

# Northern Suburbs Bridge Club



## Newsletter

October 2019

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

Editor: Jeannette Wyman

### From the President

We are heading into what will be the busiest time of the year for our club.

Events coming up are: QBA Open Pairs, Monday Shield, Pairs Congress, Melbourne Cup Day, Inter-Club Teams, QBA Teams of 3 and our Christmas Party Teams. These events do put a strain on our human resources. The time has come when we now have to advise on our entry forms that, apart from special events, tournament players should bring their own lunch rather than depend on the largesse of the club. Morning/afternoon tea will of course always be provided, so we do exhort members to volunteer their time and skills.

Albert Loh is doing a great job as Congress Convener, but he does need your help.

The Brisbane heats of the GNOT were held in September, and I'm pleased to say that a Northern Suburbs team has made it to the finals at the end of November, a feat that hasn't been achieved for many years. Congratulations to Geoff Toon, Ewa Kowalczyk, Mary Ryan and Sunil Mukherjee! They will do our club proud, and the Committee will look at providing some funding for them to help alleviate expenses.

In September I attended the QBA Presidents' meeting at the QCBC, Woolloongabba. It was an enjoyable and very informative seminar, and there is a brief report elsewhere in this newsletter.

A major point of discussion was the behaviour of a few, a very few, disagreeable members. Every club has them! They cannot seem to help themselves, despite all efforts to get them to consider the effect of their offensive words and actions. Bridge clubs are a haven for so many players, and everyone must feel safe, respected and valued at all times. The QBA will start work on a constitution that will address poor behaviour that all clubs can use. I look forward to this.

Our Beginners' lessons and Help With Play sessions are now finished for the year. Because of my upcoming travel we have had to introduce the new graduates into 'normal' play quicker than usual. If you happen to have a newbie couple at your table, try to remember how scary it was when you first started playing. Everyone seemed like an expert, and they sure could play fast!

If wanting to help them (and you think they can handle it), just advise them if they haven't conformed to their very basic system card. Anything new is information overload. Expect them to be slow, and explain why the Director has to be called if you have to take an average.

We have over twenty new members, and every one of us 'old members' would like to see them still playing next year. They may well become life-long members with everyone's support. It's certainly worth investing some niceness and patience into their future.

Along with a few volunteers I went to the 'Active Retirement Expo' held at The Clayfield-Aveo. This event was a way for many groups to showcase their activities. We set up a bridge table and demonstrated how the game is played. We hope some of the passers-by were interested.

We have given Pianola a good go. Very few of our members have taken up a subscription, and for this reason we see no reason to continue with the service, and therefore it has been discontinued. I know our Bridgemate operators will be glad of this. We are exploring other Mail Services we can use to inform our members of current news.

As I mentioned in my report in the last newsletter, I will be on holiday overseas for a few weeks. I have asked Warren Brown to be looking after things while I'm away. Warren is a very experienced committee member and will do a great job.

I wish all our members good luck in the Bridge world. I'll be watching the results from afar, and for those of you who like a flutter on the horses, may your selections in the Melbourne Cup get up. I shall be back at the end of November, fully refreshed and looking forward to the Christmas Party!

Regards, Andy Slater

## Report on Presidents' Meeting at the QCBC, 28 & 29 September

I found this to be a very pleasant, informative and valuable meeting. Approximately 25 Presidents attended, from clubs throughout Queensland.

The main speakers were -

**Richard Ward**, Tournament Manager: Richard talked about psyche bidding and the need for a psyche register. It is a good idea to have a Recorder to calm down potential issues.

**Peter Cox**, Marketing Manager of the ABF: Peter gave a great talk covering such topics as declining membership worldwide, strategies to use to market bridge - advertising, use of social media etc. Peter had fascinating graphs on all kinds of topics:

Perhaps an Open Day – bring friends/family members along/advertise in local media

'Fun Bridge' is good for beginners, and BBO is a great medium for teaching

Facebook advertising campaign costs \$500 – ABF will contribute \$250.

An interesting idea for Novice players – 'Bridge Tips' on the back of the toilet door!

Could clubs maybe subsidise novices into tournaments?

**Craig Francis**, QBA Lawyer: Membership forms should ask a prospective new member if s/he has been a member of a club overseas, and if they have ever been banned from a club within Australia.

A member may be banned from club events, but cannot be banned from QBA events

Each club should have a set of By Laws – changes can be made by the Management Committee instead of having to refer to the Office of Fair Trading.

Life Membership - should be set down in the Constitution that this should be decided by the Management Committee when certain criteria have been satisfied.

Any updates or revisions to the Constitution should also look at electronic communication.

The issue of defibrillators was also mentioned – who to use, and when to use.

**Steve Weil**, TBIB Broker for the ABF: Steve talked about the need for insurance especially when it comes to public liability. Clubs are covered through TBIB's insurance with the ABF.

Travel insurance was also a popular topic.

Check out TBIB insurance when it comes to pre-existing conditions.

**Kim Ellaway**, QBA Secretary: Club Data is to be sent to Kim Ellaway, Secretary of the QBA.

Any changes, send to Kim.

Take out batteries from rarely used Bridgemates, and use quality batteries!

We can 'drill down' on played hands using our own website, instead of Pianola - (There is an article [on page 5](#) of this newsletter on how to do this).

**Joan Butts**, QBA Teacher: Joan would like to see Accredited Teachers.

**Jan Peach**, QBA Tournament Director: Up and coming new Directors can now visit the QBA website to practise their decision making skills.

*Andrew Slater*

## NSBC Members' Recent Competition Place Results

### Club Competition Results

#### Hoffmann Tray Wednesday PM August 21 & 28

1<sup>st</sup>: Eugene Pereira & Rex Meadowcroft

2<sup>nd</sup>: Andrew Gosney & Greg Gosney

3<sup>rd</sup>: Helen & Richard McLauchlan

#### Sarafov Cup Mixed Pairs Wed AM Sept 11 & 18



1<sup>st</sup>: Sunil Mukherjee & Mary Ryan

2<sup>nd</sup>: Gail McCarthy & Bert Luchjenbroers

3<sup>rd</sup>: Marcella Waller & Robert Barr

### Congress Results

#### QBA Graded Pairs QCBC August 31 & Sept 1

3<sup>rd</sup>: Geoffrey Toon & Ewa Kowalczyk

#### Kenmore Rookie Pairs 0-50 September 8

2<sup>nd</sup>: B: Helen Baran & Vanessa Wells

#### Surfers Paradise Swiss Teams September 8

2<sup>nd</sup>: A: John Scrivens, Paul Roberts,  
Gheorghii Belonogov, Ewa Kowalczyk

#### GNOTS (Grand National Open Teams)

##### Brisbane Zone Finals:

3<sup>rd</sup>: Geoffrey Toon, Ewa Kowalczyk,  
Sunil Mukherjee & Bert Luchjenbroers

This team is one of 60 teams to qualify, along with 2 other Brisbane teams, to play in the National Finals, which will be held at Tweed Heads over 4 days in late November.

Congratulations and Good Luck!

#### Toowoomba Pairs & Teams October 5-7



2<sup>nd</sup> B: Pairs: Yolande Coroneo & Jacqui Fardoullys



3<sup>rd</sup> A: Teams: Jack Rohde, Greg Gosney, Margaret Plunkett & Lex Ranke

1<sup>st</sup> B: Teams: Yolande Coroneo, Alan Boyce, Jacqui Fardoullys & Peter Nillson



2<sup>nd</sup> C: Teams: Eugene Pereira, Rex Meadowcroft, Ken Orange, Alastair Nixon

#### QBA Open Pairs at NSBC October 12 & 13

Overall Winners: Tony Hutton & Ralph Parker

2<sup>nd</sup>: C: Yolande Coroneo & Jane Farquhar

Thanks to all those who helped out at this Congress. Players came from all over Queensland and several comments were made by visiting players as to how much they enjoy coming to our well-run club



## Upcoming Club Competitions

### Christmas Party Teams December 15



Get your team together for the fun event of the year. Last year we had a record number of 44 teams enter this competition.

## Upcoming Congresses

NSBC Imp Pairs November 2 & 3

QBA Senior Pairs GCBC November 10

NSBC Inter-Club Teams November 17

QBA Teams of 3 at NSBC December 8

## Promotions

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

### State\*

Mervyn Eastaughffe  
Rex Meadowcroft

### Local\*\*

Margy Roskam  
Neil Benson

### Local

Julie Navruk  
Peter Fagan  
Vanessa Wells  
Helen Baran  
Arthur Ponting

### Graduate

Barry Hickey  
Pam Buchanan  
Patricia Durack



### Regional

Vad Furminger  
Philip Zammit

### Local\*

Ghislaine Green  
Suzie Crooke

### Club

Marion Inglis  
Jason Cooney  
Judy Laubscher  
Carol Fincham  
Sheena Simmonds  
Merrilyn Gavin

## New Members

Gordon Broadley  
Ed Barry  
Ray Costello  
Michelle Greenwood  
Sally Huxley  
Paul Jenkins  
Jonene Lord  
Kim Lundie  
Val Morzone  
Sveeta Pabari  
Rose Pullinger  
Jane Tynan  
Kay Low

Merrill Lance  
Peter Brown  
Sue Cullum  
Chris Gado  
Barbara Jeffery  
Viv Johns  
Deb Love  
Margaret Manning  
Judy Newlands  
Graham Porter  
Joy Ryall  
Steve Weil  
Margaret Roff



Some of the beginners' group who have joined the Tuesday a.m. bridge session.

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



Please support our Sponsor:

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*Dear Bridge Players,  
Thank you all so much for being especially careful not to mark the tablecloths with the biros (while thinking) before bidding! The 'dots' are much less now and this has cut down on the washing a great deal.  
Thank you also to the girls who stepped in for a couple of months to wash the cloths while I was away.  
Many thanks to all.  
Sandy Handfield*

## Vale

Merilyn Wright passed away 21 September 2019

# BRIDGE SOLVER

As many of you know, the club decided not to continue using Pianola. This is largely due to a low level of engagement with Pianola. One of the main features many players found useful was the ability to replay the hands from the sessions, but what people may not realise, is that it is possible to do it on the results website!

When you are looking at your results for the day, you can click on your name to view a board-by-board analysis of the session, showing you the percentage you received on every board. If you then click on the board number, you can see the results for the board at every table, as well as a diagram of the hand. Underneath the diagram of the hand, there is a link that says "Replay with Bridge Solver"

Click on the NS or EW Pair for a full display of that Pair's performance  
Click on a column heading to change sort sequence of display

Go to Previous Board   Go to Next Board   Jump to Board 2

**BOARD 2**

BD: 2      ♠AQ43      Dir: E  
♥AT      Vul: N-S  
♦KQ843  
♣Q5

♠KT75		♠2
♥K9852		♥763
♦6		♦AJT752
♣964		♣AJ2
♠J986		
♥QJ4		
♦9		
♣KT873		

	♠	♦	♥	♣	NT	
N	4	1	-	3	3	17
S	3	1	-	3	3	6    10
E	-	-	-	-	-	7
W	-	-	1	-	-	

NEW   [Replay with Bridge Solver](#)

Below is a brief overview of the Bridge Solver window:

Optimum Result (Not always the **correct** result)

Vulnerability (Red for vulnerable, Green for non-vulnerable)

Bridge Solver Online  
Close this browser window to return to Session Results

**Optimum:**  
W 4Hx; +500  
LoTT: 16-16 = 0

♠ A Q 4 3  
♥ A 10  
♦ K Q 8 4 3  
♣ Q 5

Bridge Solver Online:  
John Goacher  
Double Dummy Solver Module:  
Bo Haglund

♠ K 10 7 5	2	♠ 2
♥ K 9 8 5 2		♥ 7 6 3
♦ 6		♦ A J 10 7 5 2
♣ 9 6 4		♣ A J 2
♠ J 9 8 6		
♥ Q J 4		
♦ 9		
♣ K 10 8 7 3		

	♠	♦	♥	♣	NT
N	4	1	-	3	3
S	3	1	-	3	3
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	1	-	-

6      17      10  
7      7

Makeable contacts for each hand

Option Buttons

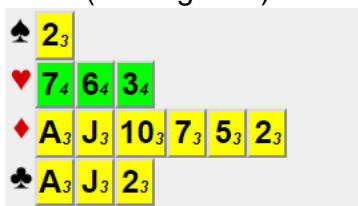
Save Edit Play Options Help Analyse

HCP Counts for each hand

The first thing to note is the “Optimum Result”. This is where the computer calculates the optimal result for the board, based on who can make what, what different contracts are makeable, and whether or not there is a sacrifice that scores better than the best contracts. In the example, it says the optimal result is 4HxW making 7 tricks for +500 to N/S, because the heart sacrifice scores better for E/W than 3NT making 9 tricks for +600 to N/S. Looking at the hand, a heart sacrifice is unreasonable, so make sure to think about the reasonableness of the “Optimum Result” before taking it as gospel. The computer isn’t perfect!

At the bottom of the page are a series of buttons. Each button has the following function:

- **Save:** Downloads the hand from the website to your computer as a .pbn file.
- **Edit:** Allows you to modify the hand. This could be useful for playing card combinations. Play the suit a certain way, and then change the opponent’s holding, and see if it still works. Perhaps even see if you can make the contract if 2 suits are switched!
- **Play:** After you press this button, click on the contract in the “Makeable Contracts” section that you wish to play. If you click on the 3 in the NT column and the N row, it will set the contract as 3NTN. This will allow you to click on each card and replay the hand. On each card, it will show what contract is makeable when that card is played. For example, in this 3NT contract, playing anything but a heart will limit the contract to 3NT (making 9 tricks), whereas playing a heart will allow the declarer to make an extra trick (making 4NT).



- **Options:** This allows you to edit a few different display options. I recommend changing the “Makeable Tricks Table” option to *Show number of tricks*, which will change the “Makeable Contracts” section to show the number of tricks makeable, rather than the makeable contract. (Note: does not affect the numbers on the cards when playing the hand). Make sure to press **Save as Default** to save the changes.

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	10	7	6	9	9
S	9	7	6	9	9
E	3	5	6	3	3
W	3	6	7	4	4

- **Help:** This opens a window which provides some helpful tips for using the Bridge Solver.
- **Analyse:** This forces the computer to analyse the hand and generate the “Optimum Result” and the “Makeable Contracts”. This is a process that should happen automatically, but if it doesn’t, press this button.
- I hope you will all feel comfortable using this tool in the future. If anything doesn’t make sense, or I have missed something, it is probably because I had to learn this tool myself to write this article! Remember to use this tool in combination with critical thinking and reasoning: if it says a certain lead takes it off, think “Would that be a reasonable lead?” If it’s the Q from AQ43, then expect that the contract should make. It also only shows you that the contract CAN make or go off, not that it WILL. It may require an obscure, anti-percentage line of play, or a complicated squeeze or endplay. With this tool however, it may help you to execute said squeezes! After the fact of course... I hope everyone will gain a lot from using the tool and I look forward to you all winning every competition in future, thanks to the learning from this tool!

Andrew Gosney

## Meet our Members – Jan Serdiuk

*Several members have asked if Jan could tell us his story. Here it is ...*

Bridge players and friends ....

I was born in 1923 in the Ukraine – which was then part of the Soviet Union.

My family were farmers, reasonably comfortable and middle-class, but in 1932 our property was collectivised (seized by the State) and we became homeless. My father and mother, and myself and younger brother, scraped by and managed to survive. We lived through the 1933 famine where over six million Ukrainians perished from starvation.

During a purge in 1937, my father was taken and shot by the KGB. He had been pro-Czarist like many Ukrainians, and fought against the Bolsheviks in 1917. We did not know he'd been killed until decades later. We were told at the time he'd been "sent to Siberia" - and so we hoped that one day he would return.

I finished high school in 1941 during the Nazi occupation of Ukraine.

The Germans started retreating by 1943, and due to my family's pro-Czarist background, I decided to head west as well. I left my country - and my mother and friends - never to return (my brother had already fled to Austria as a labourer).

It took four months to reach the Austrian border in the mud and rain. I had a wagon and horses – to begin with! The roads were a quagmire - there were no modern highways. It was hellish and I wouldn't wish anyone to have to go through that.

At the border, we were loaded into cattle trucks and reached Vienna on New Year's Day, 1944.

During that time I began seeing an Austrian girl. We fell in love and wanted to be together. But refugees and immigrants were not supposed to associate with those of the Aryan race, as we were considered inferior beings.

Her family knew about our affair and they liked me. Her father was the mayor of the town near our camp, and he advised me to leave as I could be imprisoned over my relationship with his daughter. I agreed and went to Germany as an immigrant worker.

My girlfriend and her mother came to Germany to be with me – and in November my son was born. Soon after though, both my girlfriend and baby were killed in a bombing raid.

After the war, I lived in various Displaced Persons' camps. Many citizens of the USSR were being forcibly repatriated. I knew that to go back meant death – or at least imprisonment and worse hardship. So I drifted between various camps, doing my best to survive and not be captured. In 1948, the Australian Immigration Department called for volunteers to come and work here for two years in designated places of work. I was sent to the Snowy Mountains in Victoria to work as a timber cutter. I stayed there for about a year – and started to learn English! – then I went to Western Sydney where I worked laying water and sewerage pipes in the new post-war suburbs.



In 1950 I met and married an Australian girl. We lived at Darling Point and Edgecliff for a few years until we saved a deposit and bought a house at Bankstown in the Western Suburbs. I worked on trams and then on buses until I retired.

Coming to Brisbane in 1959 on holiday to see my wife's sister and brother-in-law, my wife, Shirley, miscarried and we lost our baby – and we couldn't have any more. We adopted my son, Ronnie, in early 1962.

In 1980, I started playing bridge, and by 1986 had my World Master. I established a bridge group at Revesby Workers' Club, where I taught and directed. I was president there for 3 years before my wife died, and I moved to Brisbane to be nearer my son, and sister-in-law and her family.

And here I am!

## NSBC Administration Update – October 2019

-  **Recycling and Waste Management:** Members may not be aware of the great efforts made at the NSBC to minimise waste, reuse items and that our kitchen is a mini recycling station. Alongside the everyday recycling of paper etc in the recycling bin, every attempt to recycle items is made, and in some cases given to charities that can utilise these items. For example, milk bottle caps, bread tags, and tea bag tabs are collected locally for charities i.e. “Envision Hands” uses plastic bottle tops to make prosthetic hands for children and “Bread tags for Wheelchairs” makes wheelchairs out of bread tags. Tea leaves and tea bags are taken by a member for composting. Used batteries are collected and taken to specialised battery recyclers. The club has refills for the pens to get longer use from them – thank you Guy Horsley for his kind donation of the Club’s pens. Anyone who wants to add to these “collections” is most welcome. In addition to this, our Providore, Sandy Chapman has sourced paper cups to replace the plastic cups for those members who don’t have their own water bottles. Unfortunately, the paper cups are single use items and are thrown in the recycling bin so if members can bring their own water bottle / cup that will reduce waste even further.
- There is some lost property on the bench at the noticeboard; glasses, 2 black jumpers and water bottles etc. If you would like me to label your water bottles come and see me if you see I’m in the office. Please check the items, as any lost property remaining at the end of October will be donated to charity. In the office we are also holding for safe-keeping a set of car keys with a yellow tag and a gold USB with family photos and private documents on it. Please see me or email me if you think these are yours.
- Members would be aware that the Zip Hydroboil in the Club Room has been out of operation for a few weeks. Zip has generously supplied the Club, at an incredibly generous discount, with the latest and greatest Zip Hydroboil which has a higher energy efficiency rating, LED temperature window, an in-built filter and a timer / sleep mode function. NSBC is thankful for Zip’s generosity in assisting in the replacement of such an expensive piece of equipment.
-  **Keys:** We are still on the case of the missing keys!!! If anyone has a Club key could you please check to see if the number engraved on the key (the number is small and barely visible) is one of the following; 01, 02, 39, 43, 50. If it is, please email me at the club email address.

Thank you in advance everyone.

*Jacqui*



## Active Retirement Expo – Thursday 26 September

NSBC was represented at Aveo’s Active Retirement Expo - exploring activities available for retirees - at The Clayfield. Our volunteers, Jo-Anne Bauer, Lee Horner, Vicki Lloyd and Geoffrey Toon, showcased bridge by playing some rounds and handing out leaflets promoting our beginners’ lessons.



## Library News from the Bookworm

Our bookworm appears to have gone AWOL!

Look out for him in the December Newsletter ...







# Melbourne Cup Day

## Northern Suburbs Bridge Club

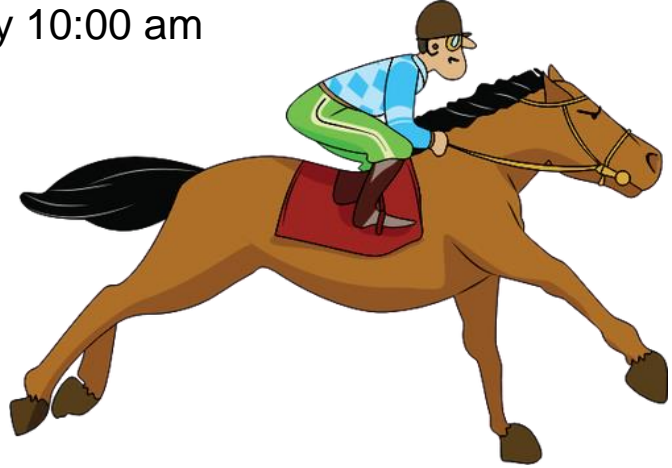
When: **Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November**

Play Starts: **10:15 am**

Please be seated by 10:00 am

Lunch: 1:15 pm

Race starts: 2:00 pm



Everyone welcome.

Combining our usual Tuesday morning and afternoon sessions.

Normal table fees.

Bring a plate of food to share.

Morning tea break.

Green points.

Sweeps and prizes for best hats.



### 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)

BERNBOROUGH ASCOT

lendlease

**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.



The Clayfield Lawn & Highlands House.



2 bed, 2 bath apartments from \$439,000\*

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



## HAVE YOU GOT YOUR ABF MEMBERS' TRAVEL INSURANCE FOR 2019?

The policy for the 2019 is available online right now.

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Please refer to the PDS for full terms & conditions

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and we'll be happy to help