

# MANDURAH BRIDGE CLUB DECEMBER NEWSLETTER WA 5 2014



From the President

I would like to thank all members for helping to make the Golden West Swiss Pairs such a great success. There were 45 tables, after a few withdrawals due to illness, and Mandurah Bridge Club received many compliments and congratulations on the excellent service provided. Our members ensured all participants received a scrumptious morning and afternoon tea, lunches for those players wishing to order, and a sausage sizzle at the conclusion of the event. Special thanks must go to Freda Badger and her team for her organisation of the catering and to Ross Proudfoot and his helpers for the barbecue. The members who stayed to help move furniture and clear up after the event were also very much appreciated.

There has been a change on the Management Committee. Billie Friedlander has resigned for family reasons and her place has been taken by Ian Jones. My sincere thanks to Billie for her contribution to the management of our Club and also to Ian for his willingness to step into the breach. Another change is the formation of an Education Sub-Committee to formalise the teaching of bridge at Mandurah Bridge Club. Laurie Hayes has written an article on this matter in this newsletter.

As this is the last newsletter of the year, I will take this opportunity to wish all members a safe and happy Christmas. I hope you all come back in the New Year refreshed and ready to spend many more happy hours playing bridge. Ann Shalders.

## CLUB NEWS

It was the season for competition; and strong competition was seen at all levels

The Very Novice pairs (under 15 masterpoints) was first up and the winners were Beryl Ellis and Diana Moorhouse with runners up Erica Lobl and Sue Turner— well done girls! Where are the men ? Ha!



The Jack Rowse Trophy for Novice players under 50 Masterpoints was next on the agenda. This was won by Rosie Elphick and Anne Wheel - with Janet and Walter Aldridge taking out second place.

Under 300 Masterpoints Competition ran over two weeks was won by Margaret Busani and Bev Ford — Congratulation girls and a win for Acol— A close second within less than 3 pts behind were Alan Dundas and Robina McConnell



The Open Pairs Championship, another prestigious event in the Club's calendar, was won by Jenny and Bill Maley, with Vera and Doug Hardman in second place. President Ann expressed her admiration for the many less experienced players who took part in the Championship and wished them well in future events.

## JACKPOT WINNERS 2014

<b>Monday</b>	Jean McLarty and Jean Field
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ian Jones and Liz Vince
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roger Lowe and Brian Murphy
<b>Thursday</b>	Anne Wheel and Rosie Elphick
<b>Thursday Night</b>	Alan Dundas and Eugene Wichems
<b>Friday</b>	Jean Field and Neville Walker
<b>Saturday</b>	Alan Wardroper and Edna Mason

## The Golden West Congress

This proved again to be very popular with 180 players from all the WA clubs and visitors from South Australia who took out first place.



*J. Hoffer and J Newman  
With Convenor Alison Stralow*



*J Free and R Cooper*



*M Merven and N Dutton*



Our Club was well represented at the NOOSA BRIDGE WEEK and all had a great time

## BRIDGE

The game - has a Russian origin and came to Istanbul in about 1860-65 where it changed its name to something like Britsh, Britch, or Biritch. When the English speaking nations got hold of the game that changed it to a word that they knew: Bridge  
What is the origin of the game?

I suppose the first port of call when looking at the roots of the game, so to speak, is on cruise ship Finlandia in 1925. On this ship was a man called Harold S. Vanderbilt. He had been playing variations of the game up to this point, but thought that it could do with some refinement. He created the scorecard that we know today (apart from no trumps scoring 35 points each), whereby only the contract bid counts towards game, other points and penalties scoring "above the line". He also created the idea of vulnerability from a young lady he met on board. He called this version of the game Contract Bridge, and it soon spread throughout the world as the definitive variation of the game of bridge.

### Support those who support Bridge 2015 ANC Congress

**Saturday 11 July to Thursday 23 July 2015**

Every eight years Western Australia hosts the Australian National Bridge Championships. Next year this two week event is being held in Fremantle at the Rydges Esplanade Hotel so start making plans to stay and play.



**Life with men is like bridge. You need a heart to love them; a diamond to marry them; a club to beat them; and a spade to bury them**

## MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON



Fifty members and friends enjoyed champagne and an antipasto lunch followed by bridge on Melbourne Cup day. The competition for the 'Best Dressed from the Op Shop' was won by Evie Perrins who sadly passed away not long after the event. The runner up was Gudrun Kemmer.

We regret the sad passing of Evie Perrins  
Let us think, at this time of year, of past Members and  
Friends and save a thought for those who are less  
fortunate than us.



### Understanding Law 57 Premature Play

Let's assume that South is declarer in 4H and has led 4S towards dummy's doubleton Queen. Before West plays a card, East play KS. At this point, KS becomes a major penalty card (and because a spade was led to this trick will have to be played - unless East finds a way to create another penalty card

before the trick is over!!!). Declarer now may:

- 1) require West to play his lowest spade, or
- 2) require West to play his highest spade, or
- 3) prohibit West from playing a card of another suit (for instance, when he knows that West has no spades). If declarer chose option (2) and West had the AS, he would have to play it, and East would still have to play KS.

### Premature Lead

Same situation, but now West plays KS. Then before East has played to the trick, West leads JD.

South has the same three options as above in relation to East's play to the unfinished trick. Again, let's assume that declarer chooses option (2) and East holds AS. The ace of spades wins the trick, East is on lead and the JD is a major penalty card. Declarer now has the normal penalty card options and possible lead restrictions with East on lead.



Merry Christmas to you all      Neville Walker

## **BRIDGE EDUCATION**

In 2011 the Australian Bridge Federation introduced and sponsored Teacher Training Programmes with the assistance of the State bodies. The aim was to prepare prospective teachers for their first classes and to improve the effectiveness of experienced teachers.

Joan Butts was appointed National Teaching Coordinator to run workshops to meet these aims. Joan Butts has a BA, Dip ED. And Dip Ed. Psych. She has written a number of books and for the past 25 years has owned and operated a bridge club in Brisbane.

Joan has set up a curriculum for teaching bridge to beginners. We as a club have decided to follow Joan's system for our new, prospective members.

In Mandurah we have a huge potential to grow our membership base and number of players. If one considers that there are 20 Retirement Villages in the district, the average occupancy at 200 people that equates to 4000 prospective members. This issue was brought home recently at our latest congress by 2 ladies from the Kalgoorlie club. Their problem is that they cannot attract new members because the young people are too busy with their careers and families and the older population leaves for Perth, Esperance and the coast when they reach retirement age.

Joan Butts course structure is for 6 lessons of 2 hour duration per lesson. She starts with a relevant video, a content lesson, relevant hands to be played and regular breaks. The format would be as follows,

Basics - tricks, terminology, partners, trumps, count points, dummy.

Bidding - ladder, chart, longest suit, HCP, 5 card majors, opening bids — Responding 1NT 2 clubs, balanced, shortages opening bid, new bid

Re-bidding 2<sup>nd</sup> - bid, hand shape, forcing, counting winners — Responders 2<sup>nd</sup> bid, range of bids, game points, discarding losers

List of bridge rules, etiquette, count cards, get trumps, entry into dummy

This course for beginners will probably be conducted 4 times/ year. At the conclusion of the course graduates will be integrated with the Monday morning group. Other courses are contemplated for Novices, Intermediates and Advanced players.

We presently have five people who have expressed an interest in leading the courses.

Laurie Hayes

### **ADVANCED LESSONS**

"A Better Way to Play a Suit Contract" with Doug Hardman  
Tuesday 27th and Thursday 29th January At 10am (\$5)  
Accumulate more knowledge of the Game and apply it more  
efficiently  
Come / Learn / Play

## **PAST MEMBERS – HELEN PRIESTLY AND DOROTHY SNOW**

With the sad recent passing of some of the Founders of the Mandurah Bridge Club, we publish below a 2010 interview with Helen Priestly & Dorothy Snow, conducted and written by Ross Proudfoot.

Dorothy Snow grew up in Subiaco with a strict Methodist upbringing; she did not play cards until she met Helen at the Karrinyup Golf Club. Dorothy spent many years working in libraries and she excelled in this work.

Helen Priestly grew up in a boarding school, in Guildford, run by her father. Here she was introduced to the game of bridge by the matron, who seconded two boys and herself, then aged 10 years, to form a foursome. This was during the 1930's.

Bridge took second place when she joined the Air Force during the war. She was stationed at the Karrinyup Golf Club which was used as a training base. She became a Morse code operator and also taught others, including Dorothy Snow.

After the war Helen and Dorothy went into business together with various enterprises, including a small poultry farm of three acres, adjacent to the golf club. Family members helped and Dorothy ran the Boans library. They continued their viable business for ten years until the British became self-sufficient and the export of eggs declined. This caused a change in their vocation.

Dorothy's background enabled them to start a mobile library in the North Beach area. They used an old vehicle resurrected from the farm. It had no air-conditioning and the hot weather made it necessary to provide towels on the ledges to protect customers from being burned whilst browsing.

Their next venture was the Alpha Book Library in Trinity Arcade. The advent of television resulted in a decline in the public's interest in reading books. Dorothy's brother-in-law begged them to move to Dunsborough to help run the general store. The latter supplied everything from bait, food, petrol, flagons of wine and was also the telephone exchange. Working in the store was very hard work for both ladies. However, they stuck at this for a few years and then returned to Perth. During this time little bridge was played until they retired to Mandurah.

Helen had a variety of employment in Perth. She learnt and taught Pitman shorthand and typing in St George's Terrace, and also ran the administration of the Homes of Peace. Dorothy worked for ten years again in Boans and at the Perth Literary Institute in Hay Street.

Retirement beckoned, and for a few years fishing and travel took priority in the move to Mandurah. It wasn't long before the two ladies heard that there was a bridge group which met locally, and this was an opportunity to take up the game again. George Greep was the man behind the resurgence and they became involved in helping him in the ensuing years to eventually form the Mandurah Bridge Club.

Bridge at George's home was a social affair. He provided a table in the kitchen and a second in the living room, with refreshments including delicious cakes and scones. He did a lot of teaching as well as organizing the play and calculating the scoring. Being a very good player, he had trouble coming down to the level of his charges. However, his determination was infinite and the Club progressed at a great rate.

The Club moved to several premises as it grew. One was the Mewburn Centre, where the toilets were shared with the public and a member's bicycle was stolen. In another situation all the ladies' handbags were stolen from an adjoining room.

Whilst at the Leslie Street centre the committee put forward a suggestion of expansion, which was enthusiastically endorsed by the younger members. Unfortunately the suggestion was defeated, resulting in the bridge group moving on. Both George and Alan Mason continued to investigate other avenues over the years, without success, and their contribution has been immeasurable. In the early days only one night session was held, but Helen started a day-time group which was held in their home, with eight ladies attending. Some of the group included June Spurge, Jean Keen, Wendy Blakely, Grace Brand, Ros Wales, Pat Stack and Hilary Fox. The Club frequently had four or five tables playing as it grew in size.

The friendliness and willingness of members to volunteer were invaluable seeds sown by George, Helen and Dorothy, and continue today with the present membership.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY AND AWARDS 2014



*The social committee responsible for the wonderful Christmas party and food. From the left, Di, Erica, Freda, Club President Ann Shalders, Lynda, Coleen and Father Christmas (aka Isobel). Well done to all of you for making our party so enjoyable.*

*Ann Shalders (left) presents prizes to the Jack Rowse & Thursday afternoon Jackpot winners, Anne Wheel and Rosie Elphick. The couple regularly win on Thursday afternoons.*





*Keen bridge couples Ralph & Olivia Keeling and Margaret & Noel Munyard.*



*John Griffiths and Ted Witt contemplating their empty glasses.*

**A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL**



*May the message of Christmas fill your life with joy and peace. Best wishes to you and your family during this holiday season.*