

Northern Suburbs Bridge Club Newsletter

northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org

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Competitions/Congress Competitions@nsbc4011.com.au

October 2026 Edition

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thanks to the collective effort of Club members and the difficult but necessary cost-saving measures implemented over recent months, I am pleased to report that the Club is finally cash positive. The Committee thanks all members for their patience, understanding and support throughout this period. Your ongoing commitment to the Club and your cooperation has played a significant role in helping us to implement the necessary changes.

It is my belief that our Club's success is dependent on the commitment of our members and from the response I am seeing from members who have volunteered to help in so many ways gives me confidence for our future.

Whilst we may be back in the black, there is still a long way to go before the Club is returned to a sound financial position. There is more work to do.

The other positive I am seeing is the level of participation by our newer members on the congress scene and the success rate being achieved. This augers well for the future of our club as these players advance through the ranks. Your committee is intent on providing learning pathways for our beginners via supervised play sessions and to advancing players via ongoing intermediate lessons. Additionally, it is planned to implement some mentoring sessions in the future.

Partnership Requests

What would we do without them? Kate O'Donnell & Helen Baran ensure that no-one goes without a game of Bridge. These two wonderful ladies are the faces behind the scene who keep our club members playing the game we all love/hate.

Just email partnership@nsbc4011.com.au & Helen & Kate do the rest!

Thanks ladies you are both awesome!

WALK IN'S

No Partner - Walk In available -

EVERY TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY AM SESSION -

Just walk-in and the Director ensures that you get a game.



CALENDAR

Oct

Friday Rosebowl

Fridays AM 9th & 16th

9.15am start - Seated by 9.

NSBC IMP Pairs Congress 2 Days

Sat 31st & Sunday 1 Nov

Seated 9am - 9.30 Start

All Day Event

November

Melbourne Cup Day

Tuesday 3rd

10am start - Seated by 9.30am

AM & PM Session combined

Bring a share plate/BYO Lunch

\$2 & \$5 CASH Sweeps bring

small change!

December

Pat Clouston Christmas Teams

Sunday 6th December

Seated 9am - 9.30 Start

More details closer to the date

Xmas Holiday Bridge

Club only closed Xmas day -

Play as usual all other holidays



Mystery Morning Tea!
David organised a very successful Mystery Morning tea in August - Look forward to more of these in the future at the Club.
There's more to life than Arnotts Biscuits!

KIESER

PHYSIOTHERAPY
REHABILITATION
STRENGTH TRAINING

BACK PAIN

Discover medical strength training at Kieser

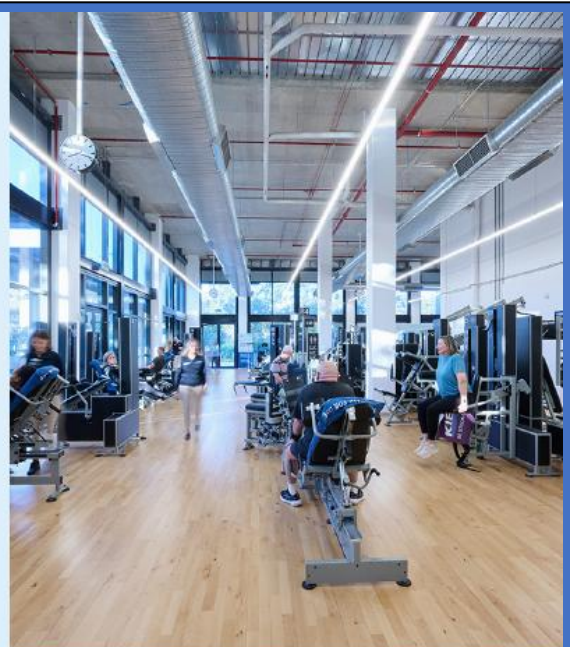
Exclusive Northern Suburbs Bridge Club member offer from Kieser Ascot

50% OFF YOUR INITIAL CONSULTATION



LEARN MORE

T&Cs: Only available to Kieser clients who are paying privately. Must present voucher to redeem. The offer includes a half-price initial physiotherapy consultation valued at \$65 (RRP: \$130). If additional Physiotherapy appointments are required, they will be at a cost to the client. Voucher valid until 30 June 2026. Offer valid at Kieser Ascot only.



Kieser Ascot 1 Zillman Rd, Ascot

NSBC Results July to September 2026



QBA TEAMS OF 3 Results - 20 Sept 2026

- A1 John Gough, Judy Hapeta, Ann Dujela, Frances Brown
 A2 Christine Newberry, Lynda Wealleans, Ada Krawczyk, Frances Bourke
 A3 Ross Shardlow, Robyn Chippindall, Cheryl Martin, Lee Pitt
- B1 Tony Treloar, Sue Sherrell, Julie Navruk, Jenny Thompson
 B2 Richard Ward, Trish Wright, Peter Robinson, Kit Duncan
 B3 Normand MacLaurin, Jill Rankine, Judy Wallace, Kathryn Kelly
- C1 Robyn Clark, Tracy Martin, Belinda Cunningham, Patrick Johns
 C2 Kate MacDonald, Martin Murray, Laura Tomlin, Greg Tomlin
 C3 Karen Moss Michelle Nally Tricia Scanlan Ross Murtagh

Newstead Novice Shield - 15 & 22 Sept 2026

- 1st Tracey Armour Rowan Ward
 2nd Paulette Bourke Jill Lukin
 3rd Dianne Russ Karen Hornsby

Jill Wilson Pairs - 16 & 23 July 2026

- 1st Ian Manly Kate O'Donnell
 2nd Michael Macrossan Paula Lennon
 3rd David Lehmann Jane Farquhar

Presidents Tray - 3 & 10 August 2026

- 1st Gordan Gimmell Annette Hyland
 2nd Yolande Coroneo Bert Luchjenbroers
 3rd Magdalena Kowalczyk Eugene Pereira

Wednesday Pairs 1 & 8 July formerly Mixed Pairs

- 1st Barbara Monu Pat Eather
 2nd Jamshid Vazirzadeh Helen Baran
 3rd Trish Tritton Alan Smith

Tuesday Pairs - 1 & 8 Sept 2026

- 1st Bert Luchjenbroers David Lehmann
 2nd Peter Robinson Kit Duncan
 3rd Fay Jeppesen Annette Hyland



Kit Duncan has won the James O'Sullivan award for the highest points scored at State Master Level for calendar year 2025. Kit also won the 2025 Leta Leiper award, for the player who starts the year at Regional rank or below and earns the most Green points at NSBC sessions in the calendar year. Congratulations Kit and apologies for the delayed announcement.



NSBC Newstead Novice Shield 1st
Tracey Armour & Rowan Ward



QCBC Club Pairs 1st > 100 Points
Trish Wright & Peter Robinson

NOTICEBOARD

Advertise in the Newsletter

Canvassing for interested parties to advertise their business in NSBC Quarterly Newsletter 2027. Please email admin@nsbc4011.com.au



Active Living Thriving in Retirement

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/bjo7e3q1h7d9ev1ktar3u/Active-Living-Thriving-in-Retirement-Final-Edition-December-2026.pdf?rlkey=ykdird5hghabzlxixi40tohwfvh&dl=0>

Absolutely FREE. Written by Ralph Pirozzo, husband of club member, Sandy. Ralph has written many books, but made a conscious decision not to publish this one in the hope that this is helpful and used to improve health & quality of life.

Kitchen News

A friendly reminder that kitchen clean-up is not the duty of the few. It is every person's responsibility to return cups to the kitchen and help out. This is particularly important for those who are on sit-out during a session. Taking a few minutes to wash, dry and put away items helps spread the workload and ensures that clean-up is not left to the same dedicated volunteers. Many hands really do make light work! Much thanks to Joyce Garton for her regular help in the kitchen!

Call for Nominations - Interclub Teams Sat 7 Nov

The Annual Brisbane Interclub Teams Event will be held at Sunnybank this year. The Committee asks members to nominate teams or individuals who would like to represent NSBC. The committee will then advise who has been selected for this friendly and fun event.

Nominations deadline is 10 October - The Next Committee Meeting date



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Mollie-Jean Hunt turned 101 years of age in July



Robert Ross recently turned 100 years of age. He made a special trip to the Saturday Session in August. Shown here with some of our other 90+ Members. From the left Mollie Jean Hunt, Robert Ross, Ailsa Stein, Margaret Schuh & Pat Deighton. 13 NSBC Members are 90+ years old.



Melbourne Cup Day

Everyone Welcome! Green points

Tuesday 3 November

Arrive 9.30 to - Play begins at 10am

AM & PM Sessions combined, Usual table fees.

Please bring a plate for morning tea to share
BYO Lunch.

Orange Juice and champagne will be supplied. Prizes for most dazzling hat & "racy" outfit.
\$2 & \$5 sweeps will be run before play begins - Please bring correct cash!

Lunch: Approx: 1.30pm Race Starts: 2pm



Warm Crab Cob Loaf

*A creamy, cheesy crab filling
baked inside a crusty cob loaf
and topped with a golden
herb crumb. Perfect for sharing!*

Ingredients

Filling

80g Butter
2 cloves garlic, crushed
2 French Shallots, thinly sliced
1 tsp Mustard Powder
½ tsp cayenne pepper
1/3 cup cream
150g cream cheese
1/3 cup grated cheese
1 x 170g can crab meat, drained
2 tbsp Lemon Juice
2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
3 tsp fresh tarragon, chopped
Salt & pepper

Recipe from Tracy Martin

Topping

1/3 cup (40g) Fresh
breadcrumbs
1 Tbsp Chopped fresh
parsley
Remaining butter
(melted)
Remaining chopped
tarragon

Method

Cut the top from cob loaf, set aside. Hollow loaf, leaving enough for a sturdy shell. Tear removed bread for dipping.

Melt butter in saucepan, add garlic & shallots cook gently until softened. Add mustard powder & cayenne pepper. Stir in the cream, then add the cream cheese & cheddar. Stir until the cheese is melted and mix is smooth. Add the drained crab meat, lemon juice, sauce & 2 tsp of tarragon. Season.

Place the crab mixture into the loaf. Mix the parsley, remaining tarragon & butter and sprinkle the crumb mix over the crab filling. Place loaf on baking tray and bake for 15 mins or until golden. Serve warm.
Makes 2 1/2 cups



A BIG special thanks to David, Jenny & Roy for the excellent gardening work around the club over the last few months. Impeccable outcomes - You are much appreciated! Great Work!

TEAMS OF 3 - 2026



C Grade





New Members

Please welcome our New NSBC Members

Jane Sexton - Jeanne Sainsbury - Chris Carrigan - Margaret Kelly - Maria Wright - Anna Green - Margaret Hawker - Jennifer Cody - Les Freedman - Lesleigh Rooney - Helen Clayton - Peter Field - David Crosdale



TBIB

**TONY BEMROSE
INSURANCE BROKERS**

07 3252 5254

The 52 Club

On the 3rd Friday of each month 16 ladies meet in the EG Centre at 1pm to play bridge. The ladies pay \$5 each and they play three 4 Board Rounds. The scores are manually calculated, and whichever team has won the most hands – wins! Each of the winning team get their \$5 refunded.

This formula for this gathering has been happening for over 56 years!

Jane Kavanagh has organised the afternoon for the last 32 years, when Mary Quillinan retired. Starting in the 1960s, 16 ladies from NSBC got together to play a 4 table game of teams, calling themselves the 52 Club as there are 52 cards in a pack. Calculating that over a 15 month period, and meeting once a month, each member would play with a different partner. Initially the ladies met & played at Bar Jai Club in Clayfield, where NSBC was playing at that time, but when the club moved to Hendra High, the ladies met & played at each others homes. The 52 Club has played at Gerler Road since its opening in 1991. Each member provides afternoon tea if it's their birthday month and the ladies enjoy and look forward to the afternoon each month.

Some comments from the current players in the club –

“These ladies are extremely good at bridge – so I have learnt so much playing with them”.

“The Social side & learning about members lives is amazing”.

“It is a great Club – Jane does a wonderful job”.

“We all look forward to our 3rd Friday afternoons”

“We have a waiting list of people ready to join”

“Great afternoon tea”

“Met a whole lot of layers I had not met before”

“Very friendly group of players”

“Enjoy playing teams as it is not something I get to play normally”

“I was welcomed to this club with open arms”.



What have I done?

BD: 16	♠ K	Dir: W
	♥ JT74	Vul: EW
	♦ KJT42	
	♣ 972	
♠ J85		♠ AQ964
♥ A83		♥ K6
♦ Q85		♦ A3
♣ AJ86		♣ KT43
	♠ T732	
	♥ Q952	
	♦ 976	
	♣ Q5	

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	7	2	1	6	6
W	7	2	2	6	6

		8	
12			16
		4	

This is a hand I played a few weeks ago with Jacqui in the GNOT Qualifying at QCBC. It's a result that worked out well, although I'm not especially proud of it. Read on to see why.

In first seat Jacqui as West opened 1C, 1D overall from North, 1S by me (promising five+), Pass, 2S by Jacqui...at this point I should have just bid 4S. But I'm thinking "Partner opened, I've got a sixteen count, two doubletons, maybe there's more in this..." But I had no reason to get that excited - admittedly it was a five-loser hand, but it still wasn't a hand to be especially proud of, and it would need some good things to happen to make 12 tricks. So, did I then bid a 'safe' 4S? No! With a sudden rush of misguided optimism I decided I was 'going to go for it!' 4NT from me - 5H response showing two - 6S from me.

Dummy came down on a Diamond lead, and when I saw Dummy's bare minimum opening, I can't reveal my exact words, but it went something along the lines of, "What have I done!" Missing two Spade honours, a certain Diamond loser and the Queen of Clubs lurking somewhere, it all looked a bit bleak. In Pairs it's sad to go off in a slam, but in Teams you have to face up to your teammates as well - not always something to look forward to, but even less so after bidding a less than marginal slam and going down.

So - a small Diamond from dummy won with my Ace. Over to Heart Ace to take the Spade finesse...5 from Dummy (not the Jack in case South has the Txx, meaning the ten would become a winner if North has Kx) and out pops the King from North!!! Well, all of a sudden things are looking up. Small spade towards the J8 and S played the 5...and I had a think.

When North played the K on the first round of trumps - that may well be a 'standard' play. The principle is that you have nothing to lose by playing the card you are known to have, and by playing it when it seems you have no choice may well convince Declarer to take the wrong path. North knows I am going to play SQ and then SA to drop the King. So North has nothing to lose by giving up the King, but everything to gain if he started with K 10...and if I take the finesse for the ten of Spades on the second round of the suit...down I go

What have I done? Continued

But in the end, I thought if North is good enough to find that play then he deserves to win his ten. And really, I do have to accept the fact that if he most likely has just the singleton, then I have to play South for the ten of Spades. After keeping everybody waiting, I played the eight from dummy's J8, took out the remaining trumps and managed to locate the CQ and made the contract. I was so relieved, the opponents said nice things and Jacqui was amazed it had made.

The reason for reliving this hand is to reveal some of the thought processes that go through the mind when considering what to bid and how to play a hand. As you can see, not every bid is exactly well thought out, and sometimes the wrong bid or overbid can lead to a good result, though most bad decisions get their just desserts. For that reason, I wasn't happy with my rush of blood to the head. It wasn't good bridge, and I was just lucky - but don't tell my teammates.

Stats for the board: Played at 48 tables - 4S x 27 (Going down once - six making 12) 5S x1 (making 11) 6S x 4 (2 making, 2 going down) - 16 others in No Trumps.

Andrew Slater

SKID

The thing is that any player at any level needs to do some reading if they wish to become a better player. I still use the NS Library from time-to-time; it is excellent and well catalogued. I don't have many bridge books at home...over the years the ones I've had have been given away or thrown away through being 'out-of-date' or being too yellow and dog-eared. But I still have Ron Klinger's 'Bridge Basics' which I cut my teeth on all those years ago - can't bring myself to pitch that one. There's another book I particularly like, 'The Rodwell Files: Secrets of a World Bridge Champion' - Rodwell describes and explains a host of innovative ideas in card play by declarer or defender. And that's about it, except there is one other book in my modest library that I would like to mention - a book by S.J.Simon. "Who?" You may well ask. I'd be surprised if you'd heard of him.

Born Seca Jascha Skidelsky in Manchuria, nicknamed 'Skid', Simon was a highly successful novelist, collaborating on a series of famous comic mystery novels, most notably 'A Bullet in the Ballet' in 1937.

But Simon was also a master bridge theoretician and author. Together with Terence Reese they were two of the most influential figures in the history of British contract bridge. Simon's outstanding claim to fame was the publication in 1945 of his absolute classic, 'Why You Lose at Bridge'. Many experts today still rate it as one of their top bridge books of all time. I hadn't been playing that long when I came across the book in a second-hand shop and I thought, "Looks interesting. Why not?" and lashed out \$1.98. After Ron Klinger's book it was the second bridge book I ever read. It's not in great condition now after all these years - yellow pages, green highlighted passages but I still like to browse through it occasionally. Here's a rundown of why this book is a classic.

Part One: The Technical Game

One of Simon's pet topics relates to the premature winning of tricks. Some familiar situations would be -

- Dummy has KQJxxx, no outside entries, and you're sitting over Dummy holding the Axx. We all know, or should know, not to take the King on Trick 1 but to take the Q at Trick 2 or 3 when Declarer has no more cards in that suit (partner should be giving 'count' in this situation, usually 'High' for an even number and 'Low' for an odd number - remembered as HELO (some players reverse it to be HOLE).
- Again, sitting with K over the AQJ, don't immediately take your King over the Q - let Declarer use up one of their entries to get back to his hand to repeat what he thinks will be a winning finesse, only to be surprised when you take your King. If he has only two cards in the suit the stranded Ace may never take a trick.

SKID Continued

But then it gets interesting - and more challenging.

Say Declarer (with lots of Heart trumps) leads a small Spade (may be a singleton) towards KQxx of Spades in Dummy. As second player holding the Ace, what do you play? Do you automatically play your Ace? Naturally you do play it if it's the setting trick, **but** ...if you always go up with the Ace *you would be wrong most of the time!*

If Declarer can get to dummy later on the K and Q will provide two discards if he started with a singleton - so by not playing your Ace he makes nine, not ten.

But harder still - imagine the situation the other way around - if Declarer leads a singleton **from dummy** and you have the Axx - playing the Ace gives Declarer two tricks if he has KQx - *but by not playing your Ace, as before, he will only get one trick in the suit.* Also, as a further incentive to not play your Ace, Declarer may have KJx, and by not going up with the Ace he may well (wrongly) hope that instead you have the Queen, so plays his Jack and partner wins it with the Queen. Certainly, it takes courage not to take the Ace over a singleton card in dummy, but as 'Skid' says, 'Start ducking with your Aces!'

He describes 'the supreme test of courage' is ducking with your Ace in a slam contract when a singleton is played from dummy...I think I'd fail that test - imagine having to explain to your teammates after a non-making slam has made...

"But S.J Simon told me..."

Part Two: Your Psychology

Simon has some interesting insights. He writes about 'Your Battlefield,' - the bridge table - and how to approach the war. In another chapter he mentions how some players always try for 'The best result possible,' and go down, whereas the practical player will play for 'the best possible result.'" (I should have been thinking about this when I bid 6S in my other article!) In other words, don't shoot for the moon and subsequently crash - instead, accept that you don't want to overreach in your contract by making impractical choices - be happy to accept that the contract you're in is an eminently sensible one. And another thing - be aware of your partner's limitations. I see this in tournaments when I see professional players playing with a sponsor of 'limited' ability: they keep it simple, nothing that the sponsor may not understand, being happy with 4S when 6S may be a possibility, etc.

Skid would no doubt approve.

Bidding systems were a lot simpler in the 1940's and into the 50's, but even then, Simon thought that there was an abundance of conventions making bidding systems too top heavy - imagine what he'd think now. Skid brought a lot of knowledge to the game from years of experience playing rubber bridge - we play for points, whereas he played for pounds and made a good living from it.

'Why You Lose at Bridge' is a classic, and deservedly so. I'll keep it for a while yet.

PROMOTIONS

July	RANK	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Webb, Carla	Life	410.52	18.22	2,143
O'Donnell, Kate	Bronze State	234.68	22.41	1,606
Jenkins, Paul	Bronze State	101.21	51.11	431
Michell, Margaret	State	135.36	2.7	12,290
Wright, Trish	State	96.8	41.68	619
Robinson, Kevin	State	80.58	9.74	4,395
McGrath, Chesne	Regional	50.29	3.53	10,426

PROMOTIONS				
July - Con't	RANK	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Carter, Chrissie	Regional	50.26	5.87	7,145
O'Donnell, Kevin	Silver Local	35.32	3.15	11,185
Hornsby, Karen	Bronze Local	26.84	13	3,182
Keen, Tony	Bronze Local	26.17	4.12	9,419
Owen, Lyn	Bronze Local	25.42	3.95	9,698
Lehton, Robyn	Bronze Local	25.2	3.95	9,699
Reyno, David	Graduate	3.86	3.86	9,869
August	RANK	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Pereira, Eugene	Grand	1,017.88	101.07	155
Gaskill, Deanne	Silver Life	504.78	43.2	744
Wardrop, Gary	Bronze Life	402.38	26.97	1,536
Setiyawan, Maria	Bronze National	203.44	17.28	2,716
Devine, Inta	Bronze National	200.23	22.63	1,937
Gosney, Karen	National	183.51	26.75	1,555
Kowalczyk, Magdalena	Bronze State	109.55	25.99	1,621
Young, Richard	State	138.05	10.32	4,783
Duncan, Kit	State	103.28	45.84	666
Jones, Elaine	Bronze Regional	100.47	8.17	6,003
Smith, Janet	Regional	50.33	13.37	3,648
Ward, Rowan	Silver Local	37.1	17.3	2,710
Martin, Tracy	Bronze Local	27.42	20.44	2,211
Hayman, Alan	Bronze Local	26.16	9.82	5,030
Johns, Patrick	Local	16.46	16.46	2,861
Reyno, David	Club	7.66	7.66	6,378
Yelland, Catherine	Club	5.3	1.74	16,039
Lewis, Shelley	Club	5.21	1.75	16,015
McWilliam, Alex	Club	5.12	0.35	23,233
Jackson, Rosanne	Club	5.11	1.07	18,827
Marples, Libby	Graduate	2.02	0.34	23,370
September	RANK	TOTAL MPs	2026 MPs	2026 RANK
Rivers, John	Bronze Life	409.53	82.07	276
Malt, Kerry	Bronze National	425.54	16.32	3,334
Church, Robyn	Bronze State	172.09	13.88	4,012
Sinclair, Joanne	Bronze State	149.82	10.73	5,250
Cunningham, Belinda	Silver Local	36.47	18.04	2,980
Egan, Marcus	Silver Local	35.86	10.3	5,445
Russ, Dianne	Silver Local	35.44	20.9	2,508
Dickson, Jenny	Bronze Local	25.76	7.18	7,556
Carswell, Denise	Club	5.07	2.23	15,357
Storie, Kim	Club	5.04	1.6	17,484
McGinness, Andrew	Graduate	2.27	2.27	15,236
McGann, Mary-Rita	Graduate	2	1.34	18,506