



# NEWSLETTER

## Illawarra Bridge Association

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### Upcoming Events

#### October

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup>** Invitational Pairs 2.

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup>** Nation Wide Pairs

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup>** Monday Pairs Championship 2

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup>** Red Masterpoints 1, NSWBA

Spring Nationals Oct 19-27.

**Wed 26<sup>th</sup>** Red Masterpoints 2.

#### November

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup>** Melbourne Cup

**Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup>** Thursday Pairs Championship 1

**Sat 5<sup>th</sup>** Nation wide Pairs.

Southern Highlands Congress

**Sun 6<sup>th</sup>** Southern Highlands Congress

**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup>** Thursday Pairs Championship 2.

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup>** AGM. Nation Wide Pairs. Hi-Lo 4

State Open Pairs at NSWBA qualifier

**Sun 20<sup>th</sup>** NSW Open Pairs Final, NSW

Spring Swiss Pairs.

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup>** GNOT Final 25-28 Nov Tweed

Heads

#### Thinking Time

West	North	East	South
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	1C	1H	1S
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2H	2S	P	4S
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S 974

H 8

D J862

C AKQJ8

S AKQ3

H T6

D A73

C 9762

West leads HQ and continues with the H2, ruffed in dummy. How are you going to play it?. Answer later.

#### For The Less Experienced

S K76

H AK8

D 8752

C J95

S A32

H 942

D AQ

C AT762

You are in 3NT and get the QS lead. You have six lay down tricks. What is your plan to make your contract?.

#### In Memory

As we all know, we lost Mary White some weeks ago. At her funeral, Ruth Neild was invited to speak on behalf of IBA. This is a copy of that speech.

When I first met Mary she must have been ninety but she wasn't telling. It was George Cole, (founder of the Thirroul branch of IBA) who had bought the house at Balfour Street where Mary grew up, who suggested she was older than she seemed. During our car trips to and from Figtree, I was forbidden to use the word "old". That was for other people, not Mary, and I think her strong will has been part of her success at this "old age" business. Of course, this success doesn't happen without family and friends, and she

was lucky to have her sons, Jeff and Graham, to support her; and Lois next door; and she always talked about “darling Jenny”. And as a bridge player, and representing the Illawarra Bridge Association, I would have to say that bridge must also have played a part in that spirited, independent and connected life that she enjoyed to the end. How many times did we say to each other, “Isn't Mary doing well? If only we can be like her!”

She was very proud of her stint as President of the Master Builders Bridge Association and always kept a little of the authority that came with that position. We know there are certain protocols to follow with bridge, such as moving the boards, and Mary was quick to reprimand any transgressors sitting East or West, if they dared to touch those boards. She always made her presence felt with her distinctive laugh and her loud voice, (like most of us at bridge when we start to lose our hearing). I remember the quiet of the card play being broken one day by Mary's declaration that she had “no desire to go to Russia!” She was quite surprised when we all laughed, but then joined in, pleased to have been the source of a bit of fun.

I didn't meet all of her bridge partners, but she would want me to thank Shirley and Nan, who played with her for so long, and Glenys and Sue. I also want to mention other special friends and chauffeurs; including Jan, Renata, Pam, Antoinette, Malcolm, Pat and Warren, John and Margaret, and David and Fran.

“I always enjoy the company of men!” she liked to say, “I'm used to boys.” One day going home she told me, “The bridge wasn't so good today.”

“Bad cards, Mary?” There'd be a bit of misery if North had bad cards.

“No. The bosses weren't there.”

“What bosses?”

“You know, the bosses!” Mary always expected you to know what she wanted and what she meant.

“You mean Jeff, Rob, Andrew?”

“Yes! It's not the same if they're away.” I suppose that's true.

She'd known Ken and George forever, from the Master Builders, and always told me if she'd been reminiscing with the likes of Martin or John. She loved it when Alan pretended to be afraid of coming to her table to get taken down, and was delighted if he did. And she had a little game going on with Colin that there had been some romantic attachment in the past.

“There he goes, so handsome! The perfect English gentleman!”

I mentioned George Cole earlier. She loved George, because she said, “We always have such a good laugh.” And I think she may have loved me, and I her, for much the same reason. If I happened to be a little quiet driving home, tired perhaps, or reflecting on my mistakes, she'd say, “What's wrong with you?” You're right, Mary! Wednesday and Saturday are bridge days, and special, and we were not going to waste the next half hour. There was always something partner had done to disappoint us, or something funny that had happened, even at our own expense. We were friends. We had to laugh! We had to live!

Mary was our inspiration.

### **Ruth Nield**

(Ed). Further to the above. Mary had a favourite seat at Figtree, table 2, north seat. Her partner in south seat for many years was Shirley Pearce. The memory of those many years haunts Shirley to the degree that she no longer wishes to sit in table 2, south seat. I, and I would believe many of our members, can understand those feelings. However, remember Shirley, time heals all wounds.

Now more sad news as we learn of the loss of another of our members, Ira Rajapaksa. I remember Ira as a very quiet person, never asking for much and never complaining. We will miss the characteristics of these members. However, this old world keeps turning and the rest of us must go on as best we can until it is our turn to say farewell.

Xxx

Our resident poet, Lurline Bell, has produced a poem which is a bit fitting for this moment. Read and enjoy.

When life has all but passed us by,  
When precious moments seem to fly,  
Must we think about a life of waste,  
Of acts, and deeds all born of haste,  
Or dream about what might have been,  
If lives sweet mysteries, we could have seen,  
Or do we sit and contemplate,  
A life of misery, we came to hate,  
Or shall we dream of days gone by,  
Of the green of the grass, or the blue of the sky,  
Of the happiness we had, or the love we shared,  
Of the pleasure we planned, or the children we reared,  
Of the hours we spent, in peaceful content,  
Enjoying our love, to the fullest extent,  
These are the memories for our golden years,  
No cries of woe, or relentless tears,  
For our garden of dreams, the seeds to sow,  
The time to start planting our dream is now.

xxx

### **Budding Champs**

Pranati Basu and Jennette Rosetta played together in the NSW Pairs. This was their first time of playing together. They were very excited after the first weeks play when Jeff told them that they were coming first. I can imagine the thrill for them, being told they were coming first in the NSW State. After the second week they dropped back to third. Then Bathurst sent their results in with a first and a second. Unfortunately this put Pranati and Jennette back to fifth for the state. Still a good effort. They are now planning on trying their card expertise at some future congresses

xxx

### **Full Bloom Champs**

For the second time, Canberra ran the Canberra In Bloom Bridge Festival. 28% increase in numbers, run over four days, had

174 tables over those days. ( That's an average 44 tables each day). Was held at Thoroughbred Park, overlooking the racecourse. Spacious, airy and well lit, a top venue. Has been booked for the next three years. Different comps were held. Margaret Carr & Karen Irvine went and contested the Federation Rose Restricted Pairs Comp. Proving they are not just pretty faces, Margaret & Karen brought the first prize home to IBA. Well done ladies, you did us proud.

xxx

### **From Our President**

Received two e-mails from our president Carol Jeffs. The first is a 'don't do it' to our members, the second is an invitation to ' do do it'. E-mails as follows:

1/ The following has been brought to my attention. It is anti bridge etiquette and should cease immediately. It seems certain members have been guilty of high fives when they have played a successful hand. Gloating when you win? Well we all like to win so when you do, please do so gracefully, remember that there are two disappointed people sitting next to you who loath your high fives, and very likely you too. Accept your victory quietly and celebrate at the end of the session. Next hand may see you in 3NT making two tricks! You will feel both lonely and lowly.

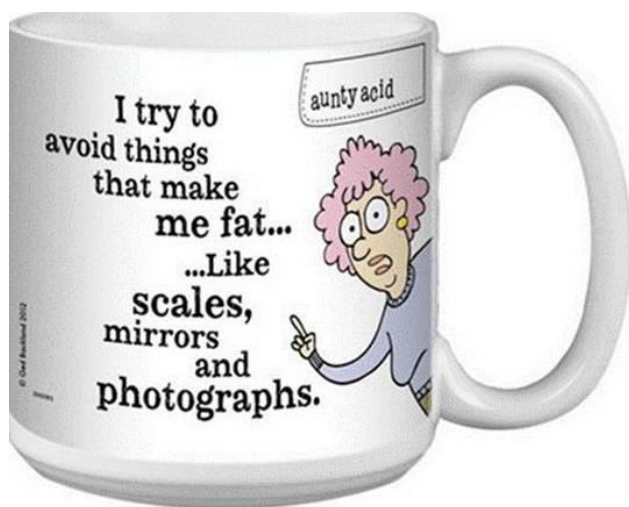
Cheers, Carol.

2/ How to live ....travel, taking your bed and bridge table with you. Do a Bridge cruise, not on the bridge, but in a comfortable cabin and playing Bridge while you go along. This I've just done, going from Miami to San Diego via the Panama Canal. Sea days saw 50 keen, and some very competent players having a lesson in the mornings and then playing duplicate (getting points too) in the afternoons in our own on board club. Run by Bridge Pro. Gary Brown (a Canadian expat now based in Melbourne) each evening we had our own dining tables, and shore excursions were done as a group too. It was all very convivial.

Next year I'm again joining a Gary Brown Bridge Holiday, this time I'm stationary in the gorgeous town of Hoi An in Vietnam. Apart from happy bridge played in an old heritage resort, Hoi An has silk and tailoring par excellence, I expect a fashion parade at the final party. So competitive bridge, fantastic food, good company and silk lingerie. **Anyone care to join me?**  
Cheers Carol.....26 May-5 June 2017.

xxx

Our club have many, many books in our library. Hugh McGinty has been looking for one particular book for a long time but has not managed to find it as yet. The title of the book is 'How To Have Hindsight Before The Event', author unknown. If any member knows where the book is, please advise Hugh of its whereabouts.



The above photo compliments of the Melbourne Waverley Club.

Xxx

In the last newsletter there was a request from the Committee for all members to be in the hall at least ten minutes prior to starting time. This was to allow the Director to know the number of tables and set up whatever system would be played that day. Then play could start at the right time. Good to see a number of members have heeded that request but **all** members should be on time. Remember, if you are late, either you and your partner are going home, or the Director

has to re-arrange the set up planned and start the planning again.

Xxx

It may surprise a few of our members just to know how many new members we have this year from Tuesday lessons and Fran & Jills Thursday morning sessions We welcome them to our midst.

KILPATRICK HELEN  
KILPATRICK RICHARD  
RANSON DAVID  
HERNANDE MAYRA  
Z  
REWERS B  
D'SOUZA CHRISTINE  
ANABELLA  
MACINNIS ANNE  
STEPHEN PENNY  
WATERS CHERLY  
JAMIESON PAM  
JARVIS SYLVIA

SOUTHWEL GAE  
L  
GARDINER HELENA  
HARDY DENNIS  
BALL MATT  
BARRETT DIANE  
BREWER GORDON  
CHADBAN BOB  
DEROY WILHELMINA  
HEALY JOHN  
HUNTER YVONNE  
KENNEDY GARY  
LILBURN ROSLYN  
ELIZABETH  
McINNES JENNY  
STEWARD ROSEMARY  
TWOMEY JANICE  
MARGARET  
WILSON BILL  
WILSON GWEN  
BRAND BERYL  
KNOWLES RON

Plus three more just received  
Lewicki, Andrzej-Maciet  
Parekh, Mahendra  
Smith, Rpdd

(From all the world we come?).

All newcomers should know that we welcome them and wish to help them as

much as we can.

xxx

Nice to have Colin Bale back amongst us after his annual sixteen weeks summer sojourn to his native England. He says he really enjoyed the summer time this year, but the other fourteen weeks were a bit of a drag.

Xxx

All of us, when we pick up our cards, are hoping for a good hand. Some tend to be luckier than others. Jan Greenlees hit the jackpot in the lucky department recently. She picked up her hand, first hand of the day, looked at opening points, a 5 card suit, a singleton, and, to crown it all, the Joker. All the years I've played bridge, she is the only person I know who was lucky enough to be dealt the Joker.

Xxx

### **Grand Slam Draw Winners**

The latest grand slam draw winners were Ken & Lynne Soldi. Congrats to them. I keep asking when will I get my turn at winning. I keep getting told that my turn will come. It's all very well saying that but hey, I ain't getting any younger.

xxx

A visitor was looking through a cemetery when he saw a tombstone with the following writing: 'Here lies John Wilson, a bridge player and a gentleman'. That's odd thought the visitor, three men in the one grave.

Xxx

### **Thinking Time Answers**

Did you go for the 3-3 drop and play trumps immediately? If the trumps break 3-3 you make eleven tricks. You might think, if the trumps don't break 3-3, you can always play clubs, expecting opposition to trump. But opposition is too smart and won't trump until the fourth round of clubs. In this case, you are going 1 down. So, gamble or go for safety play which is to give away a trump immediately whilst you still have a trump in dummy to cover for a third lead of hearts, making ten tricks.

S 974

H 8

D J862

C AKQJ8

S J852

H QJ72

D Q94

C T3

S T6

H AK9543

D KT5

C 54

S AKQ3

H T6

D A73

C 9762

Which way did you go? Which way will you go next time? Just remember, in all the many systems in bridge, the two words 'never' and 'always' don't appear anywhere.

Xxx

### **Second Hand**

Your best suit for extra tricks is Clubs. There are two honours missing, K & Q. You are entitled to play for there being one in each of the opponents hands. Win the opening lead with SK and lead the JC. If East plays low, you play low. West wins with the CQ. On the S return, win with SA, cross to HA and lead C9. If E plays low, you play low. C9 wins. Play C5, East has to play CK, and you win with your CA. Now you have another two C tricks to take, making your contract. If E had had C KQx, you would have let E win one club trick, and then finesse as before, again making your contract. If West had C KQx, you go down, but at least you tried.

xxx

Old age is when you have the 'morning after' feeling but you never had the 'night before'.

Xxx

Recently we had our Swiss Pairs Congress at Figtree which was held on a Sunday. All members were urged to turn up early. One member turned up late. When asked why, the member said, "I wasn't sure whether I should go to church or go to bridge, so I decided to toss a coin, and that was why I was late". How did tossing a coin make you late the member was asked. "I had to toss it eighteen times" was the reply.

Sometimes you hear complaints that such and such a bid was too high. A bid can never be too high, as long as partner is playing it.

Xxx

I guess that's all for this issue. Jottings are attached. Till next time,

P.B.G.(Ed).

xxx

### Jottings

From the committee

8<sup>th</sup> October

The committee met on Saturday morning for approximately 2 hours.

Manager's Report – Ken Mc Ivor

- Air conditioner, we are awaiting council approval for the installation of a twice as powerful air conditioner with an air isolator switch.
- New blinds are now installed on the western wall windows.
- As observant members we have noticed how clean the windows are with their new fly screens.
- The director's area is being tidied up with the addition of a new cabinet and new laser printer.
- New curtain material for the windows is on order.
- The new handbag area has being well received.
- New handles on the kitchen cupboards.
- The Card Club has booked the club premises through to February.

Again, we are very grateful for all the work Ken and Lindsey do in organising and doing all these jobs.

iBand Report - Barbara

Bridge at Thirroul continues to thrive.

Correspondence:

- The club received a letter from Jacquie Collins, congratulating Jill, Fran and John on the very supportive nature of TAMS and on how it is "providing such fantastic service to bridge" Thank you Jacquie and congratulations to the above mentioned trio.

Promoting bridge

- Tim has permission to advertise IBA

on the UOW website

- Carol has drafted a letter for Smith's Hill High School. Marie to follow up.
- Joan Butt's lessons were well received and she has being booked again for 2017.

Melbourne Cup – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November

- Melbourne Cup planning is up and running, we are looking forward to a fun day at the club.
- Please fill out the catering sheet at the club and if you are unable to bring a plate of food you can make a note donation instead (dollars of course). We often end up with a lot of crackers and cheese so check the sheet to see if there are too many.

Peter may have mentioned the following events

1. We are hosting a State Wide Teams event for players with less than 100 points and for players with less than 300 points on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Steve Hurley is the organiser.
2. Please note that there will be an IBA bridge session on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of November at 1.30pm replacing the normal Saturday session from the 12<sup>th</sup> Nov.
3. The State Pairs event, ( less than 100 master points) set down for Kiama for the 27<sup>th</sup> November will still be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> Nov, but at a venue to be advise.
4. AGM –Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 12.45pm

Next committee meeting December 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am.

