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GEELONG BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

June 2024

From the President

Positive President (in contrast to grumpy Director)

I write this following the Committee initiative to have a Buddy day with beginners and intermediate players teaming with our 'guns'. What a great success! Positive comments relayed to me include one member saying that it made her feel part of the bridge club. Another said "What an amazing and invaluable opportunity. I have been a part of at least 30 sports teams and clubs across 8 different sports. I can't think of a single other occasion when us mere mortals were given the formal opportunity to learn from the club's best players." From another member: "It would be remiss not to pass along my thanks for the effort you put in and the extreme patience shown.I gained a tremendous amount from the exercise... It was a great initiative. I do hope others felt the same." The aim of this initiative was as a learning experience but also to encourage members to move beyond their usual day of playing. Thanks to all who participated - experts and buddies. I was privileged to play with another of the experts on my 'target' list. There will be another buddy day in 2024.

My next 'bouquet' is to those who do play at a higher level. The Thursday half hour 'mini-lessons' have been a great success. For me, this format, concentrating on one thing, is more valuable than a long session. There is far more chance that you will try it out. I know I now look at inverted minors in a different way.

Again from a member - "this is the best maintenance team we have ever had". I KNOW there are a lot of members who do a lot of work for the club but these guys are great. Our building is getting older and inevitably requires maintenance. I hope you have noticed the improvements that have been made. The next project is a line down the middle of our driveway to assist us to keep left. We are also looking into renovating the women's bathroom - probably an expensive enterprise I fear, but we have applied for a grant.

Chairs - what a mixed reaction. They are loved or hated. Because of the cost of repairs and the unpleasant state of some chairs we had to do something.

Continued next page

I understand that they do not suit some people so we will retain a number of the older chairs that can be used.

Another area of debate - my ABF. Many members are enthusiastic to embrace this and some are vehemently opposed. We have run a successful trial on Wednesday nights and Fridays. The trials will extend to other sessions. I am very grateful for the work done by Philip Dunlop-Moore and other committee members in this endeavour. As quoted in The Age : "Except for pensioners, drug dealers and tax evaders, just about everyone has joined the 21st century by moving to a near cashless society." I guess some of us fit into at least one of these categories. Another article today was headlined "Cash is dead. Why do we pretend it isn't?" The Geelong Bridge Club will still accept cash.

I have attended several of the excellent O'Dea beginners' lessons on Saturdays. We can look forward to quite a few potential members from this group.

As winter is here we always lose players who head north or further afield. Our pool of directors is working extra hard to cover absences and would welcome anyone who sees themselves trying out this role.

Finally I put in my regular plug for Wednesday night sessions which also suffer in winter. It is my favourite playing time and you will be in for pleasant surprises if you can make it.

Marion Scambler

President



**Buddy
Day**





www.geelong.bridge-club.org/

Club Results

Open Teams Wednesday 27 March

| | |
|-----|---|
| 1st | D Newland, S Lester, A Robbins, D Newlands |
| 2nd | M Stokie, R Gillard, P Jain, G Wilson |
| 3rd | K Bailey, G Bailey, P Jones, B Jones |

Western Region Friendly Teams Sunday 14 April

| | |
|-----|--|
| 1st | J Williams, K Graham, L Kruger, T Passlow |
| 2nd | W Dennis, B Fitzpatrick, G Bailey, K Bailey |
| 3rd | A Feiner, A Gunst, D Peacock, J Johnstone |

Helen Drinnan Teams Final Friday 26 April

| | |
|-----|---|
| 1st | M Stokie, P Jain, S Duff, G Wilson |
| 2nd | D Newland, S Lester, A Robbins, D Newlands |
| 3rd | B Jones, P Jones, G Del Papa, D Peacock |

Australia-Wide Novice Pairs (Club result) Thursday 30 May

| | |
|-----|---|
| 1st | NS: H Comisel, M Kinahan EW: A Blackburn, K Thomas |
| 2nd | NS: J Prowse, D Casey EW: L Johnston, R Gude |
| 3rd | NS: P Horan, J Horan EW: J Lehmann, G Foard |

Joan Wilson Trophy Winners

| | |
|-------|-----------|
| March | J Lehmann |
| April | P Jones |
| May | D Newland |

HIGH SCORES

| | | |
|-----|------------------------|-------|
| Mar | G Temple, S Duff | 74.6% |
| Apr | G Bailey, K Bailey | 69.3% |
| May | D Newland, S Lester | 75.6% |

Rank Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received new Masterpoint rankings.

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Graduate | S Dunn |
| | A De Boos |
| | B Baldwinson |
| | L Madden |
| Club | P Dunlop-Moore |
| Local | J Lehmann |
| | G Howell |
| Bronze Local | P Donohue |
| | M Ilic |
| Regional | M Peck |
| National | C Dodgshun |
| Silver National | T Seed |

NEW MEMBERS

The Geelong Bridge Club welcomes the following new and re-joining members:

Olympia Ainalis-Pernar
Jane Cousins
Sue Gower
Margaret Grigg
Ken Passlow
Joe Pernar
Kathy Van Driel
Ross Warner
Sue Head

The next beginners lessons will be in the second half of 2024.

Talk to your friends about the benefits of playing Bridge. Call Bernadette O'Dea on 0490 081 066.

Coming Up

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Sunday 16 June | GNOT Geelong Region Final |
| Saturday and Sunday 29–30 June | GBC Congress |
| Sunday 14 July | Western Victoria GNOT Pairs, Geelong |
| Thursdays 25 July, 1 August | Mens/Womens Pairs |
| Sunday 28 July | Pizza Sunday |
| Saturday 10 August | Western Region Friendly Pairs, Ballarat |
| Sunday 25 August | Pizza Sunday |
| Mondays 16, 23 September | Open Pairs A qualifying heats |
| Fridays 20, 27 September | Open Pairs B qualifying heats |

Western Region Friendly Teams

On Sunday 14 April the Western Region Friendly Teams event was held at the Ocean Grove Bridge Club. It was a FULL HOUSE with people from Torquay, Ballarat, Geelong and Ocean Grove.

It was a very enjoyable and fun day. Thanks to everyone who helped, in particular to the Ocean Grove ladies who supplied a very lovely morning and afternoon tea plus drinks and nibbles at the end of play.

A big thanks goes to Mike Stokie and his caddy Adam for their hard work and contribution to the day, also to Geroge Del Papa, the President of the Ocean Grove Bridge Club.

The atmosphere was great and I have had some very positive feedback which is encouraging.

The results for the event were :

1st Judy Williams, Kathryn Graham, Leah Kruger, Terry Passlow

2nd Wendy Dennis, Bridget Fitzpatrick, Kirsten and Gavin Bailey

3rd Alison Feiner, Anne Gunst, Dot Peacock, Jenny Johnstone

Congratulations to the winners and a big thank you to everyone who played and supported The Western Region Bridge Association.

Our next event will be the Friendly Pairs which will be held in Ballarat on Saturday 10 August. Please put this date in your diaries !!

Regards **Jenny Johnstone** (President WRBA)



Results from away

It's great to see our members playing at different clubs and Congresses. These results show that, for a small club, we can compete with the best in Victoria. It is especially pleasing to see two newcomers to the world of Bridge (Philip and Glenn) doing so well.

Bendigo Congress

Open Pairs—Judy Williams and Kathryn Graham placed 4th.

Moonee Valley Super Congress

Novice Pairs—Philip Dunlop-Moore and Glenn Foard placed 3rd in the Novice Pairs but were 1st in the Super Novice competition.

Open Teams— the Newlands team (D Newlands, A Robbins, G Bailey, K Bailey) placed 6th overall. Congratulations all!



Moonee Valley Congress



Saturday Red Point Social Day

What a success! We had nine tables on Saturday 1 June. Whether it was for the Red points, the nibbles afterwards, or the renowned Director, I don't know. Particularly pleasing were the three pairs from Ocean Grove, and the pair from Torquay, hopefully leading to more combined club events on Saturdays. Also particularly pleasing was the number of people who stayed to socialise, the last group leaving more than 45 minutes after the end of play. My special thanks go to Jennifer B for her catering and cleaning up after play, ably assisted by Linda L. Our club is so lucky to have people of their dedication, as they always contribute. Results were:

North-South:

1. J Johnstone-Judy C Williams
2. M Stokie-M Stokie
3. J Prowse-B Kroger

East-West:

1. J Lehmann-G Foard
2. T Seed-G Webb (O.Grove)
3. J Blyton-L Lee

Did you notice that our beloved Nonagenarian Bev finished 3rd? Thanks to all who attended, and to my lovely helpers. Much appreciated.

Arthur Robbins, Director

A Hand From the Moonee Valley Congress

This is meant as an instructive article about not giving in. North South reach 4H on this holding, after East doubled a 1C opening by North.

North

♠ 984

♥ AKQ8

♦ Q72

♣ J96

South

♠ KJT

♥ 5432

♦ 9

♣ AKQ42

East started with AD, then AS and a small Spade. Finesse or not, as you have 10 tricks if Hearts behave. Best not to risk it. Win the KS, and play on Hearts. Bad news, they break 4/1. You are now looking at 4 losers! Any hope? Yes, if East has three Clubs, you can get rid of the Spade loser on the 4th Club!!!

Moral: Don't give up.

The situation after three rounds of trumps, which didn't break!

North

♠ 9

♥ 8

♦ Q7

♣ T6

South

♠ T

♥ 5

♦ -

♣ AKQ42

You are looking at a Heart loser, and a Spade loser, having lost the first 2 tricks. You have only ONE chance!. If East has three Clubs, you can make, as on the 4th Club, you can discard your Spade loser, as East trumps. Yes, it would have been easier to finesse against QS, as East had doubled, but, if you can see 10 tricks on normal breaks, would you?

Point: Keep thinking, don't give up. One step up to becoming a better bridge player!!

Arthur Robbins

A Window into the Past

(In going through some papers Arthur Robbins found this article written about a long-time member of GBC in the 1970s, 80s and 90s. We thought current members would be interested in hearing about her life and involvement with GBC. Editor)



Jo was a trained nurse and during the war she worked at the Ford factory, where she met John Patterson, who was not conscripted because of a need for skilled workers here. John often attended the Infirmary with a variety of excuses, though Jo had little sympathy for him (she had this tough exterior and a quick tongue and didn't suffer fools lightly)! Jo married John and they had three children - John, Gregory and David. They lived in Glenlieth Ave, Drumcondra and Jo owned the Glenburn Nursing Home a few doors away.

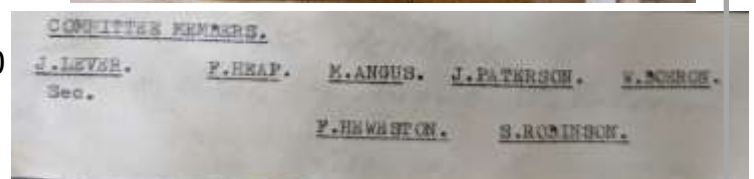
Jo was taught to play by Eddie Karen, who came to Geelong from Melbourne on a Monday night to teach. Jo would often quote him and mimic his thick Hungarian-English accent.

Jo was elected to the GBC committee in 1972 and was responsible for social and public relations to help new members. In 1973 she was appointed to the Congress Committee. She arranged a Christmas party for 18 December 1975 at Aberdeen Chateau with a two-piece band. She was responsible for the running of the Monday sessions for many years and her contributions included wall-papering, furniture painting, table covers and curtain making. She was always kind and sympathetic to those in need. But anyone who didn't clean up after play would feel her tongue, and she dominated the House Committee for many years.

For her extensive efforts, Jo was awarded Life Membership in 1986 for the "majestic amount of work performed over many years and in various ways". After more than 20 years, Jo resigned from the Committee in June 1995. She won the President's Trophy in 1981 and 1995, won the Ladies Pairs in 1985 with Brenda Crellin and the Open Teams in 1980. Her husband, John, was an honorary member of the Club and mowed the lawns for many years. He won the President's Trophy in 1986.

I have fond memories of our Committee meetings on Monday nights, when I would eat at her place, before taking her to the meetings. It was always spaghetti and I was encouraged to eat several helpings (to not do so would imply there was something wrong with it)!

It was sad to see Alzheimers interfering with her ability to play in the 1990s, as the club played such a large part in her life for over 20 years. Jo died on 7 September 2003. John passed away several years ago, after moving to a retirement village in Buderim, Queensland in 2003, soon after Jo died.



Arthur Robbins

Guarding Your Slam Against A Bad Split

Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

♠ K92
♥ 5
♦ KJ742
♣ AQ63

♠ QJT7 ♠ 653
♥ T7643 ♥ J9
♦ 9 ♦ QT65
♣ J98 ♣ T742

♠ A84
♥ AKQ82
♦ A83
♣ K5

| South | West | North | East |
|-------|------|-------|----------|
| 2NT | Pass | 3S | Pass |
| 3NT | Pass | 6NT | All Pass |

This deal came up in a teams game. Both North players enquired about South's minor suits with 3S before bidding the slam in notrump. The queen of spades was led at both tables and was taken in hand with the ace of spades by both declarers.

At the first table, declarer continued with ace and another diamond. When West discarded a club, declarer called for dummy's king of diamonds, and then played his three top hearts. When East threw a spade on the third heart declarer found he could no longer make his contract.

At the second table, declarer did not cash the ace of diamonds at trick two. Instead he led the three of diamonds toward dummy. When West followed with the nine of diamonds, declarer took the trick with dummy's king. Next, he led a low diamond from dummy and covered East's six of diamonds with his eight, which won the trick. After cashing the ace of diamonds, declarer cashed the king and ace of clubs before conceding a diamond trick to East, who exited with a heart. Declarer took his three top hearts, throwing a club and a spade from dummy, before claiming, since dummy was now high.

This declarer always planned to take the king and ace of diamonds on the first two rounds of the suit. This would automatically give him at least four diamond tricks if West held the queen and the suit was not 5-0. Also, as was demonstrated, he could succeed in doing so if West held a singleton queen, ten or nine of diamonds. This second round covering a small card (rather than playing a winner) is a common theme in taking care of 4-1 splits.

Douglas Newlands

A note from the editor

As the editor, I would like to encourage you all to pass on anything you think will be of interest to the members regarding the Bridge Club. Thanks again to those who contributed information and interesting articles for this edition. Contact the committee or me at jlbylton@gmail.com.

Jennifer Blyton

Road Trip

It was only a few minutes after dawn when Mark Doyle stopped to collect me on a quiet back road in Ocean Grove. Not much had changed when he stopped again fourteen and half hours later except it was definitely night. In between we had driven nearly 850 km, drunk far too much coffee and crossed into NSW. The purpose of our trip to Albury was to take our place in the inaugural Margie Doyle Pairs Competition named in honour of Mark's mum.

Margie had been a long-standing member of the Albury Bridge Club and president for nearly twenty years. She had a passion for bridge and deep commitment to developing players new to the game. Listening to the warm tributes spoken by club members, Margie always had time for other people and had created a welcoming culture in the club. Naming the competition in her honour will help make these values integral to the Albury Bridge Club. We are very grateful to club members for the welcome we received and the opportunity to share in this important event.



Phil Dunlop-Moore

Safe and Sound



You might remember the article in the March newsletter about the departure of one of our members on a road trip....on her motorbike. To Western Australia and back. Well, she's bin there, dun that. Patt Cristina is back safe and sound with some great photos to prove SHE DID IT!



Recently I had a chance to make a bid that one sometimes dreams about. We were at the Ljubljana Bridge Club in Slovenia, invited to play on their strong night and they are very competitive players. We were somewhat tired and a little unsettled in the strange location, although the club was comfortable and the people were hospitable despite the limited English spoken. The Slovene language is unusual, to add to the exotic experience.

After a few boards, where 'Two over One' is the dominant system played here, South (on my left) opened 1S, pass from Kirsten and a Game Force (GF) 2D from opponents on my right. I'm holding:

♠ X
♥ XX
♦ XX
♣ AKQJ10xxx

Green against opposition red. What to bid ? Blundering along without too much thinking, I bid 5C hoping to raise the level before they can explore... mmm! South passes and North doubled and South bid 5S, all out. Makes 12 tricks for 680 to NS.

Subsequently I had thoughts of how I might have bid... a lost opportunity. Perhaps over the GF 2D, I could/should have bid 3NT! Just to confuse the issue... what can the opponents do? Pass and all out, and I lose all tricks for a score of +450 to NS? Double and I may then run to 5C; if not doubled then 150 out, or doubled for 500 out. A lost opportunity....

We were invited to play in a Slovenian congress in Portoroz, Slovenia. We just played in the pairs event on the last day. Portoroz is a coastal town on the Adriatic, between Trieste, Italy and Croatia. Thankfully, our bidding and playing were up to scratch.

Gavin Bailey



Receiving our prize for best International Pair! There were pairs from Italy Austria, Croatia, Hungary and USA.



| PAIR NO | SCORE | W/L |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Barbara Ormrod - Graham Ormrod | 1 | W |
| Kirsten Bailey - Gavin Bailey | 2 | W |
| John Pagan - Rajko Ceh | 3 | W |
| Mira Ristic - Galineta Sporic | 4 | W |
| Wendy Varga - Dean Payer | 5 | W |
| Enrica Kopar - Irena Rencelj | 6 | W |
| Milica Maric - Bogdan Hrvatin | 7 | W |
| Olga Lendic - Miroslav Gahr | 8 | W |
| John Pagan - Rajko Ceh | 9 | W |
| Enrica Kopar - Irena Rencelj | 10 | W |
| Milica Maric - Bogdan Hrvatin | 11 | W |
| Olga Lendic - Miroslav Gahr | 12 | W |
| John Pagan - Rajko Ceh | 13 | W |
| Enrica Kopar - Irena Rencelj | 14 | W |
| Milica Maric - Bogdan Hrvatin | 15 | W |
| Olga Lendic - Miroslav Gahr | 16 | W |
| John Pagan - Rajko Ceh | 17 | W |
| Enrica Kopar - Irena Rencelj | 18 | W |
| Milica Maric - Bogdan Hrvatin | 19 | W |
| Olga Lendic - Miroslav Gahr | 20 | W |



At matchpoint duplicate, your goal is to outscore the other pairs who hold your cards. By how much you outscore them doesn't matter; just ten points is enough. If you play at 3NT, making four for +630, and your competitors take nine tricks for +600, or maybe some are at 4S for +620, you get a top. Part of matchpoint technique is assessing your contract. If it appears to be "normal" - one every pair in the game will reach - then, strangely enough, whether you make what you bid is not the issue. What matters is how many tricks you win. So, you may take calculated risks for an overtrick. (It's different at IMP scoring. The goal there is to make your contract.)

You are declarer at this 3NT. The opening lead is the SQ. Is the contract normal? How would you play at IMPs? How would you play at matchpoints?

South deals, NS vulnerable

♠ K 5
♥ K 9 4
♦ 8 6 5 4 2
♣ A Q 3

♠ A 4
♥ Q J 10 5
♦ K Q J
♣ K J 6 5

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| | | | 1NT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

You have two spade tricks and four clubs, and you can lose to the AH to set up three more. At IMPs you would attack the hearts to guarantee your contract. If you forced out the DA instead, you might make an overtrick. If the missing diamonds broke 3-2, you would have four diamonds, two spades and four clubs. But if the diamonds happened to break 4-1, you would have only eight tricks and the defenders could establish the spades and win at least five. The contract is quite normal, and the diamonds will break evenly more than two thirds of the time, so at matchpoints, you should try for the overtrick. Best is to win the first spade in dummy and lead a diamond. If you sneak by with a diamond trick, you can assure an overtrick by shifting to hearts.

How would you play 4S here?

South deals, all vulnerable

♠ Q 6 4 2
♥ K 7 4
♦ A J 10
♣ 7 6 3

♠ A K J 9 5 3
♥ A 5 2
♦ 6 3
♣ K 5

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | | | 1S |
| Pass | 3S | Pass | 4S |
| All pass | | | |

Opening lead: QC

Continued on next page

Matchpoint Play* *continued from previous page*

East takes AC and shifts to the QH. You win with the king, draw trumps and lead a diamond: deuce, ten, queen. East leads a second heart to your ace. When you lead another diamond, West follows low.

At IMPs, you would take the AD and settle for ten tricks and your contract. But the contract is normal, and more often than not, a second diamond finesse with the jack will win, giving you a heart discard on the AD and an overtrick. Even though you are risking your contract, it is right to finesse again.

*Permission to use this article granted by the author.

(In this issue we have another two lessons given by Frank Stewart on his website <https://www.baronbraclay.com/frank-stewarts-daily-bridge-column/>. Thank you to **Stephen Lester** for providing this article and the one on page 15).

A Hand From Friday 17 May

My Intermediate level partner struggled with this hand, because she didn't understand what was necessary, and I suggest others may have had problems also. It's called the "Trump Panic", not Donald Trump, but when your trump suit is not robust. This occurs often after a NT opening, where you finish in 2H, but can occur in other situations.

The main feature is you have good cards between you in the other three suits, but only a poor 5-2 trump fit. This is a sign to play on trumps, so that the opponents cannot make their trumps separately.

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| Board 1 | ♠ JT4 |
| Dlr:N | ♥ QT952 |
| Vul: None | ♦ A873 |
| | ♣ 3 |
| | ♠ KQ76 |
| | ♥ 63 |
| | ♦ KQ52 |
| | ♣ AQ2 |

On the TD lead, you win QD. Looking at the cards, you anticipate a Spade loser, possibly a Diamond loser, and several Heart losers. The Heart suit, though weak, has the potential to finesse against JH, or to break 3/3, leaving you with 9 tricks! Playing side suits is a recipe for disaster! The Diamond lead suggests a Diamond shortage somewhere, Spade length also suggests a problem. There is no need for the Club finesse, so don't take it (what will it achieve?) So, play on trumps, finessing against JH!

Arthur Robbins

This simple looking hand has a number of lessons. South opened 2H showing hearts and a minor and West ventured a weakish overcall that looks reasonable but is not going to make many tricks. North doubled but was disappointed when South chose to show a minor.

South was just terribly wrong. The whole purpose of preempts is to lure people into indiscretions and you must be able to punish them fully when they are indiscreet. You should agree that when partner preempts and they overcall, double is always for penalty. The penalty here would probably be 500 but conceivably could be 800. However, North was not entirely displeased with the 3C bid and, after checking on aces, bid the club slam.

Having been told that spades were not a good place to expect to make tricks and not wanting to lead away from the red suit honours, West led the 4C. Declarer won this with the ten of clubs and proceeded to cross-ruff the hand.

Pairs, none vul, Dealer East

♠ AQJ73
 ♥ K5
 ♦ 8
 ♣ AK972
 ♠ K109862 ♠ 54
 ♥ A76 ♥ J84
 ♦ Q95 ♦ KJ743
 ♣ 4 ♣ 853
 ♠ -
 ♥ Q10932
 ♦ A1062
 ♣ QJ106

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| | | P | 2H |
| 2S | X | P | 3C |
| P | 4NT | P | 5C |
| P | 6C | All Pass | |

After AD, diamond ruff, AS, spade ruff, diamond ruff, spade ruff, declarer had only ten tricks and had to play hearts. When West rose with the AH, East played her last heart having discarded the others on spades. On the heart continuation, East ruffed and exited a trump to North and West won the last trick with the KS. Two down!

So what went wrong? If declarer counted their tricks they would see 5 clubs, 3 spade ruffs, AS and AD which adds up to only ten, so two more are needed by setting up hearts. The hearts need to be played via small to the king (West will duck since rising with the ace gives the contract) and small back to the ten. If this is working, then hearts will produce 3 or 4 tricks. It is much better to play a heart to the king at trick two and then play one back to the ten when it holds. Having not drawn trumps, there is plenty of flexibility to handle any return, especially when the 10H forces the ace. This is yet another hand where it is better to set up the long suit rather than take ill-considered ruffs.

Douglas Newlands

Learning players are taught certain “rules” of defensive play: second hand low, third hand high, cover an honor and so forth. But bridge would lack charm and challenge if it amounted only to obeying an array of rules. The “rules” should be regarded as general guidelines. How should East defend here?

Dlr: South
Vul: Both

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| ♠ Q 10 6 3 | |
| ♥ J 6 | |
| ♦ K Q 4 | |
| ♣ 10 8 6 3 | |
| ♠ A 8 4 | ♠ 9 7 2 |
| ♥ K 9 8 3 2 | ♥ 10 7 5 |
| ♦ 9 5 2 | ♦ J 10 7 3 |
| ♣ J 5 | ♣ A 4 2 |
| | ♠ K J 5 |
| | ♥ A Q 4 |
| | ♦ A 8 6 |
| | ♣ K Q 9 7 |

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| | | | 1C |
| Pass | 1S | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

Against 3NT, West leads the 3H. Declarer puts up dummy’s jack, winning, and calls for a low club. If East puts his faith in “second hand low,” declarer’s queen wins. He forces out the AS and has nine tricks: three spades, three diamonds, two hearts and that club trick he stole.

To beat 3NT, East must grab his AC to return a heart. A principle of defense: when your partner has led a long suit against a notrump contract, strive to win an early trick to return his lead. You hope to establish his suit while he retains an entry. What about here?

Dlr: South
Vul: Both

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| ♠ J 10 3 | |
| ♥ J 4 | |
| ♦ K Q 10 6 4 | |
| ♣ 7 6 3 | |
| ♠ Q 9 6 5 2 | ♠ K 8 |
| ♥ Q 6 5 | ♥ K 9 8 7 |
| ♦ 8 7 2 | ♦ A 5 3 |
| ♣ 5 4 | ♣ J 10 9 8 |
| | ♠ A 7 4 |
| | ♥ A 10 3 2 |
| | ♦ J 9 |
| | ♣ A K Q 2 |

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| | | | 1C |
| Pass | 1D | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

Against 3NT, West leads the 5S, and dummy plays the jack. Suppose East puts up the king: third hand high. Declarer takes the ace and leads the JD and second diamond, forcing out East’s ace. If East returns a spade - no defense is better - South can reach dummy with the ten of spades to take the good diamonds and will finish with an overtrick.

On the bidding, South must hold at least one high spade. To beat 3NT, East must follow to the first spade with the eight. He deprives declarer of an entry to dummy, and without the diamonds, declarer can take only eight tricks.

*(Another lesson from the Frank Stewart series. Once again, thanks to **Stephen Lester** for providing samples of this excellent series. Editor)*

The Laws of Bridge

The Revoke

As the Director, I was recently called to a table where it was thought one of the players had revoked. As I walked away, I was not sure that the offending player fully understood the ruling. So, here we go.

2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge, Laws 61 - 64.

A revoke happens when a player fails to follow suit, when still able to. When the Director is called, their first question will be “Has the revoke been established?”

What does this mean?

The revoke is established when:

- The offender or their partner leads or plays to the next trick.
- If the offender was the declarer, and plays or nominates a card to be played to the next trick.

Up until the time of establishment, the revoke must be corrected by an offender, by playing a correct card. The offending card remains on the table as a major penalty card unless the offender was the declarer. For an explanation of major and minor penalty cards, see the December 2023 issue. If the offender is the declarer or dummy, the offending card is returned to their hand. By the way, when an unestablished revoke is corrected, subsequent cards played to that trick may be changed. This is the case only if the revoke has not been established.

But, if the revoke has been established, the Director must ascertain the following facts.

Did the offending player win the trick?

- If **yes**, there is a one trick penalty. If the offending **side** won a subsequent trick as well, then there is a two trick penalty.
- If **no**, then there is no penalty unless the offending **side** wins that trick and/or a subsequent trick. This incurs a one trick penalty, no matter how many more tricks they win.

I hope this clarifies the laws around a Revoke. If there is another Law that you want explained, drop me an email, or tap me on the shoulder at the Club and I will find an explanation for you and share it here with all Club members.

Jennifer Blyton

Endplay

Dealer West ♠ A743

Game all ♥ 2

♦ A742

♣ Q854

♠ KQJ65

♥ 53

♦ K63

♣ 1097

♠ 92

♥ K1087

♦ Q1095

♣ KJ2

♠ 108

♥ AQJ964

♦ J8

♣ A63

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| P | P | P | 2H |
| P | P | P | |

Here is a hand with some interesting points from a club game. The auction started with three passes to South who opened 2H. This is not a weak two bid. Weak two bids are preemptive in an effort to stop the opponents finding their best fit but, after three passes, they have irrevocably missed their best fit and South can concretize this by simply passing and the hand is passed in.

Therefore, it makes no sense to play weak two bids in 4th seat. Normal practice is to play bids at the two level in 4th seat as 10-14 and a reasonable six card suit. The purpose is to shut out the opponents who might be able to enter the auction over a one level opener.

As we see here, it shuts out West who would have bid 1S over 1H but not 2S over 2H.

Anyway, onto the play. West leads the KS and declarer wins the AS while East contributes the 9S (suggesting two cards). Declarer might duck to sever the defensive communication in spades sometimes but not here where the initial plan is just to play trumps and hope for 5 trump tricks and 3 aces and the QC might provide an extra chance. A trump is played at trick 2 and the queen is finessed (finessing the 9 works well here but that is not the percentage play - far from it). The queen holds and the ace is cashed but no doubleton 10 or K appears so declarer falls back on the 3-3 split by leading the JH. West discards a spade and East wins the KH and plays back the 2S to West's jack. Now West leads a small diamond, dummy plays small and East's Q wins. A small diamond is returned to the J, K and A.

With only 4 trumps and 3 aces, the contract is going down unless we can make something of the QC. Fortunately, we know where the KC is. Have you worked out why?

Declarer should note that West has the KQJ of spades and the KD but passed initially. They would not have passed with the KC which gives them a 12 count. We are sure East has the KC so no line leading up to the QC is going to win.

The heart and spade distributions are clear and the diamonds are 4-3 or 3-4 but we don't want East to be able to escape the coming endplay if the diamonds are 4-3.

Continued next page

Endplay *continued from previous page*

Declarer ruffs a diamond now and then endplays East with the last trump in this position.

| | | |
|--------|-------|-------|
| | ♠ 7 | |
| | ♥ - | |
| | ♦ - | |
| | ♣ Q85 | |
| ♠ Q | | ♠ - |
| ♥ - | | ♥ - |
| ♦ - | | ♦ 10 |
| ♣ 1097 | | ♣ KJ2 |
| | ♠ - | |
| | ♥ 6 | |
| | ♦ - | |
| | ♣ A63 | |

East leads the last diamond so, to maintain the endplay, declarer throws a small club from each hand and now East has no option but to lead a small club which declarer allows to run round to the queen and claims the AC and 6H for the 7th and 8th tricks.

A nice little endplay enabled by keeping count of West's points and failure to open.

Douglas Newlands

PIZZA SUNDAYS

The next Pizza Sunday is
the 28 July at 4.00pm

Please come along and join in the fun, but be sure to put
your name on the list if you wish to attend.

Note: there is no Pizza Sunday in June as the Congress
is on the last weekend in June.

Vale

Ria Bakker (15/03/1935 - 25/05/2024)

Ria was born in The Hague, Netherlands and was the eleventh of twelve children. She and her husband, Ari (a Life Member of GBC), had three children, seven grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. Her family get togethers were always joyful occasions.

Ria was a keen artist and had several displays with the Geelong Arts Society. She also enjoyed playing the piano.

She began playing Bridge in 1973, playing Precision. She played with Ari for many, many years - with not one argument! Sue said she was not sure that Ria knew how to argue. She never saw Ria without a big smile on her face.

She and Ari, Sue Robinson, Sue Duff and Jean Lever would sometimes travel to Canberra to play in what was then the biggest Congress in Australia (before the Gold Coast overtook it). She was very proud of the time that their team came 28th in a huge field.

Ria volunteered with the Dutch community at the McKellar Centre and enjoyed various activities provided by the Dutch Club. One thing she didn't really do was cook. Ari did most of the cooking and as many of us can attest, his birthday cakes that he baked for significant birthdays at the Geelong Bridge Club were scrumptious.

*Thank you to **Sue Duff** and **Ari Bakker** for providing these memories of Ria.*



Vale

Jo Prime (18/04/1933 – 24/05/2024)

*Jo's son, **Hayden Prime**, was kind enough to provide us with an insight into one of our long term members who recently passed away, Thanks to **Rhonda Gude** for liaising with Hayden on my behalf. Editor*



Jocelyn Anne Prime (nee Wickett), born 1933 in Mildura, grew up on the family sheep station and dried fruits farm in NSW on the banks of the Murray. She went to school at Lowther Hall in Essendon (from the age of 6).

After school, Jo worked for an advertising firm as a bookkeeper. However she was also featured in some campaigns - in one as a young blonde peering out of the window of a large black car with a witches hat traffic cone bent under the front fender: a campaign to let people know the witches hats were to help, not damage their cars.

Jo met her future husband Trenfield (Tren) at a friend's wedding. They married on NYE 1956. They had two children, Clytie and Hayden. Clytie had three children, who all live interstate. Clytie died in January 2015, twelve days after her father.

Jo and her family had a very happy home life, fishing at Mallacoota, gardening and growing all their fruit and vegetables at Kawarren. Life in Geelong revolved around Tren's solo General Practice. Jo was heavily involved, sending out accounts each month, doing the bookkeeping and banking and working in the office for evening and Saturday morning Surgery. Jo could see no point in staying down in the family part of the house if Tren was not there.

After years of playing Mah Jong, two of the players fell by the wayside and Jo was introduced to Bridge by Elizabeth Harvey. She studied (books and Joan Butts) and played: she loved her afternoons at GBC, developing a number of new friends. A group of them went on a River Cruise in Europe. The support from her friends did not lessen in Covid times when she started playing Bridge online, enjoying the Bridge and over the phone interaction with Rhonda Gude and Bev Payne.

With a very strong will, Jo was able to maintain her independence and live in the family home until last November, when she moved to Arcare, Templestowe to be closer to Hayden and his partner, Stephen. She was comfortable and content with the move, well looked after in Arcare, and continued to play her Bridge online.

She was not keen on the Arcare red wine, so Hayden kept her supplied with the wines she enjoyed. She was thankful for good wines with screw tops: easier to open and also to recap, allowing a bottle to last a few days.

Her health deteriorated and she was looking down the narrowing tunnel of further loss of function and independence. She decided to apply for voluntary assisted dying. She was approved and her life ended peacefully on Friday 24 May with Hayden and Stephen by her side.



Thanks to **Dot Peacock** for providing this. It's good to be able to laugh at ourselves sometimes. Then get back to playing Bridge. Editor

JULIE ANDREWS TURN 69

To commemorate her birthday, actress/vocalist, Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall. One of the musical numbers she performed was "My Favourite Things" from the legendary movie "Sound of Music" Here are the lyrics she used:

(Sing it!) If you sing it, it's especially hysterical!!!

Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,
These are a few of my favourite things.

Cadillacs and cataracts, hearing aids and glasses,
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches and swings,
These are a few of my favourite things.

When the pipes leak, when the bones creak,
When the knees go bad,
I simply remember my favourite things,
And the I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,
Bathrobes and heating pads and hot meals they bring,
These are a few of my favourite things.

Back pain, confused brains and no need for sinnin',
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',
And we won't mention our short-shrunken frames,
When we remember our favourite things.

When the joints ache, when the hips break,
When the eyes grow dim,
Then I remember the great life I've had,
And then I don't feel so bad.



Ms. Andrews received a standing ovation from the crowd that lasted over four minutes and repeated encores. Thank you to Alan from the Singing Group for this contribution.



Geelong Bridge Club 2024 Congress

Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 June 2024

**Venue: Highton Bowls Club - cnr Roslyn & North Valley
Roads, Highton Vic 3216**

**Director: Martin Willcox
Recorder: Arthur Robbins**

**Entries on Bridge Unlimited: bridgeunlimited.com
Entries close **Wednesday 5pm 26 June 2024****

**Cost: \$60 per person each day
Payment will be by **cash only** on the day of play**

Program

Saturday: 10am start - Swiss Pairs Open and Restricted
Restricted: <100 Masterpoints as at 31 March 2024

Sunday: 10am start - Open and Restricted Teams
Restricted: <100 MPs per player as at 31 March 2024

Cash prizes

Morning tea, lunch and nibbles will be provided. Bar open at lunch and at the end of play. Please notify Convenor of any dietary requirements at least one week prior to play.

**Convenor: Jennifer Blyton jlblyton@gmail.com
Mobile: 0409 852 538**

Highly artificial systems not permitted. System cards mandatory.