



NEWSLETTER

Illawarra Bridge Association

Edited by Peter Graham

Aug 2015

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Coming Soonn

August

Mon 10th State Wide Pairs 2

Tues 11th Lessons 2

Thu 13th GNOT 2

Mon 17th State Wide Pairs 3

Tues 18th lessons 3

Tues 25th Lessons 4

September

Tues 1st Lessons 5

Sun 6th Fathers Day

Sat 12th Saturday Club.

Let's start this newsletter with a 'Thank You'. It goes to Margaret Carr. Margaret has been our member who sends out the various types of cards, get well etc. to our members. Margaret has done this for four years and feels it is time for someone else to do the job. Margaret did not charge the Club for much of the cards and flowers bought, being her way of giving to 'Our Club'. We should all say thanks to Margaret for her generosity. Shona Kahler has accepted this position so if you know of some member who is ill etc, get the word to Shona.

Are You Discourtious?

I have harped on about this before but some members haven't got the message. It is something that irks me. Is it just me?. When a Director gives time

and expertise so we can enjoy our game, we should give the Director the courtesy of not talking amongst ourselves when the Director is addressing the meeting. Come on members, let's show respect. Very difficult to say the kids of today do not show respect if we don't show it ourselves.

Maria Shutte

Maria Shutte recently celebrated reaching one hundred and two years of age. As you know, Maria now lives in a nursing home in Berkeley. Her daughter gave a morning tea for all the residents, birthday cake and all. Sadly, Maria, (Myah), has lost much hearing and sight, and for a lady who lived life as a live-wire, she has lost lots of desire. So sad, so sad.

It Happened

I wonder long one would have to play bridge before one has 'seen it all'. Here are two recent occurencies that happened at Figtree. Two lots of four players involved, all experienced players.

1. It happened at the Congress. liz Hurley, playing E, absentmindedly picked her cards from the card box on the stool beside the table. N,S & W picked their cards from the

card box on the table. E cards were still in the card box on the table. They were a different background. No one noticed. Bidding was completed, contract made, and play commenced. It was only during play that the mistake was noticed. (Ed). I wonder if Liz picked the cards from the card box on the stool because she thought they might be better cards. I must remember to keep my eye on that young lady.

2. During a normal session, the bidding goes 1H--1S--2H--P--D--P. That's right, E doubled her own partner and neither N or S noticed. W was amused but felt obliged to raise the infraction which he did. The question arises: If W had kept quiet and the game had been played in 2H Doubled, making, and then the director had been called, what would have been the outcome?. Would E/W be punished for an illegal bid, or N/S punished for allowing it. If you want to know the answer, ask a director, I don't know.

From Carol Jeffs

Hi Peter, this is for the next news letterOn a very cold weekend two resilient pairs from the club attended the first NSW Veterans Pairs, held in Bowral, at the golf club. It was a lovely weekend, playing by a roaring log fire overlooking the Fairways. The event started with a great lunch and a chance to meet the other players who were from all over the state. The hospitality of the local club was very warm and the entire event was gentle and most enjoyable. There was time for shopping and the local economy was greatly improved..and I did some Christmas shopping. True to the spirit, that evening we had a very merry Christmas in July dinner. Altogether it was a most convivial weekend and I hope more of the club members attend next year, as it was felt

to be so successful that it now becomes an annual event. How did we play? We improved!

Different topic now, I'm planning to go on my very first cruise, a Bridge Cruise going through the Panama Canal, going from US to Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Mexico. Luxury cruising with expert Bridge tuition and play with Gary Brown, 24 April to 14 May 2016. Cost is reasonable. If anyone would like to join me, I'd be delighted. Please contact me for more details. Cheers, Carol Jeffs

(Ed).On receiving the above I considered it interesting so I made further enquiries. The week-end commenced with lunch on the Friday. Bridge was played in the afternoon and the evening was free. Bridge Saturday morning, then lunch, a free afternoon and a Xmas in July Dinner in the evening. Bridge Sunday morning, then farewells. All sessions were 30 board rounds. Thirteen tables which was the maximum allowed. The week-end was a huge success.

All players had to be aged seventy years or older. It was stated that the master points amongst the players totalled over 55,000. The four ladies who went were Carol Jeffs, Gem Flood, Carolyn Githens, and Sheila Fonseca. Unless there is something about which I have not been told, I find it disappointing that no rich, good-looking gentleman tried to cotton on to any of these charming ladies. Maybe next year. I am on the mailing list for when next year arrangements are made. I will put on our notice board when received.

Sex and Bridge

I have heard it said that sex is just like bridge. When it's good, it's very good. When it's bad, it's still good.

The Bridge Players Prayer.

Lord, grant me a partner,
Who won't trump my aces,
Deliver me from short suits,
And cards without faces.
Grant me finesses,
That work as I've planned,
And just once today, please,
A nice Grand Slam hand.

Peters' Prayer.

Give me a hand with all the four aces,
A skilful partner, and cards that have
faces,
Spades or Hearts, a few more than
seven,
And I won't have to die before I'm in
Heaven.
(Ed). I made that up.

Oops

Sometimes in the heat of battle, we
make decisions that otherwise we
wouldn't make in a million years.
I'll call the partners A and B. They had
bid up to 4Spades, A making the last bid.
This was promptly doubled. Now B has
recently been given the advice that you
don't want to leave your partner in a
doubled contract. B got flustered, didn't
know where to go, knew that spades
was their best suit, and bid, you guessed
it ,5 spades. I'm sure you don't need me
to tell you that A and B did not get a top
on that hand.

Perfectly Understandable.

Playing three board rounds, my partner
and I played against a particular pair
who bid to game each time.
We doubled them each time.
They made it each time.

When the Director called 'move', my
partner and I stood up to go to the next
table.

As we made to move, one of the
opponents pleadingly said, "Please don't
go".

(The above story is not true, but,
because it was not against you, I bet you
enjoyed reading it).

It's The Truth

I have discovered what ladies favourite
animals are. They are:

A Mink in the closet,
A Tiger in the bed,
A Jaguar in the garage,
And a Jackass to pay for it all.

Congress

I attended both days of our 2015
Congress at Figtree. It was good to see
a few members arrive early so they
could help in setting up tables etc. Well
done. I know our committee put a lot of
thought and effort into organising and
running both days and I thought it was a
big success. However, wondering if
there was any way there could be an
improvement, I asked three visiting
pairs, in a friendly manner, if they could
suggest any way we could have done
better. All three pairs said the same
thing. Nothing could have been done
better, it was very good, and they all
commented on the abundant supply of
food. Evidently they felt the food
important. Those members who either
bought or baked for the Congress to
donate as extra to the food supply can
take a bow. Congrats to our hard
working committee for their time and
efforts.

Noise

On a number of occasions recently our
directors have been telling us that we
make too much noise during play. I am

reminded of the story of what happened in a particular club. One table was making excessive noise. The declarer from the adjoining table leaned over and said, "Would you please keep the noise down a bit, some people in this room are playing bridge. We're not, but some people are".

Sponsorship

I received an e-mail from George Czubala who, as we have been told, has very generously sponsored club members for grand slam success for three months. This is indeed a very generous offer and surely worthy of all members saying thanks to George whenever you see him.

Rules for Grand Slam sponsorship by George Czubala for 3 months.

As the first month has ended with 6 winners, next month of July will provide prizes at least 10 entrants [total of \$200.00]
In case of more entrants being eligible, the extra entrants over 10 will be transferred to pool for month of August.
In case that amount of entrants for month of August will be higher than 10, then the draw of 10 winners will be conducted and maximum of \$200.00 will be given away.

GOOD LUCK TO GOOD BIDERS OF THE GRAND SLAMS

Jottings

From the committee
June 2015

Office Managers Report

Renata has installed the new coffee machine. Thanks Renata. Pods are 50cents.
The air conditioning is working well at the moment, we will be keeping an eye on its performance over the summer to see if the repair work is adequate for our needs

IBand Report

All going well, generally 9 tables on a Friday. Barbara ran a Pirate morning and raised \$1130 for Telethon Adventures for brain tumors. A great result. Well done.

Lessons

New beginner's lessons start on Tuesday August 4th
Jill and Fran's Thursday morning tutorials are on each Thursday morning and are much appreciated by those in attendance. Jill and Fran alternate with giving a lesson each week, followed by playing some games based on that lesson. These are planned for bridge players who are recent graduates or for those who would like a refresher or as a stepping stone to Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday play. Come along and enjoy the friendly environment.

Looking for a partner

Please let Marie Pickering know if you are looking for a partner.
Contact Marie at pickering_marie@hotmail.com or on 0422375712.

Name Badges

The first batch of badges has arrived. If you would like to order one please give Marie a ring. There are 3 types- magnetic, clips on or pin. Cost \$12. There will be boxes available in early August to store your badge at the club.

Tournament committee

This committee meets after bridge on the 1st Saturday of each month and considers all events that are organised for bridge members.

Lessons from Joan Butts in Feb 2016 * 2 hr workshop - content to be negotiated *

Cost is \$300 for 20 people plus \$10 for each additional person
* C. Jeffs to explore.

Sympathy Officer

Many thanks to Margaret Carr for her dedication to looking after club members in times of need. She went over and above in all she did. Thank you Shona (Kahler) for volunteering for the job.

General Meeting

Please make yourself available for this meeting on Saturday 28th at 12.45pm.

**See club notice board for details..
Marie Pickering**

(Ed) Thanks Marie for forwarding the minutes.

Once again as I come to the end of the newsletter, I regret I have not printed any items from the Thirroul Branch. I really would like to but, as I do not play at Thirroul, I do not pick up any items myself. Therefore, I need to get some spies from Thirroul to help out. So come on, Thirroul members, I am giving you the chance to talk about other members. My e-mail address is on the front of this newsletter you are reading. You are welcome to fill up my quota.

Definitions

Bridge Wrist This is a physical ailment. similar to tennis elbow. It is caused by the constantly inhibited, but very reasonable desire, to strangle your partner.

Stress Attack. Consequence of untreated bridge wrist.

Newcomers to bridge should not be overly impressed by the player who

boasts he has ben playing for twenty-five years. After all, twenty-five years may be no more than one years experience repeated twenty-five times.

Is bridge a sex-fiends game?

A lady was applying for a job as a maid and was asked why she had left her last place of employment. She said she was a good living honest person and could not keep working where the people knew no shame. She said, " They play a game called bridge and last night there were a lot of people playing and I was serving refreshments. I heard one man say to a lady, "Lay down and let me see what you've got", whilst I heard another man saying that he had "strength but no length".

Then a man said to a lady, "Take your hand off my trick". I blushed all over when I heard a lady reply that "you forced me, you jumped me twice when you didn't have the strength for one raise" and another lady was talking about "Protecting her honour". I would not stay there any longer so I got my hat and coat and I swear on the bible that as I was leaving I heard one of them say " Well I guess it is time to go home, this is the last rubber".

I think maybe I better call it a day after printing the above. I'll close with a story, (true one), as stated by Ron Klinger. As you all know, Ron has taken many classes and written many books for all levels af bridge players.

Ron was running a class for bridge beginners. A husband and wife pair were having an argument about what a certain bid should be and Ron was called to the table. He listened to the husbands opinion and said "that is

correct". The wife immediately said "you are wrong.", it says in the Klingrer book- -
- - ".

That's all folks. In closing I will remind you that happiness is not found in the search to obtain more, but in the contentment for what you have.

Till next time, P.B.G.(Ed).

