

# GYMPIE BRIDGE CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

April / May 2018

Issue No 59

Hello fellow bridge club members,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Easter break, catching up on family time and eating lots of chocolate and marshmallow bunnies and/or eggs.

Summer is now slipping away from us as autumn makes its presence known with beautiful weather, plenty of falling leaves and thankfully, some slightly cooler days. Oh, and let's not forget all the rain, which pushes the humidity up but hey, it's still cooler than February.



Our bridge lessons this year are well attended with nine potential new members learning the basics of our wonderful game. Jennifer introduced a new system this year, with power-point lessons providing the groundwork followed by bidding and playing at the tables. It is proving to be a great way for people to learn and interest has remained high during lessons. It won't be long before many of them will be making an appearance at the tables, so please, remember they are novices and treat them gently as they stumble through those first few nerve-wracking sessions.

Cathy Reed is our guest columnist this edition; we have our always informative director's column from Kay; another Kevin Feeney column and some bridge adages for your enjoyment.

**Good bridging everyone,  
Jenz**

## Golden Jubilee

### 1968 — 2018

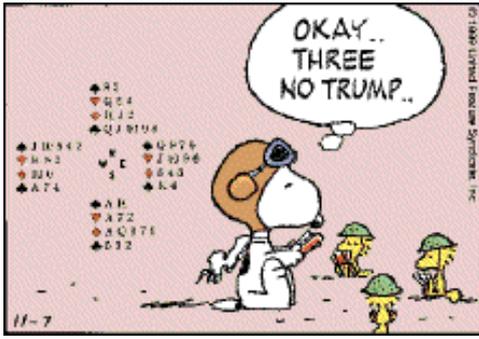


The club will be celebrating 50 years this year and our special Golden Jubilee day is creeping ever closer — less than two months away — on **Sunday, 27th May**.

Along with a great bridge session, there will be plenty of good food — including a cake of course; wine, balloons, a commemorative booklet and much more.

Mark your calendar and let's all celebrate this wonderful bridging milestone.

HAVE A LAUGH



## OUR BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

- 16: Trevor Simpson
- 18: Brian Brink
- 21: Jen Wright

## AND MAY

- 1: Margaret Bazzan
- 11: Judith Malcolm
- 13: Jane Lennox
- 15: Fran McDonald
- 20: Arlette Cook
- 21: Kathi Vince
- 24: Ian Manly
- 30: Angela Blomfield

## DATE CLAIMER

The Golden Jubilee celebration is  
on Sunday, 27 May, 2018.

Bridge, games, food and more.

Be there!!

# President's report

Welcome back to all our "gold point" seekers from the Gold Coast Congress. Gympie did have some successes: Jennifer Hollingworth and Carolann Verity were 3rd in their section of the Intermediate Bobby Richman Pairs and Ian Manly (with his Brisbane partner) was 3rd in their section of the Novice Bobby Richman Pairs. Well done! On a personal note, I bid, played and made a 7NT grand slam with Rennie in our last round of the Ivy Dahler. Thrill of a lifetime. I will never forget it!

The club held a memorial and tree planting ceremony for George Konyi on Sunday, 25th

March. George's daughter, Rachel, and special friend, Maureen, attended and are seen here planting a lillypilly tree, in a garden specially prepared for the day.



George would be chuffed that, not only did the tree planting honour all he did in our gardens, but it also served a dual purpose of keeping us "legal" with Energex. A big thank you to Jeff Streat, Bill Thorne and Ross Plowman for all their hard work in preparing the garden for the day. The ceremony included Jack Wright reading his elegy to George, which was printed in our last edition.

The upcoming Congress in April is fully booked and the club looks forward to a successful weekend of bridge. A big thank you to Kay for organising the event, however, Diana Thorogood will be missed in the kitchen (she was a wizard), as well as George and Bernie in the set up/set down. Time for others to step up!

Preparations for the 50th anniversary Golden Jubilee are well under way and it's only a matter of weeks before the event — wow, time is flying in 2018. Mark your diaries for **Sunday, 27th May** and come and join in the fun and festivities.

It has been wonderful to see the return of players Brian Butterfield, Angela Blomfield, Rhonda Armstrong and Peter Thorogood. Welcome back!

Happy bridging, Kelly.

## Thumbs up

Thumbs up to members who are finding time to play bridge on a Monday and/or Thursday evening session/s. It not only makes for a better competition but also means we will not be in danger of losing those all important red point events in the future. Keep it up and hey, there's still plenty of room for more pairs those nights.



## Thumbs down

To an almost "no show" on Thursday, 22nd March, when so few turned up, the evening was cancelled. **Please, please, please**, try to make it on Thursday evenings. We've had a survey and it showed most were happy to retain the status quo. Maybe we need to relook at that and consider separating out the Thursday AM and PM sessions to different days. Let your committee know your preferences. On a lighter note, here's another joke. . .

### Magic stuff

A bridge tragic found an unusual lamp and began to polish it when . . . POOF . . . a genie popped out, saying, "I can grant you *one* wish." The tragic happened to have a map of the world with him (where was this guy?) so he unfolded it and said, "Let all the countries on earth live in peace and harmony." "You've got to be kidding me," said the genie. "I'm only a genie." The bridge tragic thought a while, then said, "Okay, then make me a winning bridge player." "Hmm . . ." pondered the genie. "Let me see that map again."

## Cathy's Cardplay . . .

### Guiding principles to remember

Cathy Reed is our guest columnist again this month and continues with Michael Furstner's guidelines to consider and remember, this time six for the **defence**.

#### 1) Leads:

- a) In a trump contract, top of a solid sequence, or top of two touching honours, is always a good attacking lead. It will force out an ace, or set up a direct finesse against an honour in dummy.
  - b) Lead a king from AKx(x) to "have a look at dummy".
  - c) Avoid leading away from a king.
  - d) Never lead away from an ace in trumps. (In NT, leading 4th from Axxx is okay).
  - e) Avoid leading an ace in a slam contract (you make it too easy for declarer)
  - f) Avoid leading away from a tenace (AQ or KJ)
  - g) In NT with no other indications, lead 4th highest from your longest suit. In trump contracts, a trump lead (from xx or xxx) is often a good defensive lead. (But avoid leading a singleton trump as your partner will probably hold four.)
  - h) Do not lead trumps with Jx(x) or Qx(x), as it may cost a trick in the trump suit you would otherwise have made.
  - i) Do not switch leading from one suit to the next. Such "fishing expeditions" usually cost a trick at every switch you make.
- 2) Always lead your highest card when leading partner's long suit. When partner leads their long suit, signal with a high card (9-6) to show you hold an honour in that suit. Play low when you don't.
- 3) Lead through dummy's strength and up to dummy's weakness. For example, with dummy North:

♠ AQx

♥ Kxx

♦ xxx

♣ QJxx

West: Lead spades

East: Lead diamonds

4) Second player usually plays low. Cover an honour with your honour only when you think it will promote a trick (10 or 9) in your or partner's hand. (But when your honour becomes unguarded, play K from Kx doubleton when you don't know where the ace is.) This rule applies to declarer and dummy.

5) Always overlead touching honours (Q from QJ) when leading a suit, and underlead (J from QJ) when following to a trick. (But follow differently to declarer's lead when it may deceive him/her.)

6) When a suit honour card sits over a lower honour card (in dummy or declarer's hand) first priority is to catch that honour if possible. With K9x over dummy's Qxx, play your 9 (or 10 or J) when dummy plays low.

# Kevin's Korner . . .

## Planning the Play

Here's a 4♠ contract which requires some thought and planning in the play.

Dealer: West

Vul: Nil

♠ 965	
♥ 85	
♦ 952	
♣ KJ652	
♠ 4	♠ T8
♥ AKQJT3	♥ 76
♦ T86	♦ QJ73
♣ Q43	♣ AT987
♠ AKQJ732	
♥ 942	
♦ AK4	
♣ —	

### Bidding:

West	North	East	South
3H	Pass	Pass	4S
All pass			

Opening lead: Heart king after W opened with 3H.

West leads the king followed by the heart ace and East follows suit with the 6 and 7.

West then continues with the heart queen. We know East has no more hearts. Of course, at the start of play, we paused to count our losers (didn't we?).

It looks like we are going to lose 2 hearts, a heart ruff and a diamond, as it seems we only have 9 tricks at present.

What can we do? Ruff with the ♠9 and hope? NO. East can over-ruff with the 10. So we use our loser on a loser from our bag of tricks.

We deliberately throw a diamond from dummy giving the opponents the heart queen, but taking away the diamond trick.

Now we can win any continuation. Draw two rounds of trumps, cash the diamond ace and king and ruff the small diamond in dummy. Then back to our hand, ruffing a club — now making 10 tricks and our contract.

If you thought of that then weren't you a clever little bunny?

Happy bridging.

Kevin Feeney



## It's on the cards . . .

February bridge was off to a flying start on Thursday, 1st February, with the **Summer Pairs**, won this year by Hazel Crozier and Jay Kent.

Our second red-pointer was the **Autumn Pairs**, held on Monday, 5th March, and won by Adele Harington and Nannette Jones.

Following those two events, we had one of our bigger red-point events, the **Pairs Championship**, held on two Tuesdays — 13th and 20th March — and won this year by Carolann Verity and Jennifer Hollingworth. *Congratulations to all our winning pairs.*

The big event on the bridging calendar, the **Gold Coast Congress**, is over for another year. Several Gympie-ites played in different grades and events, playing with Gympie, state and international partners. The best of our lot were Carolann and Jennifer, who gained a credible third in the intermediate pairs championship; and Ian Manly, who with his Brisbane partner, were third in the novice pairs championship. Congratulations to you all.

**COMING UP** in the next two months are: The Wide Bay Zone Novice Pairs in Maryborough, followed by the **Gympie Congress**, with Pairs on Saturday, April 21st and Teams on Sunday, 22nd. The red pointer **Anzac Pairs** is being held in the evening on Thursday, 26th April; **Hervey Bay Pairs and Teams** is the first weekend of May and we have **Mother's Day** bridge on Sunday, 13th May. It's our **Singles Championships** on Monday, 21st May and the following Monday — both red pointers. And our special **Golden Jubilee Invitation Day** falls on the Sunday between the championships, 27th May.



# Director's Digest



## Comparable bids

Kaylene, Trevor and I attended a directors get-together at the Arana Bridge Club on Saturday, 24th March, at the Arana Bridge Club. Run by Jan Peach, the topic was the one giving all directors headaches — the new "Comparable Bid" rule. Comparable bids mainly come into play in the case of "bid out of rotation" and "insufficient bid". If you make a bid out of rotation and it is not accepted, when it is your turn to bid you will be required to replace it with a Comparable Bid. Similarly, if you make an insufficient bid and it is not accepted, you will be required to replace it with a Comparable Bid. In both instances, of course, you may elect not to, or may not really be able to, make a Comparable Bid, in which case you may bid whatever you like but your partner will not be able to bid again in the auction. So what is a Comparable Call? Law 23 of the 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge states:

- A. **Definition:** A call that replaces a withdrawn call is a comparable call, if it:
1. has the same or similar meaning as that attributable to the withdrawn call, or;
  2. defines a subset of the possible meanings attributable to the withdrawn call, or;
  3. has the same purpose (eg. an asking bid or relay) as that attributable to the withdrawn call.

Space does not allow me to print the remainder of Law 23, but in summary, if an irregularity is replaced with a comparable call, the auction and play continue without further rectification and any information gleaned is authorised to all players; however, if the Director judges that without the assistance gained through the infraction the outcome of the board could well have been different and in consequence the non-offending side is damaged, he/she shall award an adjusted score.

As you can see, it is quite involved, especially in the light of the numbers of different systems and conventions used by players, so we Directors ask for your patience and understanding when dealing with comparable bids. The first thing we ask is that when an infraction occurs, please do not discuss any possible remedies at the table before the Director is called. The second thing we ask is please have a full understanding of your system, which you may be required to relate to the Director. The Director will in all probability remove you from the table for a discussion. He or she will not wish to see your cards but will need to know the details of your system and conventions. The Director CANNOT offer suggestions for a comparable bid. There may be times when you won't agree with the Director's decision but we ask that you accept the decision given and discuss it with the Director at the end of play if you so wish.

'Til next time,

Kay

## Got a suggestion? Got a gripe?

Then please, tell someone on the committee.

If it's a gripe, don't grizzle to your husband or wife, partner or friend — tell a committee member and if it's a suggestion, write it down and "post" it in our suggestion box. You can sign your name or remain anonymous, just make sure your committee is aware of it. (The suggestion box is on the bookcase by the office.)

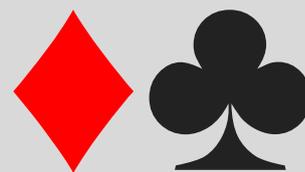
We had a survey some months back and the results showed most were happy with two sessions on Thursdays. As those evening sessions continue to be under represented, please bring in your suggestions on how we can improve the numbers.





# Bridge Adages

Don't ya just love 'em!



1. Many a man (or woman) is walking the streets because they didn't draw trumps.
  2. If there's just one trump still out and it's a winner, forget it.
  3. If 3NT is at all likely, bid it.
  4. Don't bid a minor game without having seriously considered 3NT.
  5. If it looks, quacks and waddles like a duck, then it's probably a singleton.
  6. Don't pre-empt over a pre-empt.
  7. Lead low, second plays low, third plays high and fourth pauses and considers. Commit your forces to the fray as late as possible.
  8. Play the lowest of equals in third position.
  9. Finesse against dummy, not partner.
  10. If dummy is on your left, play through its strength. If dummy is on your right, play around to its weakness.
  11. Don't underlead an ace or king against a suit contract.
  12. Lead partner's suit or return partner's lead (and at least you won't do badly in the post-mortem).
  13. Give count on returning lead.
  14. Aces are for capturing kings; kings are for capturing queens.
  15. 6-5 come alive. 6-4 bid more.
  16. No double, no trouble.
  17. Cover an honour with an honour. Cover the last of equals, cover to promote.
  18. Should I finesse? Eight ever. Nine never.
  19. If you have A,K of a suit you don't have a lead problem.
  20. When playing NTs, take your losers early.
  21. If you diagnose a misfit, pass asap.
  22. Don't ask partner to do something you can do yourself, but don't try too hard to rescue partner from an accident.
  23. If there is something good you can do, like taking a winner in dummy, then do it now as you will not pass this way again.
  24. A loser will be lost unless you can take some action to change its state.
  25. A change of suit by responder in an unpassed hand is forcing.
  26. No entry to your hand? Don't bother establishing a suit. Seek a greener pasture.
  27. Count winners in NTs; losers in a suit.
  28. Really concentrate on the bidding, so you have a mental picture of the other three hands when play starts.
  29. Maintain parity with dummy, and also with what you visualise as declarer's hand.
  30. To thine own partner be true. (Bid the first round strictly in accordance with your system card - you can bid on shape the next time around. Don't allow shortages until you've found a (suit) contract: shortage points will disappear if your partner changes to NTs).
- Remember 1 - Whatever is said about how to play bridge, you will find an exception to that rule.
- Remember 2 - Groucho Marx said, "Don't signal partner. If you liked my lead just smile".
- Remember 3 - Partner won't smile if you trump their ace.
- Kay Webber, from the thoughts of Malcolm Allan of Rockhampton BC.
  - For an un-Bowldlerised version of the adages, contact [malcolm@the-allans.com](mailto:malcolm@the-allans.com)