



VOLUME 42

ISSUE 3

JULY 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Betty Roberts



We are certainly living in strange times but it does seem life is returning to normal in WA and we can get back to the game we love to play - bridge! Welcome back.

I would like to thank those members who kept in touch with me while in rehab for my knee replacement. While a slow process, my recovery has been good.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carole Littlechild



Welcome back after four months of the Club shut-down. The Management Committee has been hard at work putting together our Covid 19 Phase 4 Safety Plan as we must still abide

by the restrictions laid down by the Government. Be assured that these have been put in place for the welfare and safety of the members.

As you will see when you visit the club, the Garden Gurus have been busy during the shut-down. Under the guidance of John Shinnick and his team of Phil Snook, Jean-Paul Tedeschi, Mike Barker, Derick Johnston and Tom Lemann reticulation has been installed throughout the grounds. The team of ladies - Jenny Tedeschi, Margaret McRobbie, Rosemary Offer, Di Barker and myself - sourced the plants and with the help of the men, who dug the holes, and extra

volunteers (Kaye Prance, Stephen Thyer and John Offer) the planting was completed.

A very big thank you to everyone who donated towards the purchase of the plants, we were overwhelmed with the response and by spring we should see the results of our labour.

Our opening event on Saturday 18 July was very well attended and it was lovely to catch up with everyone and enjoy a perfectly cooked lamb and gravy roll prepared by Jean-Paul.

The club is in the process of planning further renovations to the club building. A proposed plan, designed and prepared by Tom Lemann, is located in the foyer and the main playing area. Any comments from members on the proposal would be appreciated. The club is proposing to apply for a grant to fund the renovations, however, due to the pandemic, grants are hard to source at this time.

The AGM will be held at 11.30 am on Saturday 15th August followed by bridge and afternoon tea. Please come along.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Garth Scottford has tendered his resignation as a Director for the club. Garth has provided great leadership and support for the KDBC over many years and he will be greatly missed at the club. Thank you Garth for your contribution to the Club and we wish you all the very best for the future.

While the club does have directors to conduct sessions, the Management Committee is looking to other members to take on the role of Director. Any members interested should contact Alan Harper (0413 530 402). Training and mentoring is provided.

Recorder Position

Garth also performed the role of Recorder and with his resignation this position is now vacant and needs to be filled.

The Recorder's role and duties are described in the By Laws: for anyone interested in taking on this role.

John Offer continues to fill the Grievance Officer position and these two positions cannot be combined.

AROUND THE CLUB

NEW MEMBER



The Kalamunda District Bridge Club welcomes Mark Dolling. We look forward to seeing Mark at regular club sessions in the very near future.

ANNUAL FEES NOW DUE!!

The Management Committee considered that the annual membership fees should remain as they are currently for the 2020/2021 financial year - \$40 for members; \$20 for alternate members.

COMING EVENT

Open Pairs—17/24 August 2020

Email entry to convenor
alanharper@inet.net.au
or lodge entry on line.

**COMING
SOON!**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 15 August 2020 at 11.30 am. All members are encouraged to attend. Bridge will follow and afternoon tea will be provided.

WELFARE OFFICER

Please contact Anita Davis on 0448282164 or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalised or suffering bereavement and Anita will respond accordingly on behalf of the club.

Please note also new email address for Anita- anitaiona46@gmail.com.



to the following members who will celebrate birthdays over the following three months:

OCTOBER

Dawn Snook, Ian Purcell, Robin Ward, Peter Cameron, Phillipa Erzay, Diane Quarles, John Shinnick

NOVEMBER

Jean Rackman, Gladys Lourvanij, Rosemary Offer, Meg Bowness, Linda Barker, Susan Collinson, Meriel Comber, Cheryl Connolly, Dianne Dwyer, Suzanne Hillan, Lloyd Hatfield, Carole McMahon, Vickie Russell, Lina (Micky) Zampichelli, Margaret Weir.

DECEMBER

Stephen Thyer, Jacqueline Keir, Joan Andrews, Dianne Barker, Ted Brereton, Gerry Daly, David Harris, Angela McDonald, Elizabeth McMillen, Margaret McRobbie, Rory O'Toole, Jane Pike, Evonne Sarich, Wendy Harman

CLUB RE-OPENING

The Club re-opened on Saturday 18 July for all sessions of play. Social distancing is still to be observed and there will be a limit of 11 tables per session until further notice.

To avoid disappointment at arriving at the club and finding all tables are taken it is advisable to phone ahead and book your table. Contact details are as follows:

- ♦ If you wish to play bridge at a session on **Monday** (the 10.30am and 7pm mentored session), **Wednesday** (12.30 pm) or Friday (12.30 pm) please phone Carole Littlechild on 0411 419 816 or 9291 6780 by 5pm the night before the session.
- ♦ If you wish to play at a **Thursday** 7pm session please call Denise Borger on 9293 2185 by 5pm the night before the session.
- ♦ If you wish to play at a **Saturday** 12.30 pm session please call Dawn Snook on 0429398889 by 5pm Friday evening the night before the session

Saturday 18 July—Club reopening

There was a full complement of 11 tables and everyone enjoyed the afternoon of bridge, catching up with friends and the afternoon tea provided by the club.



The three J's enjoying afternoon tea—Julie Bechelli, Jenny Tedeschi and Joan Andrews. Well done also to Julie and Joan on their win in the E/W position.



The afternoon tea spread, decisions, decisions!!

KNEES KNEES KNEES!

I was not the only club member to have a knee replacement in recent times. I joined Peter Clarke and John Offer for an interesting conversation on the progress of our joint replacements. I at least waited six years to have my second one done but Peter and John had both knees done fairly close together - something I would not recommend.



Showing off our new knees!

TRAVEL REPORT

A CRUISE TO SOUTHEAST ASIA ABOARD THE SUN PRINCESS (Julie and Ernie Bechelli)

The holiday aboard the Sun Princess promised to be a trip that I would either endure because of that dreaded nausea from sea sickness or a trip where I would find my sea legs. Well, how happy was I to find that my sea legs kicked in. No nausea! Oh, happy days on our sea venture to South East Asia – 11 ports of call.

Although we had previously sailed around the islands on the western coast of Vancouver in a very large yacht, the waters were calm so there was no nausea! However, this was to be our very first cruise on a ship (I was warned not to call it a boat).

On embarking the Sun Princess, we unpacked our cases and then walked the decks with the wind fresh and salty blowing in our hair - but we were still in Fremantle! We then retired to our cabin's balcony to await the captain's message of welcome – and dinner in a five-star dining room.

However, our ship was late in leaving Fremantle as all the supplies hadn't arrived as expected and the ship would need to call into Singapore to top up. I think if the passengers on board realised that it was the alcohol that would be in short supply, there may have been a riot. The sun had sunk beyond the horizon before we were eventually seated in the dining room and noticed that the ship was at last pulling out of Fremantle. The swell, I thought, was considerable. However, my dinner and body seemed to remain intact, so I was elated.

The next morning we were off the coast of Geraldton and would very soon be nearing Exmouth – still no sea sickness! I had been warned that the coast of Western Australia would be the roughest part of our journey. We were at sea for 3 days before docking at Lombok, the first of the ports on our itinerary. The crystalline waters of the Lombok Strait separated the island of Lombok to its neighbour Bali. We disembarked, strolled through the local stores which lined each side of the roads where jewellery, wood carvings, racks of clothing, handbags etc were for sale to the tourists. Then we took a local taxi around as much of the island with its magnificent natural beauty as time permitted. We passed through traditional craft villages, rice terraces and large plantations of forest. Then back to the ship for our dinner that night. Lombok with its tropical rain and cloud forests still seems to be stuck in a time zone of its own.

A further 3 days at sea before our arrival at Penang but on reading the daily newsletter, I discovered a game of bridge happening. I managed to find my way to the bridge tables tucked away at the end of the ship and there I found other bridge fanatics, like myself, that were quickly setting up a game with the meagre boards, pencils and bidding pads provided. On those 3 days at sea we managed to play for 2 hours each morning 9 to 11. It was interesting as I played with people from clubs such as

Joondalup, Rockingham, Mandurah and from the Eastern States playing Acol and American Standard with many variations. It was great fun as whenever we weren't in port, we could be found in the mornings playing bridge.

The afternoons were spent stretched out on deck chairs completely mesmerised by the vastness of the ocean – nothing else in sight until we docked at the next port of Penang.



Relaxing on the deck!

Here European, Malaysian, Hindu, Arabic and Chinese cultures melded and flourished, and Penang throughout many years had become a major trading port for tea, spices, china and cloth. Its major town was named Georgetown after King George III. However, Penang does have a great many temples, mosques and Chinese clan houses and is renowned for its hospitality, cultural sights and natural scenery.

Phuket, known as the Pearl of the Andaman Sea was the next port to be visited, but

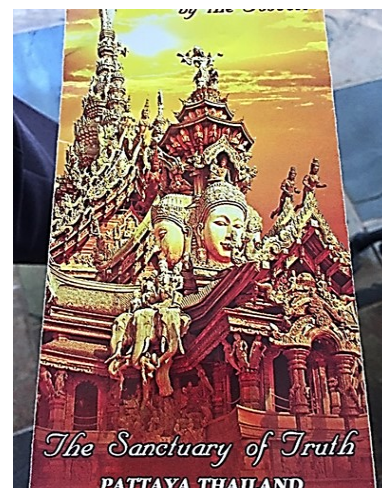
unfortunately, the current was so strong that the ship was unable to berth without being damaged, so we continued to Langkawi which I found very interesting. A great mix of the old and new where shops sold alcohol cheaper than the duty free on board the Sun Princess – what a bonus, a litre of brandy or gin only \$18. Langkawi comprises of 99 islands lying off the north-western coast of Peninsular Malaysia which are shrouded with an intriguing heritage of myths and legends. The stunning landscapes are a great attraction.

Our voyage onwards consisted of ports of call into Port Kelang – Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Ho Chi Ming City – Vietnam, Sihanoukville – Cambodia, Bangkok, Ko Samui, Bali and then eventually after 4 weeks mostly at sea, we arrived home in Fremantle.

Bangkok is considered the Land of the Free, as it is the only nation in Southeast Asia to escape colonial rule. The Thai people are proud and strongly nationalistic and the one attraction that intrigued us was a castle known as The Sanctuary of Truth in Pattaya Bangkok. Built in 1981 in wood carving sculptures by Thai craftsmen, it features teachings by the ancient philosophers of the concept of truth and value of life, hoping to make humanities at every corner of the world appreciate art and culture to live together peacefully. It is remarkable because it has been constructed completely using their own native timber without nails or screws. The Thai people are constantly at work restoring and repairing any of the intricate carvings or timbers. It has been built on the precept of a cross – North, South, East

and West to incorporate all humanities and religions. Hmmm! That North, South, East and West sounds familiar! Can't escape from bridge, even on the open seas.

We were so fortunate to have booked our trip from November to December 2019 just two months before the dreaded coronavirus outbreak.

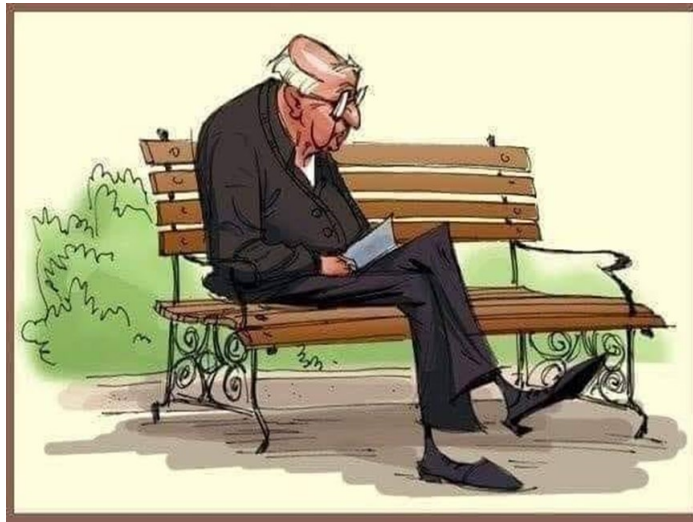


SURPRISE VISITORS

During our plant planning meeting we were surprised to find 2 traffic cops having a quiet lunch at our tables outside. They were very friendly and offered to take our photo with one of them.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT!



I had spent an hour in the bank with my dad as he had to transfer some money. I couldn't resist myself and asked...

"Dad, why don't we activate your internet banking?"

"Why would I do that?" he asked...

"Well, then you won't have to spend an hour here for things like transfer. You can even do your shopping online. Everything will be so easy!"

I was so excited about initiating him into the world of Net banking.

He asked "If I do that, I won't have to step out of the house?"

"Yes, yes"! I said. I told him how even groceries can be delivered to your door now and how Amazon delivers everything! His answer left me tongue-tied.

He said "Since I entered this bank today, I have met four of my friends, I have chatted a while with the staff who know me very well by now.

You know I am alone - this is the company that I need. I like to get ready and come to the bank. I have enough time, it is the physical touch that I crave. Two years back I got sick, the store owner from whom I buy fruits came to see me and sat by my bedside and cried.

When your Mom fell down while on her morning walk our local grocer saw her and immediately got his car to rush her home as he knows where I live. Would I have that 'human' touch if everything became online? Why would I want everything delivered to me and force me to interact with just my computer? I like to know the person that I'm dealing with and not just the 'seller'. It creates bonds of relationships. Does Amazon deliver all this as well?"

Technology isn't life. Spend time with people; not with devices.

Writer: Unknown

It should be noted the banks are closing their branches at an alarming rate so an outing such as this will soon be a thing of the past.



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LONG TIME PARTNERS WHO PLAY BRIDGE AND LIVE TOGETHER

Jenny and John Paul Tedeschi



It's July 1971 - Derby Western Australia - a most unlikely place to meet a Belgian man let alone someone whom I would eventually marry. I had just spent the past two years in the States, Europe and the UK along with several girlfriends who came and went in our various locations. On arrival back in Perth my nursing friend and I were most unsettled and decided we wanted to go back to Europe so we got ourselves jobs at the Derby Regional Hospital where they not only paid your airfare there (if you stayed 6 months) they also paid you very well for the job. So the plan was to save lots of money and head back to the UK asap.

Initially we hated Derby. It was our first time in the northwest and we had no idea what it was really like. Hot, barren, deserted and tiny. We were horrified that we had committed to staying 6 months. It wasn't long though before the social life kicked in and there were parties and bbq's most weekends. It was at one of these that I first met Jean Paul. He was working for a French mining company as a field assistant. Their headquarters were over the road from the nurses quarters. For him I think it is fair to say it was love at first sight, however, for me it took about 18 months and a six month stint in Belgium to keep him company while he did his military service, before I was sure.

After we were married life was busy with children and work, the last 10 years of which I worked in the district for Silver Chain. Around my 50th birthday I decided to retire and started doing various courses. It was at the Kalamunda learning centre that I first met Margaret McRobbie when we were both enrolled in a flower arranging course. She asked me to play golf with her at Hillview golf course which was something I had always wanted to do when time allowed. From there we discovered we were both keen to learn bridge. We did a short course with Anne Boekelaar at the learning centre and then began another beginners course at the Kalamunda Bridge Club with Maria and Len Henderson. They were fabulous lessons and Rosemary Offer and Angela MacDonald also attended so we became friendly with them.

After the lessons had finished we were encouraged by the management to come and play at the club to practice our new found skills. It was never my intention to play at a club, I thought I was not the competitive type and just wanted to play socially (how wrong was I). However the four of us decided we should give it a go to see what it was like. We were all very green (there was no supervised sessions in the days of early 2000) so we bravely went along on a Monday morning bolstered by the fact that we were four stark beginners together. It was not the most enjoyable session. The director for the day who was a paid elderly lady was not very nice and had us shaking in sheer terror. Margaret was almost in tears as we had the director called to our table more than once.

We progressed slowly from there and began playing on a Thursday at each others homes. We had 2 tables and took turns hosting it and we were very lucky that Maria Henderson agreed to come and be our mentor. This Thursday group lasted for 12 years and was invaluable for our ongoing bridge journey. We also forged many new friendships.

Around 2010 Jean Paul hinted to me that he might be interested in learning to play bridge. I jumped on the bandwagon and invited him out to dinner every Tuesday night in Cottlesloe for 6 weeks (a different restaurant every night) (he was always a sucker for going out to a restaurant) and then afterwards to go to Peter Smith's beginners' lessons in Swanbourne. All good - he enjoyed it but he was very busy working so didn't take it any further.

In early 2011 we took our brand new (to us) caravan and drove to Adelaide to meet friends and have a lovely holiday. I took the opportunity on the long drive over the Nullabor to consolidate his beginners lessons. JP was driving and I was dealing cards on a tray while he practiced his bidding, because as we all know that is the hardest part. So by the end of our holiday he was really getting the hang of it and became quite keen.

Not long after he started playing at the club, as time allowed while he was still working, but trying to go part time. He played with a huge variety of people for a couple of years (given a medal from Steve Thyer for a record). Then

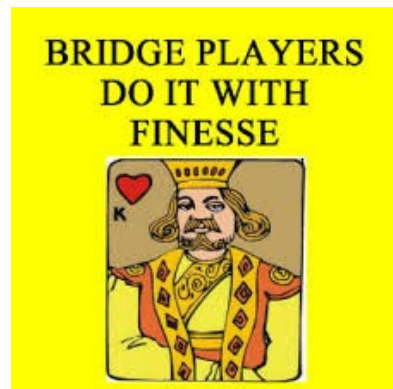
he was approached to become a director which interested him quite a lot, unfortunately to the detriment of his bridge. Now, however, the two are coming together with experience in both. JP and I decided early on in the interests of a happy marriage we would not be permanent partners and only play infrequently together. We are playing strong 1no trump with multi twos (Daxter version) with Carol and Brian, and are able to play together from time to time playing the same multi 2 system. Even though we rarely play together there is always plenty to talk about regarding bridge, the club or the people so it keeps us connected and we hardly ever disagree.

The club has become a very important part of our lives which one really appreciates when it is taken away (as in Corona Virus times). Although we have both been extremely busy during this time it will be so good to get back to the normal business of playing bridge.

Thanks Jenny & JP for sharing your story. I went to Roebourne in 1970 so Jenny I think Derby might have been that little bit better!



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CLUB GARDEN PROJECT

Jenny Tedeschi

The Garden project spearheaded by John Shinnick (AKA Mr Clipboard) was a great initiative. As with most projects it ended up being bigger (and more expensive) than expected! The boys certainly had their work cut out for them (see photos). The girls supervised, although Kaye and Di did some hard work while others supplied the food (thanks Carole for the yummy morning tea and lunches). All in all the boys (Mike, Tom, Phillip, Derek, Jean Paul and Mr Clipboard) with help from Steve on planting day, worked approximately 5 full days digging trenches and holes, planting, installing retic and laying soil and mulching the garden beds. I would personally like to thank Margaret and Rosemary for their invaluable assistance in advising and choosing suitable plants. A big Thank you to John for the brilliant organisation and also to everyone who gave their time and muscles. The beautiful pot with the Magnolia in it was kindly donated by Carole Littlechild in memory of her husband Burt appropriately placed over the septic tank.

THE GARDEN GURUS



Hard at it!



Di flexing her muscles!



Marg supervising!



Derick doing his thing



Mr Clipboard in action



How does this thing work?



Worked it out!



What are these two up to!



Planting day

JP does in fact have a red MG, not green as previously stated!! With Jenny out for a spin.



From the left—Elizabeth McMillen, Jane Pike, Marie-Fran Van Hall and Joanne Payne (back view) enjoying the sun, a chat and afternoon tea at the re-opening session.

KALAMUNDA-HOTEL

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Please forward articles of interest, photos or news to Betty for inclusion in the next BTG by the middle of October 2020.