

# Northern Suburbs Bridge Club



## Newsletter

August 2019

[www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org](http://www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org)  
President: Andy Slater

Editor: Jeannette Wyman

### From the President

I can't believe it's August already. It's a cliché when people say, "When you're retired, you'll be busier than ever." But it's true. And the next few months will be a very busy time for the Club.

First of all, I welcome Jacqui Dudurovic as our Office Manager. Jacqui's been working for a few weeks now, and she's doing an amazing job. The office has never been so well organised; cupboards and drawers have been de-cluttered and labelled, the computer files have all been brought to heel, and the efficiency is something to behold. It's great.

This is a quick round up of some recent events:

Sadly, we felt we had to cancel the Christmas in July, almost at the last minute. Jayne Lansdown and I discussed the seeming lack of interest in the event this year; however we would have continued as it was a calendar event, but when we found out that Jack Wighton had just been admitted to hospital, we decided to cancel. His daughter, Sue, was to entertain on our special evening, and it didn't seem appropriate to ask Sue to continue, whilst not knowing how her father was faring.

If anyone was seriously inconvenienced by our decision, I do apologise but I know you will understand. I visited Jack in hospital the following Wednesday, and I passed on the Club's best wishes. He was hoping to leave the hospital soon, but wasn't quite ready to go home yet.

The six-month handicap trial was completed at the end of June, and some interesting data emerged. 50% of all free games were awarded to players who had come first anyway. 83% of all free games were awarded to players who had come first, second or third, as per usual. Make of this what you will, but should the system be continued given this information? The Committee was split three ways: dispense with it all together, continue as is, or continue in a modified form so that only players achieving 4th or below would get a free game. No decision was remotely possible. The Committee will therefore look at other possibilities to encourage continued participation at the Club.

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is a survey in which I would ask you to consider taking part.

There are now new soap dispensers in the washrooms. The original ones were regarded as being too fragile, the replacement ones just didn't seem to wash, (pun intended), so the new steel ones are sturdy and have been filled with proper soap.

Our Jill Wilson day went off very well. Jill's family – sons Andrew and Michael and daughter-in-law, Debbie – were very pleased with the celebratory events, and Michael gave a lovely speech. Jill's daughter, Robyn, has also passed on her appreciation to the club for the honouring of her mother's name, and has promised to pay a visit when she's next in Brisbane. The cake was something special to behold, made by Margaret Pilgrim's daughter, Louise. A big thank you to all the members who contributed to make it such a special event.

Car parking/leaving seems to be a lot less fractious these days, and I believe much of that would be due to the morning players finishing smartly and leaving smartly. Of course, players arriving must still play their part and give priority to those leaving, and waiting in the EGC if arriving early until the JW room starts to leave. We even have a sign asking for no afternoon player to enter before 12:50 because it disrupts the play. Fair enough. One request – I've had a complaint from a neighbour about a car encroaching upon her driveway entrance. Please be mindful of this. /over

I will be going on holiday to Europe early in October, and back at the end of November (Ireland, Iceland, UK, Malta, Germany) visiting family and friends. I shall endeavour to get our Calendar for 2020 sent for printing just as soon as I return, so if there are any changes of address or phone details would you please email or put a note in the Secretary's box, the earlier the better.

Regards, Andy Slater





## Meet our Members – and new Office Administrator

### Jacqui Dudurovic



Hello everyone, my name is Jacqui Dudurovic and I was recently appointed the Administration Assistant of NSBC. My primary role is to formalise procedures and streamline processes to assist in the smooth running of the club and, most importantly, lift the administrative load from the Committee so they can focus on their specific tasks and the future of the club. My experience in the role to date shows that NSBC is a very busy club with wonderful staff and volunteers working together to provide the Club with professional facilities and services, and I look forward to working with the team. I would like to thank the Committee and the Club for the opportunity and the warm and friendly welcome I have received.



Please find below some Administration updates / requests:

-  **Facebook:** Some members may not be aware that NSBC has a presence on Facebook (“FB”). FB is a great forum to spread the club news and attract new members. There are two “areas”, i.e.
  - Firstly, there is the public “**Northern Suburbs Bridge Club**” Page which has recently been created. This will be used as the public face of the club to let members and the public know about events and exciting news and developments. If you are an active FB user, we ask if you could please take the time to “like”  the page, “invite” your friends to follow and “share” the events etc.
  - Secondly, there is the longstanding private “**Northern Suburbs Bridge Club Members’ Forum**” which already has 58 followers. This is a Private group for members to positively and privately share news, ideas, fun facts, etc.

FB Posts are subject to Admin. approval before release, to ensure the “positive and fun” integrity of the Facebook Page and Group is maintained. NB: If you do post photos please ask permission from the people photographed before posting.

-  **Keys:** We are currently on the case of the missing keys!!! If you have a NSBC key and it is one of the following numbers, could you please email me at the club email address: nsbc4011@optusnet.com.au The key numbers are: 01, 02, 03, 39, 43, 50.
-  **Pianola:** It has been wonderful to see members embracing Pianola with close to 90% of members utilising this tool. As NSBC can use Pianola for the distribution of information to members, it is important that each member’s account details are correct. We would appreciate it if everyone could take the time to check that their “My Account” details on Pianola are up to date and correct.
- **Club History:** We have found some historical bridge equipment in the club that we would like to place in a display cabinet for all to see and reminisce about. If any members have any items they would like to donate / add to the collection, it would be much appreciated.



## Jill Wilson Presentation Day



Following the Jill Wilson Championship Pairs competition on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, Jill's sons, Andrew and Michael, and daughter-in-law, Debbie Wilson, attended a small presentation to mark the official naming of the Jill Wilson Building.

Michael spoke about his mother's love of bridge and her determination to build a permanent clubhouse at Hendra for NSBC members.

Members toasted Jill's memory with champagne, and enjoyed a celebration cake and tasty nibbles.



Michael and Andrew cutting the cake made by Margaret Pilgrim's daughter, Louise



Admiring the new plaque, dedicated to their mother, Jill Wilson



## NSBC Members' Recent Competition Place Results

### Club Competition Results

#### Jill Wilson Championship Pairs July 20



1<sup>st</sup>: Sumant Handa & Eugene Pereira



2<sup>nd</sup>: Abby Wanigaratne & Andrew Gosney



3<sup>rd</sup>: Vesna & Vokyo Markovic

#### Thursday Pairs July 18 & 25



1<sup>st</sup>: Anthony Grant-Smith & Margaret Michell

2<sup>nd</sup>: Paul Roberts & Joan Mills

3<sup>rd</sup>: Robert Barr & Annette Hyland

**Best Novice Pair:** Julie Forster & Lesley Peek

### Congress Results

#### Toowong Imp Pairs June 30

1<sup>st</sup> B: Alan Boyce & Peter Nilsson

#### Toowong Restricted Pairs 0-15mp



1<sup>st</sup>: Eugene Pereira (L) & Sumant Handa (R)  
with 2<sup>nd</sup>: Vesna & Vokyo Markovic

#### Lockyer Swiss Pairs July 14



1<sup>st</sup>: Margaret Plunkett & Greg Gosney

## Redland Bay Novice Pairs July 13

1<sup>st</sup>: Eugene Pereira & Wes Assaad

## Bundaberg Imp Pairs July 13

1<sup>st</sup>: Elizabeth & Neil Gibson

## Bribie Imp Teams July 21<sup>st</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>: Andy Slater, Ken Dawson, Richard & Ryan Touton

## NSBC Imp Pairs August 11

3<sup>rd</sup> B: John Scrivens & Paul Roberts

Thanks to all those who contributed food and/or helped in the kitchen, making this another successful NSBC event

## Upcoming Club Competitions

Hoffmann Tray Wednesday PM August 21 & 28

Sarafov Cup Mixed Pairs Wed AM Sept 11 & 18

Monday Shield PM October 14 & 21

## Upcoming Congresses

QBA Open Teams Toowong August 24 & 25

QBA Graded Pairs QCBC August 31 & Sept 1

QBA Open Pairs at NSBC October 12 & 13

## 70% Club

Joan Mills & Paul Roberts	74%
Peter Stride & Rosalie Barry	73.3%
Andrew Slater & Sumant Handa	71.8%
Phil Zammit & Sumant Handa	71.7%
Roy Davenport & Robert Barr	71%
Mary Ryan & Sunil Mukherjee	71%
Margaret Anderson & Jane Farquhar	70.1%
Donna Warnock & Louise Tronson	70%

NSBC is going green(er) with recyclable water cups.

Please put your used cups in the Paper/Cup bin.



## Promotions

Since the last Newsletter, the following home club members have achieved Masterpoint Ranking promotions. Congratulations to all.

### Silver Life

Joan Bannah

### State\*

Gabriel Boross

Eugene Pereira

### Regional\*

Elizabeth Herring

### Local\*\*

Janet Cook

### Local

Pam Varcoe

Di Patching

### Club

Liz Bowman

Robbi Hawkins

### Bronze Life

Andrew Gosney

### State

Eugene Kaiser

### Regional

Rosalie Barry

Paula McMahon

Betty Dingle

### Local\*

Michael O'Rourke

Jen Ahern

Megan du Plessis

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**Horror Hand #1:** At a Congress I picked up ♠ xx, ♥ xx, ♦ AKQJ98762 ♣ – Wow! Nine solid Diamonds.

N	E	S	W (me)
1S	-	1NT	2S
X	3S!	4C	5D
-	5S!!	-	6D
-	6H!!!	-	7D (dbled)

Left Hand Opponent (LHO) opens 1S, Pass, 1NT from RHO, so I decide to cue bid 2S to see if partner has anything interesting. Perhaps 3NT may be on with my nine solid diamond tricks.

Double from LHO, but partner comes in with 3S! I don't know what that's meant to convey – usually it means a half stopper in Spades (Qx or maybe Jxx), but we hadn't discussed it.

But partner must have some values to come into the auction.

RHO now bids 4C; obviously not many points after his initial 1NT, but lots of Clubs.

Time to reveal my true colours and wheel out the big one – 5D, expecting the bidding to stop there.

But no! My partner now bids 5S! What the \*#@(&\*!

Oh well, nothing for it but to bid 6D. But my partner wasn't finished yet. He now bids 6H. I'm lost. Finally, reluctantly, in exasperation, I bid 7D. Doubled, and my partner mercifully passes. I make eleven tricks: partner had a Diamond void but a club and a Spade winner.

Naturally I enquire when the hand is finished, "Why were you bidding like that partner?"

"Well," he replied, "I was supporting your 2S bid."

"But that was just a cue bid of their suit."

"What? Did they bid Spades? Show me!" And there it was, the opening bid on the bidding pad for all to see – all except one, that is.

**Horror Hand #2:** At a recent Club event (not NSBC) I held: ♠ KJ9 ♥ KQT7 ♦ KJ8 ♣ 876

Partner opens 1S. Great, enough points for game, but I'm too strong for 2S or 3S, and I don't have a weak freak type of hand to bid 4S, so I make my 'temporising' bid of 2D. This is a forcing bid of course, a new suit at the two-level, so whatever partner's rebid, I will then bid 4S. The best laid plans...

Partner rebids 5D! Most definitely not the bid I wanted to hear. Oh well, 5S from me.

Amazingly, I now get 6D from partner. Some hand he must have over there.

Again, I support his first bid suit with 6S. All pass. Partner goes down by one.

Apologetically, he explains his opening bid was meant to be 1D!

Fortunately he did have four Spades: ♠ AQT7, ♥ 2, ♦ AT9743, ♣ A9, so made eleven tricks.

And the moral here? Diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but most certainly not this boy's.

Andy Slater

## Just a Thought

The National Science Foundation (US) estimates that our brains produce 12,000 to 50,000 thoughts per day, depending on how deep a thinker you are.

Hopefully, more on bridge days ...



## Lesson with Andy Hung - Saturday August 3rd

Andy Hung is located in Perth for 2019, as teacher of the West Australian Bridge Club, where he teaches all levels from beginners to advanced, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays every week. He says that if you are ever in the neighbourhood, be sure to drop by for a game or a lesson.

He was back on the east coast in early August, holding bridge seminars in Sydney and Brisbane, one of which was at NSBC.

Daina Geise attended his lesson and gave us this summary of the topic:

### How to Improve Your Competitive Bidding Judgement

Andy Hung explained to the thirty-nine attending bridge players how to use The Law of Total Tricks to compete at the 2 and 3 level. Using his thorough notes and clear PowerPoint examples, Andy was able to show us how, by estimating the number of tricks held by each partnership, you could determine how high to compete. If a partnership holds:

- 8 trumps between them, compete to the 2 level
- 9 trumps between them, compete to the 3 level
- 10 trumps between them, compete to the 4 level.

The better your trump fit, the higher you should compete.

This information will not help you decide if a contract will make but it will help in determining whether it is worth bidding on, possibly to sacrifice, or whether it would be better to defend.

When vulnerable or “very balanced”, use caution in applying The Law of Total Tricks to determine the level of your competitive bidding.

When you know the opponents have an 8-card fit, don't let them play at the 2-level. Try to find a 2-level contract that you and your partner have a fit in. Remember that honours in the opponent's suit is a bad feature for you to compete 3 over 2, and shortages (singleton or voids) are good features for you to compete 3 over 2.

You should have 9 trumps to compete at the 3-level. The vulnerability and the unbalanced nature of your hand can be overriding factors for you to compete at the 3-level without 9 trumps.

Andy clearly showed how applying The Law of Total Tricks helps partnership determine to what level to take your competitive bidding.

The Northern Suburbs Bridge Club thanks Andy Hung for fitting this afternoon tutorial session into his busy schedule. Hopefully with this knowledge we all will be more competitive in our 2 and 3 level bidding.

*Daina Geise*



Andy with Daina Geise & Bruce Stephens



Interesting Hand



Maxim Wilson enjoying the lesson

## Library News from the Bookworm

Continuing our theme of 25, this issue will review another of Barbara Seagram and Marc Smith's publications – 25 Ways to Compete in the Bidding.

Unfortunately, we have only one copy in the library. That is a pity as it is a must read for all beginners looking to advance their bidding armoury.

This book follows the same format as the two books on conventions previewed in the last issue – a detailed explanation of the subject, a summary of the key points, some sample hands to test yourself, followed by the answers.

Topics discussed are:-

Suit overcalls

Takeout doubles, responses and later bidding

No Trump overcalls

Bidding over opponent's No Trump opening

Bidding over pre-empts

General competitive issues including balancing, the law of total tricks and an important section on hand evaluation.

Highly recommended reading for all beginners.



## CHARITY BRIDGE DAY – Wednesday 15 August

About 70 players attended a morning of bridge, including a delicious morning tea and lunch, in aid of the Good Samaritan Housing charity which provides living accommodation, guidance and training for vulnerable women and children who are suffering from domestic violence.



Pat Shine with some of the many raffle prizes



1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the raffle was a patchwork quilt, made and donated by Sandi Pirozzo



## NSBC Club Survey

*In order to keep our Club operating as effectively and collaboratively as possible, the Committee would appreciate hearing your views. (Pamela Varcoe's help in preparing this survey is acknowledged). Please take a minute or two to complete the survey, and return it to the Secretary's box, just by the Office door, by the end of this month if possible.*

1. What are some things you value about NSBC?

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2. What are some things you consider could be improved?

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3. Have you some ideas that the Committee could consider implementing into their planning for the future?

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4. Our Club relies on volunteers to operate effectively. Do you have any skills/experience that might support the Club?

e.g. Legal, Work Place Health & Safety, IT, maintenance, food preparation.

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Name (optional, but needed if Q4 has been answered).

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Thank you for doing this quick survey. The Committee will consider any proposals at our next meeting, scheduled for Saturday, September 7.

*Andrew Slater*



### Exclusive living for over 55s at Doomben Racecourse.

Part of an emerging precinct in the established Brisbane Racing Club, Bernborough Ascot is an exciting new project designed to put you where the action is. Think resort-style facilities, a thriving community and everything at your fingertips.

With expressions of interest now open, secure your new home by calling Glenn Carroll on 1800 411 601

[bernboroughascot.com](http://bernboroughascot.com)



Welcome to our new sponsor – The Clayfield retirement community, by Aveo.

The Clayfield is located on the previous site of St Columban's college. With over 150 residents residing in the beautiful apartments and enjoying the landscaped gardens, restored heritage buildings such as Highlands House and community spaces, it truly is a beautiful community.

The beautiful gardens and buildings are maintained by the team onsite. No need to worry about maintenance of a large home or garden, let the onsite team do the work! This means that you will have more time to do the things you love to do – like Bridge!

The Clayfield also has an exceptional restaurant with a qualified and experienced chef offering a delectable à la carte menu.

To support your health and wellbeing, residents have easy access to health services and there are a variety of activities to do including swimming, billiards, Tai Chi and more. You will also have peace of mind knowing that care & support is available 24/7.

Find out more at [www.theclayfield.com.au](http://www.theclayfield.com.au) or Call 13 28 36 to book a tour today.



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\*Price correct at 23/08/18. Image is of apartment S403



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