
CABOOLTURE BRIDGE CLUB

QLD



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, another month has slipped by unnoticed. However, as usual our Club has been busy. As well as our normal weekly events the club ran a very successful Gardner Pairs Shield Competition on Saturday 7th of this month, with 21 pairs in the field. The winners for 2024 were Annette Hyland and Carolyn Adcock. The results were very close so it was an afternoon of high quality bridge.

Club members competed in the Beryl Cramb Pairs Challenge on Sunday 22nd September. The event was hosted by the Moreton Bribie Club this year. Caboolture was represented by 17 pairs - a great response to the annual event. The winning pair was comprised of Elizabeth Gibson and John Scrivens.

The Caboolture Stringfellow Teams Congress will be held on Sunday 20th October. The Congress has been very well supported by players from a variety of clubs and the maximum of 28 tables was reached 2 weeks ago. It is very encouraging for the Committee to see this support for our Congress.

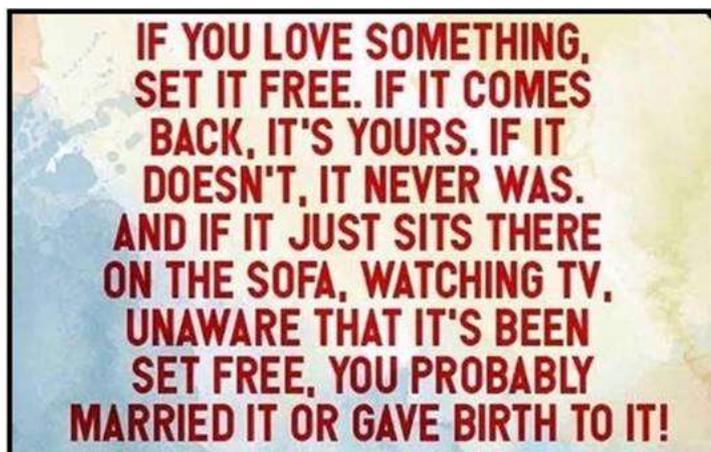
Tony & I are just home from a weekend in Dalby - my home town - where we enjoyed a two day Congress run by the Dalby Bridge Club. This is a very old Club, which celebrated its 50th Anniversary two years ago. However, the Club is now struggling with a number of older members unable to continue playing Bridge and a difficulty attracting new members being experienced.

Tony & I were having breakfast in a Dalby café this morning before we left for the trip home when I was suddenly confronted by Sue Droughton. What a surprise! Sue and Richard are travelling to Charleville to visit relatives and then crossing the state to drive to Airlie Beach for a short holiday. Sue has been very ill with a severe case of shingles but is feeling much better now.

Until next time, happy bridging!

Noreen Weyling

President



MEMBERS CORNER

A number of members are enjoying, or have just enjoyed pleasant holidays, including Charlene, Dianne and Jenny and in coming newsletters I hope we will enjoy hearing about these happy days from each of the lucky travelers.

Judy Gallagher has had one knee replaced and is finding it is now feeling comfortable after going through the rehabilitation program. So Judy in the coming weeks will go through the agony of having the other knee replaced. We wish Judy the best for the operation and hope that the result is as good as for the first operation.

This month we are lucky to have Charlene's comments on her recent trip—

Early August Jim and I started our driving holiday which would see us drive from Brisbane to Longreach and return.

We started by heading West through Chinchilla, Roma, & Mitchell before heading North to Blackall and on to Longreach. We had forgotten how pretty some of these small country towns can be and the smaller shops with the great service.

We were lucky enough to arrive at Roma in time for their annual 'Sculptures of the Outback where artists use recycled metals to make 'sculptures'. These are truly wonderful when you consider they are made from parts from tractors, bikes (both push and motor), fencing etc.



The drive to Longreach had us checking for many animals, including camels, cattle, kangaroos, emus and the many birds. Yes, we are interested in wildlife, but these are the animals which try to cross the road without checking both directions!

. Longreach

- *First night in Longreach we chose to take the sunset river cruise followed by an outdoor dinner with entertainment by a local singer.*
- *Longreach has the Stockman's Hall of Fame. It is a definite must see and we would like to go back and spend more time there. Great show with the stockman and the museum is somewhere I would like to go back and see again*
- *The Qantas Museum is also a must see. We spent an afternoon in the museum looking at the progression through history of uniforms, badges, planes etc.*
- *We chose to bus trip to Winton to save another long drive and saw the Age of the Dinosaurs Museum, the North Gregory Hotel where we were entertained by a Banjo Patterson poetry recital and then onto the Waltzing Matilda Museum*



Some of the quirkier things we saw

- *The piano in the Ladies powder room at Mount Morgan*
- *Table numbers in the Hall of Fame look like they have been made with a branding iron.*
- *Emus wandering down the streets of Longreach.*
- *Interestingly the streets in Longreach are names of birds. The bus driver was keen to tell us that EW streets are named after water birds and NS streets are land birds.*

The trip to Longreach is well worth the effort whether you choose to go by car, bus or train.

I HAVE A LITTLE SATNAV

I have a little satnav – it sits there in my car
A satnav is a driver's friend, it tells you where you are.

I have a little satnav. I've had it all my married life.
It's better than the normal ones. My satnav is my wife.

It gives me full instructions, especially how to drive.
"It's sixty clicks an hour" it says. "You are doing sixty five"

It tells me when to stop and start and when to use the brake.
And tells me that it's never ever safe to overtake.

It tells me when a light is red, and when it goes to green.
It seems to know instinctively just when to intervene.

It lists the vehicles just in front, and all those to the rear,
And taking this into account, it specifies the gear.

I'm sure no other driver has so helpful a device,
For when we leave and lock the car, it still gives its advice.

It fills me up with counselling, each journey's pretty fraught.
So why don't I change it and get a quieter sort?

Ah well you see, it cleans the house, makes sure that I am well fed,
It washes all my shirts and things and keeps me warm in bed!

But some six years ago, my wonderful little satnav passed away
How I wish my charming, beautiful little satnav was here to stay.

QUIZ CORNER

The last quiz questions have been about the number 4 and alphabet, so now we will try animals.

1. Name the babies of these animals—
Kangaroo, elephant, rabbit, swan, goose, ass, swine, goat, herring, pigeon
2. Name the fastest land mammal.
3. Name the slowest mammal
4. Name the largest mammal
5. Name the smallest mammal
6. Name the largest flying seabird
7. Name the smallest bird
8. Name the largest bird
9. Name the largest predatory fish

FOR THE IMPROVING BRIDGE PLAYER

With the upcoming Stringfellow teams and the Club teams championship, it is an appropriate time to discuss some winning tactics at IMP teams bridge. It is vital to understand the mathematics of the scoring which should influence you in your approach to bidding and play. The percentages quoted are from a Ron Klingler article on M.P Teams Bridge.

THE ODDS -

1. **The non vulnerable game**—This requires about a 50 – 50 chance to be worth bidding or slightly less. If the opposition stop in a part score, then if you bid and make game, you gain 6 imps (420 v 170), but if you go 1 off (140 v -50) you lose 5 imps. **Approach** – Do not stretch to bid a non vulnerable game.
2. **The vulnerable game** –This requires less than a 40% chance to be worth bidding. If the opponents stop in a part score and you bid a vulnerable game, then if you make it you pick up 10 imps (620 v 170) while if you go down you lose only 6 imps (149 v -100). **Approach** – DO NOT STRETCH TO BID GAME WHEN VULNERABLE

Small slams –These require a 50 - 50 chance to be worth bidding. However , if the slam is not obvious, assume it will not be bid at the other table. Thus, if you have plenty of points and you find you are missing an ace and a king (hopefully not in the same suit) bid the slam if there are no other problems, but if you have the same information but the partnership has less than 30 points, stay out of the slam. If you are comfortably ahead in a match do not bid a tight slam. Similarly if you are the stronger team, do not bid borderline slams. But if you are behind or if you are the weaker team, you can gamble on bringing in a close slam.

Grand Slams – Bid these only if they are virtually laydown. Plenty of matches have been lost because one pair bid a doubtful grand slam, went one down , to find the other team did not bid the small slam. The loss involved there, if you are vulnerable, would have been 26 imps, the 13 you have lost and the 13 you would have gained had you bid 6.

Playing for overtricks -While this is crucial at duplicate pairs, it is unnecessary at teams bridge. In the play at teams bridge, safety plays to ensure the contract or to give yourself the best chance come into their own. Safety plays which may cost an overtrick are shunned at pairs, but are vital at teams. Safety of the contract is the first consideration in teams. At pairs, you might jeopardise the contract because of the likelihood of an overtrick. **At teams never jeopardise the contract for an overtrick.**

Defending at teams, with imp scoring is also simpler, your sole aim is to defeat the contract, not to limit declarer to the minimum number of overtricks. If you have the setting tricks, take them. Do not wait around hoping for more than one down, unless you can see that this is perfectly safe.

Partscore bidding—At pairs you might try for no-trumps rather than a minor suit to try to obtain a bigger score(provided you have a surplus of points). At teams you always play in the safest contract.

In competing for part scores, however, you should still be eager. Do not let them play at the two level **if they have agreed on a trump suit** (unless they are notorious underbidders and might have missed

game). Do not bid the three level yourself, unless you have good shape (singleton in their suit or length in their suit, indicating your partner has a singleton). The aim on the part score hands is to obtain a plus score, any plus score. +100 or +140 is a negligible difference, but -100 or +100 is a difference of 5imps. Enough of these can cost you the match.

Sacrificing – At pairs, it can be a triumph to score -500 when if you had let them get their vulnerable game, it would have been -620. At teams, such a gain is negligible (3imps) and you have given up something valuable, the chance to beat the contract(-500 instead of +100is a 12 imp loss). Do not sacrifice unless the sacrifice is obvious, or you might make your contract or go no more than one down. At favorable vulnerability, you can stretch this a little since down two doubled, -300, is still a good result against -620.

If you have already sacrificed at game and they push on to the five level, **DO NOT SACRIFICE AGAIN— Let them play at the five level and hope they go one off.** Similarly do not sacrifice against a slam they have reached unless you have a phenomenally shaped hand. Very often they were going down in their slam until you took a sacrifice and saved them. If your side has the balance of power, prefer to double them in their sacrifice rather than push higher yourself. +300 instead of +420 is only a 3 imp loss, but -50 instead of +300 is an 8 imp loss.

Penalty Doubles– Generally you should be reluctant to take penalty doubles of games or slams unless you have an excellent hand and they cannot run elsewhere (unless, of course, they were sacrificing). Doubling overcalls at the one or two level for penalties is very risky. Atimps, the question is whether your game is sure. **Your general approach is to go for the surest plus, not for the biggest plus.**



QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1 Kangaroo – Joey; elephant – calf; rabbit – bunny; swan –cygnet; goose –gosling; ass – foal; swine= piglet; goat –kid; herring – sprat; pigeon – squab.
- 2 Fastest land mammal –**CHEETAH**
- 3 Slowest mammal – **3 TOED SLOTH**
- 4 Largest mammal –**BLUE WHALE**
- 5 Smallest mammal –**PIGMY SHREW**
- 6 Largest flying seabird –**ALBATROSS**
- 7 Smallest bird – **HUMMINGBIRD**
- 8 Largest bird –**OSTRICH**
- 9 Largest predatory fish –**GREAT WHITE SHARK**