the diesel generation. The oil companies collected their monthly bill on bicycles after this. Alas we had to return to Australia Perth after the project came to an end.



I then became involved in the following Power Stations.

- Mount Keith 55MW, 5x11MW Diesels, Power Station
- Port Headland, Newman and HBI Gas Turbines 8x 30MW Frame Gas Turbines
- Yarrali Mya, near Karratha, 4 x 40MW LM6000. Jet engine derivatives.
- Wagerup Alcoa site 2x 175MW gas turbines.

My one regret is that I have never worked on a Nuclear Power Station although I have recently visited one in the UK.

It is a pity Australia doesn't embrace Nuclear power. It would certainly help a great deal in reducing the greenhouse gases that come from the coal fired power stations which for the next decade or so are going to be required to maintain supplies.

Recently in France at a site called Cadarache I had the privilege to see the future in progress and that is fusion powered generation. "A piece of the Sun". The best estimates available, if it works, is a prototype by 2035.



Linda Bedford-Browne, Editor of the Focus, kindly sent this photo of Catherine Gabites, Stephen Thyer & Jenny Tedeschi as they attended the Masters in Teams of Three in November 2017. A master is allocated on a lottery type basis and the Master they played with was Linda Bedford-Browne at the Nedlands Bridge Club.

Defending a Gambling 3NT Opening

For the not so experienced player, it is particularly daunting when the opposition open with a 3NT bid, which of course is showing a solid 7-card minor eg AKQJxxx in clubs or diamonds. This type of bid should be alerted. It is a pre-emptive weapon to interfere with the opposition. How to bid your own quite strong hand over that opening? Bidding options are constrained when forced to enter the auction for the first time at the 4-level and any defence we adopt requires trade-offs. The Gambling 3NT opening bid is best left to the experienced players, but you still need to know how to deal with it.

Supposing you use natural bidding to defend, then you will be well-placed when you hold single suited hands as set out below:

♠AKxxxx
♥Axx
♦x
♣xx
with 11 HCP and 7 spades you can bid 4♠

♠x
♥AQJ10xx
♦xx
♣AKxx
With 13 HCP, 6 hearts & 4 clubs bid 4♥. It is a gamble, but then bridge is not for the faint hearted. However, do watch the vulnerability. You would be poorly placed to bid when you hold a two-suiter hand with two five card suits.

Here we are once again at the end of 2017. Our Club can look back on yet another successful year and I wish Peace, Joy & Love to all our members and their families. May the good times and treasures of the present become the golden memories of tomorrow and may the Magic of Christmas never end as its greatest of gifts are family and friends.

Julie Bechelli

KALAMUNDA DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB SPONSORS

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

