



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

December 1997

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Editor's desk

STOP PRESS: The hall will be air conditioned and unavailable from 29 Dec to 9 Jan. Play will now restart on Mon-Tue-Wed of 12-13-14 January 98.

The ABF is changing its year from April-March to January-December. The only problem here is that red points sessions for the current year had to be completed by 31 Dec or lost. Hence the unscheduled Dec sessions to use up our quota.

The Wed pair's championship was looking like a 3 horse race after the first 2 weeks. The third week sorted out the stayers, as early leaders stumbled in the straight and were swamped by some fast finishers. Bob Pearce put in a good effort to direct and win (with yours truly). Deslei & Alison held on for the handicap win.

While the Mitchell/ Howell format may have been a little confusing, it was the fairest yet, each pair playing all other pairs, with equal strength in each of the sections. Incidentally, the top 4 were in the placings at each of the 3 sessions.

Judy's classes start on Tue 3 March 1998 and cost \$50. A Wed class will depend on enrolments, as it is not worth Judy's time to drive from Caloundra and back again, especially at night, for small classes. So if you know anyone interested in learning this great game, give them an enrolment form or Pam Horton's phone number. Today's students are tomorrow's members.

The QBA's Queensland wide pairs continues to out do the ABF's Australia wide pairs for even and interesting boards. The no half table rule remains a nuisance, with one pair having to withdraw.

Time to start thinking about next year and a new committee as the longer serving members look for a break. Nominate now for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or just plain committee member. We really would like more nominations from daytime players.

Looking back over 1997, I played quite a lot of congresses and competitions. While many of the 'same old faces' were present at many of these events, it was disappointing to see so few Aranans contesting the restricted and novice events. The best way to improve is to regularly play tougher opposition. Many of our members would be competitive in the many novice events played at the various Brisbane clubs.

Richard McLauchlan

Management committee

ITEMS of interest from the management committee meeting of Tue 8 Dec include:

All committee positions fall vacant and nomination forms are on the notice board as well as notice of motions (AGM) forms.

The current committee has only 5 members; 7 to 9 is preferable while increased Tuesday representation would be a valuable contribution.

The annual general meeting is at 7 pm on Wed 11 Feb 1998.

The hall is available for play on Mon 22 and Tue 23 December.

An electric pencil sharpener has been purchased.

Club funds stand at \$3,080 cash and \$141,000 invested at 4.8% for 12 months.

Welcome to new members Ann Bale, Bruce and Norma Hansen, Arthur and Betty Green, Fay Stewart, Peter French and Jim Dale.

Helen McLauchlan (vp/ treasurer)

Hundreds club

HONOURABLE mention is due to those members who attended over 100 pairs sessions for the year. These were Don Cutmore 116, Julie Cutmore 115, Rita Wood 109, Betty Willson 108, Bill Acklin 108 and John Willson 105.

Melbourne Cup 97

ARANA members thoroughly enjoyed the club's Melbourne Cup function - bridge, sweeps and the race. Muriel Miller ably directed the 46 players in an 11½ table, 1½ appendix Mitchell, where N/S played 30 boards and EW 27.

There were no table fees and prizes were awarded to first and last placegetters. these were: Fran Husband & Dot Cain (N/S) and Julie Cutmore & Muriel Miller (E/W) (first); Jim Dale & Graham Cooling (N/S) and Elizabeth Van Hees & Marie Van Der Kamp (EW) (last).

Lunch was provided by caterers, 'Essentially Gourmet' of Camellia Avenue, Everton Hills. All present enjoyed the two course buffet lunch efficiently served by staff member, Claire. Lucky door prizes went to Fran Husband, Des Husband and Pat Power.

Lunch over, some keen members played social bridge until the time for the big race drew closer. Don & Julie Cutmore had kindly offered to run the sweeps and Allan Box provided the all important TV set. By the time of the race, tables etc had been cleared away and all that was left was the distribution of prizes to the lucky sweep winners.

Sincere thanks to all who assisted so willingly to make Melbourne Cup day enjoyable for club members. Apart From those already mentioned, thanks to Don & Julie Cutmore for helping set up morning tea and purchasing the cold drinks for the occasion; to Lorraine Steele for so efficiently taking bookings and ensuring all monies were in on the due date; and to the club for providing funds for the drinks and prizes.

Especially welcome on the day were Judy Valentine, our founder and teacher, and 12 of her enthusiastic students. We do hope they enjoyed the experience of joining club members for bridge and lunch. We certainly enjoyed meeting them and hope they will enjoy future involvement in our club.

Joan Fitz-Herbert (special events coordinator)

Season's greetings



Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

Hope to see everyone back for a bigger and better bridge year in 1998.

Northern Suburbs congress

SEVERAL Aranans are also members of Northern Suburbs, so it was no surprise to see Joyce & Jenny, Betty & Rita, Val (& partner), Margaret J (& partner) and Helen & me among their 41 table, 5 section congress.

Val took the honours in Q1 with a resounding win, while most of us had top half results. Q2 saw Betty & Rita winning and qualifying for the championship. Helen & I bid 5 slams in qualifying, none of which were making and that probably kept us out of the championship as we joined Joyce & Jenny in the plate. Poor results in Q2 pushed Val into con 1 and Margaret to con 2.

Our first round on Sunday was against Harry Sarafov (President) and Jack Benjamin, against whom we bid a 29 hcp 6D on the very first board. With Saturday's slam failures still fresh in our minds, this seemed like a do-or-die start.

25/ E-W/ N	10 8 3 2		E	W
	A J 9 7 3		1D	2C
	--		2S	4NT
K J	8 5 4 3	A Q 7 5	5D	6D
8 5		K 6 2		
A 6 4 2		K Q J 9 8		
A Q 7 6 2	9 6 4	10		
	Q 10 4			
	10 7 5 3			
	K J 9			

My (E) 2S reverse (16+ hcp) was a bit pushy as Helen was never one to worry about a missing A and bid to 6D. Harry led the D3 to my 8; SK; SJ; DK; SA discarding H5; SQ-D7-DA; H8-A-2-4; H7-6-10-ruff; CA; C ruff; draw trumps & HK made 12. A nice 42-6 start to hit the front.

With only 2 sub-50% rounds, one being against Joyce & Jenny, we still led at lunch. Ralph & Sheila Parker had moved into 2nd and were looking like our main dangers. With 3 rounds to go, it appeared we were going to meet on the last round. A handy win against Jane Kavanagh and Mary Quillinan was negated by a bad score on the penultimate round, before losing 20-28 to Ralph & Sheila. Fortunately, we had a big enough lead to win the plate, capping a great day.

The championship was won by Mayers-Francis who staged one of those 'greatest comebacks since Lazarus'. They lost their opening match 6-42 (the same as Harry & Jack against us), dropping to a demoralising last. Steady play all day saw them claw their way back up the field, hitting the lead with a couple of rounds to go.

Richard McLauchlan

Australia-wide pairs

THE boards for this year's Australia-wide pairs were random deals generated by the 'Duplimate' dealing program. Previous year's scoring, where a pre-determined % was awarded for the likely scores on each board, was changed to normal scoring within each competing club, as well as match pointing across the whole Aust-wide field. This should make a top worth a few thousand match points, but a bottom is still worth zero.

Ten tables competed at Arana, including a visiting pair, where a 9 round 3 board skip was played. To me, there were no stand-outs as far as interesting boards go. To score well, you really had to defend well. Pam & Jenny and Bob & I found 6H making 12 on board 14, but if W leads a C from K-7-6-4 we are 1 down, E holding A-5-2. That's the luck of the draw - we both got S leads from 9-7-5-4 (W's trump holding was K-J).

21/ NS/ N	10 6 5		
	J 10 7 3 2		
	7 5 3		
8	K 8	A K J 9 4 3	
A K 8 6		4	
10 4 2		A K 8	
A J 9 5 4	Q 7 2	Q 7 2	
	Q 9 5		
	Q J 9 6		
	10 6 3		

Our visitors found 6C, making an easy 12 on board 21, but Liz Marshall and Vonnie Wallace went one better with 6S, making. The DQ lead gave nothing away and Liz's D8 can be ditched on dummy's HK. That still seems to leave the CK and SQ as losers, so I assume Ted & Allan were just being friendly.

Winners on the night were Joyce & Gary (N/S) and Bev Sear & Alun Preece (E/W). Their 64 and 70% wins should figure in the Aust-wide results. The restricted winners were Margarete and Peter (N/S) and Albert & Mary (E/W).

Richard McLauchlan

Queensland wide pairs

TEN and a half tables turned up for the Qld wide pairs, with a few pairs not having put their names down to play. With half tables not allowed, some time and debate was expended before Val Mann and Wendy Pollard graciously withdrew.

Bob and I sat E/W and played most boards remarkably close to the hand commentary. A major exception was board 17 where E/W were theoretically in 3H going off on good defence. Gary Lynch stopped all that by opening the S hand

with a 4 loser 2C. After a 2D negative from Joyce, they ended up in 4D going 3 down. [Opening a 4 loser 2C when the anchor suit is a minor is fraught with danger... much safer if opener holds a major.]

On board 5, Bob (E) opened 1D and Betty Willson overcalled 2C. Holding C-AJ982 and no other useful cards, I passed and went into mental telepathy mode... partner: pass or double. At N, Val Acklin's only useful cards were D-KQ95, so she passed and went into similar telepathy mode. Bob bid 2D and the mental vibes were running hot until Betty passed... 3 down and -300 was not nice.

Joyce Rosser did something similar on board 16 where I opened a 16-18 1NT. Holding 18 hcp and S-AKJ53, Joyce doubled and Gary passed (neither confidently). One down and -200 was bottom for us but not as bad as the commentary's -1100.

Board 19's commentary goes 'here it is folks - the annual bloodletting hand where everybody bids a lot and, having got it all wrong, argues for hours into the night over whose fault it was! Personally, I blame N for whatever happens.'

19/ EW/ S	10 6 3 2		
	10 8 5 4		
	6		
A 8 7	K 5 3 2	K Q 5 4	
--		7	
10 4		A K J 8 7 5 3	
A Q J 10 9 8 7 6	J 9	4	
	A K Q J 9 6 3 2		
	Q 9 2		
	--		

Kath Rooney opened the S hand 1H [opening 4H vul promises a 5 loser hand Kath]. With my 5 loser hand, I bid a game forcing 2H [yeh, yeh, so my anchor suit is a minor!]; Don Cutmore doubled [not my cup of tea so I blame N too]; Bob tried 2S; 4H from Kath: 5C from me; 5H from Don; 6D from Bob; Kath 6H; DOUBLE!

Kath said that E/Ws were not letting them play, so her 6Hs was largely frustration. Unfortunately for us, our 300 score (2 down) was poor return since 6C and 6D are both making for 920.

Winners on the night were visitors Alun Preece and Anke Vanderkolk (just pipping Bob and me) at E/W and Joyce and Gary at N/S. Dropping boards 27-30 from the score (only boards 1-26 count in the statewide results) left Alun and Anke well clear but changed the N/S scores considerably, with Val Cran and Margaret Welldon top scorers N/S. Alun and Anke's 65% score might get them into the Qld wide placings.

Richard McLauchlan

Interclub teams

TOOWONG hosted the interclub teams on behalf of the Brisbane Zone, 9 of the 14 clubs fielding the maximum 3 teams, while QCBC could manage only A and B grade teams.

Arana's contingent was: A – Pam Horton, Jenny Lewis, Helen & Richard McLauchlan; B – Vonnie Wallace, Julie Cutmore, Marilyn Wright, Ailsa Smith; C – Margaret Welldon, Val Cran, Philip Smith, Bob Dancer. The Bs and Cs travelled nicely, but the As had a tough time. Against the title holders BBC, board 9 was typical our misfortunes.

9/EW/N	A K 10 8 7 6		
	9 6 5		
	K 9 4		
3	2	Q J	
A K 10 3		J 8 7 4 2	
J 7 6 5 2		--	
J 5 4	9 5 4 2	A K Q 10 8 3	
	Q		
	A Q 10 8 3		
	9 7 6		

Jenny	E	Pam	W	N	Richard	S	Helen
/	1C	/	1H	1S	2S	4H	X
1S	4D	/	4H	4S	5C	/	/
				5S			

At Pam & Jenny's table, E's 4D bid was a splinter showing 0/1 Ds and good H support so W bid the game on some nice distribution.

Over N's 1S opening at our table, my 2S was a Michael's cue bid, showing Hs and a minor. S's 4H was also a splinter (0/1 Hs, good S support). Helen's double showed (top) Hs over which N bid 4S. My 5C showed a solid C suit but N again bid Ss. Had the vulnerability been reversed, I would have 'sacrificed' in 6H but not with us vul.

The H contract duly made 12 tricks while the S contract made 11 for a double game swing and many IMPS away. On best defence, we can stop 5S by leading the CA and switching at trick 2 to the HJ, suit preference for a D which I can ruff, too difficult on the day and not to be.

While the Bs and Cs tried to carry us, it was to no avail as we trailed the field. The interclub trophy was retained by BBC by a small margin to Toowong and Cards. The A grade was won by QCBC, B grade by BBC (ineligible as overall winners, so the wine went to Cards) and C grade to Toowong.

Richard McLauchlan

Honour roll 97

WINNERS are gridders and the ones with the big smiles in 1997 are:

Tuesday teams

Open: Pam Horton, Jenny Lewis, Ailsa Smith, Marilyn Wright
Hdcp: Allan Box, Ted McGrath, Mary Craig, Ken Hooper

Wednesday teams

Open: Trevor & Darryl Cullen, Richard & Helen McLauchlan
Hdcp: Pam Horton, Jenny Lewis, Joyce Rosser, Gary Lynch

Tuesday pairs

Open: Joyce Rosser, Val Acklin
Hdcp: Betty Willson, Rita Wood

Wednesday pairs

Open: Bob Pearce, Richard McLauchlan
Hdcp: Deslei Den Haan, Alison Fulwood

Most improved

Mon: Lorraine Steele
Tue: Beryl Bell
Wed: Mary Wilson & Albert Lewis

Australia-wide multi pairs

Men: Bob Pearce, Richard McLauchlan (N/S); Trevor & Darryl Cullen (E/W)
Women: Carol Wilson, Judy Perkins (N/S); Pam Horton, Helen McLauchlan (E/W)
Mixed: Jan Rae, Paul Yates (N/S); Bob Dancer, Julie Cutmore (E/W)

Australia-wide pairs

Open: Joyce Rosser, Gary Lynch (N/S); Bev Sear, Alun Preece (E/W)
Restricted: Margarette Golden, Peter Van Eden (N/S); Mary Wilson, Albert Lewis (E/W)

Queensland-wide pairs

N/S: Margaret Welldon, Val Cran
E/W: Alun Preece, Anke Vanderkolk

Arana v Sunnybank teams

Arana

Important dates

- Sun 4/1 Qld senior teams (Sunshine Coast)
- Sat 10/1 Gold Coast teams
- **Mon 13-14-15/1 play resumes**
- Sun 1/2 Sunshine Coast
- Sat 7-8/2 Toowong congress
- **Wed 11/2 Annual General Meeting**
- Sun 15/2 Gympie teams
- QCBC novice teams
- Warwick swiss pairs
- Sat 21-28/12 QBA Gold Coast congress
- **Tue 3-4/3 Classes start**