

## **NEWSLETTER MARCH, 2016**

### **From the President**

We are past the first quarter of the year and we are still sweltering in summer heat. Those of you who know me well, know that I hate the heat, so I am looking forward to a holiday in Europe in the next few weeks. I have looked up the current temperatures in Prague, which is my first stop, and they range from -2 C to 7C. I wonder how long my pleasure with cool temperatures will last if it gets really cold? I will just have to put on more layers of clothing and grin and bear it.



I will be away for the whole of April and will be leaving the affairs of Mandurah Bridge Club in the capable hands of Vice President Robina McConnell and the Management Committee. We are fortunate as a club to have a Committee whose members give freely of their time and expertise to make sure everything runs smoothly. My message to you all for this newsletter is short and sweet because I must get on with my packing!

Ann Shalders.

### **AGM**

#### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May – 12 noon**

The Annual General Meeting will be held this year on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon.

All Management Committee positions will be declared vacant. Nomination forms for these positions will be available from the Secretary, Bev Ford, after the April 14<sup>th</sup> committee meeting. Nominations close two weeks before the AGM so need to be returned to the Secretary by Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Members who have listed their email addresses will be provided with the following by email on 25<sup>th</sup> April: Notice of meeting, Nomination form, Minutes of 2015 AGM, President's report for the current year and a financial report for the current year.

Members not on email will receive by post a notice of meeting and a nomination form, posted on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Bev Ford, Secretary.

Email: [bevford@westnet.com.au](mailto:bevford@westnet.com.au)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS 2016**

<b>APRIL</b>	From Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Jackpot Week
	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Rest Red Point Pairs (Less than 100 Mps.)
	Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Club Teams Championship
	Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Special Teams
<b>MAY</b>	From Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Jackpot Week
	Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>th</sup>	Best Three out of Four Event
	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bridge for Brains
	Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	GNOT Qualifying Rounds
	Thur 19 May	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea 10:30am
	Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> May	AGM 12:30 followed by bridge.
	Thu 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Australia Wide Novice Pairs.
<b>JUNE</b>	From Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Jackpot Week
	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>	Handicap Pairs Championship
	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	Best Three out of Four.
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 9.30am,	David Beauchamp Training Session on Defence \$15

## Mandurah Summer Congress

The Mandurah Summer Congress was held over the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January. Neville Walker directed the event, ably assisted by directors Jean Field and Peter Holloway. Wendy Blakely and Jenny McNamara and a team of members provided wonderful food, keeping the players well fed over the whole weekend. Nigel Dutton, BAWA President, commented on how smooth and well run the event was, with fast turnaround times between rounds and state of the art large screen displays of results and draws. Well done to Mandurah members for such a successful event.

The Swiss pairs event on the Saturday was won by Tad and Beata Bieganski, presented here with their prize by Club President Ann Shalders.



*Winners Tad and Beata Bieganski*



*Runners-up Marie-Fran Merven and Nigel Dutton.*



Placed third were Elizabeth McNeil and Alan Dundas.



*Left: Phil and Kathy Power were the best Country pair.*

*Right: The best Mandurah pair were Doug and Vera Hardman.*

*Not pictured: Clyde England and Graham Boxall were the best under State Master pair.*



The teams event on the Sunday was won by the Dutton team, comprising Marie-Fran Merven, Nigel Dutton, Viv Wood and Jane Reynolds.

Second prize went to the Wilson team of Tim Munro, Deana Wilson, Jonathan Free and Chris Mulley.

The Steer team, James and Stella Steer and Clive and Inga Hunt, were placed third.

The Barnes team of Joy Gibson, Brian Wade, Di Brooks and Phyl Barnes won the best Country prize.



The Proudfoot team (left) won the best Mandurah team prize, comprising Bev Ford, Merle Proudfoot and Colin and Rose Hunter.

The Perry team (right) of Jane Perry, Corrie Davis, Graeme Perry and Maxine Clarke, won the prize for the best team below Life Master.



## Competition Winners

Tuesday Best 3 out of 4

Congratulations to this year's event winners, Gudrun Kemmer and Ian Wake.

Runners up were Jill Dixon and Anne Wheel, with Liz Vince and Ian Jones placed third.



ANC Under 300 MPs Qualifier

In the 3 sessions for this event, Denise Sampson and Craig Hardman were the overall winners. Clyde England and Alan Dundas were runners up, and Gudrun Kemmer and Ian Wake were third.

The Wednesday best three out of four was completed on Wednesday 30 March.

The event was won by Vera and Doug Hardman, closely followed by Roman Gdowski and Jane Parry and Jean McLarty and Jenny Maley. It was a very close contest with only 1.8% separating the first four pairs.



## A Diamond Celebration

After bridge on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Ursula and Brian Elson celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary at the Club with sparkling wine and a beautiful cake.

They are long-standing bridge players and Club members, and included among their cards was a congratulatory message from the Queen. Brian entertained members with a video presentation of their life history; the old black and white photos provided a reminder of days gone by.



## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

It is great to see players who have not previously used System Cards falling in line with the Club's policy of needing Cards for all competitions for other than basic Acol or Standard American systems.

Even if you only play a basic system, a properly completed card can help your partnership by documenting the strength and length of your opening bids and responses.

The ABF provides a really easy way to complete a system card – just go the following link

<http://www.abf.com.au/member-services/system-cards/abf-convention-card-pdf/>

Call me if you need any help

Neville Walker

Convenor

## ABF Convention Card PDF

### **The ABF Standard System Card is now available in PDF form.**

The ABF Convention Card Form is provided in a ZIP file with the latest version of its Usage Guide. Please take a few minutes to read the Usage Guide before filling in the card for the first time.

The ABF Convention Card Form works best with Adobe Reader XI (or later) which are available for recent versions of Macintosh and Windows operating systems (but not Vista). More details (including for linux users) are available in the Usage Guide.

The latest version of the form is 2015 PDF form revision 15F06.

### **Usage Guide**

The Usage Guide is your friend. It assists with configuring your PDF Reader and provides tips on the usage of, an resolving problems with, the form.

If you dislike some behaviour of the form, or detect any problem with the form:

First check 'The Help Page'

Then check the latest version of the user guide

If you need further help, send an email (or use the Query form).

### **Vale Jean Brand**

Sadly, in March we farewelled Jean Brand. Jean was born in Essex six years before the outbreak of WW2. She was brought up with rationing, evacuations and all of the upheaval of a country at war. Despite the hardship her approach was to "keep calm and carry on" – a philosophy that defined her life. After the war Jean used her accounting skills in employment at the Bank of England and married Ted in 1953. In 1963 the family emigrated to Australia aboard the Oriana, bound for Perth. They lived initially in a Nissan hut before building their first home in Trigg. Ted was one of the first FIFOs working in the Pilbara, leaving Jean in Perth to bring up the children and run the home.

Jean had a varied career, working for Peet and other estate agents, was the Registrar at Balcatta High School, ran the Home Gas Centre with Ted, and established her own fashion agency. She had a love and talent for performing arts, acted and produced plays and musicals, had a beautiful singing voice and was an awarded speech writer. Jean loved bridge and delighted in teaching and sharing her passion for the game. She loved to mentor new and less experienced players, and was the perfect partner – always positive, never criticising but subtly suggesting alternatives. Jean will be sadly missed at the Club.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Jean's husband Ted, her three sons Stephen, Christopher and Adrian and their families.

## Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Training Session on Defence by David Beauchamp



David is one of Australia's leading bridge teachers. He has run workshops throughout Australia. David has also been a Celebrity Speaker at the Gold Coast Congress and the National Open Teams in Canberra. He has presented seminars on how to prepare for national and international competitions for various state and Australian teams.

On Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9.30 am David Beauchamp will be running a session on Defence, concentrating on when to cover honour cards. Defence and communicating with your partner are vital but often neglected or misunderstood areas of play. Statistically at bridge we play for 25% of the time, we are doing nothing as dummy for another 25% of the time, but for the majority of the time we are defending. This session will help develop and improve your defence skills, and provide the

opportunity to ask questions. The session will cost \$15 per person.

### Teaching Programme

Recruiting new members to our Club is a vital task to secure its future. Teaching bridge to newcomers is very challenging, and Colin and Rose Hunter have performed an invaluable service in the teaching programme that has just finished. We all remember the daunting time we first learnt to play bridge, the encouragement needed to overcome adversities and the need to gain confidence. The Hunters have done a superb job in this programme and Colin has kindly prepared a resume below.

### February 2016 Beginner Lessons, by Colin Hunter

On Friday 26 February ten participants in the Beginner Lessons conducted by Colin and Rose Hunter received "graduation" packages from our President, Ann Shalders.

There were a few firsts about the lessons. Advertising was all by word of mouth rather than paying a considerable amount of money for commercial advertisements. The lessons were free and instead of only one, two lessons were conducted each week. Materials and method were again based on Joan Butts' system of teaching bridge.

The group was quite varied in their knowledge of bridge from many being completely new to any card games including bridge. As well there was one participant doing our lessons for a second time and there were also a few who had played in the past and were back for a refresher. Several people joined the group to participate in some of the topics covered in the lessons. All participants really enjoyed the lessons and are to be commended for their progress. The club will benefit by having most of them joining our club. Many are playing on Monday mornings and Deb Cooke and Sandra Petterson have already played in open competition on a Thursday. We know all members will extend a warm welcome to our new players.

### Mentors and Duty Partners

It is beneficial for new members to play bridge with mentors to help them consolidate what they have learnt in the teaching programme and further develop their bridge skills. Liz Vince, Membership Secretary, is drawing up a list of regular players who are willing to play with new and less experienced members.

The Club is also looking to expand the number of members who are willing to come along to a session and partner those players who do not have a partner for the day. This scheme operates for the weekday afternoon sessions and has proved beneficial in increasing the number of players each day. In return duty partners are given a free voucher to play on another day.

Please contact Liz on 9537 7843 if you can help.

## Pam Halbert in WA Women's Hall of Fame

In March Mandurah Bridge Club member Pam Halbert was inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Perth on International Women's Day. Pam was one of 16 WA women to be honoured at the induction ceremony which was attended by Governor Kerry Sanderson and Deputy Premier Liza Harvey.



After overcoming a number of challenges in her life and raising a family, she was ordained a deacon in 1988. Her first parish was at Bull Creek, but she had always dreamed of working in the Goldfields, and three years at Leinster followed where she also ran counselling services and travelled deep underground, which she described as "an amazing experience". Returning to Perth, Pam served as a priest at Willagee, Pinjarra, Dawesville and Wannanup, and retired in 2005.

Pam was prompted to write a book about four years ago following an interview which she heard on the ABC. A young Lebanese woman was unhappy because her father was forcing her to marry a man she did not love nor had not met, and this was happening in Australia. This interview gave Pam the impetus to write a book about her own experiences. Pam had suffered a similar fate years earlier. Her recently published memoir, *Desert Deacon*, is the story of the life of one of WA's first female Anglican deacons and priests to be given a Parish in the NE Goldfields and tells how her faith, courage and tenacity enabled her to change her life and find her true identity.

Pam's life shows how women can overcome adversity and will provide encouragement for girls and women in similar situations.

### A Bridge Quiz

	♠ AQ8	
	♥ AKQJ	
	♦ QJT987	
♠ KJT76	♣ -	♠ 95432
♥ 5432	N	♥ -
♦ -	W E	♦ 65432
♣ KQJT	S	♣ 432
	♠ -	
	♥ T9876	
	♦ AK	
	♣ A98765	

South is playing 7 Hearts, with no competitive bidding. The lead is club King by West. Plan the play to make 13 tricks.

### Leprechauns abounded at the Bridge Club on Thursday 17 March.

