



BRIDGING THE GAP

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EDITORIAL

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October

Hello Everyone,

It does seem a long time ago that I began the task of compiling this magazine. It has been in the making for seemingly months, but I am sure you understand that the AGM, and immediately after this a holiday, very quickly followed by a prolonged hospital visit is the reason for the delay. However the enjoyment I receive from editing this magazine makes it my very first priority now that I am home and well.

In August/September, Carole Sexton and I went on a Bridge Cruise with Voyages to Antiquity and had a wonderful trip around the Greek Islands, up the Turkish coast, into the Black Sea to Bulgaria and Romania and then disembarking in Istanbul. The ship was great, the history of the area was just so interesting and the Bridge was marvellous. We booked our trip through Mr Bridge a company in the U.K. and Mr. Bridge himself was Bernard Magee, a very knowledgeable young man who ran the sessions and in fact the whole of the bridge scene. There were sixty of us in the bridge group, bridge every night and sometimes during the day and four seminars when we were given tips on various topics. Bridge was not mandatory but most nights almost all of us arrived raring to go. Competition was strong, camaraderie flourished and we all had a lot of fun. A great holiday indeed and one we would recommend to anyone.

Despite all of the above, I cannot begin to tell you how good it is to return to Kalamunda Bridge Club. We have such an amazing group of members who genuinely look out for each other and I can honestly say that I do not think there is another club in Perth with the same 'feel' where one, is somehow, part of an extended family. Maybe that is why we are too noisy sometimes during bridge sessions but the consideration to others is amazing as I have found out in recent weeks/months. Many thanks and I am so pleased to be with you all again... And once more, I open my book for words which inspire me and hopefully for you too

*'Besides pride, loyalty, discipline, heart and mind, **confidence** is the key to all the locks'*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, another Club year has come and gone and the AGM this year was a speedy and non controversial event. For those that couldn't be present, the following is a summary of what I had to say in my report to the meeting:-

I now understand far better than I did two years ago how important the Club, and the reliability of its sessions, are to Members. All that is wanted from myself and the Committee is to keep everything moving along smoothly and our whole efforts have been geared to that. It is amazing what goes on behind the scenes ...very akin to a duck appearing to glide effortlessly across a lake with its feet paddling frantically under the surface of the water!

Every member of the Committee has a specialist role and also a general one and the quality of debate has been high. The three Sub Committees are running so well under the direction of Gordon, Julie and Anita and many important decisions have been taken, particularly in the area of the recruitment and training of new members. The whole group pulled together so magnificently when the clubhouse windows and furniture were damaged late last year and there was not one interruption to general play except on the day it happened...and even then we were up and running for the teaching session that evening.

The highlight of the year has, for me, been the general improvement in the standard of play. Table numbers have continued to rise but membership has remained steady so even more of you must be playing multiple games a week. That in itself must lead to betterment of your performance.

The "Four Ladies", Carmen, Wendy, Bente and Madge still remain the ones to beat but they are now regularly being challenged by the likes of Ruth and Peter and Sheila and Gordon, all of whom have had a particularly good year. The Club has also been well represented and has performed well at BAWA events and Congresses. We continue to take a vicarious delight in Gerry's successes in the State and National fields and I'm so delighted that he can still find the time to play with Club members at our regular sessions and to be so willing to offer advice on elements of bidding and play to anyone that asks.

Perhaps the best indicator of how well we are performing is our success in the Inter-Club "Pennants" matches. The results for the year are not yet concluded but, at present, it looks as though we will finish first or second in the Restricted event (having won 6 matches out of 8) and high up the scoresheet in the Intermediate event (having won 6 out of 9 matches). 18 of you have been selected to play in these matches throughout the year and I am particularly grateful to Anne, Gordon, Peter, Guy, Ruth, Sheila, Carole Sexton and Cherry, all of whom have made multiple appearances.

The Club's continuing success relies heavily on the injection of new blood for our future. The work being done by a whole team of people (headed by Anita and Julie) on Monday and Tuesday evenings, for both the actual beginners and the more experienced, requires an enormous amount of regular and repetitive input to produce players who become self motivated and are willing to expose themselves to general club play. Many fall by the wayside but that is only to be expected in a game of this complexity. Over the last two years, and over this last year in particular, the new faces are starting to make themselves known on the scoresheet and it is a delight to see their enthusiasm.

Other examples of moving forward in this past year include the work now completed to enlarge the car park and remove dangerous trees, the new Compscore scoring system (which is particularly Director user friendly), the introduction of a Daytime Teams Competition, and the setting up of a new cleaning contract which has quickly proved to be very effective.

As to People of the Year, my particular thanks and/or congratulations go to all the Monday and Tuesday night mentors, to Diane Smith and to Jackie Keir for taking part in their first away Congress after not much more than a year's play, to Julie Bechelli for all her impassioned work in setting up syllabuses (or syllabi for the pedantic), mentor rosters and steering the whole recruitment and teaching process, and to Jean Paul for all his work as an embryo Director , for looking after our printing needs, and for, with Rob McMahon and partners, managing our catering needs at the Congress.

My final thanks go to The Good Fairy or Fairies who launder our tea towels and tablecloths when they need it. I never see them go, I just know someone is on the case!

Tasks for the coming year include the cutting back of flammable vegetation at the rear and side of the clubhouse (I shall be seeking the help of you all for this, most probably on September 25th...keep an eye on the notice board please), seeing what we can do to improve the quality of our lighting, and a complete overhaul of the Club's record keeping system. The Competitions Sub Committee will also be looking at a number of issues, including the sheer number of competitions, the nights on which they should be played and further debate on the matter of playing and non-playing directors at complex red point events. We have, as you know, been looking at soundproofing of the ceiling for some time but the state of the flat roof needs to be confirmed before we contemplate adding any extra weight. I still remain of the view that noise would not be a problem in the Clubhouse if we all used more restraint with the level of our voices both during and between hands. This is by far the noisiest Club I have ever played at, and while there are some small signs of improvement, it is proving to be a long haul.

We have had two regular players this year who have been diagnosed with life threatening illnesses, Jamie Paterson and Bryan Totterdell. Both are weathering the storm extremely well and all our fingers are crossed. Please also keep in your thoughts Jean Bampfield and Anne Spring who have had serious falls and are still recuperating.

Finally I would ask you all to consider what more you can do for your Club. We need a new photographer as Margaret is stepping down after doing the job for a number of years, (thankyou, Margaret), and we need the teaching team of two to be expanded by the addition of a new tutor. Please let me know if you think you could help. (p.s. Lynne Bartleet has now kindly offered to take over from Margaret, for which the Club is very grateful)

With regards to your Committee, I am both pleased and disappointed that all its members have been re-elected for a further year. Pleased because they are an excellent team and I couldn't wish for better, and disappointed because we must have new members coming forward to take on these responsibilities. Many existing Committee members have been in post for some time and I would hate to see wholesale dropping out sometime in the future leaving virtually a whole new Committee to be appointed en bloc. Newer members should not be afraid to put their names forward...don't forget that most of the longer serving players have made their contribution in the past and new ideas and thoughts on the way ahead would be invaluable. Again, talk to me if you would like to consider standing for election next year and come along to Management Committee meetings, which are "open", to see how we do things.

My thanks to you all

Garth

Sat-Nav in the last BTG edition, was rather directed at the girls and this in return, maybe a little 'dig' at the boys..... 'Why men are Happier'

Men are just happier people – what do you expect from such simple creatures?

Your last name stays put.

The garage is all yours.

Wedding plans take care of themselves.

You can be President.

You can never be pregnant.

You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park.

You can wear NO shirt to a water park.

Car mechanics tell you the truth.

The world is your urinal.

You never have to drive to another gas station restroom, because this one is too icky.

You don't have to think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt.

Same work, more pay.

Wrinkles add character.
Wedding Dress \$5000. Tux rental \$100.
People never stare at your chest when you are talking to them.
New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet.
Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat.
You can open all your own jars.
If someone forgets to invite you, you can still be their friend.
Your underwear is \$8.95 for a three pack.
Three pairs of shoes are more than enough.
You almost never have strap problems in public.
You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes.
Everything on your face stays its original colour.
The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades.
You only have to shave your face and neck.
You can play with toys all your life.
You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look.
You can 'do' your nails with a pocket knife.
You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24th in 25 minutes.

NO WONDER MEN ARE HAPPIER!!!!!!

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The following was sent to us from BAWA and I felt sure you would like to read it and think about supporting the various events.



Saturday 11 July to Thursday 23 July 2015

Every eight years Western Australia hosts the Australian National Bridge Championships. Next year this two week event is again being held in Fremantle at the Rydges Esplanade Hotel so start making plans to stay and play.

Your ANC Committee has already started planning to ensure this event successful. Traditionally, the WA bridge community has been overwhelming in its support, to the point of making other States jealous, and we hope 2015 is no different. Many of you sponsored side events in 2007 and I hope some of your members will sponsor again. Ask someone you know if they would sponsor with you. The more sponsors we get the more successful this will be. Commercial Sponsorship packages have been designed so if you know a business which may be interested please contact me.

Although the major event will be the Interstate Teams Championship there are a number of other events which are open for you to enter.

The TBIB Australian Butler Pairs – Open, Women, Senior and Restricted
(Restricted must have less than 300 masterpoints as at 1/4/2015)

Sat 18th & Sun 19th July will see Stage One of the Open and Women. The top 20 pairs will go through to Stage Two which runs from Monday to Thursday. The Restricted Butler does not have a Stage Two so will be held alongside Stage One. The Senior Butler will commence on Monday and run until Thursday.

ANC Swiss Pairs

Anyone can enter including those who haven't made Stage Two or did not choose play in the Butler this competition runs from Monday to Wednesday.

Along with the above we have the Welcome Flighted Pairs on Saturday 11th July as well as many side events throughout the two weeks to choose from.

On Friday 17th, the end of the first week, we host the Victory Dinner. This is to celebrate the end of the teams competition, congratulate the winners and present the trophies. Your opportunity for wining, dining, dancing and perhaps meeting a few of your bridge heroes. Tickets can be purchased closer to the date.

Keep an eye on our website as we will be adding more information over the coming months.

We do have a few issues we would like your help with.

1. We need folding bridge tables. Many clubs have changed to solid tables which limits the available supply so I am asking every player to contact Hilary if they have tables they are willing to loan for the two weeks. We need at least one hundred of the older type (74 cm x 74cm). We also need side tables and bidding sheet holders.
2. We need hospitality and fundraising volunteers. People who are willing to beg, borrow (but not) steal prizes for the tournament. Man the hospitality desk at the venue. Be a standby player. Be a caddy. Help with pick-up and drop-off of equipment as well as setting up the playing areas. Generally help out with various tasks.

If you can help with any or all of the above please contact

Tournament Organiser: Sheenagh Young: dugald@iinet.net.au or 0409 381 439

ANC Secretary: Robina McConnell: bina360@hotmail.com or 9586 2768

Tournament Unit Manager: Hilary Yovich: hilily@iinet.net.au or 9341 8116

ANC Treasurer: Kitty George: kitty.george@bigpond.com or 0408 097 881

ANC Partnership Organiser: Linda Bedford-Brown: bedfords@bigpond.net.au or 0417 907 978

Most important of all we need you to come and play.

ANC Website: <http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/anc/2015/>



‘Ponderisms’

Have you noticed since everyone has a ‘phone/camera’ these days, no one talks about seeing UFO’s like they used to.

The easiest way to find something ‘lost’ around the house is to buy a replacement!

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Recent Competition Results

GNOT TEAMS: The following two teams were successful in the play off and were eligible for the State Finals and will be representing Kalamunda Bridge Club:

1. Wendy Harman, Carmen Jackson, Bente Hansen, Joan Valentine, Madge Myburgh.
2. Peter Clarke, Ruth Ledger, Alf and Shelagh Dupont.

As a follow up to the above Garth reported in his President’s Message that the Team which included Wendy Harman, Carmen Jackson, Bente Hansen, Joan Valentine and Madge Myburgh came third in the State Grand National Open Teams Final in Perth recently and will now qualify to go to Tweed Heads in late November to play in the National Final. This will be the second time this group will be representing us in an Australian Final. The competition they faced was extremely stiff. To add icing to the cake our very own Gerry Daly was a member of the team that came second and will also be attending the Final. Many congratulations to them all and we are so proud of their achievement.

KALAMUNDA BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

May 2014

Best Player of the Month – Rory O’Toole
Most Improved Pair - Naomi and Jack Gates

June 2014

Best Player of the Month – Nic Moniodis
Most Improved Pair – Denise Borger and Kerry Elliman

July 2014

Best Player of the month – Sheila Pryce
Most Improved Pair – Gordon Brown and Sheila Pryce
Open Pairs - Winners were Peter Clarke and Ruth Ledger and the runners up Mel Foser and Mark Goddard

August 2014

Best Player of the month – Stephen Thyer
Most Improved Pair – Joan Andrews and Julie Bechelli
State Grand National Open Teams Final – as reported above and in Garth’s Presidential message.

September 2014

Best Player of the month – Garth Scotford
Most Improved pair – Ian Brown and Ian Medlycott
Mixed Pairs Competition – Winners were Peter Cameron and Bente Hansen and the runners up Gordon Brown and Sheila Pryce.

October 2014

Novices Competition – Winners Jacqui Keir and Dianne Smith and the runners up Mary and Mike Pepper.
Day Time Open Pairs – Winners Gordon Brown and Sheila Pryce and runners up Guy Gaudet and Joe Louis.

Inter Club Teams events.

As the magazine goes to print we are happy to report that in the Restricted Division, which encompasses many of the Clubs in central Perth, Kalamunda has reached the final in fine style. Kalamunda will be hosting the match against South Perth A Team and it will be played between the 11th November and 1st December. So wish us luck!!!

In the Intermediate Division, Kalamunda came seventh (half way) which we feel is another great achievement as many of the players playing in these team events are, in effect, Restricted Team players but they are playing in matches against players in a far higher Master Point range.

Many congratulations and thanks to all the players in both divisions who have taken part in these events.

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Tommy Cooper lives:

My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30am this morning. Can you believe that 2:30am!!! Luckily for him I was still up playing my Bagpipes.

I start a new job in Seoul next week. Thought it was a good Korea move!

My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were \$70!! Blow this I thought, I can get one cheaper off the web.

A wife says to her husband ‘ You’re always pushing me around and talking behind my back’ He says ‘What do you expect? You’re in a wheel chair’!

Seen on the wall of the Undercroft Bridge Club:

And I had a good giggle at this.....

When you are dead you don’t know you are dead.

It is a difficult time for others.

It’s the same when you are stupid!!!!!!!

News of members and their travels

Carole in the Kimberleys:



This photo was taken on my recent Kimberley cruise. Fishing was one of the many highlights of a magical 10 day cruise along the spectacularly beautiful Kimberley coast. We visited all the usual spots such as Horizontal Falls, King Cascade Falls, Montgomery Reef, failed settlement at Camden Sound, Cone Bay etc. Each day we hiked inland, (nearly always to an area with a waterfall) for our daily swim. We explored many stunning creeks, and aboriginal artworks not normally visited. An added bonus was the chef, who cooked the fish we caught to perfection as well as other culinary treats. This was really a holiday I shall remember with joy.

Carole Sexton

Garth's visit to Turkey:

The History of Present Day TurkeyOne man's holiday can make another man's eyes glaze over so I don't want to give you a litany of all the things that we did during our recent trip to Turkeybut I would like to explain why it gave me such a thrill.

I am a Roman, Greek and Egyptian history nerd. It has always fascinated me that major civilisations are on the top of the pile one minute and return to being small countries with little influence in just the space of a couple of centuries. So I seized the opportunity to go on an archaeological tour of Anatolia, organised by the University of Wollongong, with both hands.

Anatolia was, and still is actually, the big major lump of Turkey that stretches from the east bank of the Bosphorus in Istanbul over to the Syrian and Armenian borders. Although there were a tribe called Turks in that area on and off over the centuries, it is a vast plot of land that has always been occupied by someone else who is more powerful, until Mustafa Kemal came to fame during the First World War ... a great man in my view, and the father of the modern Turkish nation.

I hadn't realised until I arrived that Anatolia, and the neighbouring Balkan and German plains, are widely considered to be the place where the human species first developed (remember Neanderthal man?). I was blown away by visiting the remains of villages over 10,000 years old. Compared with them, the Greeks and Romans are very much the new kids on the block. Before them were Mongols, Huns, Hittites, Phrygians, Macedonians ... all sorts. The photo below shows a Hittite rock carving of about 2000 BC which is still in a place easily accessible to the general public without any protection...and it is beautiful.



Probably the most well known ancient site in Anatolia is Ephesus and that city is typical of many in the area. It was developed by the Hittites, taken by Alexander the Great and subsequently overrun by the Romans. All the archaeological digs on this site have served to uncover the remains of each civilisation because each added to what was already there. Ephesus and Troy were both the same. The locations were so advantageous that it was pointless to build elsewhere. Fresh water, access to the sea, commanding hills which served to protect them and lush plains where crops could be grown and animals could graze.



Cities like these didn't die through war. They ceased to be habitable because of silting up of nearby estuaries, pushing them further and further inland and away from their supplies, mostly sea borne in those days.

They became ruins because of lack of maintenance and then through earthquakes. Anatolia has always suffered greatly from these and is one of the main reasons why ancient Greek and Roman statues in some of the excellent Turkish museums are usually minus a leg or two.

As you know, Christians had a hard time in these parts, not so much from Muslims as from Romans, until Emperor Constantine, about 350 AD, became a convert and then life got a lot better. It was great fun visiting towns from the Bible such as Caesarea and of course Ephesus of "Letters to the Ephesians" fame. Christianity was the dominant religion for many centuries until a very small tribe of the Muslim faith called the Ottomans set up camp and became the dominant people of that part of the world. They did so, not so much by raping and pillaging but by assimilating, and all faiths learned to live side by side. The Ottoman Empire expanded to cover much of the area formerly occupied by the Greeks and then the Romans. They weren't perfect by any means but their intentions were good (unless of course you were holed up in a harem) and they were in power until the end of the First World War. The allies made such a fist of dividing up the area after the War that it was quite easy for Mustafa Kemal Ataturk to show the people that they could become a proud nation of their own and to kick all the colonists out.

Despite Turkey having as many mosques within its borders as there are in the whole of the rest of Islam, it is still nominally a secular country. There is an enormous difference however between the rural and poorer eastern and central parts of the country and the more European and touristy west. This is most obvious in the modesty or not of women's attire and also the consumption of alcohol. A single day's journey by road can make it hard for you to believe you are in the same country.

Yes, we did visit Gallipoli before coming home. My maternal grandfather died there in the pointless war that the Ottoman people found themselves dragooned into. The Peninsula is beautiful but still marred by trenches. So much carnage in such a beautiful spot. So many Australians, New Zealanders, South Africans, Indians and Brits dead but most of the graves are those of Turks. We never learn from history unfortunately.

Garth

AND OTHER NEWS:

Elfrida McLean. I am very sorry to have to report that Elfrida Mclean has passed away at the age of 98 years. Elfrida was a founder member of this club and she was one of the members who lent money for the building of the premises we use today. In 1991, Elfrida, who lived in Gooseberry Hill, was made a Life Member of the Club. Elfrida, left the Hills shortly afterwards and spent the rest of her years in Albany. Ann Boekelaar was a great friend of Elfrida and was in touch with her constantly. Our sincere condolences are extended to Elfrida's family.

Sonia O'Neil who returned to England to live, in order to be closer to family, is returning to Australia on holiday in October/November and will be visiting Kalamunda. We really hope that she will find the time to play at the Club during her visit and look forward to catching up with her.

Rory O'Toole has been in hospital recently but we are happy to report that he is now back to bridge and in formidable style as usual. We are so delighted to see you Rory.

Julie Bechelli has returned from an extended holiday in the United Kingdom. Welcome back Julie, we missed you and look forward to hearing of your travels.

Don Chisholm has sadly retired from the bridge scene. Don has been a member of the club for more than forty years and was 'the' personality in the BTG of March 2013. We wish Don all the very best in the future and Garth has written to him in appreciation of his time with us.

Jamie Paterson has overcome his health problems and is looking great. In recent weeks we have not seen quite as much of Jamie as usual, as he has been having regular Hyperbaric treatment but we look forward to seeing him back at the Club on a regular basis.

Jean Bampffield has moved into Howard Solomon Hostel which is a Retirement Home. Jean would love to hear from you and her details are as follows: The address is 91 Hybanthus Street, Ferndale. Room Number 129 and telephone number 6228 0518. A phone call or a visit would be much appreciated.

The following was sent to me by a friend. I do not think it matters how young or old we are and it still applies. I found it exhilarating and uplifting, I hope you do too.....

For those who understand, no explanation is needed. For those who do not understand, no explanation is possible!

One day I had lunch with some friends. Jim, a short, balding golfer type about 85-years old, came along with them; all in all, a pleasant bunch.

When the menus were presented, we ordered salads, sandwiches, and soups, except for Jim who said, "Ice Cream, please. Two scoops, chocolate.

I wasn't sure my ears heard right, and the others were aghast. "Along with heated apple pie," Jim added, completely unabashed.

We tried to act quite nonchalantly, as if people did this all the time. But when our orders were brought out, I didn't enjoy mine.

I couldn't take my eyes off Jim as his pie a-la-mode went down. The other guys couldn't believe it. They ate their lunches silently and grinned.

The next time I went out to eat, I called and invited Jim. I lunched on white meat tuna. He ordered a par-fait. I smiled. He asked if he amused me.

I answered, "Yes, you do, but also you confuse me. How come you order rich desserts, while I feel I must be sensible?"

He laughed and said "I'm tasting all that is possible. I try to eat the food I need, and do the things I should. But life's so short, my friend, I hate missing out on something good. This year I realized how old I was. (He grinned) I haven't been this old before. So, before I die, I've got to try those things that for years I had ignored.

"I haven't smelled all the flowers yet. There are too many trout streams I haven't fished. There's more fudge sundaes to wolf down and kites to be flown overhead.

"There are too many golf courses I haven't played. I've not laughed at all the jokes. I've missed a lot of sporting events and potato chips and cokes.

"I want to wade again in water and feel ocean spray on my face. I want to sit in a country church once more and thank God for His grace.

"I want peanut butter every day spread on my morning toast. I want un-timed long distance calls to the folks I love the most.

"I haven't cried at all the movies yet, or walked in the morning rain. I need to feel wind on my face. I want to be in love again.

"So, if I choose to have dessert, instead of having dinner, then should I die before night fall, I'd say I died a winner, because I missed out on nothing. I filled my heart's desire. I had that final chocolate mousse before my life expired."

With that, I called the waitress over.. "I've changed my mind, " I said. "I want what he is having, only add some more whipped cream!"

DIRECTORS CORNER

DID YOU KNOW?

Bridge is a game which is full of opportunities for mistakes to be made and good players take advantage of those mistakes should they be made against them. After all, all is fair in love, war and bridge!

One of the most common mistakes made is a lead out of turn. If it is an opening lead out of turn and the director is called, they will give you, as declarer, 5 options, one of which is to accept the lead and become dummy yourself. Players often avail themselves of that solution if they think it best for their partner to keep their hand hidden.

However leads from the wrong hand can occur during play and not just at the beginning. It commonly but not exclusively happens when declarer calls for a card from dummy when it should be from their own hand, or plays from their own hand when it should be from dummy.

If you are the next one to play when such a mistake has been made, and if it suits you that the lead comes from the wrong side, you can immediately accept that play without referring to the director. You have two ways of doing this....you can either make a statement that you are accepting it or, alternatively, you can lay your own card to the play, which automatically accepts the error. If it is done by a statement, either you or your partner may accept. Hopefully both of you will agree but it is the partner who speaks first who will carry the day.

So how might you gain by accepting a wrong lead during play? Well most obviously when you are in a position where you could be finessed if the lead was properly made through you, but, coming from the other side you would be delighted to take the trick. If you and your partner are looking at an Ace of Diamonds in dummy and your partner has the King and another and is sitting under the Ace, your partner will be more than pleased if declarer mistakenly calls for a low Diamond in dummy to their Queen rather than correctly leading that Queen at partner. So your partner should speak up straightaway.

So remember that any lead out of turn may be treated as a correct lead. The only exception occurs if it is you that gives wrong advice to your opponents, unwittingly of course, that the lead should come from one hand when it is, in fact, the other. Under those circumstances, you can't take advantage of them if they do what you say!

SOME COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS:

The following errors have all occurred in recent weeks during bidding or play, so just a reminder to you:-

1. If you are clumsy and pull the wrong bid out of the box and lay it down, you are not necessarily stuck with the problem. If it is a genuine mistake and not a change of mind, call the Director, who may allow you to retract and lay the bid you intended to.
2. If, at your partner's turn to bid, they think about it for a long time and then pass, you are not prevented from bidding when it's your turn. However, it's quite in order for opposition to call the Director and register an objection. The Director will decide (usually at the end of play) whether you would have bid what you did irrespective of the delay. If it looks as though your bid was only made because your partner nearly did so (and hence the large amount of time thinking), the Director may award an adjusted score in favour of the opposition. If your bid looks entirely reasonable irrespective of your partner's hesitation, there will be no adjustment.
3. You can't renege: a renege is a broken promise. In bridge, you REVOKE.
4. If your partner is asked what your bid means and gives an answer which is not in accord with your partnership agreement, you must not show, in any way, that partner is wrong. That includes further bidding which looks like an attempt to put partner back on track. Do you call the Director? Not immediately. If you end up with the contract, call the Director before the hand is played. If you end up defending the contract, call the Director at the end of the hand. The Director will award an adjusted score if opposition have received any disbenefit, directly, from the wrong explanation.
5. This last one isn't a matter of law, but etiquette. North operates the Bridgmate and eventually passes it to East or West to accept, or otherwise, the contract and the result. That's it ... finis. Please pass it back after you have pressed the Accept button, don't scroll through to see what everyone else did. If there is time, North will do that and let you know. If you are running behind, North will move to the next board to be played ... that is North's responsibility.
6. Directors will make decisions based on the strength of a case, not the volume at which it is put.

From The Directing Team

“Senior Smiles” - these are for our older members. The younger ones should, and just maybe, still read them, as they will get there all too quickly!!!

Just before the Funeral Service, the Undertaker came to the elderly widow and asked ‘How old was your husband?’ ‘98’, she replied. ‘Two years older than me’. ‘So you’re 96’ the undertaker commented. She responded ‘Hardly worth going home, is it?’

I very quietly confided to my best friend that I was having an affair!
She turned to me and asked ‘Are you having it catered?’
And that, my friend, is the definition of OLD !!!!

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape. So I received my Doctors permission to join a fitness class and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors.
I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down and perspired for half an hour. But by the time I got my leotards on the class was over!!!

Now this is getting all too close to home so will come back to these another time!!!!

And finally.... did you know that you may fall into the bracket of Sharks, Vultures, Piranhas, Mr. Double and Dolphins when you reach the bridge table of a certain two male members of our club who shall be nameless. But they have a name for so many of us, and I, in my innocence, want to think I may be swimming with the Dolphins. How about you? But they weren’t letting on. We had a great laugh and the two of them laughed the longest and the loudest and they were having fun which after all is what bridge is all about. Into which category do you think you sink?

And so I conclude, and a very big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the magazine. Once again, a big thank you to Margaret McRobbie, who has spent a great deal of her time at our social Functions, taking photographs. Margaret, is retiring, and we thank her so very much for all the hours of work she has put into this, both during the functions and afterwards. We will miss you Margaret and we will miss your expertise. Lynne Bartleet will be taking over and we thank her so very much, welcome her and look forward to her happy face at the tables seeking that special photograph. I know Margaret will give any advice necessary. Thank you Lynne!

I print this copy of the BTG, immediately after the Melbourne Cup function, and will report on this event in the next edition, and will include photographs. A happy day, wonderful food and some lucky Prize Winners.

In addition, please do not forget to give me news of events, holidays or long lost members, which may be included in the magazine. I am always looking for interesting pieces which we may all enjoy.

As always a massive thank you to our sponsors who are always on hand with prizes for raffles.

Go well until next time. Happy Bridging!



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