



GYMPIE BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER



June/July/August 2019 – WINTER issue, No 64

Hello fellow bridge club members,

It's definitely time to don the winter woollies as winter makes its presence felt. Cold nights followed by warm sunny afternoons are de rigueur, but we've also had quite a bit of rain too.

Lessons are ongoing with a small group this year. But some new blood has recently come on board so there should be more new faces around the bridge tables soon. However, this means Jennifer won't be holding any advanced lessons (2/1 or other conventions) for a while yet. Watch this space.

We also have three members who joined the club after this year's handbook was printed, so if you're looking to partner one of them at a session, their phone numbers are: Joan Woodward 5483 9718 or 0475 633 022; Des Ward 0466 562 766; and Gavin Trease 0427 766 538 or 5483 1840.

There have been a few niggles in the club recently about how the club is being left after sessions. As stated in the red box below, it is the responsibility of ALL club members to lend a hand in keeping the club clean and tidy. So *please*, don't leave your cup or glass on the bottom shelf of a side table where it could be missed. And after a ses-

sion, please do leave the pencils and scoring sheets tidy and remember to push your chair back in before you leave. These simple acts all help in the running of our club and mean those dedicated few who usually end up loading and emptying the dish washer, etc, don't have to also check the whole room for stray cups and wayward pencils.

Our columns this edition are: an amusing tale on the perils of defence from **Joan Butts**; an interesting hand from a March GNOT session; and in the Director's Digest, **Jennifer** brings us some timely information on alerts — bidding situations where you must alert and why you should say it aloud immediately.

Has anyone in our club taken up the new The Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) initiative started earlier this year? It would be great to hear from you if you did. It's designed to help players improve their game with a daily bridge question, set by experienced bridge teachers. They are simple to access through the ABF website, so if you haven't tried it and believe it may help your game, give it a go at www.ABF.com.au/Daily-Column

Good bridging everyone, JENZ

Are you on a sit-out?

If so, then *please*, help with the clean up. Dishwasher instructions are taped to the cover (and back wall) so if you don't know how to use it, please read them first.

It is the responsibility of **ALL** club members (not just your committee) to help empty the rubbish bins, keep the kitchen tidy, ensure chairs are pushed in after a session, etc, so to one and all who do help, thank you for assisting in the smooth running of our club.



Led by Ron Klinger, seven renowned bridge players are contributing a column one day a week for a year. The column is delivered by the ABF to your phone, tablet or computer.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

www.ABF.com.au/Daily-Column



IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE WITH THE ABF'S DAILY COLUMN

OUR BIRTHDAYS

IN JUNE

- 1: Lee Lewis
- 6: Ross Chapman
- 14: Mary Boyd
- 14: Adele Harington
- 14: Dean Hollingworth
- 21: Jay Kent
- 21: Peter Krause
- 22: Nanette Jones
- 23: Jen Hollingworth
- 25: Cathy Reed
- 30: Chris Lucas

AND JULY

- 3: Bev Eaton
- 5: Glenys Gissel
- 18: Bette Geary
- 19: Rudy Meyer
- 20: Jeff Streat
- 18: Trevor Simpson
- 22: Jean Graham
- 23: Bill Bishop

AND AUGUST

- 2: Don Griggs
- 2: Ruth Greentree
- 8: Shelly Gauld
- 8: Tertia Brink
- 9: Val Jerram
- 15: Yve Welch
- 20: Jean Harm
- 24: Keith Johnson
- 24: Wendy Banham
- 30: Brian Butterfield

President's report

Winter edition

The Gympie Bridge Club hosted its main event for the year, the Gympie Pairs and Teams Congress, on 13th and 14th April.

This event gives our club the opportunity to showcase itself to the wider Bridge community in SE Qld and I am certain that visitors were impressed with our presentation.

As usual, it was very much a team effort and thanks are due to every club member who assisted in any way — from initial planning and organising, dealing hundreds of boards, setting up, donating refreshments (or money in lieu), helping in the kitchen, helping to serve, helping as caddy, donating prizes for and selling raffle tickets, and cleaning up.

No other bridge club hosts a Congress such as ours with an outside marquee adjacent to our terrace where refreshments are available almost non-stop. Some city congresses do not even include lunches these days. We should always be proud to present ourselves as a friendly country bridge club — many visitors commented to me as much, and vowed to return next year.

Every team needs a team leader and I congratulate Kay Kerr on a job well done as Congress Convenor. Our club is privileged to have dedicated members such as Kay, without whom activities would be most ordinary. Also, I was particularly pleased to see the level of participation by club members in both the pairs and teams events, and more so that many members shared in prize money.

On the matter of our club being a friendly club, I emphasised in my opening address, that bridge is a game which is meant to be enjoyed. To this end, it must be played in the manner of good sportsmanship and that there needs to be a spirit of goodwill at the table.

By all means play the game competitively, but there is no place here for rudeness, intimidation or unethical play. Unfortunately, I had to put a visiting player on notice for such alleged behaviour. But overall, a great success and well done to all who contributed or participated!

Good bridging everyone!

Nev Harington

GLORIOUS COLOUR

You will find the latest newsletter online at
www.gympiebridgeclub.com under the **Newsletter** icon.
Read it there, or if you prefer, print it out at home to get
the full effect, in colour.

What would you bid? . . .

A hand to ponder

Jeanette Roughly and Peter Coppin struck an interesting board when they played in the GNOT Heats teams event, held at the Sunshine Coast on Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 3 March.

In the first heat, on Board 9, Pete and Jeanette, playing N/S, were up against 3♦, bid by E/W, which made 11. Their team mates, Don and Margaret Robertson, playing E/W, bid 3NT, making just six. So one half of the Coppin team made +10 imps and the other -10 imps on that particular board.

The best contract would have been 5♣, North/South's way, but no one found or bid that contract with this crazy hand.

In fact, six E/W players bid 3NT, with four going down three and two making 10; three E/W players bid 5♦, making 10 (only one made 11); while other E/W players bid 2♦, 3♦ or 4♦, with some making and others going down. 2♥ was bid by one N/S partnership, which they made and one N/S partnership bid 4♠, making eight.

Here's the board. What contract would you, as N/S, or as E/W, end up in?

Dir: N Vul: E-W

North

♠J52

♥QT9654

♦3

♣AJ5

West

♠K

♥AJ8

♦QJT8752

♣92

East

♠Q973

♥K732

♦AK6

♣QT

South

♠AT864

♥--

♦94

♣K87643



Director's Digest

When should you "alert"



• **Alerting** is done by circling your partner's bid and saying "alert" — and both must be done. It's to your advantage to say "alert" as soon as partner makes the bid, even before you circle it. If you're a bit slow to move your hand to the bidding pad before an opponent makes their bid, they can request a change because of a supposed late alert.

So having said "alert" as soon as the bid was made is your protection. If your partner forgets to alert, do not say anything at the time, but keep bidding as though the alert was made.

The opponents should be advised either at the **end of bidding** if your side is **declaring**, or at the **end of the hand** if your side is **defending**. The director should be called if damage may have resulted.

• **Declarer tells dummy to "play anything" to a trick. May a defender now tell dummy which legal card to play?**

Yes. The Law states, "If declarer indicates a play without designating either a suit or a rank (as by saying 'play anything' or similar words) either defender may designate the play from dummy".

• **May dummy tell another player they have a quit-trick pointed the wrong way?**

Only if it is done before a lead is made to the next

trick. The right expires when a lead is made to the following trick. If done later, another law may apply.

• **Must a player advise the opponents they have made a call that is not systemically correct?**

No. The Law states, "A player may make any call or play without prior announcement provided it is not based on an undisclosed partnership understanding".

Another law states that "a player may deviate from his side's announced understandings, provided their partner has no more reason than the opponents to be aware of the deviation. Repeated deviations would then form part of the partnership's methods and must be disclosed. If a Director judges there is undisclosed knowledge that has damaged the opponents they can adjust the score and may assess a procedural penalty".

• **Does a minor penalty card have to be played at the first legal opportunity?**

No. The Law states that "when a defender has a minor penalty card, they may not play any other card of the same suit below the rank of an honour until that penalty card is played. But they are entitled to play an honour card instead. The offender's partner is not subject to lead restriction, but information gained through seeing the penalty card is unauthorized".

Good bridging . . .

. . . Jennifer

School of Bridge - Joan Butts

Partnership Bidding: Misfits



All clubs and players agree defence is the hardest area to master. Marty Bergen believes even experts stumble and that signalling (correctly) is the biggest help. If experts have trouble (often because they try to make one card mean too many things when one poor little card can really only convey ONE meaning), how difficult is it to teach regular players?

In my teaching tip this month, I have permission from one of the greatest teachers of all time, Eddie Kantar (US), to use an amusing play when teaching defence. As teachers we are doing our best to present things in the most understandable way, but sometimes, spare a thought for the teacher too. . .

This, on defence, is from Eddie Kantar's book, A Collection of Bridge Humor". (Read with a smile)

"We cannot overlook a species known the world over — "the mad signaller" and his country cousin, "the random discarder". It is literally 1000 to 1 that if one of these players makes either a signal or a discard, it will cost an average of 1,563 tricks per deal.

To help out these poor misguided souls, I have a few rules — especially if I play with them professionally. I told one particular fellow, whose signalling and discarding were what you might term mildly "far out", that I would prefer he didn't signal me at all, as I usually could

not tell what was going on anyway. (Translation: After the hand is over, I always know what I should have done). And as for discarding:

1. Always keep the same length as dummy
2. Do not discard down to a void
3. Do not discard from a suit declarer has bid, or at least try and keep the same number of cards you think declarer has in the suit
4. As a general rule, discard from a suit you don't want led, to preserve length and strength in the suit or suits you do want led.

With this background, you can imagine the torment he must have been going through during the defence of the following hand:

North

♠ KJT98

♥ AK83

♦ 76

♣ 85

West

♠ Q7654

♥ T

♦ Q85432

♣ 7

South

♠ void

♥ J64

♦ AKT

♣ AQJT942

(teacher)

♠ A32

♥ Q9752

♦ J9

♣ K63

Having bid all suits, South was declarer in 3NT.


My boy decided to lead the ♥10, which was ducked to my ♥Q. Having a perfect picture of the whole hand, I decided to return a heart to kill dummy's entry to the spade suit. (on target, as usual) Anyway, I led back a heart, and when declarer played the ♥J, I think I actually saw perspiration on my partner's forehead. You see, he had to make a discard, and every discard would violate a rule!

A spade was out because he had to keep the same length as dummy; a diamond was out because declarer had bid that suit and he had to keep as many as declarer!; a club was out because he was not supposed to void himself in any suit.

After much soul-searching, he finally discarded the ♣7. Declarer, who tended to take everything at face value, decided my partner had the ♠K, and that it was fruitless to take the finesse. After all, a seven is a seven, is a seven.


Finally, declarer played the ♠A, then ♣Q to my ♠K. Don't ask what torture my partner underwent during these two plays. I finally cashed my ♠A to hold the hand to four no trumps for a clear top."

Cheers, Joan




JOAN BUTTS
ONLINE
SCHOOL OF BRIDGE


LEARN AND PRACTISE BRIDGE ONLINE




Complete a new bridge lesson each week



Access a library of lessons and resources



Play unlimited bridge hands



GOLD MEMBERSHIP

**Become a gold member
Join the Online School of Bridge**

joanbuttsbridge.com/join

How much does it cost?

Gold membership costs \$15 Australian a month.
Discounted six month and annual plans are also available.

Kevin's Korner . . .

A hand which looks straight forward but a little bit of planning and careful thinking is required here.

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1D	1S	1NT	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Partner (West) leads the Spade King. East sees:

North
 ♠ 93
 ♥ K2
 ♦ AQJT97
 ♣ AQ8

West (on lead)
 ♠ K

East (you)
 ♠ AJT852
 ♥ QJ4
 ♦ K4
 ♣ 65

This hand was incorrect in the last issue.
 Here is the correct bidding and layout.

When to overtake?

Your planning: You can see that the diamond king is your re-entry to your spades. You know Declarer has three or four spades to the queen. So what do you do? You OVERTAKE the spade king with your ace and lead spades until you force the queen. It's how you can set the contract by two tricks. If you do not overtake, the declarer will make the contract with an overtrick.

The full layout is:

♠ 93	♠ K	♠ AJT852
♥ K2	♥ T8753	♥ QJ4
♦ AQJT97	♦ 63	♦ K4
♣ AQ8	♣ T9743	♣ 65
	♠ Q764	
	♥ A96	
	♦ 852	
	♣ KJ2	

Kevin Feeney

Your cards: a 600-year old storybook

WHEN you next play bridge, take a moment to look at the cards. What you have is really a 600-year old storybook, for cards have changed little since they first appeared in Europe.

The suits represent the four estates or ranks of society as known in the Middle Ages. The kings, queens and jacks are legendary or Biblical heroes and heroines, dressed in medieval robes and holding their ancient symbols of authority.

THE SUITS:

- **Spades** come from the Spanish word spada, for sword, and represent the military.
- **Hearts** represent courage and the highest development of humanity, a role which was assigned to men of the church.
- **Diamonds** stand for the wealthy merchants who traded in gold and precious stones, etc.
- **Clubs** represent the farmers and peasants. The British, from whom our present day cards are derived, took over the club symbol -- a trefoil or clover leaf -- from French card-makers, but named the suit for the wooden cudgels shown on Italian and Spanish cards.

THE KINGS:

- These represent four great monarchies of world history, as known in the Middle Ages.
- **Spade king:** This is the Bible's David, who killed Goliath and ruled over Israel.
 - **Heart king:** This is Charlemagne, who re-founded the Roman Empire in 800AD, after it had been overrun by barbarians. He is the only king whose robe is traditionally adorned with bands of royal ermine. He is also the only one without a mustache -- even Julius Caesar has one.
 - **Diamond king:** This is Julius Caesar, shown with a battle axe, the fasces, a bundle of rods with a protruding axe head, the symbol of official power in ancient Rome. (The other kings have swords.)

- **Club king:** This is Alexander the Great. He is the only king shown with an orb, the symbol of his world empire.

THE QUEENS:

These beauties are not the wives of their respective kings, but heroines in their own right.

- **Spade queen:** This is Athena, the Greek goddess of war and wisdom. She is the only one with a royal sceptre, in addition to the flower the other queens hold.
- **Heart queen:** This is a Biblical heroine, Judith, who proved her courage (heart) by hacking off the head of an Assyrian general.
- **Diamond queen:** This is the Bible's Rachel, for whom Jacob toiled seven years, then a further seven years, before he could marry her.
- **Club queen:** This is identified with England's Elizabeth I -- "Good Queen Bess", who reigned for 44 years.

THE KNAVES:

Two are knights of the Round Table -- Sir Lancelot and Sir Hector.

- **Spade knave:** This is Hogier the Dane, who was a cousin of Charlemagne.
- **Heart knave:** This is La Hire, a famous French warrior who fought with Joan of Arc.
- **Diamond knave:** This is Sir Hector, a half-brother to...
- **Club knave:** Sir Lancelot of the Lake.

THE JOKER:

Of course, he isn't used in bridge, but he is the oldest relic of them all -- a holdover from the tarot deck, the earliest known playing cards. A tarot deck consists of 78 cards (the major arcana of signs and symbols; and minor arcana, which is similar to an ordinary deck, but with an extra picture card.) Today, tarot cards are still used by fortune tellers and tarot readers the world over.



It's on the cards



The last newsletter was distributed in March, so there are some results to catch up on!

- The **Autumn Pairs**, a Thursday morning red point event held 14 March, was won by Nev Harington and Jennifer Hollingworth. Bette Geary and Sue Schierning were second and Lesley Wilson and Kay Kerr third.
- **Club Pairs Championships**, (also a red pointer) was on Sunday, 17 March. The two-session all-day event was won by Carolann Verity and Jennifer Hollingworth. Second were Ian Manly and Sue Schierning and third, Peter Coppin and Jeanette Roughley.
- The **GNOT playoff**, (for gold points) was held on Sunday at the end of March. The morning session was won by Kaylene Lingard, Ian Manly, Bette Geary and Sue Schierning. The afternoon session was won by Carolann Verity, Jennifer Hollingworth, Nev Harington and Adele Harington. The overall winner was Kaylene's team.
- The **Wide Bay Zone Novice Pairs Trials**, were held in Maryborough, on Sunday, 7 April. Only myself and my partner Jane Lennox attended from Gympie, and in all honesty, we didn't fare well. But each and every pair above us was not available for the final, (all off to the Hervey Bay Congress) so Jane and I put our names forward for the **Sunnybank Bridge Club** on Sunday, 5 May. Of the 54 pairs playing, Jane and I were 23rd.
- Our **Gympie Congress** was held 13 and 14 of April. As usual, it was a great day of bridge, with locals and visitors alike enjoying the friendly atmosphere. In the pairs on Saturday, Trevor Simpson and Tertia Brink were 1st, C-section; and Ian Manly and Sue Schierning were 3rd, B-section. In Sunday's teams, after a B section revamp, Rennie Pettit, Nan Jones, Joan Woodward and Lesley Wilson were 1st, (4th overall); while Shirley Bishop, Joy Anderson, Margaret Bazzan and Kaylene Lingard were 2nd.
- The red points **Anzac Pairs**, were on Thursday, 25 April. Winners were: Ian Manly and Sue Schierning with Jeff Streat and myself second. Nev and Adele Harington were third.
- **Hervey Bay Pairs and Teams** was held 4 and 5 May. Jennifer and Dean Hollingworth teamed up with Carolann and Steven Verity, winning the teams "plate".
- The **Pro-Am** green points session, held Monday, 13 May, was won by Jay Kent and Adele Harington with Jeff Streat and Shirley Bishop second and Don Griggs and Rennie Pettit third.
- The **Gympie Teams Championship** was held Sunday 19 May. The winning team was Kay Kerr, Fran McDonald, Ruth Greentree and Margaret Bazzan.



Don't call me dummy, fat head!

- The **Wide Bay Zone GNOT semi-finals** were held in Maryborough on 1 and 2 June. Of the three Gympie teams there, our best placed was Jennifer Hollingworth, Carolann Verity, Nev and Adele Harington, who were seventh overall and took home 2.52 gold points.

— *Congratulations to all our winners* —

And so onto upcoming events:

- The **Noosa Cross-Imp Swiss Pairs** starts Thursday, (13 June), followed by the **Sunshine Coast Walk Ins** on Friday, then the **Sunshine Coast Pairs and Teams** on Saturday and Sunday.
 - The **Solstice Pairs** red pointer is being held Thursday morning, 20 June.
 - Our **Winter Pairs** red point event is Tuesday, 2 July. (The **GNOT Final** is Sunday, 7 July, in Maryborough.)
 - Our **President's Trophy Day 1** red pointer is Thursday night, 11 July. **Day 2** is the following Thursday.
 - In between, on Saturday 13 and Sunday, 14 July, **Bundaberg** has its **Pairs and Teams** congress
 - **Maryborough** holds its **Imp Pairs and Teams** event on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July, rounding out another busy bridging month.
 - The **Sunshine Coast Teams** event is on Sunday, 4 August, and Gympie has another **Pro-Am** Green Points event on Monday night, 12 August.
 - A **Wide Bay Zone Teams Trial** is being held in Maryborough on Sunday, 18 May and to round out the month, it's the **Muster Pairs** on Tuesday, 27 August.
- So bridge aplenty to choose from — at home, and away at nearby clubs. Enjoy.