

# Northern Suburbs Bridge Club



## Newsletter

December 2019

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

Editor: Jeannette Wyman

### From the President

Back home again. Rose and I had a great time being on holiday, visiting places as far apart as Iceland and Malta, meeting up with family, but always keeping an eye on what was happening in Australia - the fires, loss of life, homes destroyed. We got drenched in some places, and here there are towns running out of water. Is this the way of the future?

On to Bridge. I had hoped to hit the ground running, but instead, I felt like a tortoise. However, with the Teams of 3, followed by the Christmas Teams the following weekend, the pressure was certainly on. I will take this opportunity to thank Albert Loh for doing such a fantastic job as Convener over the past few months. Tournament Directors have sung his praises for being so well organised. He will have a break as Sumant Handa takes the reins for a while.

I was thrilled to see our Club win the Inter-Club Teams! I was so proud of all our players, as I know every rank and file member must be. The Director, Julie Jeffries, wrote a glowing letter of appreciation thanking the Club for putting on such a good show (see page 3).

It does seem to be getting harder and harder for members to help out with time or food for these events. The Club has had to consider either asking tournament players to bring their own lunch, or in the case of QBA events, to have them catered for. I was in the kitchen during the Teams of 3 and we have a wonderful (small) group of helpers. But of course they cannot be expected to be there for every event. Paradoxically it seems that smaller clubs can manage, and manage well, whereas some of the bigger clubs struggle. I guess it may be that big clubs such as NSBC have a greater burden to carry.

Whilst away, I have given a lot of thought to the structure of the Beginners' course. My concern is one of 'information overload', which I think is inhibiting and intimidating new players. Therefore I will be trialling a simplified approach to the course, so hopefully at the end of it, players will know the very basics very, very well, and be better adept at playing the cards. Further, I will be asking some Monday evening and Tuesday morning players to volunteer to act as mentors for just three sessions at the end of the course, in order for the beginners to become familiar with the format of club play. This won't be happening until April, so plenty of time for players to think about doing their bit for the future of our club.

After thirty-eight years of directing on Saturdays, Diana Dick will be putting away her Director's handbook for good. I congratulate and thank Diana for all her years of dedicated service to the club. Thirty-eight years is a pretty remarkable achievement.

We do need up-and-coming players to think about becoming Directors. Indeed, the QBA runs courses to help players in this regard – not necessarily to become accredited, but to help players help out at regular club sessions by learning the basics of directing. There is also an online question and answer page to help in this regard. Why not give it a go?

There are many unsung helpers in our club, those who tidy up the tables and put things away and do many other small but important jobs around the place. I have been hearing about your exploits, and I wasn't even aware you were there, quietly and busily going about your weekly tasks. You are all so essential to the smooth running of our club, and a big thank you from me.

/over

I saw many of you at the Christmas Teams on the 15<sup>th</sup>, gnomes and elves decked out in red, green and silver. I know Pat doesn't like to bring attention to what she does to make such a lovely end of year event happen, so a simple: "Thank you very much Pat."

I would like to wish all of our members a very Happy Christmas and New Year. It's a busy time for many, often with grandchildren to help look after during the holiday season, but such a lovely time. Keep a lookout for when we will have our Grandparents' day, to bring along the grandchildren and play cards, - even bridge for those who are interested.

As a reminder, there will be bridge as normal on New Year's Day.

Regards, Andy Slater

## Inter-Club Teams Congress held at NSBC on November 17

10 clubs competed in this challenge, including QCBC (2<sup>nd</sup>), Toowong (3<sup>rd</sup>), BBC, Sunnybank, Arana, Redcliffe, Kenmore, Redland and Beenleigh.

### NSBC Results

#### NSBC A Grade Team:

Mary Ryan, Joan Mills, Anne Lamport, Ewa Kowalczyk: 3rd

#### NSBC B Grade Team:

Bob & Chris Thomas, Eugene Pereira & Rex Meadowcroft: 2nd

#### NSBC C Grade Team:

Vesna & Vokyo Markovic, Graham White & Era Palit: 3rd

#### NSBC D Grade Team:

Liz Bowman, Jason Cooney, Lyn Rose, Graham Killoran: 6th

And the Overall Winner was .....



NSBC

## Email to the President from the QBA Brisbane Zone Secretary

Hello Andrew

On behalf of QBA Brisbane Zone, I wish to thank Northern Suburbs for hosting the Annual Brisbane Interclub Teams. I have received many congratulations and thank-yous from players who thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful day of bridge.

In particular I would like to thank Albert Loh, Convener, for the excellent job he did in having everything prepared and ready to go, Jacqui Dudurovic for tirelessly uploading entries to the events page, Roslyn Frost "dealer extraordinaire" - as usual all boards perfectly dealt - and Margaret Pilgrim and her team for superb and delicious catering.

I would also take this opportunity to congratulate Northern Suburbs for emerging victorious, despite being fiercely challenged by strong competition.

Once again, many thanks

Julie Jeffries

Brisbane Zone Secretary



## Clouston Christmas Party Teams - Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>

Once again, Pat Clouston sponsored a fabulous day of team competition, and this year entries had to be restricted to a record number of 46 teams, as the Jill Wilson Building was filled to capacity.



Members brought along a plate of food to share, as well as a children's Activity Book or lunch box for the Zephyr Education Christmas Appeal. They chose a variety of apparel:



Fay Jeppesen



Merv Eastaughffe



Olivia Jackson, Lorraine Pescatore,  
Marianne McPherson & Dawn Benes

## Teams Results

### A Grade



1: Robert Barr, Roy Davenport, Errol Miller, Dorothy Gehrke



2: Helen & Richard McLauchlan, Pam Horton, (Natalie Bloch)



3: Margaret Plunkett, Abby Wanigaratne, Greg & Andrew Gosney



4: Robyn Burnage, Jan Hoffman, Mary Ryan, Joan Mills

### B Grade



1: Margaret Williamson, Joan Campbell, Joan Bannah, Jane Kavanagh



2: Gay Testa, Kerry Malt, Patricia Collins, Dorothy Coker



3: Ted Morris, Jennifer Bavage, Sandra Routley, Marie Filippini



2: Vesna & Voyko Markovic, Tino & Lucia Grgic



4: Carol Shinkel, Pat Shine, Margaret Baker, (Betty English)



3: Alan Anderson, Andrea Parkins, Greg Kerswell, Catherine Flowers

**C Grade**



1: Paul Jenkins, Sumant Handa, John Rivers, Eugene Pereira



4: Lesley Wallace, Lyn Colwell, Judy Gillespie, Jeannette Wyman

## D Grade



1: Julie Navruk, Peter Fagan, Sandi Pirozzo, Jason Cooney



4: Anne Adamson, Jo-anne Bauer, Di Patching, Vicky Lloyd

## Best Hat Competition



2: Maxim Wilson, Anne & David McEvoy, Bruce Stephens



6<sup>th</sup>: Paul Roberts



3: Marie Lincoln, (Lyn Rose, Mike Palmer, Diane Ainsworth)



5<sup>th</sup> Merv Eastaughffe



4<sup>th</sup>: Dorothy Gehrke



2<sup>nd</sup>: Alan Boyce



3<sup>rd</sup>: Donna Krosche



1<sup>st</sup>: Tiffany Mair

At the end of the presentations, Pat was heard to say that she couldn't remember when she'd last had so many kisses!

Many thanks again to Pat for her generosity in sponsoring the day. Thanks also to Margaret Plunkett and Greg Gosney as conveners, and Helen and Diane for their tireless work in the kitchen.

## NSBC Members' Other Recent Competition Place Results

### Club Competition Results

#### Monday Shield PM October 14 & 21

1<sup>st</sup>: Dorothy Gehrke & Errol Miller

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

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

### Members' Congress Results

#### NSBC Imp Pairs November 2 & 3



B:2<sup>nd</sup>: Lex Ranke & Jack Rohde

B:3<sup>rd</sup>: Dennis Sullivan & Ann Smith



C:1<sup>st</sup>: Albert Loh & Lyndel Hewitt



C:2<sup>nd</sup>: Vesna & Voyko Markovic

#### QBA Senior Pairs GCBC November 10

A: 3<sup>rd</sup>: John Scrivens & Neil Gibson

#### Toowoomba Swiss Teams November 10

A: 3<sup>rd</sup>: Margaret Plunkett, Greg Gosney,  
Annette Hyland & Fay Jeppesen

C: 3<sup>rd</sup>: Eugene Pereira, Rex Meadowcroft, Peter  
Evans & Alastair Nixon

#### QBA Teams of 3 at NSBC December 8



A:1<sup>st</sup>: Peter NILSSON, Judy Quick, Wendy  
Casey & Pat Eather



A:2<sup>nd</sup>: Richard WARD with Oliver McCarthy  
Paddy Taylor & Darren Brake



B:1<sup>st</sup>: Tony TRELOAR with Dominique Treloar,  
Alison Banks & Jamshid Vazirzadeh






B: 2<sup>nd</sup>: Murray PERRIN with Sue English, Jane Tagney & Merrill Lance



C: 2<sup>nd</sup>: Alan BOYCE with Tracy Heading, Barb Barnett & Helen Bougoure

Thanks to all those who helped to make these NSBC events a great success, either by helping with the organising, contributing food or working in the kitchen.

And a special thanks to Jacqui, who when asked by a gent from Toowong Bridge Club, who keenly wanted to play in the Teams of 3, if she could find him some team mates, pulled together an NSBC team and included him. He showed his gratitude with this floral arrangement: 



## Upcoming Club Competitions

President's Tray Mondays a.m. Feb 3 & 10

## Upcoming Congresses 2020

ABF Summer Festival of Bridge January 8-19

QCBC Open & Novice Imp Pairs January 12

NSBC Open Teams January 19

Kenmore Graded Pairs & Teams Jan. 26-27

Toowoomba Novice & Imp Pairs Feb 2

### Gold Coast Congress February 21 – 29

This Congress is a good place for Novices to begin their competitive bridge career:

Categories include:

Rookie - U10 masterpoints

Novice - U50 & U100

Restricted – U300

Intermediate – U750

Open

Entry forms are available on the rack or online at [www.qldbridge.com.au/gcc](http://www.qldbridge.com.au/gcc)

Did you know that Bridge is the only sport where the participants pay at a tournament and the spectators get in free....

## Masterpoint Promotions

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

### Regional

Jill Lukin

### Local

Carol Jelly

Heather Taylor

Peter Taylor

### Graduate

Leanne Rooijmans

Tracy Heading

Anne Gooley

### Local\*

Mark Kowitz

### Club

Sandi Pirozzo

Rosemary Doyle

Kerry Diggles

## New Members

Chris Green  
Sally Huxley  
Willy Van Zijl  
Jamshid Vazirzadeh

We welcome our new members and wish them all a long and happy association with our club.

## 70% Club

Yolande Coroneo & Peter Nilsson	73.8%
Karyn Aaker & Diana Hotchkis	73.2%
Anne Lamport & Ewa Kowalczyk	72.8%
Keith Roskam & Graham Porter	72.7%
Ian Franklin & Geoff Doyle	72.6%
Roy Davenport & Robert Barr	71.9%
Deidre Taylor & Gary Mitchell	71%
Kerry Diggles & Jean Gowans	70.5%
Margy Roskam & Megan du Plessis	70.5%
Mike Palmer & Ghislaine Green	70.5%
Helen Baran & Vanessa Wells	70.2%
Oliver McCarthy & Andrew Gosney	70.1%

## Subscription Notices

Annual Subscription Notices were issued in December 2019, either by email or available for collection at the club as hardcopy.

Please be sure to include your NAME and ABF number when making your payment.

Levies are due by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

## Beginners' Lessons

The next Beginners' lessons will be held on Monday evenings, beginning on January 27th at 7 p.m. and Tuesday mornings, beginning on January 28th at 9.30 a.m.

Classes are free and run for 8 weeks, followed by 8 weeks of "supervised play" sessions.

## Vale

Jack Wighton passed away 22 October 2019  
Dr Phil Zammit passed away 2 November 2019  
Graham Macdonald passed away 10 December

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## A Christmas Wish

A bridge player was polishing a lamp and... poof! - out popped a genie who said, "Since it's Christmas, I will grant you **one** wish."

The player unfolded a map of the world and said, "Let all of these countries live in peace and harmony."

"You've got to be kidding!" was the reply. "I'm only a genie."

The player thought for a while and then suggested: "OK, then make me a winning bridge player."

"Hmm...", the genie pondered. "Let me see that map again."



## Rubbing Shoulders with Bill Gates and Zia Mahmood

### Anne Lamport's recent trip to the North American Bridge Championships in San Francisco

Over the last few years I have been lucky enough to be invited to play in many of the NABC championships which are held every 4 months in a different state of the USA, and some in Canada also. The top players from around the world are there, and it is great to rub shoulders with many of these as friends and partners.



An inspirational hug from Zia Mahmood - Sitting beside Bill Gates - Anne with her partners

At this NABC I played with Christina Lund Madsen, European Champion from Denmark (one of my regular partners), in the opening pairs event, Adam Stocka from Sweden in the BAM teams, Ariana Testa from Italy in the Women's Teams, and Stefan Skorchev from Bulgaria in A/X Teams.

I had a very special team in the KO teams event where we managed **3<sup>rd</sup> Place!** My team was Christina Lund Madsen from Denmark, Juan Castro Castillo from Columbo and Lisi Covarrubias from Chile. A truly international team of great people and we had a lot of fun, coming 3<sup>rd</sup> was a bonus!

On the last weekend there was, as always, a sizeable A/X Swiss Teams which typically attracts the majority of top players who are out of the Reisinger, one of the top National team events of the tournament. Our own Liam Milne and Andy Hung and team came 3<sup>rd</sup> in this event – called the Reisinger BAM teams - which is an amazing accomplishment and we are very proud of them. It is one of the 3 major team tournaments in the US calendar and one of the hardest and most competitive events in the world. I was playing in this event with Stefan Skorchev, a perfect partner and delightfully funny man. In one of the first rounds we played against our own defector (to Las Vegas now where he lives with beautiful wife Lisa) and a good friend, Ishmael Del Monte and his partner, Eldad Ginossar, from Israel.

This is the hand which we played (me actually!!) in 6CX doubled by Ish, and I made it!!!!

**Dealer S E/W Vul**

**Auction:** 1C-(1H)-3C-(4H)-5C- (pass) -6C-X

*The Hands:*

**S. Anne:** AJTx, x, KQx, AJ8xx

**W. Eldad:** xxxx, AKQxx, xxx, x

**N. Stefan:** Qxx, xxxx, ---, KQ109xx

**E. Ish:** Kx, J9x, AJ109, xxx, x

They led a D, I drew trumps and took a Spade finesse, conceding 1H for 12 tricks and +1090!!

Unfortunately the USA is not as proficient as we are in dealing and recording most of the team events, so you have to deal yourself and play with no hand records. I had to get Ishmael and Stefan's help to remember this hand as after 100s of hands my brain is quite dead.

All in all it was a fun, but exhausting, 12 days with lots of memories to have forever.

*Anne Lamport*

## Melbourne Cup Day



66 players enjoyed bridge followed by sweeps, prizes for the best hats, lunch and the Race.

Thanks to Greg Gosney & Margaret Plunkett, and Helen and Diane in the kitchen, for organising the day.



### Best Hats



1st Prize: Chris Hunter



2nd Prize: Lyn Rose



Enjoying lunch

## Library News from the Bookworm

Continuing on from my theme of 25, in this issue I will critique the Seagram and Bird publication “25 ways to be a Better Defender”. Defence is the most neglected aspect of our game. Many average players make the same defensive mistakes time and again. If you are a beginner, or an advancing player keen to improve your results at the bridge table, then here is a good place to start.

The first section of the book is devoted to the basics of sound defence and covers such topics as opening leads, correct play in second and third seats, whether you should defend actively or passively and how to preserve communication with your partner.

The second section titled “Building a Picture of the Hidden hands” shows you how to discover what cards declarer and your partner hold.

And finally, the third section is devoted to more advanced topics such as how to put declarer to a guess, promoting trump tricks, disrupting declarer’s communications and defending deceptively.

25 chapters, all carefully explained and backed up with revision and test practice hands.

We have some recent additions to the library compliments of Elizabeth and Neil Gibson, who have donated the following books from their personal collection:-

- Playing Suit Combinations by Gitelman and Rubens,
- Take Your Tricks by Eddie Kantar,
- Two Minute Bridge Tips by Frank Stewart,
- Encyclopedia of Card Play Technique by Guy Leve,
- Defensive Bridge Play Complete by William Root.

I will endeavour to review one or two of them in a future issue. Thank you, Neil and Elizabeth for your kind donation.



Thanks to all those who have told me through the year that they enjoy reading the Newsletter.

Please keep it up - as therein lies the motivation ...

*Merry Christmas everybody*

Ed.



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

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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.

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