



NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2016

From the President

At the Christmas party on December 10, it was with great pleasure that I announced the names of the many volunteers who have helped the Mandurah Bridge Club have another successful year of bridge in 2016. The gifts and honorariums given to them are just small tokens to demonstrate recognition and appreciation of their support. The Club could not function without the collective efforts of members who donate their time and expertise in so many different ways. It was particularly pleasing to see so many of our newer members making a contribution. It was also pleasing to congratulate the winners of our premier bridge events for 2016.

In 2017, once our Summer Congress is over, we will be commencing the long-planned Stage 2 of our building with the enclosure of the verandahs and the relocation of the office. We have given the builder details of our sessions



and he will be endeavouring to work around our needs. However, it may be necessary to cancel the occasional bridge session to give the builder a clear run with a particularly noisy job.

I would not want to try and concentrate on my bidding or card play while the builder is using a jack-hammer on the concrete floor of the verandah!! I can assure members we will only cancel sessions if absolutely necessary and I ask for members' cooperation and understanding during the 3-4 month building process. There is bound to be some disruption, but it will be an exciting time for those of us who have been on the Building Sub-Committee

for the last 11 years. I would love to be able to disband this Sub-Committee in the final days of my presidency.

By the time you receive this newsletter Christmas will be over but I wish all members a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year in 2017.

Ann Shalders.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2016

JANUARY	From Mon 2 Jan	Jackpot Week
	Tuesday 24 Jan	Charity Day
	Saturday 28 Jan	Mandurah Summer Congress Swiss Pairs
	Sunday 29 Jan	Mandurah Summer Congress Swiss Teams
FEBRUARY	From Mon 6 Feb	Jackpot Week
	Tues 7, 14, 21, 28 Feb	Best Three out of Four event
	Wed 15 Feb	Special Teams event 11:00am start
MARCH	From Mon 6 Mar	Jackpot Week
	Tues 7, 14, 21 Mar	GNOP Restricted Qualifying (Less 300 MP at 31 Dec)
	Wednesday 8, 15, 22, 29 Mar	Best Three out of Four Event.

Competition Winners

Restricted 0–300 MPs Championship (October)

Winners were Denise Sampson & Roman Gdowski. The runners up were Alan Dundas & Clyde England, with Kimberley Zhao & Corrie Davis 3rd.



Open Pairs Championship (November)

The winners were Clyde England & Roman Gdowski. Runners up were Michael Turner & Jean McLarty, with Doug & Vera Hardman 3rd.

The winners of the Jackpot Finals held in December were:

Monday: Clyde England & Roman Gdowski
Tuesday: Liz Vince & Ian Jones
Wednesday: Clyde England & Kathy Power
Thursday: Merle Proudfoot & Neville Walker
Friday: Clyde England & Vera Hardman
Saturday: Robina McConnell & Michael Turner

Thursday Best 3 out of 4 (October)

The winners were Jean McLarty & Frances Darnborough. Runners up were Corrie Davis & Clyde England and Denise Sampson & Roman Gdowski were 3rd.



Some of the competition winners - I am sure you can identify them.

BERYL ELLIS, by Diana Moorhouse



After a long fight with cancer, Beryl passed away on Wednesday, 30th November, 2016. Beryl was a very popular club member who loved playing bridge. Her greatest achievements were finishing 1st in Mandurah and 26th in Australia in the Australia Wide Novice Pairs, winning Under 50 points Novices and also winning the best Mandurah Pair Under 50 points at a Congress. Beryl loved life and wouldn't give up on wanting to come back to Bridge until the last week of her passing when she apologised for not being able to return.

She will definitely be missed by her partners and I am sure by most of the Mandurah Bridge Club.

NOEL MUNYARD, by Ross Proudfoot



Noel reached his 90th birthday in February 2015 but sadly passed away before Christmas. Sometimes known as Leon, he was a much loved member of the Mandurah Bridge Club for more than 10 years. He and his wife Margaret joined forces at the tables and despite their complaints of poor success had no trouble over the years in compiling a good number of green, red and gold points culminating in winning the 2016 Handicap Pairs.

Noel had a varied career with stints at teaching, real estate and taxi driving and I believe he was in the Air Force during WW2. There were always many interesting anecdotes emanating from those experiences when he was in the mood.

At home on his one acre property that was always a delight to visit, Noel created a vast garden and vegetable patch that attracted a great number of birds, especially his beloved magpies which he fed every day. As he reached maturity, which took a while, he rode around on his gopher to enable him to perform his backyard duties which included mothering his cattle (hens). He also enjoyed the company of Lady and Bonnie, his two dogs who accompanied him everywhere.

Whenever something annoyed or worried him he happened to be a very accomplished satirical lyricist and at times created some brilliant verses that were appreciated by all. Several years ago he wrote a song dedicated to the Bridge Club and if it hasn't been published a fitting tribute would be to see it in the newsletter and maybe framed on the Club room wall.

He loved his classical music and was forever playing his favourite pieces at dinner parties.

The Munyard's Christmas lawn parties in a large marquee were a legend and a very popular place to be when invited. One activity Noel thrived in was conning unsuspecting guests to a game of billiards and then dispatching them. His colourful language and repertoire were enjoyed by a great many friends within and outside the Club. He kept telling us he was a champion tennis ace, but unfortunately most of us missed that exhibition. He also enjoyed lawn bowls and croquet.

Always fun to be with and very generous with his time. He had a good life and those who knew him regarded him as a good mate.

Melbourne Cup

Melbourne Cup Day is always well-attended, with the usual sweepstake and the race watched on the large screen. Everyone entered the spirit of the event, enjoying the food and fun with 11 tables for bridge afterwards.



Roger Lowe was voted the Best Dressed member on the day.



The Cup Parade



A bit of betting on the side!

Denise Boettiger and her group of helpers organised a delicious lunch and arranged some interesting activities to keep the punters entertained.

Lunch was followed by bridge with a draw for partners. Winners for the day were: North/South Jean Mansey and Rosalie Creed Larkin, East/West Doug Hardman and Robina McConnell.

MANDURAH BRIDGE CLUB SUMMER CONGRESS

SATURDAY 28 JANUARY

SUNDAY 29 JANUARY

PROGRAMME

Saturday 9:30am Swiss Pairs

Entry \$35 per player (includes lunch)

Sunday 9:30am Swiss Teams

Entry \$35 per player (includes lunch)

Prizes will be a minimum of 50% of entry fees.

Entry via BAWA Website: www.bawa.asn.au

Learn To Play Bridge in 2017

If you know anyone who is thinking of learning to play bridge, Colin & Rose Hunter will be running a new series of eight free Bridge Lessons on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 am to 12 noon, for four weeks commencing on Tuesday 17th January 2017.

Participants will be taught the Joan Butts' system and each student will need to purchase the text book called "Play Bridge – A workbook for Absolute Beginners" at a cost of \$20.

Venue: The Mandurah Bridge Club - Cnr Murdoch & Bortolo Drives Greenfields.

When: 9 am to 12 noon each Tuesday & Friday morning for 4 weeks followed by two or three weeks of practice.

Who: Men and women of all ages.

Cost: \$20 for the text book - the lessons are free.

During the course participants have Temporary Membership and if they join the Club within one month of completion of the lessons they receive discounted Membership Fees.

How to register: call Colin or Rose Hunter on 95869304, or visit the Club's website and follow the link

<http://www.mandurah.bridgeaustralia.org>

Restricted Sessions

The Club has introduced 3 restricted weekly sessions to provide an easier transition for new and less experienced players into the main sessions. Members can still play in the main sessions if they wish. To qualify to play in the restricted sessions, both players must have:

Less than 25 Masterpoints for Wednesday afternoon

Less than 50 Masterpoints for Tuesday and Thursday afternoons

The Club continues to run supervised sessions on Monday morning for players with less than 50 Masterpoints.

Directors' Corner



New Year Resolutions for bridge players:

- be kind to your partner
- be courteous and welcoming to your opponents
- only ask about opponents' bids if you intend to bid
- don't offer advice to others unless asked
- be courteous to the Director
- remain quiet – there will be others playing when you finish your round and it is courteous to let them play with minimal distraction

System Cards

The Club's Event Regulations stipulate that players are required to have an up-to-date system card if they are playing any variations from basic ACOL or Standard American Yellow Card. Basic systems include transfers, Stayman and weak two bids. The concept of playing only a basic system is that players can have a game at a basic level, turn up without a partner and play with anyone. However, if you make any modification to the basic system, this must be declared to your opponents – verbally if you and your partner have not played together before and so have been unable to prepare a system card, and via a system card if you regularly play together.

The key reason for this is to ensure fairness for all players. All partnership understandings, including explicit and implicit understandings and practices of the partnership and those that arise by partnership experience, must be fully disclosed to opponents.

Your opponents are entitled to know both your bidding and playing systems, and declarer is entitled to know your signalling techniques to work out his play.

Regular play with a particular partner is likely to lead to knowledge, even if only implicit, of partner's habits. In such a case, "no agreement" or "random" is unlikely to be an adequate description of the partnership understanding. These "understandings" must be fully disclosed. If a partnership's understandings include alternative meanings for leads, signals or discards, then the opponents are entitled to know the partnership practice and implicit understandings as to the circumstances in which each alternative applies. For example, the opponents are entitled to know the agreed meaning of the card played by third hand when a defender cashes a winner and there is a singleton in dummy.

Pairs are required to have two fully completed system cards. Both must contain the same information. At the beginning of each round they should be available for exchange with the opponents' system cards.

The system card must give the meaning of all but the most well-known and unambiguous agreements on it rather than just naming them. If the system card does not, the Director may deem there to be misinformation resulting from the failure to give a clear and precise explanation and this may lead to an adjusted score.

Here are some examples where partnership understandings must be described in full on the system card:

- where an agreement varies from the traditional meaning, it is not sufficient to describe it on the system card as 'Modified X'. Particular care must be taken when describing two-suited overcalls. For example, 'Ghestem' should never be used as a description since there are many different versions
- particular care must be taken with defences to 1NT, especially with bids that show either a two-suiter or the suit bid
- opening lighter in third and/or fourth position or overcalling on four card suits
- doubles with unusual or additional meanings, takeout doubles with unusually weak hands
- the meaning of leads, signals and discards. If the meaning of a signal depends upon the situation, the primary meaning and any alternative meanings must be stated on the system card. For example, if a high card normally shows an even number but is instead encouraging in some positions, this could be described as 'high = even (encouraging)'

Members of a partnership may play a different style from each other, for example while opening pre-empts one player may take more liberties with suit quality than the other. Any relevant information about style should be explained in the answer to a question, and, where appropriate, disclosed on the system card.

In the event of a dispute, if a partnership's system cards contain inaccuracies, lack relevant information, fail to disclose explicit or implicit understandings, disagree materially with each other or disagree materially with any explanations given, the Director will give the benefit of doubt to the opponents. Such shortcomings will prejudice any claim that it was the call rather than the explanation which was mistaken.

If you need help completing a system card, please contact one of the Directors.

2017 Summer Congress

If you can help with the catering requirements for the Congress, please fill the appropriate section in the Congress book by the Directors' office, and thank you for helping.

Liz Vince

In October Liz retired as a Director and also resigned as Membership & Masterpoints Secretary. The Club greatly appreciates the wonderful job that Liz has done, especially in building up attendance at the Thursday afternoon sessions where she will be sorely missed by players. Joy Hampson will be acting as Membership/Masterpoints Secretary.



THANK YOU

Another year has flashed by and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful Duty Partners who have given up their free time to enable players to come to the Club without partners. This is a great service to the Club and I would encourage more of our 273 members to become involved.

If you play as a duty partner, IT IS FREE. Whether you play or not, you also receive a free game voucher for future use. Please contact me or any Director if you wish to become a duty partner.

Happy New Year.

Joy Hampson (Membership/Masterpoints Secretary)

Mandurah vs Rockingham Annual Bridge Club Match

Mandurah Bridge Club won the annual match for the fifth successive time, with 12 pairs from each Club taking part. Alan Wardroper and Kimberley Zhao were the winning pair, with 7 teams from Mandurah appearing in the top 10. The event was held at Rockingham and as usual, Rockingham were very hospitable and put on a splendid lunch and tea for everyone. President Ann Shalders is seen here collecting the trophy.



Never Mind

The doctor was checking up on three elderly bridge players who had head injuries from a car accident.

Serene inquired "Doctor, Will I still be able to play bridge?"

The Doctor asked "How many high card points in a deck of cards?"

"60!" the lady replied.

Worried, the doctor turned to Wayne "How about you? How many high card points in a deck of cards? "

"Uh, Wednesday!" he shouted.

Even more concerned, the doctor motioned to the other lady. "Well, what do you say, madam? How many high card points in a deck of cards?"

"Forty!" Sheryl replied.

"Excellent!" the doctor exclaimed. "How did you get that?"

"Oh, it's pretty simple," she explained. "You just subtract the 60 from Wednesday!"

Never Mind - A new twist

Sheryl subtracted 60 from Wednesday to get 40. The numerical equivalent of Wednesday is $23+5+4+14+5+4+1+25=100$. So there!

Annual Christmas Party

One hundred and twenty members and partners enjoyed a feast at the annual Christmas Party and Prize giving, thanks to Rose Hunter and her merry band. Chicken, ham and salads, followed by Christmas pudding was on the menu as well as a beautiful cake donated by Isobel Jones.



Isobel's Christmas Cake



Volunteers were presented with vouchers in recognition of their efforts for the Club.

