

GEELONG BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 2

June 2026

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From the President

The Geelong Bridge Club has plenty to celebrate following a remarkable national performance from two of its own, while also reflecting on what makes our club strong at every level.

Doug and Arthur have delivered an outstanding result, taking out the Australian Swiss Pairs title in Tasmania. This is a superb achievement in a highly competitive field and a testament to their skill, partnership understanding, and consistency over a long and demanding event. Performances like this bring well-deserved recognition not only to the players themselves, but also to our club. Congratulations to both Doug and Arthur on a truly exceptional victory.

At the same time, we extend our commiserations to Doug on a narrow finish in the Victorian Open Team event (*Justin was also part of the team in this prestigious event—Editor*). Falling just short is never easy, particularly in such a strong competition, but reaching that level is an achievement in itself. It highlights Doug's continued excellence and competitiveness across multiple formats of the game.

As I spend more time involved with the Geelong Bridge Club, I'm finding my own understanding of the club—and my expectations—are evolving.

It's easy to look at results like these and see us as a uniformly strong, competitive club. And in many ways, we are. But there's another side to that picture that's just as important. Around 75% of our members have fewer than 50 masterpoints. That's a significant majority, and it means we have a very wide spread of experience levels sitting at our tables every session.

That disparity matters more than we might always recognise. What feels routine or obvious to a more experienced player can be unfamiliar, even intimidating, to someone still finding their feet. The pace of play, the expectations at the table, and the way we communicate can either encourage newer players to grow, or quietly discourage them from continuing.

I'll be honest: I'm not exempt from this. I can see that at times I've focused too much on results or standards without fully appreciating how that impacts others in the room. But I'm beginning to understand that what is most important in our club isn't just the success of our top players—it's how well we support, include, and develop everyone.

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From the President *continued from previous page*

If we want Geelong to continue thriving, we need to be conscious of this balance. That means patience at the table, encouragement for those still learning, and an awareness that every interaction contributes to the kind of club we are.

We are fortunate to have players of the calibre of Doug and Arthur representing Geelong, and we celebrate their success. At the same time, we have an opportunity—and a responsibility—to ensure our club remains welcoming, supportive, and enjoyable for players at every stage of their bridge journey.

***Justin Stark
President***



Beginners Update

Bridge is certainly alive and kicking in the Geelong region. When we advertised that lessons would be starting in March this year I was inundated with enquiries. With class numbers capped at 20 to ensure Terry and I can get to know and spend time with everyone, we had to relegate some of the enthusiastic newcomers to a waiting list.

We ended up with 22 starters, with one unable to complete the course. They have just finished their 10 lessons and are now moving to supervised play. The Monday supervised sessions, run by Phil Dunlop-Moore and his team are certainly a fantastic stepping stone for those fresh out of lessons. I have had fabulous feedback from last year's group on how helpful they have found these sessions. Please watch out for these newest members as they start to filter into regular session days and make them feel valued and welcomed at Geelong Bridge Club.

As a note of interest, my waiting list has now grown to approximately 20 names so I am confident the next set of lessons, due to start in August will be fully booked as well. So many new people to get equally hooked on the wonderful game of bridge! The support from committee and members has been much appreciated. Too many to name but it's great for our potential members to meet so many people. I'm sure it shows what a welcoming environment GBC is.



Bernadette O'Dea



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Club Results

**Open Teams Final
Wednesday 25 March**

1st	M Stokie, R Gillard, P Jain, V Sercombe
2nd	D Newland, S Lester, J Stark, D Newlands, A Robbins, G Ridgway
3rd	D Melzer, G Foard, T Passlow, D Casey

**Western Region
Friendly Teams
Ocean Grove
Sunday 12 April**

1st	A Robbins, J Skeen, D Newlands, J Blyton
2nd	G Del Papa, J Del Papa, A Howarth, A Wilkinson
3rd	J Johnstone, D Peacock, A Feiner, A Gunst

**Helen Drinnan Teams
Final
Friday 8 May**

1st	J Stark, D Newlands, D Newland, S Lester
2nd	A Robbins, J Skeen, D Melzer, M Kinahan, L Frankenburg
3rd	D Casey, R Abraham G Foard, J Prowse

**Geelong Region GNOT
Final
Sunday 17 May**

1st	M Stokie, R Gillard, V Sercombe, P Jain
2nd	D Newland, S Lester, A Robbins, D Newlands, J Stark
3rd	R Abraham, R Kahn, G Bailey, K Bailey

**Western Victoria
GNOT Pairs
Sunday 31 May**

1st	B Evans, D Read
2nd	J Johnstone, D Peacock
3rd	J Prowse, R Abraham

Rank Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received new Masterpoint

Club	Clint Walsh
	John Turner
Bronze Local	Ross Abraham
Silver Local	Phil Dunlop-Moore
	Paula Donohue
State	Michael Kinahan
	Jane Skene
	Sue Taylor
National	Lynn Frankenburg
Life	Judy Williams
Bronze Life	George Del Papa

HIGH SCORES

Mar	M Dunlop-Moore, M Doyle	76.25
Apr	R Gillard, M Stokie	73.21
May	J McGonigal, J Williams	71.18

Joan Wilson Trophy Winners

Mar	G&K Bailey
Apr	J Ward
May	D Renshaw

NEW MEMBERS

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

Gordon Abraham	Michael McQueen-Thomson
Helen Adam	Bernie O'Reilly
Robyn Begley	Catherine O'Reilly
David Campbell	Randall Power
Faye Connors	Keith Robins
Brian Magill	Sue Tait
Jen Majoor	John Turner
Frankie McKean	Mary Turner
Murray McKean	Noel Whitford
Sandra Zanardo	

The next beginners lessons are starting in August 2026.

Members are encouraged to take a flyer to give to their friends.

PIZZA SUNDAYS

The next Pizza Sundays are
Sunday 26 July and Sunday 30 August 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.



Above: Suzanne Smith & Ali Neunhoffer.



Right: Justin Stark & Douglas Newlands.

Quite a large contingent of players from our region (eighteen were counted) made the trek up to the MCC on Sunday 1 March to compete in the annual MCC Congress held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Justin Stark & Douglas Newlands came 1st (NS) in the Swiss Pairs, while Ali Neunhoffer and Suzanne Smith (who used to be a regular player at GBC) won their Division and were 12th (NS) overall. Fantastic result! But forget the results! The location! The food! Suffice to say that a good time was had by all.



Oh look! I see the back of Marg Glover's head in the foreground!



Victorian Open Teams Playoff

The Victorian Open Team Selection Final was held on 14-15 March 2026. The winning team will represent Victoria in the Open Teams event at the 2026 Australian National Championships (ANC), taking place in Canberra from 4-10 July 2026. Teams were able to nominate depending on their combined number of VQPs. Douglas Newlands and Justin Stark from Geelong Bridge Club joined Dee Harley, John Yang, Matthew Sieredzinski and Heath Watkins (from Melbourne clubs) to form the Harley team. They were invited to compete against three other Victorian teams in the Selection Final. It was a very close finish with the Ewart team, led by Neil Ewart, just edging out the Harley team after two days of play.

Our team shown here: L-R John Yang, Dee Harley, Matthew Sieredzinski, Heath Watkins, Douglas Newlands and Justin Stark.



Tasmanian Festival, Hobart



For a man who was ambivalent about travelling to Tasmania, thought he was past his prime....look at you, Arthur! You won!

There were 142 pairs playing in the TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs in Hobart on 21-22 March and it was a close finish. But Arthur Robbins and Douglas Newlands managed to edge out Ron Klinger and Matt Mullamphy to take out that very nice Huon Pine trophy. Pity they couldn't bring it home to hang in the club.

Two Hands from Tasmania

Arthur Robbins and Douglas Newlands reached Table 1 on the last round of the first day and managed to hold it throughout the second day for a fine victory and the \$2000 prize money! Here are two hands from the event but you can read more in the May edition of Australian Bridge. This hand is from round 1 of the Australian Swiss Pairs in Tasmania.

Board 9
Dir:Nth
Vul:EW

♠ Q97	♠ JT8654	♠ AK32
♥ Q7	♥ T94	♥ AK832
♦ KT943	♦ J7	♦ 6
♣ KQ5	♣ 87	♣ J96
♠ -		
♥ J65		
♦ AQ852		
♣ AT432		

West	North (AR)	East	South (DN)
	1D	1H	3C
P	3D	P	5D
P	P	X	AP

The 1D opening shows 5+cards and the 3C bid is a Fit Showing Jump showing a diamond fit and a 5+card club suit which might be easily set up. North is not proud of his opening and rebids 3D which is the weakest bid available to him. With a disinterested partner, South has no interest in slam and just bids what he expects to make. Who can blame Terry Brown for doubling with the East hand? After the KS lead, trumps can be drawn in two rounds and the losing hearts parked on the long clubs. 13 tricks for +750 and +9 imps.

Continued next page

The next hand is from Round 9.

Board 21
Dlr:N
Vul:NS

♠ K732	♠ A6
♥ A	♥ J98654
♦ K6	♦ J43
♣ AQ6432	♣ J9
♠ 4	♠ QJT985
♥ QT732	♥ K
♦ QT95	♦ A872
♣ T85	♣ K7

West	North (AR)	East	South (DN)
	1C	2H	2S
5H	6S	AP	

The 1C opener is either 5+clubs or a balanced hand not in the 1NT opening range. East produced a weak (very!) jump overcall and South bid a natural and forcing 2S. Now West produced a leap to 5H with a good heart fit and no defensive values since she knew her partner was the same. Arthur just bid 6S over that and commented afterwards that he was not going to be bullied! There was no problem in the play after the 3H lead and we scored +1430 and +7 imps because the slam was not bid everywhere. I was talking to Ron Klinger afterwards who said that he and Matt Malumphy had had the same auction. Ron was of the opinion that the 5H bid was an error and would tend to push the opponents into the slam. He said that if he held the West hand, he would either pass or psyche (3NT pretending to have values is one option) to try to muddy the waters for NS.

Douglas Newlands



Where's Bev?

Bev Kroger has been coming to the Club for 37 years. She joined in July 1989. At the grand age of 95 Bev has decided to put her cards away. She often played three times a week plus Pizza Sundays. Ali Neunhoffer visited Bev recently, presenting her with a lovely bunch of flowers and a card on behalf of GBC. Many players have asked, seeing her favourite Table 4 South seat empty - where's Bev?

So it's a fond farewell and thank you from all at the Club.

Women's and Seniors' Selection Playoffs

A Hand from the Seniors Playoff

While it didn't lead to a great gain, this hand against the leaders, and eventual winners, was pleasing. I was East, Doug was West.

The bidding went after East opened: 1S-(X)-4S All pass. Eleven tricks were easily made. Five out of six Declarers made 11 tricks, though two were forced to the 5 level. One NS made 11 tricks in 5H (a defense error!). Note the distribution battle S/D vs H/C, often a good reason to compete, if it can be discerned.

Board 17

Dir: N

Vul: None

♠ 4	
♥ J98543	
♦ 4	
♣ QT973	
♠ T7532	♠ KQ986
♥ —	♥ T76
♦ JT632	♦ AQ87
♣ K82	♣ A
♠ AJ	
♥ AKQ2	
♦ K95	
♣ J654	

Arthur Robbins

At Linda Lee and my table on the same board in the concurrent Women's Selection competition, sitting at NS we won the contract in 5H, going off by one trick, giving us a top, as all other tables except one were in an EW game of 4 or 5 spades making (two tables were in 4SX making—ouch). The exception was a NS pair going off in 6HX 10, funnily enough giving them a second top after us. So a welcome 9.33 Imps to us on that board.

Jennifer Blyton

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 jlbyton@gmail.com.

Jennifer Blyton

Western Region Friendly Ocean Grove Bridge Club



In April Ocean Grove hosted the second WRBA event this year, the Friendly Teams. There was a healthy competition between 14 teams. And we were lucky to have representation from Torquay, Ballarat, Ocean Grove and Geelong. Thanks to Mike Stokie for directing the event, he has been a stalwart for this work for many years, and his experience and dedication is very much appreciated. George Del Papa organised and oversaw the event for Ocean Grove and as usual did a great job.

In first place was the Blyton Geelong team of Douglas Newlands, Jennifer Blyton, Arthur Robbins, and Jane Skeen. Second place was the Ocean Grove Del Papa team with players Anne Wilkinson, Anne Howarth, George Del Papa and Jessamy Del Papa. And third place was the Geelong Johnstone team with Anne Gunst, Jenny Johnstone, Alison Feiner and Dot Peacock. Congratulations to all winners. Also, a special mention to the Newland team with players from Geelong and a couple of players from the Barwon Heads Golf Club, this team also distinguished themselves on the day - Denny Newland, Stephen Lester, Merrie Harkness and Susanne Head.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Jenny Johnstone for her enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work for the WRBA over the last 6 or so years. After a significant time as President, it was her time to have a break. Backing Jenny up over this time has been Dot Peacock and Kathryn Graham and I would like to echo Jenny's thanks to both for their time and efforts. I am sure all three would be happy to hear some appreciation from anyone for their efforts.

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Western Region Friendly *continued from previous page*

So how did the baton pass to me from Jenny? I was asked by Gary Ridgway last year to play at Ballarat in an event, on the way in the car, sitting in the back seat, he asked me if I would be interested in running for President of the WRBA. Not an easy person to say no to, I have to say, particularly with his history. I am thrilled to be involved in some way in the local bridge scene to be able to give a little back to the game that has given me so much enjoyment. I am happy to have a chat to anyone about the competitions being run. The new secretary and treasurer is Jane Skeen who also was approached and accepted the role. Jane is a great organiser, and we are very lucky to have her.

The next event for the WRBA for 2026 will be held at Torquay on Saturday the 8th of August, the Novice Pairs. This event is a friendly, fun day for all players who are under 100 master points. We'd really like to encourage all the novices and new graduates to think about entering in this fun filled day. It's a great introduction to a full day of bridge in a welcoming and friendly environment. Mark it in your diary, it will be open to enter very soon.



Brigid Fitzpatrick
President WRBA
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Bendigo

The Bendigo Congress was held over the weekend of the 23-24 May. A fairly large contingent of 16 GBC players made the trek up there. In the Swiss Pairs on Saturday, Justin Stark and Stephen Lester managed second after Leo Saoud and Mohammed Ghatwari. In the Teams event on Sunday, our team (pictured left) placed first. Congratulations!

What is the Grand National Open Teams (GNOT) event?

The Grand National Open Teams is an Australia wide event to select 64 teams who compete in the National finals. Details are listed on ABF website:

<https://www.abf.com.au/gnot-update-new-format-for-2026-announced/>

The selected teams will participate in an online tournament (Real Bridge) from 18 - 20 September. The event will be run as a knockout with 64 teams and the losing teams will move into the repechage.

Eight top teams and the next twelve highest placed non-metropolitan teams progress to the Phase 3 round robin event which will comprise two separate events. There will be an eight team main event and a twelve team non-metropolitan final. This will be held in Brisbane during 27-29 November. This means 20 teams out of 64 will get a chance to play in the final event for which fares and entry fees will be paid by the ABF.

In addition, to raise some revenue, ABF are introducing a new event called Plate. The four teams eliminated from the quarter finals of the main event will participate in the Plate and the other 34 places will be available on a first come, first served basis with entries opening at a time to be announced.

Western Victorian Region Teams

Western Victoria Region has a quota of two GNOT teams - which are called Geelong GNOT team and Western Victoria GNOT team.

- A. GEELONG GNOT team - selected only from Geelong Bridge Club (GBC), Torquay Bridge Club (TBC) and Ocean Grove Bridge Club (OGBC) in other words, only these three clubs. GBC has a quota of a maximum of six teams, OGBC has a maximum of four teams and TBC has a maximum of two. Two teams are selected through the individual club internal processes. The final in 2026 was held on 17 May and was played as a teams event. The Sercombe team (V Sercombe, P Jain, M Stokie, R Gillard) managed to edge out the highly experienced Newland team.
- B. WESTERN VICTORIA GNOT team- selected from members of all clubs in Western Victoria including Geelong, Torquay Bridge Club, Ocean Grove Bridge Club, Ballarat Bridge Club and Warrnambool Bride Club. This event, held on the 31 May is run as a Swiss pairs contest and the top two pairs make up the team. The first and second place winners this year were Barb Evans & Dot Read, Jenny Johnstone & Dot Peacock.

We wish both teams good luck for Stage 2 (on Real Bridge in September) and hope both the teams go through to Stage 3 in Brisbane in November.



Geelong team: Mike, Val and Piyush (Roger not pictured).



Left: Western Vic winners: Dot Read, Barb Evans



Right: WV Runners-up, to form the WV GNOT Team with the above - Dot Peacock, Jenny Johnstone.

Paul Marston Bridge

Marion Scambler pointed me to this Paul Marston article saying she thought it might be of interest to members. Paul runs the Grand Slam Bridge Club in Sydney and used to write a weekly article on Bridge in the Weekend Australian.*

How old do you think Bridge is? (Of course I mean contract bridge). Bridge is based on trick taking games that date back many centuries. Whist became the fashion in the mid-1700s spawning much literature starting with Edmund Hoyle's seminal work, *A Short Treatise on the Game of Whist* (1742). In 1894 Bridge Whist was introduced to the Portland Club and by 1905 it had transformed into auction bridge. According to British bridge historian Richard Fleet, the idea of contract bridge, where you must undertake to make a certain number of tricks, was first invented in 1912 by Sir Hugh Clayton, while he was an English colonial administrator in India. However, the birth of contract bridge is credited to wealthy American railroad tycoon, Harold S. Vanderbilt. He was on a cruise from California to Cuba on SS Finland when he came up with a new scoring table. The scoring has hardly changed since then. That was November 1, 1925. Yes, in three weeks, bridge will turn 100!

Today's deal comes from James Clay's 1864 Whist book. It caused a sensation at the time; a famous Viennese player found the solution, looking at all four hands. The challenge is to make all 13 tricks with clubs as trumps on a club lead. At first sight there are only 11 tricks available. As Fleet says "even after the passage of 150 years, it takes a good player to work out how to do it."

♠ JT3	
♥ AKQJ3	
♦ 52	
♣ 742	
♠ K6	♠ 987542
♥ T9765	♥ 84
♦ JT8	♦ K9
♣ 865	♣ JT9
♠ AQ	
♥ 2	
♦ AQ7643	
♣ AKQ43	

Start by leading all four trumps, discarding a diamond from dummy. The term "squeeze" did not exist then, but West is now squeezed in three suits. If he discards a spade or a diamond, he concedes two tricks, so he must discard a heart. But that only postpones his misery. You now cash the Ace of Spades before running the Hearts. On the fifth Heart West is squeezed in Diamonds and Spades. He cannot stop you.

Paul Marston

**Permission granted by the author to use this article in the GBC Newsletter.*

A Timely Reminder

The Geelong Bridge Club is, in many ways, a club of contrasts—and that is both our strength and our challenge.

Our membership spans the full spectrum of experience. At one end, we have players with thousands of masterpoints and decades of competition behind them. At the other, we have a very large group who are still at the beginning of their bridge journey. In fact, around three-quarters of our members have fewer than 50 masterpoints, and a significant proportion have fewer than 10.

That tells us something important: while we are a strong club at the top, we are fundamentally a developing club overall.

This wide spread of experience has real implications for how we play and interact. What feels natural to an experienced player—tempo, bidding agreements, carding, even table etiquette—can be unfamiliar or overwhelming to someone newer. Conversely, what newer players need in order to learn and enjoy the game—time, patience, and encouragement—may not always align with the expectations of more competitive players.

It's easy to overlook this gap, particularly if we spend most of our time playing with people of similar experience. But the numbers don't lie. Every session, the majority of players in the room are still learning the game.

One way this difference shows up is in the hands we play.

A simple example:

You are declarer in 3NT and need to develop tricks in a suit where you hold **AQJ opposite small cards**.

For an experienced player, the solution is almost automatic—take a finesse, play the suit, and establish the extra tricks.

For a newer player, this is not yet instinctive. They may cash the ace first or play from the top, not yet seeing how to build tricks. The idea of finessing is still something they are learning, not something they rely on.

A more complex example:

You are in 4 Hearts with a 4-4 trump fit, missing the queen. You also have a side suit that requires careful handling. The hand involves:

- Managing entries between hands
- Deciding when (and whether) to draw trumps
- Taking a finesse at the right time
- Possibly choosing a safety play depending on the context.

An experienced player is weighing percentages, timing, and risk.

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A newer player may draw trumps immediately and play straightforwardly, without yet seeing the dangers or opportunities.

These aren't mistakes in attitude—they reflect different stages of understanding.

And that is the reality of our club. At one table, a hand is being analysed in terms of percentages and timing. At another, someone is still working out which card to play first. Both are valid, and both are part of who we are.

I'm increasingly aware that I haven't always appreciated this as much as I should have. I've sometimes focused too much on results or what I think "should" happen on a hand, without considering how that comes across to others. But I'm beginning to understand that what matters most isn't just the quality of the bridge played—it's the experience we create for each other.

If we want the Geelong Bridge Club to grow, this is where our focus needs to be.

Growth doesn't come from results at the top—it comes from retention and enjoyment at the base. It comes from newer players feeling welcome, supported, and confident enough to keep coming back. It comes from making the game accessible, not intimidating.

That means:

- Being patient at the table
- Giving people time to think
- Choosing our words carefully
- Encouraging rather than correcting
- Remembering that everyone is learning, just at different speeds.

We already have a strong club. The opportunity now is to make it a bigger and more inclusive one. Because ultimately, our future won't be determined by how well our best players perform—but by how many people feel that this is a club they want to be part of.

Justin Stark

Coming Up

Intermediate Pairs	Mondays 15, 22 June
Geelong Congress	Saturday, Sunday 27-28 June (red points)
Men's & Women's Pairs	Thursdays 23, 30 July
Pizza Sunday	Sunday 26 July
WR Novice Pairs, Torquay	Saturday 8 August
Pizza Sunday	Sunday 30 August
Australia-wide Open Pairs	Monday 31 August (red points)

Endplay

Dealer: West
Vul: All

<p>♠ KQJ65 ♥ 53 ♦ K63 ♣ 1097</p>	<p>♠ A743 ♥ 2 ♦ A742 ♣ Q854</p>	<p>♠ 92 ♥ K1087 ♦ Q1095 ♣ KJ2</p>	<p>♠ 108 ♥ AQJ964 ♦ J8 ♣ A63</p>
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West	North	East	South
P	P	P	2H
AP			

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 hand suitable for a weak two bid. Weak 2 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 2 bids in 4th seat. Normal practice is to play 2 level bids in 4th seat as 10-14 and a reasonable 6 card suit. The purpose is to shut out the opponents who might be able to enter the auction over a 1 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 2 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 then 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.

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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

Vale**Paddy White**

11/06/1943 - 16/04/2026

Patricia (Paddy) White, loved wife of Edward for 55 years, mother and mother in law to Tom & Melissa, Jim & Jacks and loved grandmother to Sophie, Flynn and Sam, loved sister & sister in law to Bruce & Judy Munro.



Paddy was born in southern England in 1943 when her father was on war service with the RAF.

After the war the family lived in Torquay, England until her father joined a medical practice in Geelong where they settled in 1950.

About 20 years ago, Paddy and Edward told Bruce and me that they were about to take lessons at GBC and she thought that Bruce and I should join them. This was a great success and they played regularly at GBC for quite some years.

Paddy and Edward retired to Barwon Heads and when her health became less reliable, she enjoyed playing locally and also played regularly with Bruce and me until early this year.

*Thanks to **Judy Munro** for this tribute.*

During the recent successful Buddy Day, my “Buddy” asked me how he could improve. After giving it some thought, I decided that all aspiring players need to learn how to use Doubles (X). Yes this has been aired before, but still many players, and especially Novices, have little idea of the power of the X, and the wide variety of its usage.

Take-out Doubles. Yes, many have heard of them, and have used them, but there are still just as many who have abused them. “I had to double, I had Opening Points”. Opening points, yes, but not the correct shape leads to bad scores - or to lucky good scores! Points matter, but not as much as shape. Which is the better X of the opponents’ 1H opening?

Hand A: A874, 6, KJ64, Q743

Hand B: A7, Q642, A82, KJ95

10 HCP or 14 HCP? What if partner bids Spades? Even jumps to 2S (10HCP, 4+S) Experts would say Hand A is better.

Negative Doubles. These are the doubles that have many uses, and they apply after Partner has opened the bidding, and next Opponent overcalls. Sometimes the message is “I have points, but don’t know what to bid”. At other times it says “I have something to bid, but not enough points to bid it” or “I have a suit/or suits to show you”. It is always a TAKE-OUT bid, never a penalty double. Some examples (Opponents’ bid in brackets):

1. 1D-(1S)-X often something like J7, QJ64, 853, KJ83. The focus here is showing 4Hs, but it could be a long Club suit. Why not bid 2H? answer: 2H shows 10+HCP and a 5 card suit, and is forcing. Stronger hands with only 4 Hearts can also use this, eg QJ5, AJ63, 75, AJ62. Start with a X, then if no Heart fit, bid 3NT. The other type of hand is like 74, J63, 97, KQJ986 Not enough HCP to bid 2C, but you hope to get in a Club bid later (shows some points, but not enough to bid naturally);
2. 1S-(2C)-X this shows the other two suits, usually at least 5-4, Example Q5, AJ83, Q8643, 72 Some points, but not enough to make a forcing bid. Like in Pt 1, some weak long suits can be bid using the X. For example, 1H-(2C)-X your hand KQJ642, 87, Q63, 93. You would love to bid 2S, but your hand is not strong enough. The auction might continue: 1H-(2C)-X-(P)-2D-(P)-2S. Partner now knows you have a good Spade suit but not strong enough to force.

Note, in the above, the X is Take-out in style, often with a message.

Balancing Doubles. This is usually when you are the last caller, and you wish to compete, ie to force the opponents to a level higher or to get them out of 1NT (ie to push them around a bit!). A bit of care is needed, but also some bravado. For example, (1C)-P-(1H)-P-(1N)-P-(P)-X? Your side has some values, and usually the HCP are reasonably split. So what would X show? Firstly, 4 card support for at least 2 suits, eg Q742, A52, KQ96, J2. Often this will lead to a 4-3 fit, so you will need to improve your playing skills. An auction such as (1D)-P-(P)-? changes the rules somewhat. If you X, partner needs to downgrade their hand a little, as you may have banked on them holding points. Typical is 9+, support for the other suits, but be careful if you don’t hold the Spades!! Over the above QJ72, K93,72, KJ52 would be a reasonable balancing X.

There are many more uses of doubles, but these are a good basic set. At the 1 or 2 levels, doubles are for Take-out, and imply shortage in that suit. Partner can always convert it to a penalty double with a suitable hand.

Senior Female Players at the Club

The senior male players at GBC seem to be pretty well-known, but the senior women players do not seem to be nearly as recognizable, even though a few of them have been playing for as long as, or nearly as long as, their male counterparts. This series of short interviews, over a few issues, will seek to introduce these mostly, quiet achievers, to you, as treasure troves of advice and support.

Kirsten Bailey

How long have you been playing? Since 1971 so, say, 50+ years. I've been a member of GBC for 4 years.

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher? Formally at the Tasmanian Bridge Association, Hobart. Brenda Jones ran classes. But I started off watching my parents playing social Bridge and playing informal Bridge at a ski lodge.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? No, but I've done some unofficial mentoring in the past.

What system do you play now? Why? Standard American basically. I have played a few systems, but Standard American seems to have evolved through my current partnership.

Have you had any Honour Board successes? Yes. In my four years at GBC, three Mixed Pairs (2023, 2024 and 2025) two Open Pairs (2021 and 2022) and one Open Teams. I've played a lot of interstate congresses representing both Tasmania and Victoria in interstate teams. I've had a lot of fun and learning with different partnerships.

Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? I play with Gavin Bailey. Favourite conventions - (I don't think they have names): One of a major: 2C response enquiry, minorwood, expanded variation on showing support for major.

What are your interests outside bridge? Golf, jigsaws, family, friends, cryptic crosswords, at home table tennis, travel, wine (not in order).

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge? In general my experience is to find a group of like-minded bridge learners (male and female). Read bridge books, discuss, experiment with systems, attend lessons. Enjoy the game. Appreciate that it takes time to develop one's bridge skills - ten years at least unfortunately.



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Senior Female Players at the Club *continued from previous page*

Sue Duff

How long have you been playing? About 50 years.

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher? About 50 years ago in the GBC clubroom above what was then the Plaza Theatre in Ryrie St. I was taught by Gary Ridgway who was a wonderful teacher and had me hooked from the first lesson.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? Yes, I have been on the Committee twice and have been happy to mentor newer players when asked. At the moment I am helping Bernie and Terry with the supervised play for the latest beginner class.

What system do you play now? Why? I play Standard American now because my partners prefer this system. I have played Precision in the past.

Have you had any Honour Board successes? Yes. Sue Robinson and I (*the two Sues—Editor*) won the Ladies Pairs in 2007 and the Intermediate pairs in 2008. I also won the Heweston Trophy with Ari Bakker in 2014.

Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? I play with Geoff Temple on Mondays, Gabby Wilson on Fridays and when possible, Jane Skeen on Wednesday nights. Conventions I use a lot are Jacoby and Michael's Cue Bids and of course transfers over a 1NT opening. Remember Bridge is a partnership game, so be kind to your partner.

What are your interests outside bridge? I love to read and usually have a jigsaw on the go. I also enjoy line dancing once a week. I dabble in art and craft but not as much as I used to.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge? Read Bridge books that suit your level. Count - count your cards, count your points, count your winners, count your losers, count your trumps and the opponents' trumps. If you can, try to get a count on the opponents' hands and your partner's too. Develop some form of signalling, particularly with the first discard, that tells your partner what suit you would like them to lead if they get in.

Any last comments/advice? Enjoy your Bridge and don't let nerves get in the way.

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Alison Feiner

How long have you been playing? Anne and I started bridge lessons in Melbourne in the early 90's.

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher? We went to lessons at the Australia Club and learned to play Acol system. I can't remember the teacher's name. Anne will know. Over the years we have also had lessons from Jim Borin, Ron Klinger, Andrew Mill, Keith Katt, Joan Butts and of course Gary and Arthur. Ron Klinger has been a big influence over the years.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? I was editor of the newsletter for a couple of years after Judy Williams finished. I did teach my neighbour Judy Ramage how to play Bridge during early covid days. We had to meet up on BBO even though we lived just three houses away from each other because of the restrictions.

What system do you play now? Why? Anne and I play Standard Two Over One these days. We like knowing sooner rather than later if game is likely. We can then go slowly and won't get dropped. More room for 1st and 2nd round control bids. We like Bergen raises because it is very specific about the support and point range.

Have you had any Honour Board successes? Anne and I were Women's pairs champions in 2017. I have won Intermediate pairs with Chris Dodgshun. There is probably more I have won with Anne, but not sure.

Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? I mostly play with Anne Gunst on Friday afternoon and in congresses around the state. When we can, I play with my Melbourne friend Mary Allison on BBO on Monday afternoons.

I use a similar system with both players which helps. Two Over One, 1NT can have a 5-card major, Bergen raises, Multi 2 opening, new minor forcing, Jacoby, RKC and Cue bid raises.

What are your interests outside bridge? Music was my profession and is now a hobby. I play table tennis when my knee permits. I am a trader (indices FX and Futures) and build automated systems to trade these. I am also an Astrologer and have spoken at Astrology Conferences about using about using planetary cycles to predict market moves. My 2 grandchildren also give me great joy.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge? Have a good teacher or two, play with different people so as not to get stuck, but also have a regular partner who is interested in learning and discussing different ideas.

Any last comments/advice? Play for enjoyment as well as aiming to do your best.



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Senior Female Players at the Club *continued from previous page*

Brigid Fitzpatrick

How long have you been playing? Since 2012, I had to go to my BBO app to check when I created my profile there. It was at the same time. My partner at that time was a proficient player and he and I used to often login and play a casual game there for practice.

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher?

I learnt at GBC by attending 10-12 weekly evening sessions run by Arthur Robbins. We then had a series of supervised play sessions following this.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? I have not been on the GBC committee or been a teacher. I briefly mentored one of the students (Jane Opie) who had completed the classes run by Bernie O’Dea. We played together at the Saturday afternoon sessions for a period. *(Brigid has just taken over as Western Region Association President—we wish her well. Editor)*

What system do you play now? Why?

I play Standard American with a few gadgets. I have stayed with this system as I play regularly at the club once a week and it is familiar and I am comfortable with it. If you and your partner understand each other’s bids that goes a long way toward getting to the best contract to play in.

Have you had any Honour Board successes? No *(It’s only a matter of time—Editor)*

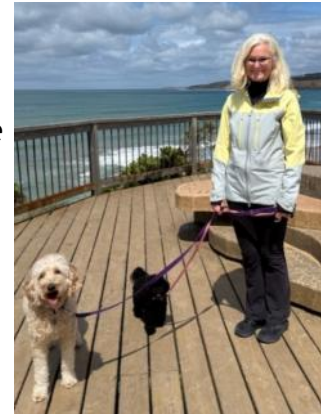
Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? I play on Weds evenings with Valerie Sercombe. Sunday Pizza Bridge with Terry Passlow.

What are your interests outside bridge? I work full time, so time outside of that and bridge is limited. I like seeing my family and spending time with them. I also try to keep active and do a bit of yoga and sometimes hike. And I have a couple of dogs that seem to think I should spend some time walking them.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge?

It is a serious game, but don’t take it too seriously. When I say that, try not to be sensitive about the intensity of experienced players. They are such a valuable source of knowledge that it is great to learn what you can from them. And playing against them makes you improve so much faster. You pay for your bidding/playing mistakes that are made against them. I had to play on Wednesday evenings when starting bridge and the competition was strong. It helped me more than anything.

Any last comments/advice? Practice makes perfect. Get onto BBO and play whenever you can. They have a practice area geared at different levels and free individual competition sections as well as a casual game against other people online. Apparently reading is also a good thing to do. Not my favourite thing to do, but I think it is recommended.



Margaret Glover

How long have you been playing? Started in 2003, so 23 years.

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher? In 2003, learnt Acol/16-18 NT in Torquay with Elizabeth Wapshott. To be serious about bridge, my friend & I went to Ocean Grove BC, then GBC. Had no lessons there but learnt from experience.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or a teacher, mentor, etc?

Three years in the committee. (~2015 to 2018). The committee worked hard as a team with John Walsh as the President. There were major changes made to the office, the kitchen & the men's toilet whilst making sure the renovations did not affect the daily bridge games. To avoid being in the house committee, I signed on as the maintenance person. The roof sheets were coming off the building, there were weeds growing out of the gutters.... Mmm, these problems were for my husband!

What system do you play now? Why? Standard American with Multi Twos. Have played with Chris Dodgshun for years. Can't remember why we started playing Multi Twos but we know our system well.

Have you had any Honour Boards successes? Intermediate Pairs (2016 and 2017) with Chris Dodgshun. Womens Pairs (2023) with Wendy Dennis.

Who do you play with now? What is your favourite convention? Chris Dodgshun. Gerber (with NTs). Like the Collingwood F.C., the Gerber Convention is either loved or hated. Although my partner does NOT like Gerber & never uses it, he knows & responds to a 4C (Gerber) after a NT bid. Gerber does interfere with more complicated bids but I feel beginners & inexperienced players would be more confident to bid up to Slam, knowing that it's easier to stop at a lower level.

What are your interests outside bridge? Staying active. I feel like I should say playing golf, reading & cooking but no, none of these.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge?

- Talk to better players for advice. When I played against Gary Ridgway I felt very comfortable asking him, why I didn't make my contract, why had he lost his winning trick.....
- Play with an experienced player who can tell you any mistakes when appropriate. You may make several mistakes so just try and remember one mistake that day.
- Go to Congresses. My sister & I regularly go to the Congresses at the Geelong B.C., the Gold Coast B.C., the Kooyong B.C., the Moonee Valley B.C. & the R.A.C.V. B.C. Other Congresses I have attended are those at the Warrnambool B.C., Whittlesea B.C., Ballarat B.C., Canberra B.C., M.C.C. B.C., Frankston B.C. & Bendigo B.C. **Go now whilst you're in the restricted section!**
- Find a regular partner, plan a system card together and hope your partner will improve with you.
- Play bridge as often as you can.

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Senior Female Players at the Club *continued from previous page*

Denny Newland

How long have you been playing? About 35 years

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher?
I learnt in Ballarat from Andrew Mill.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? Yes I have been a GBC committee member and also vice president. I also give intermediate lessons. I direct and teach Bridge at Barwon Heads.

What system do you play now? Why? I play Precision, with transfers with my Geelong partner, Stephen Lester. I play standard with a few other partners.

Have you had any Honour Board successes? I have had some success on the Bridge Victoria Honour Board winning the Victorian Country Teams a few times. I have also won the Victorian Champion of Champion Daytime Pairs with Doug Newlands. I was also proud to represent Victoria in the State Seniors Team along with Stephen Lester. I am most proud of winning the Victorian Open Teams Pennant along with Stephen Lester, Doug Newlands and Arthur Robbins.

I have also had some success on the GBC honour boards. *(A bit of an understatement here. Denny features prominently across the Honour Boards at GBC—Editor)*

Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? I play Precision (my favourite system) with Stephen Lester and am extremely grateful to partner him and learn from such an outstanding player. I am also very appreciative of many years playing with Doug Newlands and also learning from him.

I play in some of the interstate tournaments with Alison Stralow who is from Perth and our recently retired president of the ABF. I am also fortunate to play in a few Victorian events with Diana Smart.

What are your interests outside bridge? My husband, Ian, and I are keen swimmers, though my prowess is somewhat lacking. I also enjoy three grandchildren, one of whom lives in Torquay so both Ian and I are on duty quite a bit which is a great joy.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge? I have always been an avid reader of Bridge books and I would encourage a keen beginner to read up on play of hands. I would also make a plan at trick one, count your winners and losers.

Any last comments/advice? Find a compatible partner and enjoy this great game.



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Dot Peacock

How long have you been playing and who was your teacher? I started bridge lessons at the then Essendon Bridge Club now MVBC) with Jenny Date. Supervised play followed with Eddie Karen who terrified me at first. I used to park outside Ascot Vale Senior Citizens Club each week and pray I would not get points!

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? I came to GBC in 1999, was a committee member under Geoff Temple and Mike Stokie, then Vice President to Jenny Johnstone when we were also Congress convenors. Again, I spent six years with Jenny as secretary of the Western Region Bridge Association. Bev Kroger and I also ran two years of Seniors' Bridge Day in its early years.

What system do you play now? Why? My system is Standard American five card majors which has served me reasonably well-too old to learn another now!

Have you had any Honour Board successes? Very fortunately I have some Honour Board mentions - Novice and Open Pairs, Intermediate and Open Teams.

Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? My main partners now are Jenny Johnstone, Judy Williams, Kathryn Graham and George Topfner (when he is in town.) I like RCKB, multi 2's and cue bids.

What are your interests outside bridge? Outside of bridge I am a Western Bulldogs tragic, am treasurer of our retirement village residents' committee, love movies & reading and of course my beautiful family and friends.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge? My advice to less experienced players- try and partner a player/s of a higher standard- it makes for a huge learning curve. I had a wonderful mentor at EBC and then Geelong followed. Social games are good for promoting discussion along with extensive use of our well stocked library. Then just play, play, play.

Any last comments and/or advice? My final comment-I wish I'd had the time to take up bridge when I was a lot younger. I also thank the many players here who have helped my game.



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Senior Female Players at the Club *continued from previous page*

Dorothy Read

How long have you been playing? 23 years

When and where did you learn, and who was your teacher?

Geoff (my husband) and I had our first bridge lesson on 17 March 2003 at Warrnambool with Warren Easley. Warren was a teacher who was able to instil in us a love of the game.

This was after we had finished our overseas teaching commitments and decided it was time we switched from playing Solo to Bridge.

Have you ever been on a GBC committee or been a teacher, mentor, etc? I taught bridge at Geelong for ten years, doing at least two lots of lessons per year.



Since then I have done lessons for the Barwon Heads Golf Club. Geoff and I also started the Pizza Sundays on March 17, 2013, when we had 9 full tables!

What system do you play now? Why? I now play American Standard with some partners and American Standard with 2/1 with others. I made the switch from Acol when I started teaching bridge.

Have you had any Honour Board successes? In Geelong: The Hewston Pairs with Geoff, Intermediate Teams with Geoff, Dot Peacock and Heather Scott, Ladies Pairs with Shannon Irwin and again with Denny Newland.

In Warrnambool: Club Championship with Geoff.

Who do you play with now? Which are your favourite conventions? Jean McGonigal, Jenny Johnston, Anne Gunst, Geoff and anyone who asks me. My favorite conventions are two over one, Multi twos, Jacoby and Roman Key Card.

What are your interests outside bridge? Golf, bowls, reading and travelling north during the winter.

What would your advice be to less experienced female players to improve their bridge? Practice as much as you can. Don't be afraid of making mistakes.

If possible practice bidding with a partner. As taught to me by Ron Klinger, take the 2s, 3s, 4s and two of the 5s out of a pack of cards and deal two hands. Then practice your bidding with just the two of you. This is good practice for slam bidding.

Any last comments/advice? Enjoy it and aim to play at least twice a week. Once is not enough. Practice online with Masterbridge through Bridge Base online (BBO). If you are on holidays call in to other clubs. You can learn a lot from visiting other clubs.

I hope you have enjoyed reading about these amazing women who play at our club. In the next issue of the GBC newsletter I hope to put the spotlight on some of the other women players of whom we can all be proud. Editor



Some History of the Club—the middle years



The early years, and the characters of the GBC have been covered elsewhere. The years after that, not so. As I played a major role, but not wishing to “plug me”, I was advised to put something down in writing about those years when we built our clubrooms (1983/4). To the best of my memory, here is how it all developed!

After the club was formed and played in a number of venues (like Ocean Grove BC, we had to put tables up and away) we had a home above the Corio Theatre (now Market Square). We had air conditioners, thanks to Ari Bakker, but the rooms had yellow walls, and reeked of smoke. It didn't help that our secretary, Dick Heidenfeld was a chain-smoking cigar smoker, though many members smoked in the 1970s.

Early 1981, John Van Someren (JVS), the Secretary was driving from his home in Clifton Springs to his work at Shell, and saw a for sale sign on a property, and with tremendous forethought paid a deposit for the property, later ratified by the committee.

About a year later, Council informed us of our imminent removal, as the precinct was to be demolished to create Market Square! So GBC had to look for a new home. We hired an Architect, Greg Jones (a then recent graduate from Deakin University) to design Clubrooms for us. His original design was based on eight modules (our current building is five modules- look at the ceiling!). However the cost was beyond our ability to pay at that time.

So began a search for our new clubrooms- not great for a minor “Sport”. Our first try was a defunct child centre on Pakington Street. However the worried nearby residents objected, and it went to VCAT. JVS arranged for traffic counts to support our case, and we hired a solicitor to help. I went to the VCAT meeting, armed with data, but our so-called Solicitor was of no help, and I didn't get to produce our findings, a complete waste of time and money!

Still, we had to try to find somewhere. An offer came from Michael Vickers-Willis to purchase a “strange” property in the back of Mercer St, an old refurbished silo. Yes, the space was ok, but with elderly members, we would have needed to install a lift (\$100,000+). So we were then offered a cellar room, under the silos, but the lines of sight were not good. So, back to the drawing board.

The breakthrough!!! Bob Hale suggested cutting back the scale of our original rooms to five modules! A brilliant idea, considering we usually didn't need the extra space (and indeed, even today, we are seldom full). So reduced plans needed!

We consulted with Greg Jones, and he redesigned the plans and took over as Project Manager, and I was the GBC contact. Our contract was for about \$64,000. Jean Lever, our Vice President, arranged for a \$30,000 solicitor's loan, while the committee authorised the issue of debentures (in \$100 lots, at 6%, interest paid yearly as free games, \$3 a game at the time). Many members supported this, and we raised enough to finance the building of the clubrooms, opened in August 1984! Every June 30, I had to write free-games vouchers!

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In the building phase, JVS organized his Italian contractors to do the concrete edgings of the car park, his Dutch contractors to paint the inside and outside of the building, and we had special pipes setting out the car parks. We also inherited a huge old air conditioner from Shell's computer room. Such a great contribution from one man to the development of our club!

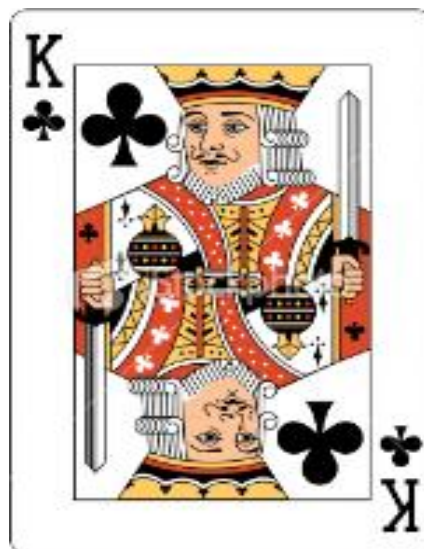
As President, I was pressured to raise the playing fees, but we paid off the solicitor's loan by 1990, and the last debenture was redeemed in 1995, without any change to table fees! Since then we have totally owned our clubrooms, certainly the first regional club in Australia to do so!

Our heartfelt thanks are due to the efforts of John Van Someren and Bob Hale and to the earlier Treasurers (Len McWattie, Dick Heidenfeld, and Maurice Johnston) for their approach to saving for the future. Their nest-egg set us up.

Special Note: the clubrooms initially had a back door which opened onto a smoking room (now the office). We had quite a few smokers in the club in 1984, so this was an inclusive offer to some of our members. However many members objected to their smoke leaking into the main playing space (some would go in for a puff during breaks in play! And every opening and closing of the internal door was offensive to many). This led to the building of seats outside the main entrance, and the relocation of smokers to this area. Yes, cold in winter, but society was pushing towards smoke free environments. Soon after, the back entrance was bricked up, and the room was converted into the office, with storage shelves, etc.

The only other change of note was to the kitchen, which originally had an "In" and an "Out" door, though many didn't know which was which. Now we have the double middle doors.

NB: Increases to club fees are largely due to affiliation fees with Bridge Victoria (BV) and the Australian Bridge Federation (ABF), and the increasing costs for masterpoints. With our solar panels, thanks to Terry Passlow, we are largely self-sufficient, apart from council rates, though regular maintenance of the building is required. We also still need to pay our affiliation fees to the ABF and BV, and for masterpoints!



Arthur Robbins



GEELONG BRIDGE CONGRESS

Saturday 27 June 2026 - Sunday 28 June 2026

New VENUE

CLUB ITALIA - 515 Bellarine Hwy, Moolap, Victoria 3224

Large venue with ample free parking on premises

Fully licensed, great lounge area and a separate dining area (for lunch)

Large outdoor grassed area (to stretch the legs during break)

DIRECTOR - Martin Willcox

RECORDER - Arthur Robbins

Registration & payment through MYABF

Entries close - Monday 22 June 2026 @ 9 am

Short link is <http://myabf.com.au/go/GBC-2026>

COST

\$60 per person per day

Includes lunch provided by Club Italia, tea & coffee throughout the day

Special dietary requirements must be advised

Please email the Convenor with your dietary requirements by 22 June 2026

SATURDAY - 10 am start

Open (all levels) Swiss Pairs

Restricted Swiss Pairs (under 100 MPs per player as at 31 March 2026)

SUNDAY - 10 am start

Open (all levels) Teams

Restricted Teams (under 100 MPs per player as at 31 March 2026)

CONVENOR - Valerie Sercombe 0468 874 271

Ph: 5248 2978 Email: congress@geelongbc.org.au

Prize money will be paid in bridge credits to your MyABF account

Highly artificial systems are not permitted.

System cards are mandatory.

