

# ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB



DECEMBER, 1987

VOL. 1 ISSUE 8

## EDITORIAL

In our last Newsletter for 1987 we look back with pride on a most successful year in the progress of our Club.

The year began in doubt as to whether the Tuesday Club would have to be disbanded due to lack of interest in day-time play. The Committee agreed to subsidise the costs of hiring the hall for a further six month period to see whether there was any interest in day-time bridge in our area. This decision has been rewarded as we now have six regular tables of day-time bridge players, many coming from far a field.

Beginner's classes have brought many new faces to our Club and all who completed the course are now members.

The introduction of Championship events has stimulated the interest of Wednesday night players. Three different types of events were introduced and the winners were -

Individual Championship	-	Open	-	Frances Orford
		Handicap	-	Mary Smillie
Teams of Four Championship	-	Open	-	Neil Orford (Capt.) Frances Orford David Shum Peter Nottingham
		Handicap	-	Ray Gledhill (Capt.) Gloria Gledhill Philip Smith Ailsa Smith Alan Wright Merilyn Wright
Pairs Championship	-	Open	-	Frances Orford Neil Orford
		Handicap	-	Ann Pearce Steven McDougall

The "Trump-It", published each month has provided a news service for players as well as providing learning material. The duplicating machine has been worth its weight in gold as, apart from our Newsletter, the machine has also been used to print our own stationery and provide members with notes from seminars and beginner's classes.

The library has been increased by 20 odd books in order to cater for the increase in new members. The library plays an important part in our service to members and most members take advantage of using it.

Many people have contributed to making our club the success it is. It is not my intention to name anyone, however, I do thank all those who have helped in any way.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we will see you all in 1988.

Judy Valentine



BOOK REVIEW

Once in a while a book is written which has something special to offer the reader. One becomes totally absorbed in the concepts the author is depicting. The book has something different to offer. "Bridge is My Game" by Charles H. Goren is one of these books.

Apart from sound advice in bidding strategy, Goren reminds us of our attitude towards the game as a whole, our partner and opponents.

"Bridge is for fun - if you play it for any other reason you should rack it up and go on to something else."

"Treat your partner like the Championship he's not - take a tolerant approach to your partner's idiosyncrasies, if not you take the fun out of the game. Gentle treatment of partner will improve your score."

"Bridge is a game for four players, not two. Opponents are not there to make your evening enchanting. They are there to play bridge for fun. Don't bore the opponents with post mortems on hands unless there is a special interest for all four players at the table. Don't give bridge lessons at the table to your partner or your opponents. Don't agonise over hands, play at a reasonable speed."

The book has much to say.

It reminds us that there are no laurels in beating players with an inferior bridge knowledge than ourselves.

It shows us how to cope with the unethical players and the bullies we are likely to encounter at the table.

It reminds us that the definition of "mistake" not only refers to bidding and play (which cost only points) but table manners (which could cost us friends).

The book is for all bridge players - beginners and experts alike. For the beginner it teaches the correct attitude to adopt when starting the game, for the expert it is a reminder that on the climb to the top, the fundamental rules of good behaviour and etiquette may have been forgotten and it is never too late to change.

"Bridge is My Game" - The Lessons of a Lifetime - by Charles H. Goren is a brilliant book for everyone's library.

J. Valentine

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FROM "THE BRIDGE PLAYER WHO LAUGHED" by Ron Klinger

Declarer was clearly dismayed when she saw dummy. Her partner, when he noticed her look of disgust, said; "So sue me for non-support!"

One of their opponents turned to declarer and asked; "Are you two married?"

"Of course not", declarer declared. "Do you think I'd marry a man who couldn't support me?"

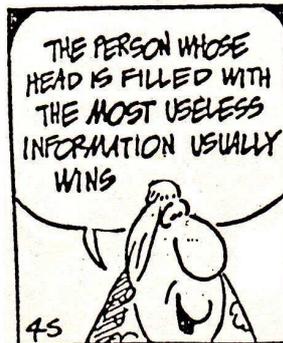
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Husband (after being massacred in 3NT doubled): "I thought you knew I didn't have a heart, dearest".

Wife: "Of course I did, darling. But I did think you had a brain".

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**Wizard of Id**



As we are on the subject of good table manners and etiquette, I thought I would print an article which appeared in the Q.B.A. Bulletin in 1979. The article was submitted by Tony Jackman and was taken from the Preface of "The Bridge Manual" by John Doe, published 1906. Ed.

"To every lover of a game, the past history of the game he loves is as full of interest as the past history of the woman he loves; but bridge is so fascinating that any man may reasonably be content to take it for better or worse, without question as where it was born, or what it was doing before he fell in love with it. Its past is not beyond reproach; but its present is so respectable that no house-party is complete without it.

From the rules it will be seen that the primary object is to score two games before the adversaries have managed to do so. The secondary object is to amuse yourself on the tertiary, to allow the other people to enjoy the game as much as is consistent with your own amusement. The essence of good manners is never to be unintentionally annoying. The essence of good bridge is never unintentionally annoy your partner. You must intentionally annoy him sometimes, but unless his idea of the game is certain to prove fatal, it is better to keep him in a good temper by following his idea than to make him abandon it for yours. An exasperated partner is a terrible power for evil, as often as not he seems to lose the game intentionally, merely that he may declare roundly that it was all your fault. The exasperation of some partners is impossible of avoidance; but as there are now conventional declarations, leads and returns, it should always be possible to obtain a fairly clear idea of what he wants you to do, and to do it."

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A LITTLE HISTORY OF CONTRACT BRIDGE AS TAKEN FROM THE LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

Many people have the idea that bridge originated in Greece. This is not so, as it came from Arabia early in the 19th century and then was played in Greece under another name. Later it moved into Italy. From Italy it spread to England, late in the 19th century and became known as the game of whist. Why it was never played in France at that time is unknown.

The game of whist became so popular that clubs were founded in many countries, including the United States and Canada. The headquarters in each country, where it was played, were London, England; Montreal, Canada; Chicago, Illinois, USA. In fact, if you didn't play whist you were completely out of fashion.

In 1909, The American Playing Card Co. came out with the game of 500 and donated the rights to all countries. After only a few years, the game became so popular that it was really a rivalry between the two games and their headquarters were the same as whist.

In the year 1919, a Dutchman, using the best of whist and 500 came up with the game of Auction Bridge, which soon became as popular as the two other games.

In 1927, whilst on a cruise in the Caribbean seas, Cornelius T. Vanderbilt and a few friends, laid the foundations for Contract Bridge.

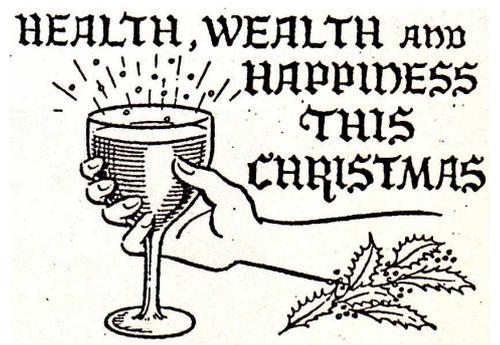
Today, Contract Bridge is the most widely played game in the world, and world Congresses are attracting in the vicinity of 1,500 tables of bridge players.

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FROM "THE BRIDGE PLAYER WHO LAUGHED" by Ron Klinger

When she learned she was going to have twins, the bridge wife expressed surprise: "I knew I was vulnerable, but I didn't realise I'd been doubled".

When the happy day arrived and the twins were born, the bridge association newsletter recorded the birth under the headline: "Got doubled. Made It!"



The following is an excerpt from the souvenir booklet published for the Australian Jubilee Year 1951 - World Olympic for Contract Bridge Pairs.

#### HOW CONTRACT CAME TO AUSTRALIA

In the early thirties, Australian newspapers published a cable in which Contract Bridge scoring was itemised. To a few radical enthusiasts in most of the main Auction Bridge strongholds, that was sufficient inducement to begin tinkering with the new game. In this very inconspicuous fashion, Contract Bridge gained a slender, and unheralded, foothold in Australia. Shortly afterwards, however, the appearance of Ely Culbertson's famous original Blue Book converted hundreds of diehard auction adherents and gave Contract a wonderful impetus. The game forged ahead steadily and soon became what Auction Bridge has never been - nationally organised pastime."

#### FIRST INTERSTATE MATCHES

The first Interstate Contract Bridge contest in Australia was arranged prior to the formation of any State, or national, bridge Association. Before the match actually eventuated, however, State Associations had been founded in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. In consequence, the contest goes down in chronology as an unofficial encounter.

The match was held in Sydney on December 27-28, 1933 and 120 boards were played and published in book form. New South Wales won by 1,620 points. The first official Interstate match was played in Sydney the very next day. The newly founded bridge associations of New South Wales and Victoria formally selected teams to play under their respective auspices.

#### HISTORIC MILESTONES

The following year (1934) was notable for the inauguration of the annual Interstate Championship carnival for both open teams-of-four and women's teams-of-four - a tournament that has long reigned as the highlight of the Australian Bridge year. It also witnessed the birth of State controlling associations in Queensland and Tasmania.

In 1935, the Australian Bridge Council was formed and constituted as the National Governing Body.

The formation, in 1939, of the West Australian Bridge Association, and its subsequent affiliation, placed the coping stone on the edifice of national organisation, the Australian Bridge Council thereafter functioning as the sole national organisation, and having as constituents State-controlling associations in each of the six Australian States. Over the intervening years, this harmonious administrative arrangement has proved particularly satisfactory and efficient.

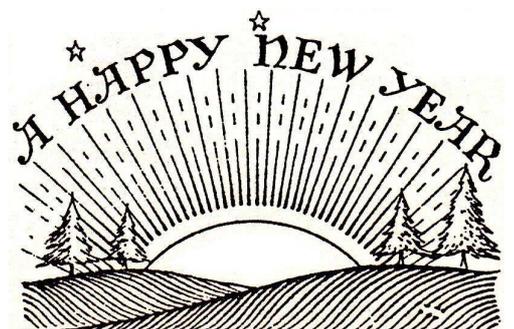
#### ORIGIN OF THE OLYMPIC

The Olympic had its genesis in a personal letter sent to the Australian Bridge Council in October, 1950, by the president of the Queensland Bridge Association (Mr. M.J. Sullivan, of Brisbane). In that letter Mr. Sullivan suggested that the contribution of the Council to nationwide Jubilee Celebrations then being planned should be the widening of its annual Australian Par Point Pairs Championship into a world Olympic.

The suggestion, when read to delegates, was acclaimed and approved. Negotiations with The Australian Government to have the contest recognised as an Official Jubilee Celebration ended gratifyingly with the Olympic being launched under Government sponsorship - a unique, and very welcome, denouement in the realm of contract bridge.

Following traditional practice, the Council appointed the winners of the 1950 Australian Par Point Pairs Championship - Messrs. M.J. Sullivan and H.W. Hiley of Brisbane, Queensland - as Olympic Committee, Hand Setters, and General Tournament Directors.

Australian contract bridge enthusiasts - competitors and officials alike - have always contended that the Australian Par Point Pairs Championship is the finest test of bridge skill yet devised - and are proud indeed that the occurrence of the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Commonwealth of Australia provided an appropriate opportunity for its projection into the International arena as the Australian Jubilee Year world Olympic.



CHRISTMAS PARTY



THE BIG GAME BEFORE THE PARTY

Front - Violet - "I love it when I'm dummy".

Side - Jan - "this is serious game, Violet".

Back - Diana - "Boy, if you could see my face, what a tale it would tell".

WINNERS OF THE BIG GAME

N/S Diana & Kevin

E/W Bob & Eric



THE BOOBY BRIZE WINNERS.

Dot & Frances.

"Haven't I seen your name recently, Frances?"

CUTTING THE CAKE

David cutting the cake which was made for our first Christmas Party.



ENJOYING THE FESTIVITIES

Left to right

Ray, Dot, Peter, Adrienne, Donald, Jan, Doug, David & Neil.

THE COMMITTEE 1986/87

Left to right

Barry, Judy (Committee)  
Bob (President)  
Mary (Treasurer)  
Neil (Secretary)

