



BRIDGING THE GAP



VOLUME 47: ISSUE 3

August 2025

President's Message



Thank you all for the support that the committee and I have received from club members this calendar year.

It is the time of the year when election of a new committee is taking place. Please think about participating by putting your name forward, by voting, or by being there on the day, or by thinking of becoming a committee member not this year but maybe next year.

As you are all aware the Labor party prior to the election promised to help our club to the tune of \$40,000.00. Well guess what, they won.

The following changes will be made possible as a result, as we must spend that money on infrastructure.

- ✚ Evonne Sarich and other members of the committee have been busy organizing quotes for new carpet, painting the club premises including the playing room, kitchen, foyer, the exterior front and two sides as well as the patio area.
- ✚ We are hoping to either purchase or commission a complete set of new side tables. Investigation is in progress.

All that should take place between the 18th of August and 30th of August (inclusive).



We are going to require **2 busy bees**:

1. one to take everything out of the playing room; and
2. one to put everything back.

We hope to re-open on Monday the 1st of September.



A lot has been said re the behavior at our club, maybe some of our members should tone down discussion of the hands just played during the session. It doesn't feel good for the opposition to be reminded of their failings, unless asked.



Our Xmas in July was a great success with over 60 people attending. The food was delicious, and the atmosphere was warm and friendly, thanks to everyone who helped to make it a very enjoyable day.



BTG Editor

Kay Hyde

Thank you for providing me with an opportunity to update your profile photos during events.

I would also welcome any photos, current news, articles or stories that you would like included in your newsletter.

Contact details:
0407993 344
kayngraemehyde@iinet.net.au



Wellbeing Officer and Partnership Coordinator

Anita Davis

Anita is happy to assist anyone who has any difficulties in finding a partner for Bridge. Please feel free to contact Anita or you can also write your name on the board on the internal door at the club house.

If you know of a member who is ill, hospitalised or suffering bereavement, please contact Anita and she will respond accordingly on behalf of the club.

Contact details:
0448 282 164
Anitaiona46@gmail.com

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FIVE ANTS RENTED AN APARTMENT WITH ANOTHER FIVE ANTS. NOW THEY'RE TENANTS

New Members

New Members - January - June 2025



The Kalamunda District Bridge Club welcomes the following new members:

- ♣ Jayne Baildham
- ♣ Collene Ann Burek
- ♣ Elijah Guest
- ♣ David Michael Hiatt
- ♣ Maxine Lorraine
- ♣ Peter Sazanov
- ♣ Paula Sothern
- ♣ Tracey Spreckley
- ♣ Murray Spreckley



New members have been attending Thursday sessions where they have been mentored by experienced bridge club members.

Welcome to the club!

KDBC – Trialling Pianola

Pianola has been trialled at KDBC for the past three months and subsequently approved for ongoing use by the KDBC Management Committee.

All members have been sent an email, encouraging them to create an account so they can make use of the features in Pianola. Please create an account and make use of Pianola.

When your personal details change, you can update your particulars in the *My Account Section*.

There is a *Pianola User Guide* that can be found on the KDBC website under the Documents Tab in the Education sub-section.

After each session when the results have been uploaded into the Pianola Server, members who played receive an email with their results for the session.

The following explains what each results section of the email means.

The image shows a screenshot of an email from Pianola with several callout boxes pointing to different parts of the interface. The interface includes a header with the Pianola logo and a 'Login to Pianola' button. Below this is a section for the bridge club and session date. The main body contains 'YOUR RESULTS' with an overall result table and a 'View full results' button. A 'Pianola Plus' button is also present. Below the main results is a 'BREAKDOWN BY ROLE' section showing scores for different roles. At the bottom is a 'YOUR STANDING' section showing the user's current rank.

Callout 1: Click on this button to open the Pianola Login Page

Callout 2: The Bridge Club and Session Date that this email relates to.

Callout 3: Click this button to view the results of the whole field.

Callout 4: Your Overall Result. Score is your partnership's Percentage achieved for the session. Position is where you finished in the field (One Winner, or by Direction NS and EW). Masterpoints lists the Masterpoints Awarded (if any) for the session, by Value and Type (Green, Red, Gold).

Callout 5: Click here to find out about Pianola Plus, the option gives the member greater feedback, for which the member can pay an annual cost of \$84.00.

Callout 6: Each of the three Scores (Best, Worst, and Most Interesting) list the Board Number, the Opponents Names, your role at the table for the board and your Partnership's Score (%) obtained compared to the field.

Callout 7: Click on the VIEW COMPLETE TRAVELER but to see the traveller for the board associated with the Score.

Callout 8: For each of the two roles that you played during the Session when your Partnership won the bidding Auction. The score (%) obtained by You As Declarer, and As Dummy (your Partner's score)

Callout 9: For each of the two roles that you played during the Session when your Partnership was defending the Contract, Your Partnership's score when you were either On Lead or Not On Lead, ie. How good was your Opening Lead, as the Opening Lead is the most important lead for the hand.

Callout 10: Your current Rank based your earned Masterpoints.

KDBC – Trialling a New Complaints Process

The KDBC is trialling an additional process for dealing with complaints about behaviour at the club.



If you wish to complain about someone's actions or behaviour you should:



- complete a [Recorder Incident Form](#)
(these forms can be found in the bridge playing room)
- seal the completed form in the attached envelope; and
- lodge it with a Director or member of the Management Committee.

Sometimes you might have a good reason not to put details in writing.

- in which case you should tell our Recorder or a Management Committee member of your concerns.

Process of managing the complaint.

Once the complaint has been lodged, the Recorder will begin the process of managing the complaint, but might have to refer it to the Management Committee if the complaint is about:

- harassment or bullying of any kind
- rudeness to a member
- unwelcome physical contact
- discriminatory behaviour, including offensive jokes or comments.

This will be treated as a disciplinary matter and immediately referred to the Management Committee.

It is important for the club's future that behaviour contrary to the Code of Conduct is addressed.

JP Tedeschi
President

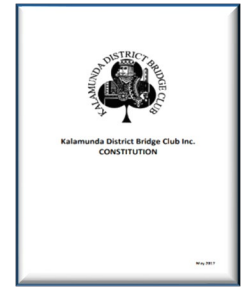
By-Laws of The Kalamunda District Bridge Club Inc



Members have requested some information about different roles of positions held within the Club.

The following Kalamunda District Bridge Club documents can be found on the Club website listed under 'Documents'

- *Kalamunda District Bridge Club Inc. By-Laws (2024)*
- *Kalamunda District Bridge Club Inc. Constitution (2017)*



<https://kalamunda.bridgeaustralia.org/documentspage.asp>

By-Law - 4.2.14 - Recorder

Rules 19 and 20 describe how serious disputes between Members or the Club and one or more Members are resolved.

Disagreements at the bridge table between players, or behaviour that breaches normal bridge etiquette standards, or actions by an individual, or a pair, that might be construed as illegal, should be dealt with by the Director in the first instance.

If the matter is serious enough that the Director cannot or should not deal with it in its entirety, the incident should be referred to the Recorder by the Director or by the complainant(s).

If a Director takes any action that resolves the matter, that should also be notified to the Recorder for information and filing.

The Recorder can choose to deal with the incident if it is of a minor nature, interviewing and mediating as required. He or she will do so particularly if it is a first offence, which will be checked via the Recorder File.

If the Recorder considers that the incident is too significant to be dealt with this way, he or she will present a report to the Management Committee recommending that they appoint a Tribunal or take any other action as per the Constitution.

If the Tribunal finds the person or persons guilty of the offence, the Recorder will advise the Management Committee of the appropriate penalty, taking into account any previous offences.

The Recorder File will be kept by the said Officer.

By-Law - 4.2.15 Grievance Officer

4.2.15 Grievance Officer Rules 19 and 20 describe how serious disputes between Members or the Club and one or more Members are resolved.

The Grievance Officer is the preliminary disputes mediator of all non-playing disputes or grievances.

The Grievance Officer will be a person of high standing within the Club with whom Members will be comfortable in discussing such disputes.

The role requires:

1. every effort by the incumbent to resolve disputes/grievances before they escalate to Rule 19 and 20 status; and
2. all complaints will be logged in the Grievance Book to be held by the Grievance Officer.

The Grievance Officer may decide that the matter should be referred to the Management Committee if he or she is unable to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of both parties.

KDBC - Slams and 70 %s


Grand Slams	April 2025 – June 2025		
Alan Puckey / Jean-Paul Tedeschi	7NT E	Monday	4-Aug-2025
Denise Borger / Alan Puckey	7NT S	Friday	25-Jul-2025
Sandra Hoffman / Peter Clarke	7 NT S	Friday	25-Jul-2025
Robert McMahon / Carole McMahon	7C N	Wednesday	23-Jul-2025
Gudrun Kemmer / Ross Pringle	7NT S	Wednesday	23-Jul-2025
Alan Puckey / Julie Bechelli	7NT S	Wednesday	23-Jul-2025
Alan Puckey / John Paul Tedeschi	7C N	Monday	16-Jun-25
Sheila Pruce / Stephen Thyer	7D S	Monday	16-Jun-25
Rosemary Offer / John Offer	7NT S	Monday	16-Jun-25
Elizabeth McMillen / Suzanne Hillan	7C S	Saturday	14-Jun-25
Bernard Szalkowski / Elizabeth McMillen	7C N	Wednesday	28-May-25
Carole Sexton / Julie Bechelli	7D S	Saturday	27-May-25
Geoff Mauger / Sue Mauger	7NT N	Swiss Pairs - Match 1	27-May-25
Colin Meek / Jill Jenkins	7NT S	Swiss Pairs - Match 1	27-May-25
Bruce Cowen / Michael Barker	7C N	Swiss Pairs - Match 1	27-May-25
Kate Sayer / Ronnie Malthouse	7NT S	Swiss Pairs - Match 1	27-May-25
Mike Bennett / Derek Dorward	7NT E	Swiss Pairs - Match 1	27-May-25
Peter Cameron / Denise Borger	7NT E	Swiss Pairs - Match 3	27-May-25
Carol Dickie / Jenny Reid	7NT N	Swiss Pairs - Match 3	27-May-25
Sheila Pryce / Gordon Brown	7NT S	Wednesday	30-Apr-25
Alan Puckey / Jean-Paul Tedeschi	7NT S	Monday	28-Apr-25



70 Percenters	April 2025 – June 2025		
Doug Hegarty / Peter Cameron	70.7%	Monday	4-Aug-2025
Mark Goddard / Joscelyn Charters	70.6%	Xmas in July	26-Jul-2025
Elizabeth McMillen / Jenny Tedeschi	75.3%	Wednesday	9-Jul 2025
Stephen Thyer / Carmen Jackson	74.60%	Saturday	10-May-25
Lorraine Stivey / Barbara Bibby	70.10%	Thursday	24-Apr-25
Sheila Price / Gordon Brown	70.00%	Wednesday	23-Apr-25

KDBC - Coming Events

July 2025

July 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Mixed Pairs Competition Red Point	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Restricted Pairs Competition <50MP Green Point	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25		27
28	29	30				

August 2025

August 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 AGM Bridge Green Point	10
11	12	13	14	15 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	30	31

KDBC - Coming Events

September 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5 Beginners Class Fiske Warren Open Teams Comp Red Point	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Beginners Class Fiske Warren Open Teams Comp Red Point	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	20	21
22	23	24 Ladies & Men's Pairs Comp Red Point	25	26 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	27	28
29	30					

September 2025						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5 Beginners Class Fiske Warren Open Teams Comp Red Point	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Beginners Class Fiske Warren Open Teams Comp Red Point	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	20	21
22	23	24 Ladies & Men's Pairs Comp Red Point	25	26 Beginners Class Fiske Warren	27	28
29	30					

KDBC Events and Results

Daytime Pairs Competition

7 April 2025

There were 12 Pairs that played in the Competition which was held over two Mondays. Both members of the partnership must have accrued fewer than 300 Masterpoints on the 1st day of January 2025.

The first two places were as below.

1st Lynne Roberts – Jim Steele (pictured)
2nd Bernard Szalkowski – Jo Collings
3rd Jean Paul Tedeschi – Alan Puckey
4th David Harris – Gudrun Kemmer



Undercroft Congress Competition

3&4 April 2025

KDBC players attended the Undercroft Congress on the weekend 3rd and 4th May 2025 where players were well placed.

Novice Teams 1st

Rory O'Hanlon, Ronnie Malthouse, Kate Sayer, Lynne Roberts

Kalamunda players

The winning Novice Team and Tom Lehmann and Gerry Daly (who with their partners from another club) won the Open Teams event.

In the News!

Rory O'Hanlon and Lynne Roberts also won the Under 300MP section of the Open Pairs on the Saturday

BRIDGE

The Undercroft Bridge Club's congress, last weekend, saw Fran Holman and Sue Grenside win the Swiss Pairs, in a field of 54 pairs, ahead of John Beedow and Egmont Melton, and Denise Baker and Eve Clarkson.

The Open Swiss Teams was won by Tom LeMann, Gerry Daly, Viv Wood and Marnie Leybourne, ahead of Vinod Nasta, Cynthia Belonogoff, Deana Wilson and Andrea Peretti, with Chris Jenkins, Helen Kemp, Louise Hurrell and Gerry Daly's team's Championship was taken out by Ronnie Malthouse, Kate Sayer, Lynne Roberts and Rory O'Hanlon, with Jo and Nat Wright, Lisa Evans and Derek Dordard runners-up. Look only at the N/S cards and plan your play as

South in 4♣, with the ♠J lead. At one table, from a team's match, declarer won the ace and played the ♠10, which won the trick. Next came a second trump and East showed out, declarer being allowed to win that trick too.

Declarer was in some difficulty now and switched to a diamond, won by West, who played a second diamond, declarer winning. Next came a third spade, won by West who led a heart to East for a diamond ruff, and one down. Well defended!

At the other table, declarer ducked the first trick! Now the play continued in a similar fashion but there was now no heart entry to East for the diamond ruff. Try it and see.

Phil Gue



Dealer South		Vulnerable ALL VUL	
North		South	
♠ 10 8 3		♠ K Q J 9 4	
♥ A 6		♥ 8 4	
♦ K J 10 7 3		♦ O 6 5	
♣ A 1 7		♣ K Q 10	
West		East	
♠ A 7 6 2		♠ 5	
♥ J 10 9 7		♥ K Q 5 3 2	
♦ A 9		♦ 8 4 2	
♣ 8 4 3		♣ 9 6 5 2	
Contract: 4♣ South 1♣ 2NT West pass North 2♦ East pass all pass			

(The Sunday Times- 11 May 2025)

KDBC Events and Results

Open Pairs Competition

9 May 2025

1	Denise Borger / Alan Puckey (pictured)		
2	Peter Clarke / Stephen Thyer		
3	Joe Louis / Wendy Harman		
4	Peter Cameron / Jo Collings		

Australia Wide Novice Pairs (KDBC Results)

29 May 2025

Pair North-South		Pair East-West	
1	Robin Ward / Helen Ottosson	1	Kate Sayer / Ronnie Malthouse
2	Carol Dickie / Ivan Johnson	2	Lesley Moon / Barbara Bibby
3	Cora Brown / Suzanne Dewar	3	John Shinnick / Lyn Shinnick
4	Evonne Sarich / Kay Hyde	4	Bruce Cowen / David Harris

Famous bridge quotes

Warren Buffet

(in Forbes, issue 2 June 1997)

"Bridge is such a sensational game that I wouldn't mind being in jail if I had three cellmates who were decent players and who were willing to keep the game going 24 hours a day."

Alfred Sheinwold

"The real test of a Bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble - but in escaping once he's in."

Martina Navratilova

"Many games provide fun, but Bridge grips you. It exercises your mind. Your mind can rust, you know, but Bridge prevents the rust from forming."

Mason Cooley

"One advantage of bad bidding is that you can get practice at playing atrocious contracts!"

Kalamunda Restricted Pairs Congress

May 2025

Eligibility for this Congress weekend was for players with <300MPs. There were 26 pairs who played over the weekend. A good time was had by all in attendance; and everyone earned red points!

May 2025

Congress

Kalamunda



Director - Lynne Roberts
1st Overall
 Peter Cameron / Denise Borger
2nd Overall
 Laura Breen / Rob Breen
3rd Overall
 Gary Watkins / Ann Kelley



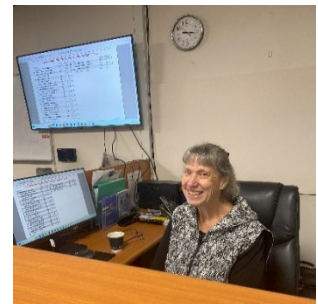
1st <150MPs
 Mike Bennett / Derek Dorward
2nd <150MPs
 Kate Sayer / Ronnie Malthouse



1st <100MPs
 Helen Ottosson / Robin Ward
2nd <100MPs
 Trish Christy / Rachel McRae



1st <50MPs
 Mari McKie / Cora Brown
2nd <50MPs
 Lesley Moon / Barbara Bibby



KDBC Events and Results

Mixed Pairs Competition

July 2025

1	David Kininmonth / Gudrun Kemmer
2	Tom Lemann / Kit Lemann
3	Steve Thyer / Carmen Jackson



Restricted Pairs <50 MPs Competition

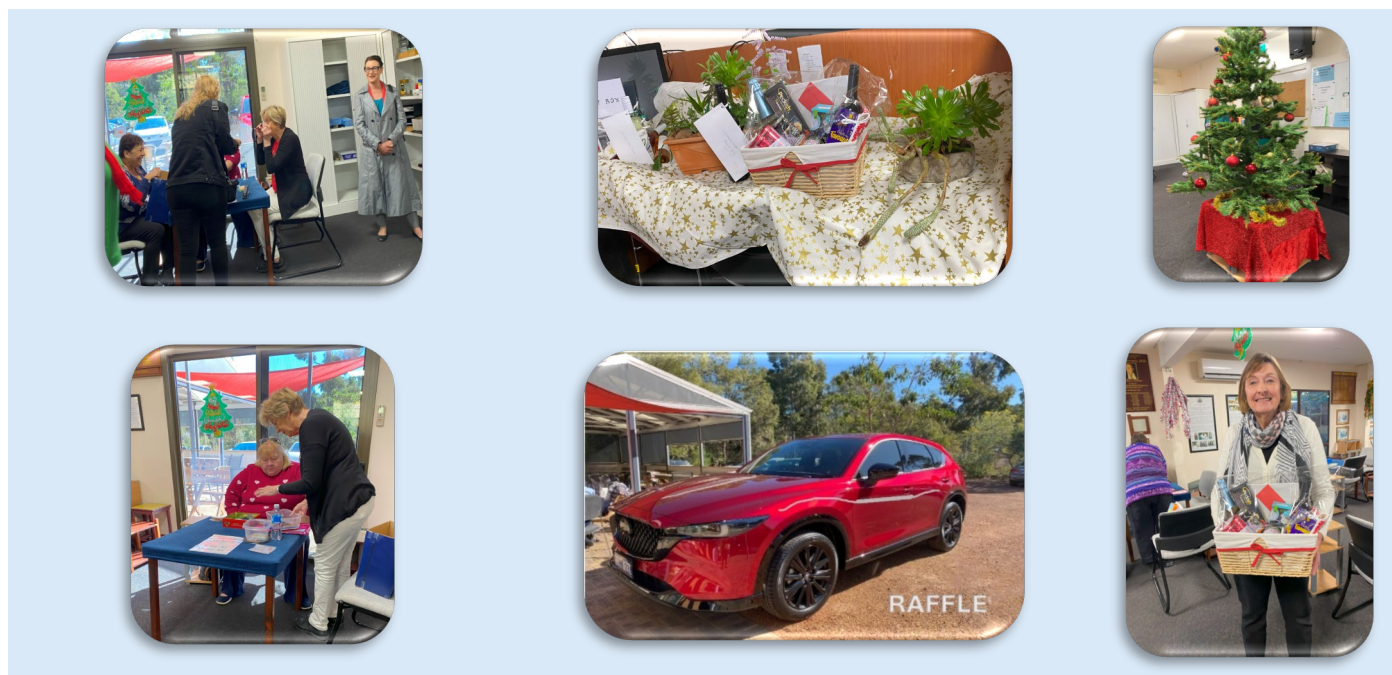
July 2025

1	Shar Snow / George Snow (pictured)
2	Mari McKie / Patricia Edington
3	Rhonda Williams / Elijah Guest
4	Denis McKinley / Marie Pagotto



'Xmas in July' Raffle

The raffle successfully raised money for the club. Apparently, the car wasn't one of the prizes!





Director - JP Tedeschi

North/South

- 1 Ross Pringle / Carole Daxter
- 2 Stephen Thyer / Carmen Jackson
- 3 Carol Dickie / Rosemary Offer

East/West

- 1 Mark Goddard / Joscelyn Charters
- 2 Peter Walczak / Jeanne Walczak
- 3 Elizabeth McMillen / Suzanne Hillan

A great day had by all - 30 pairs played and enjoyed the mid-year festivities!



The Annual General Meeting of the KDBC was held on Saturday 9 August 2025. There was a good attendance for the meeting which was followed by an afternoon bridge session.

President JP Tedeschi opened the meeting and welcomed the large attendance. An overview of the Committee's work for the year was provided and praise given to the members' proactive activity to achieve the successful maintenance and running of the club.

Jean-Paul made special mention and thanks for support from committee members:

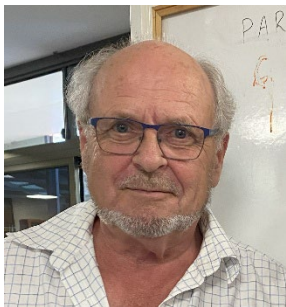
- Evonne Sarich for the many projects completed including the roof replacement of the club rooms, successful applications for various grants of funds for the club room maintenance, which included painting (inside and outside), carpet replacement and ongoing investigation for replacement of side tables.
- Barbara Bibby who has undertaken the role of Club Secretary over the previous four years. Barbara is retiring from the position, and we thank for her tireless work in this expansive role.
- Lesley Moon who has ably assisted Barbara over the last 12 months is also stepping down and thanks for her support to the secretary.
- Di Barker for her support and for providing Vice-president duties whilst the president was away.
- Kate Sayer for her tireless work as Treasurer for the past two years. Kate has also undertaken a survey recently on options for Monday sessions and undertaken a lot of work on the Club's trial of Pianola.
- Ronnie Malthouse for her organisation and liaison with other clubs to oversee the interclub teams, there were 4 teams, which have been most successful this year.
- Jenny Tedeschi has diligently worked to find new beginners to undertake lessons and also retain members at the KDBC. This past year has seen 16 new members join the club.
- Kay Hyde who has taken on the role as Editor of the 'Bridging the Gap' newsletter. Big shoes to fill after such quality of the previous editors.
- Peter Cameron who is the new 'Go To' man for website content and maintenance, and for the computer system.
- Alan Puckey the Co-ordinator for the Dealers who ensures dealing of playing boards is undertaken and available for each session.
- Directors – many thanks to you all. The directors include Denise Borger (Chief Director), Rory O'Hanlon, Rob McMahon, Lynne Roberts, Cora Brown and Ross Pringle. Our pool of directors would be the envy of other clubs, thank you for your excellent overseeing of our bridge sessions. We also have our 'fall back' team – Alan Harper and me (JP) to assist when necessary!
- The Catering Committee of Carole McMahon, Carol Littlechild and Di Barker who have provided fantastic catering for members for the many get-togethers; including the first Friday of the month nibbles, and other gatherings such as Congress Days, Melbourne Cup Day and Xmas in July. Another helper is Kaye Prance - who often comes in the help even when not playing on the day.

Also, many thanks to all members who have who generously provided their time and commitment for the additional responsibilities for the club.

Management Committee members were either returned to their roles or elected following a ballot, the roles of Secretary and Treasurer have been newly filled.

There Committee for 2025 are as follows:

- President Jean-Paul Tedeschi
- Vice President Di Barker
- Secretary Kate Sayer
- Treasurer Ross Pringle
- Recorder Mark Goddard
- Members Jenny Tedeschi
 Ronnie Malthouse
 Evonne Sarich
 Bruce Cowan
 Kay Hyde



Jean-Paul Tedeschi	Di Barker	Kate Sayer	Ross Pringle
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Management Committee 2025

Gladys Lourvanij

Nisa Lourvanij

Gladys has been a member of the Kalamunda District Bridge Club for many years and has decided to 'hang up' her bridge playing hands! Her daughter (Nisa Lourvanij) has kindly prepared a brief history of her mother - Gladys's life.

Gladys considers that the friendships she has made at the KDBC are among the great pleasures amid many privileges of her life.

My mother, Gladys has had an amazing life. She and my father married when they were students at Melbourne University in the late 1940's. My father was studying Mechanical Engineering and Gladys was studying English and History. Both were very active in student clubs).

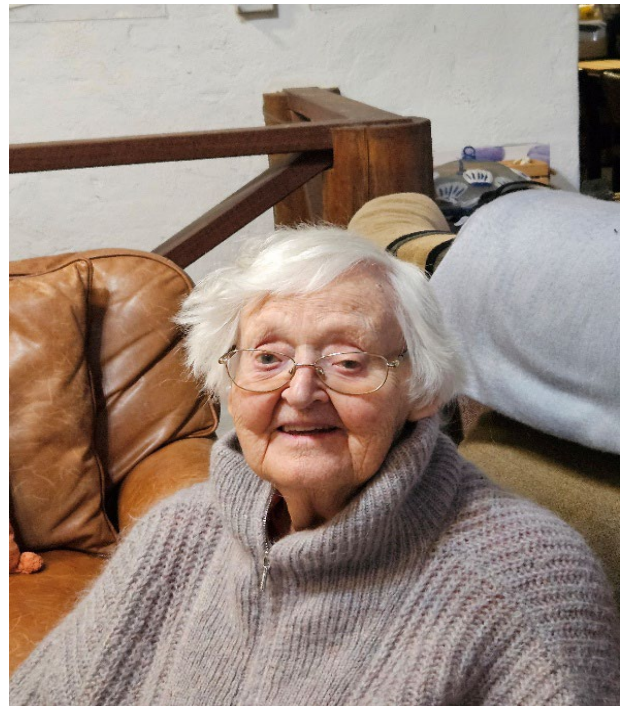
The marriage was a shock to both families, since at that time, Australians were not very much accepting of Asian people. On the other hand, my father's family were concerned about the adjustment to a daughter-in-law from a completely different cultural background.

Gladys arrived in Thailand in 1952, with a three-month-old baby (me) and had to adjust to a traditional Thai society, which was still recovering from the aftermath of the second world war. In the next 20 years she taught English at universities, military academies and institutions in Thailand where English studies were of great importance to the Thai; particularly with the increasing involvement with English speaking western nations, particularly America.

My mother was closely involved in my father's automotive business which was dealing with Western businesses, including General Motors Holden and various manufacturers of machinery and equipment that Thailand needed for its development. At that time America was increasing its aid to Thailand because of the fear of Chinese communism.

She acted as interpreter for the United States 7th Air Force who had asked my father to set up an engine rebuilding plant for the repair and distribution of generators, that powered the military airfields from which the Vietnam war was being waged. Over 700 Thai mechanics and personnel were employed in this plant, and the American personnel were specialist engineers who could not speak Thai. Around this time Gladys also worked with American researchers from Stanford Research Institute and ARPA (Advanced Research Projects Agency, USA) who were developing communication systems throughout Thailand.

Gladys also had a very active sporting life including, tennis, golf, clay-pigeon shooting, rally car driving and water skiing. I remember her skiing along the Chao Phraya River (a major river in Thailand) where she encountered many hazards in the busy water way. She says there were floating Teak tree logs and the occasional snake or dead dog or bloated animal carcasses! She used to say it was very important that you didn't fall off the ski



Gladys Lourvanij (continued)

Gladys drove a rally car in the first *Asian Highway Motor Rally* from Vientiane through Thailand, Laos, Malaysia and Singapore - a 2900 km trip, to commemorate the opening of the Asian Highway in 1969.

It was a major decision to move to Perth in 1970 to supervise the education of her four children (three daughters and one son) through school and university. She resumed teaching part time at Curtin and UWA and joined Royal Perth Golf Club (now a life member) and was involved in several clubs and associations, Toastmistress and founding member of the Zonta Club of Perth.

Gladys was a keen bush walker and trekker, she walked the Bibbulmun track in 1970 when it was rather "primitive". It took her 28 days to walk the track from Denmark to Perth with a group who were protesting the destruction of WA forests.

Since she is now approaching 97 years of age, Gladys can no longer travel back and forth to Bangkok (her second home). However, her family members visit regularly.

She has seven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She can claim this as a success story for a mixed marriage!



Start of First Asian Highway Motor Rally (1969)



Map showing the Asian Highway

Beware - Scammers!



a scammer called my grandma
and said he had all her
passwords

she got a pen and paper and said
'thank god for that, what are
they'

Bridge (and other pastimes) in the Bush

Peter Daniel

Some Kalamunda Bridge Club members have had experience of country living. Of course, we all recall when life was a lot simpler than it is today. Important to country people were the radio for music, news and serials, and the wind-up gramophone player (remember those thick 78 HMV bakelite records in brown paper sleeves?). Things are very different now with all kinds of entertainment readily available, but in the past people made their own fun and created their own socialising opportunities. This was necessary and it worked very well. Always popular in the bush were dances, sport, singalongs around the piano and games nights with whist, canaster, euchre and bridge featuring prominently.

Singalongs are still popular in retirement homes and villages. Older people remember the words and tunes of the old songs and love singing along with anyone who rocks up with a guitar, piano accordion or plays the piano. A well-known local identity, Rolf Steilberger (deceased), visited retirement homes and played the harmonica. Who doesn't enjoy a rollicking singalong of Roll Out the Barrel, The Road to Gundagai and Daisy, Daisy? Will the oldies of the future be singing along to grunge, heavy metal, hip hop and thrash songs? It's unlikely, especially given that many of the modern songs lack the elements needed for group singing, such as rhythm and words that make sense. A big factor in the past was that everyone knew the songs. Group singing promotes a feeling of togetherness.

My mother-in-law spent much of her life in various country towns including Kellerberrin (specifically Mount Stirling), Carnamah and Southern Cross. Unsurprisingly, she regularly engaged in the pastimes mentioned above and was something of a champion golf and tennis player. Amongst other games, she played a lot of bridge which she taught us.

Now that I know a (little) bit about how Bridge is played properly, I realise that the version she taught us was very simple. For example, there was no points counting of cards and I don't recall anyone ever bidding above the two level. Scores were recorded on paper with an above-the line, below-the line method, which I never

understood, but seemed to work. At the end of the session most of the scores of each pair cancelled out which left the winning score. Despite the simplicity, the concept was the same – bid successfully and win as many tricks as possible, either in contract or in defence.

My wife Kerin's mother had a few bridge mantras that she often trotted out. These included:

- Never send a boy on a man's errand (*don't trump low*)
- Many a man is walking Hay Street with the seat out of his pants because he forgot to get the trumps out (*it was always a man in those days!*)
- Always cover an honour with an honour.

Of course, as with every Bridge 'rule' that's ever been invented, there are exceptions. I'm pretty sure many club members would disagree with the last of those 'rules'. More modern mantras include don't lead away from an ace, second player plays low, and always return your partner's lead.

A few years after I learnt how to play that simple version of Bridge, I was introduced to a game called Rickety Kate. It has several other names also and many versions and variations. It's played with a standard deck of cards. All the cards are dealt out. Like Bridge it's a trick-taking game with the big differences being that it's not played in pairs and the aim is to **lose** every trick. The top card in the deck is the queen of spades (Kate) followed by the hearts from the ace down to the two. Before play starts all players select three cards from their hand (sometimes one or two depending on the version of the game) to pass on to another player. Obviously, Kate is the first card passed on. In one version of the game the passing-on of Kate is disallowed. What would a Bridge game look like if we all passed some unwanted cards to opponents before starting play? **It's an interesting idea.** Perhaps members involved in social Bridge events might experiment to see how it pans out.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to
Carol and Rob McMahon
on celebrating their 56th wedding
anniversary recently.



A special birthday for
Renee Wiley
– ninety years young! Renee has been
playing at the KDBC for 20 years now.

I was minding my
own business then
all of a sudden 1975
was 50 years ago 🤔

After a night in London with my sister Fiona and her husband Bill, we all took the plane next day to Marrakech. Arriving just as the sun was setting, my first glimpse of Morocco was of a magical city with lots of palms and greenery. Even the air had a delicious perfume of exotic spices. Driving through the wide elegant boulevards the lights were twinkling as the pink sunset faded into night.

Our Riad (hotel) was a small private one, right on the edge of the souk (*perfectly positioned for Fi and me to nip into the boutiques for an hour or two and not be missed*).

All the rooms opened onto a courtyard, which housed about 16 people. A traditional Arab breakfast of an unusual but tasty yogurt with fruit and bread, croissants and coffee were served on the rooftop, overlooking the roofs and views to the city.

The first night, as we had arrived late, the riad had prepared dinner for us and we enjoyed a delicious Moroccan Meal.



The Marrakech souk was large, exotic and very colourful. You could buy anything there from food to furniture. Brother-in-law bought a beautiful rug (first of many purchases!).

We spent a day in Essouira, a small fishing village about 3 hours away and then a couple of days in Fez.

The markets in Fez are huge. There are over 1200 alleyways, and it is extremely easy to get lost. So, we wisely took a guide for the day's activities.

It was worth the cost as with the four of us following each other in and amongst the crowds it was inevitable we would lose someone.

Our guide took us to many places that we would never have seen otherwise. We walked miles seeing all kinds of things from fresh camel heads at the entrance to one food shop, to beautiful, tiled churches, palaces, and museums. Eventually we were led down another alley where we had a sit-down lunch and were able to rest our weary legs.

Our last stop in Morocco was a small town in the north of the country called Chefchouen. The countryside was green and hilly and quite beautiful, and the old part of the city is all painted blue (*see photo*).

Next day we were driven to Tangiers where we caught the ferry to Andalucia. Just the two of us now. Picked up a hire car in Algeciras (right next to the Rock of Gibraltar).

Next day we headed to Cadix via Rhonda, which was a bit of a detour but well worth seeing all the beautiful Pueblos blancos (white villages) in and around the wonderful mountains of Andalucia.

Cadix is a small, elegant fishing town on the Atlantic coast. We had booked an air BnB for 2 nights - now to find it! With parking not too far away, we eventually found ourselves in a plaza close to our apartment. The underground car park was recommended to us. We drove around and around. No empty spots, except for one which looked very small. And had a huge pillar on one side, but his lordship (*the driver*) was adamant he could fit the car in. After 10 minutes of inching left, then right, then reversing and doing it all again (*I was directing at the front*), he finally got into the space. RELIEF - until we saw the long white scratch on the passenger side of the car. Both Doors.

We didn't say a word. Either of us! First day!

Travel Blog – Our Holiday (continued)

Pictured: Chefchouen where all the housing
The old part of the village is painted blue.



Andalucia was most enjoyable. We visited Cordoba, Valencia, finishing in Madrid for the last few days. The countryside was beautiful, still green from winter, the history in the old towns was amazing, narrow roads and alleyways everywhere. Parking was a bit of a nightmare, but we got used to it. And the one-way roads, well that was tricky at times.

Two weeks flew by, and it was time to go to Belgium, where we stayed for a week with family. We took a nights respite and drove to Frankfurt one day to catch up with our German friends. Only 4 hours drive (400 kms), then home again!

The Eurostar took us to London where we spent two lovely warm days. The last of the good weather. In our hired car we drove to Budleigh Salterton, a village near Exeter, to stay with my niece and her family. Next day we headed off in the rain to *do* the South Coast, staying in gorgeous places along the way such as Chichester, Dorchester, Winchester ending up in Royal Tunbridge Wells.

It was cold and wet but that's England and it was beautiful despite the weather.



Cats

How to Negotiate With Your Cat

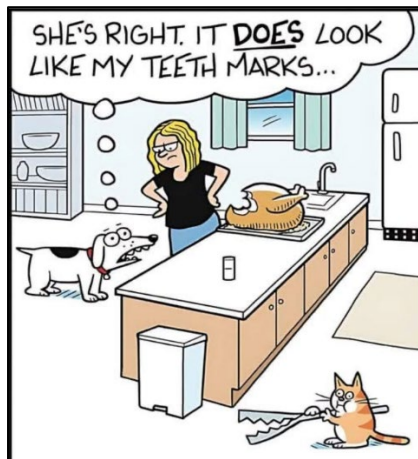


STEP ONE: Give your cat whatever they want.

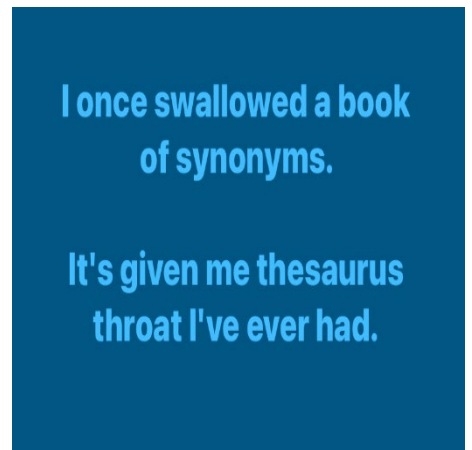
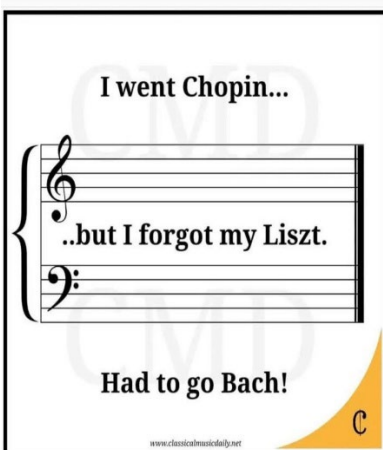
STEP TWO: End negotiation.



Dogs



Life's like that!





Kalamunda District Bridge Club Sponsors

The
Best Drop
Tavern

18 Haynes Street, Kalamunda



43 Railway Road, Kalamunda



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