



ARANA

Contract Bridge Club Inc

The Friendly Club

July-August 2006

Vol 20 No 4

From the President

After hiking and touring Europe for seven weeks, it is great to be back playing bridge among friends at Arana. Actually I did manage to play a few games of social bridge with some fellow tour members, but there's nothing like some stern competition.

In my absence your committee has once again run a successful annual congress with typical Arana hospitality, although the numbers were down on previous years. Sincere thanks must again go to all those hard workers who organized and catered the event. As a club we really are fortunate to have such a committed team.

As foreshadowed in my last report and as you have probably noticed we've had some maintenance work done on the building. Thank you to Tony Agar and Gordon Broadley for their efforts.

Regrettably, in my absence Geoff and Anne Gulley made a decision for a "sea change". Their combined contribution and commitment to the club over the years has been substantial and they will be sadly missed. It also means that we are short one committee member so if anyone is interested please see Tony or myself. Your only requirement is a willingness to attend committee meetings and participate in the management of **your** club.

David Lehmann

3-Way Interclub Competition

Arana Clubhouse, Sunday 16th July 2006
Arana-Bribie Island-Caboolture-Redcliffe

Notice on the board now. Eight pairs from Arana will be required. Colin Anderson is the convenor for this special event.



Mobile phones must be switched off during play. If you need to have your phone on for emergency reasons, you must seek permission from the Director. You and your partner/team may be penalised if your phone rings during play.

Some Arana Rules

- ❖ East/West should empty the waste paper bin after play and return bin to table.
- ❖ Chairs should be positioned neatly around table and area left tidy after play.
- ❖ All players should be security conscious and lock the door during play.

♣♦ Important Phone Numbers ♥♠

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Email address:	aranabridge@netspace.net.au
President:	David Lehmann 3205-7276
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Treasurer:	Jan McRobbie 3355 2425
Partner Contact:	Carol Wilson 3353-2297

A Profile – Alison Fulwood Life in the “Bank” Fast Lane

Alison (nee Leahy) was born in Ayr in 1935. Alison’s father was a cane farmer and a staunch Freemason – he was also a second tenor. Her mother was a brilliant pianist and a deputy choir conductor. At the age of 4 years and 8 months Alison began school at Anabranth in Ayr. She loved school and eventually completed her education at Blackheath College in Charters Towers.



Alison began work at the Qld Nth National Bank. Her husband to be, Keith, worked in the National Bank up the road. They were married in 1954 and had a super wedding. The mothers were very competitive in country towns and this time Alison’s Mum excelled – making a beautiful gown with a massive train. She had three bridesmaids and two flower girls. Karen their first daughter was born in 1955.

Three years later Keith was transferred to Toowoomba right in the middle of winter. They had to sit over the wooden stove in the kitchen until they acclimatized. Arlene, their second daughter was born here in 1958. Next was two years in Warwick with the wind whistling through the cracks in the old staff dwelling. Then they were off to Winton arriving at their new home (which was a bad debt being paid off), to find the drunken removalist had left the furniture piled in one room. Alison was organist at the local church. The organ was actually operated by a reversed vacuum cleaner – it would have been too darn hot to pump it. They were sad to leave Winton but moved on to Kingaroy a place they loved. Once again a lot of time was spent in front of the wood stove in the

kitchen which had no less than thirteen doors leading off it.

In 1963 the big smoke of Brisbane beckoned and they bought a house and settled at Sherwood, staying there for three years. Alison became involved on the Committee at the girls’ school where she made many great friends. A beautiful white Labrador named Belinda came to live with them, a soft and gentle animal that enriched their lives.

Bundaberg was next – the most favoured posting!! Then Dalby. This was not their most pleasant posting as the Dalby area was suffering from adverse seasons and rural depression (making Keith’s job as Manager far more onerous) and this posting also meant that their close knit family unit was torn asunder as Karen now had to attend boarding school at St Peters in Brisbane to attain the standard of schooling required.

Keith was transferred to Sydney in 1973. They purchased a small but lovely residence opposite a park in West Pennant Hills. On their first holiday homecoming Karen & Arlene decided that Alison was lonely, so she found a position at a local kindergarten, which she absolutely loved. What a great social life was to be had in Sydney. Sadly they lost their beloved pet Belinda at this time.

1980 and Papua New Guinea beckons. What a fantastic experience! Every six months Keith visited the Bank’s branches in Lae, Mt Hagen, Kundiawa, Rabaul and Bouganville and Alison went with him. Alison says it is “truly a beautiful Country.” They attended many social functions as the Bank’s representatives and on one occasion met the Queen and Prince Philip.

Alison was involved in a serious car crash in PNG. The steering locked on the car as she was negotiating a steep hill between Boroko and Port Moresby. The car rolled many times down 100 metres of mountain landing in a squatters’ village with the passenger hood crushed flat to the seat. The squatters’ villages were not nice places for “whities”, especially women but luckily the headman was a bank client, saw who she was and decided it best to take care of her. The car was totally wrecked but Alison was outwardly unharmed, along with a dozen unbroken eggs and an undented tin of dog food. Alison says the Good Lord must have decided it was not time for her to join him.

Alison was introduced to bridge in PNG by the wife of the Port Moresby manager and although Alison knew little about card games she joined in,

making up the fourth. Alison was bitten by the “bug” and says it was the best thing that ever happened to her.

After three hectic years in PNG it was back to Sydney and their house in West Pennant Hills. In 1986 Alison and Keith returned to Brisbane and family.

Back in Brisbane Alison became heavily involved with the Arana Contract Bridge Club serving on the committee and the finance committee for a number of years. Alison’s most satisfying memory being the many hours spent on the “special” raffle which raised a substantial portion of the funds used to build our present Club house.

Alison and Keith had a number of exciting holidays. Among those that stand out were their travels in Europe and the UK, America and a three-week sea voyage on the cruise liner Royal Viking Star. After retirement they had a restful stay on beautiful Norfolk Island. This however satiated their urge to travel and since retiring have become real “stay at home” folk.

Alison and Keith have three grandchildren, Reilly 20, Ronan 18 and Blythe 15, who bring much joy into their lives.

Barbara Holmes – Editor

Kantar For The Defense

Are you into the "deep" game? This defensive problem qualifies for that description.

South dealer; neither side vul.

NORTH (*dummy*)

♠5
♥A Q J 9 8 5
♦9 5 3
♣K J 10

WEST (*you*)

♠Q 9 3 2
♥K 7
♦K 6 2
♣A 7 3 2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: King of hearts

On the first two tricks, declarer pitches the seven and ten of diamonds (nice lead!). Then, he plays ace-king-jack of spades to your queen, partner following to the first spade and then discarding a low diamond and a low heart; dummy discards two hearts. *What now?*

Solution below.

NORTH

♠5
♥A Q J 9 8 5
♦9 7 3
♣K J 10

WEST

♠Q 9 3 2
♥K 7
♦K 6 2
♣A 7 3 2

EAST

♠4
♥10 6 4 3 2
♦A Q J 8 4
♣Q 4

SOUTH

♠A K J 10 8 7 6
♥--
♦10 5
♣9 8 6 5

It's easy enough to see that if you lead a low club and declarer plays low from dummy partner can win and return a heart to promote your nine of spades into the setting trick. So what's the problem?

The problem is that from partner's point of view you might not have the nine of spades. You might have a lower spade and the nine of clubs. In that case, partner's best defense would be to return a club, not a heart. (In that layout, if partner plays a heart, declarer ruffs high, draws the last trump and forces his way to dummy with a club. The jack of hearts provides a discard for declarer's long club. However, if partner returns a club you can play ace and another club, and eventually score the club nine or get to ruff the heart jack.)

The real issue is how you can tell partner which black nine you have. In other words, the club you lead must deny the nine. The correct club to lead is the seven. With ace-nine-eight-seven, you would return the nine; from ace-nine-seven-small, you should return a low club, encouraging a club return. Therefore, your lead of the seven denies the nine. If declarer plays low, partner should win and return a heart.

November 1995, Edwin B. Kantar

The Psychology of Bridge

by Ian Price

(Taken from "Mind Games A Biographical History of Bridge in Queensland" {in Library})

Psychology vs Technique

"What matters most in bridge? Knowledge and technique, certainly. But technique is over-emphasised. Superior technique accounts for possible 5-10% of hands. So what of the other 90-95%? What makes the difference? There are percentage and frequency tables which give the mathematical odds in any number of situations. The figures are indisputable, but they do not account for everything when live beings come upon the scene. The true odds diverge from the mathematical.

Often enough, the best chance is not a good play or bid, but a slip by the other side. Bridge is as much about art as it is about science, and the art in bridge is to draw inferences not only from the bids and the plays, but also from the players. The art in bridge is also about reducing the number of mistakes you and your partner make – and inducing them in the opponents.

Victor Mollo writing in "Bridge Psychology" in 1958 scoffed at the high-sounding titles awarded to some quite simple technical manoeuvres. To perform the "Bath Coup", he said, it is enough to hold up the Ace – with AJx – when the King is led. Only a little less elementary is the "Deschappelles Coup" – the lead of an unsupported King to knock out an Ace which is the only entry to a dangerous side suit.

Consider instead, Mollo's description of the "Coca-Cola Coup":

'Lee Hazen, the American master, who represented the US in the World Championship in 1956 was in a critical contract which depended on not losing a trick to the King of Trumps. Three cards in the suit were out against him and the percentage tables clearly indicated the finesse. He led a trump from dummy up to his AQ, and as the next player followed low he paused to sense the atmosphere. Had he overlooked something that could give a clue? While he was thinking, the player on his left hailed a passing waiter to order a Coca-Cola. Lee Hazen later said: "There and then I knew that he had the missing King. No man orders a drink in the middle of a crucial hand unless he is trying to be too nonchalant! I played my Ace – and the King dropped.'

Personality

Many authors have written about the personality types that play bridge. Victor Mollo is well known for the "Rueful Rabbit" and the "Hideous Hog", among many others. Easley Blackwood, writing in 1951, "The Human Element in Bridge", had several personality types that we can still recognise today; "Mr Champion", "Mr Abel", Miss Brash, Mrs Keen, "Mr Muzzy". Each personality is distinctive in terms of the style of bids and plays that each makes. Often this is all we have to go by when we are trying to predict the behaviour of our opponents. We do not know them well enough or for long enough to have other information.

A common division of opponents is into "weak" players or "good" players. If you decide or know that they are "weak", you just might put in that eccentric 2S overcall over their 1C. Or you just might push to the three-level looking like you might go off two. But you must be careful about pushing them into a game that they would otherwise not have found!"

Concentration, Judgement and Emotion

But to get the most out of our own ability and out of our partner, knowledge of personality does not help that much. Unfortunately, or otherwise, we are largely stuck with the talents and foibles that make up our own and our partner's personalities. If we are to get optimal performance from what we have we need to take another tack. Mollo identified concentration and judgement as the most important aspects of good bridge. These concepts are exclusively psychological and they are intimately linked with emotional state. To maintain optimum concentration and judgement good management is needed – management of yourself and management of your partner. Optimal performance and as a consequence, enjoyment, is more likely in the presence of some emotional states than others.

In general, a positive, confidence, alert, eager readiness is what is needed. A certain amount of arousal, but not so much that you are likely to fall to pieces. Similarly, a certain amount of looseness and calm, but not so much that you cannot focus on the task at hand. Managing emotional state can be a tricky task. Especially in competition where the pressure to win is so much greater. Every hand, every bid, and every trick of every hand, can contribute to a shaft in emotional tone. The idea is to maintain that optimum emotional tone for as long as possible. Of course, not only do you need to manage your own emotional state; you need to get the best out of your partner as well." ...to be continued

Director's Corner

Partnership Understandings Law 40

There are many bids that have to be alerted, 1 club if you are playing a short club 2 clubs = strong, 2 diamonds = strong, 2 clubs = stayman, 2 diamonds after 1 no-trump; there are so many. A call that, by partnership agreement, conveys a meaning other than a willingness to play in the denomination named. The best way to remember is that, any bid below 3 no-trumps which is a partnership agreement and doesn't mean what is written on the bidding sheet, must be alerted by you or your partner.

Procedure After An Irregularity LAW 9.2C

Law 9: It is an offence NOT calling the director.

9b1(a): The director must be called at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity.

9c: Any premature correction of an irregularity by the offender may subject him to a further penalty.

Colin Anderson

Masterpoint Movements

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period to 24th March 2006.

Graduate Master

Keith Barnard
Alda Pennisi
Judith Nelson
Noel Ogden
Susan Ogden
Anne Tennock

Club Master

Pauline Ford

Local Master

Gordon Broadley

Robert Matthew (MP Secretary)

New Members

A very warm welcome to the following new members:

Judith Carr
Trish Donovan
Ian Franklin
Bill & Melba Herron
Bob James
Jan May
Peter Moritz
Terry Nowitzki
Mary Woolley

2006 June 2-Day Congress Report

Forty-four pairs and 32 teams entered this year. Unfortunately no Arana players featured in the final places. A net profit of approximately \$1,500 including sale of raffle tickets and lucky numbers has been achieved.

Winners - Arana Swiss Pairs 03/06/2005

A Section

- 1 Andrew Pryde / Neville Francis
- 2 Reg Busch / Joan McPheat
- 3 Ralph Parker / John Mills

B Section

- 1 Michael Stoneman / Val Roland
- 2 Jocelyn Steele / John Steele
- 3 Bruce Carroll / Gayle McCarthy

Winners - Arana Swiss Teams 04/06/2005

A Section

- 1 Andrew Pryde / Neville Francis
Mike Robson / Betty Lee
- 2 Richard Wallis / Ian Halford
Ralph Parker / John Mills
- 3 Bill Hunt / Rosa Lachlan
Danny Osmund / Linda Osmund

B Section

- 1 Donna Krosch / Liz Litzow
Pam Tink / Corinne Jeha
- 2 Bruce Carroll / Gayle McCarthy
Judith Power / Andrea Smith
- 3 John Stacey / Brigitte Stuthe
Jocelyn Steele / John Steele



LIBRARY LINES
Librarian Peggy Whittaker

It is pleasing to see the Library being well used. A reminder that the loan period is one month however should no request have been made for a particular item which is on loan, members may take advantage of extending that loan period by completing the card and taking that item for another month.

A suggestion for beginners or new players. “The Principles of Card Play” by Paul Marston has been nominated as a book which is most helpful.

For the Ladies ☺ ☺
The Ages of Women

Age 8	Looks at herself in the mirror and sees herself as Cinderella / Sleeping Beauty.
Age 15	Looks at herself in the mirror and sees herself as a fat Cinderella/ Sleeping Beauty with pimples – refuses to go out looking like this.
Age 20	Looks at herself and sees ‘too fat, too thin, too short, too tall, too straight, too curly – but decides she’s going anyway.
Age 30	Looks at herself and sees too fat, too thin, too short, too tall, too straight, too curly – but too busy to fix it so she’s going anyway.
Age 40	Looks at herself in the mirror and sees too fat, too thin, too short, too tall, too straight, too curly – but says ‘At least I’m clean’ and goes anyway.
Age 50	Looks at herself and sees ‘I am’ and goes wherever she wants to.
Age 60	Looks at herself and reminds herself of all the people who can’t even see themselves in the mirror anymore. Goes out and conquers the world.
Age 70	Looks at herself and sees wisdom, laughter and ability. Goes out and enjoys life.
Age 80	Doesn’t bother to look – just puts on a purple hat and goes out to have fun.
Maybe we should all grab that purple hat a little earlier!!	



Our guest book reviewer this edition is David Backstrom

“Why You Lose at Bridge” by S J Simon

This book, I thought, would be helpful, particularly to me, but perhaps to others as well, since losing seems to be part of the game for everybody! It was written sixty years ago, and while the game has changed and is changing, and many of the comments are directed towards Rubber Bridge, most of the points raised are relevant.

Two quotes I liked:

1. “It is not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren’t enough of them. It is the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones.”
2. “But you must play the type of game that suits you... for it is better to play a bad system well than a good system badly.”

The examples of bidding/ playing – mostly from boards actually played, illustrate clearly the point(s) to be made. Having said this, I always have some difficulty in following examples when players’ names rather than N S E W are used. That, of course, is a personal opinion (or mental deficiency) of mine.

I shall not go into any specific examples of points raised in this book. As with all Bridge books one reads, I consider that if they make the reader think about their own game, incorporate tactics/strategy suggested into their own game if thought to be advantageous, then reading the book is worthwhile.

Since this book incorporates the mechanics of the game plus the suggestion that one takes into account the psychological assessment of the opponents and one’s partner (as well as oneself!), I consider it worth reading, even though it does not provide all the solutions to the reasons for losing at Bridge!

David Backstrom

All About Crosswords!

Crossword Puzzle History

A word square

ROTAS

OPERA

TENET

AREPO

SATOR

This word square was found in Pompeii. It is unusual because it can be read in any direction!

Interestingly, a 10-letter word square has yet to be created by computer or man!

Although crossword puzzles are the most popular word puzzle in the world, they have a relatively short history. They were first created in the 19th century in England. They were patterned after the word square. See above.

On December 21, 1913, Arthur Wynne from Liverpool published the first crossword puzzle in the "New York World". It looked much different from the crosswords used today and had no black squares. Arthur Wynne is credited with being the inventor of the very popular crossword puzzle. It was originally called a word-cross puzzle, which evolved into the current "crossword" puzzle.

At first, only the "World" carried the new puzzle as a weekly feature. But in 1924, a small publishing firm published the first collection of "World" crossword puzzles in book form. The craze began, and Simon and Schuster's success was launched. Interestingly enough, the New York Times was one of the last newspapers to publish a regular crossword puzzle.

During the 1920's there was a huge crossword puzzle craze with everything from clothing to jewellery being sold featuring crossword puzzles.

Crossword puzzles developed even further with the introduction of "themes." Not every crossword puzzle has a theme, in fact most don't. But many crossword puzzle constructors gained popularity with puzzle lovers by introducing themes into their puzzles.

A major breakthrough in crossword puzzle development came with the personal computer. Software was developed to allow a person to construct their own crossword puzzles. Several doctoral papers have been written on the subject, some of which claimed it was impossible for a computer to create a crossword puzzle! The mathematical strain on a computer is enormous, more difficult even than programming a computer to play chess.

The first software was pretty primitive, but today, the software has greatly advanced. In 1997 a US company called Variety Games Inc. was issued the first US patent (5,677,438) on using a computer to create crossword puzzles. Their software (Crossword Weaver) allows you to make standard publication style crossword puzzles with a theme. This allows anyone the ability to create crossword puzzles.

The crossword puzzle also developed into what is commonly referred to as the "free-form" style or "skeleton" puzzle. There are no black squares, and puzzles are very loosely put together. This allows the constructor to use only their words in making the puzzle. This puzzle style is popular in educational institutions, as anyone can make one themselves. (Note: there are some very good programmes (<http://www.crosswordweaver.com.au>) out there that can make these for you as well).

Crossword puzzles have been developing now for a century, but they are still the most popular word puzzle on the planet. Over 40 million people in the US solve a daily crossword, some of them in ink! *Crossword puzzles are here to stay!*

Important Dates

July		
Sun	2	Qld Graded Pairs (QCBC)
Sat	8	Mackay Pairs; Caloundra Novice Pairs (<100 MPs)
Sun	9	Noosa Teams; Lockyer Pairs
Sat	15	15-16 Bundaberg Pairs Congress
Sun	16	Ipswich Novice Swiss Pairs (<100 MPs); Broadwater Swiss Teams
Mon	17	Red Points PM
Wed	19	Wednesday Teams (week 1)
Fri	21	21-22 Cairns Pairs & Teams, 21-Aug 5 ANC - Sydney
Sat	22	22-23 Goondiwindi Swiss Pairs
Sun	23	BBC Graded Swiss Teams
Wed	26	Wednesday Teams (week 2)
Sat	29	Moreton-Bribie Pairs; Mackay Novice Pairs (<100 MPs)
Sun	30	Moreton-Bribie Teams; Toowoomba Swiss Teams; Nthn Subs Novice Teams (<100 MPs)
August		
Fri	4	Friday Red Point Pairs (week 1)
Sat	5	6-7 Maryborough Butler Pairs & Teams; 6-7 Reliable Carrier pairs (Cleveland Bay)
Sun	6	Sunnybank Swiss Teams
Fri	11	Friday Pairs (week 2)
Sat	12	12-13 Surfers Teams; Rockhampton Swiss Teams; Townsville novice pairs (<100 MPs)
Sun	13	Toowong Novice Teams (<100 MPs)
Wed	16	Brisbane Show Holiday
Sat	19	19-20 QBA Butler Pairs QCBC with rest side <150 mps
Tue	22	Neil Hamilton Memorial Red Point Pairs
Fri	25	PM QBA Mixed Teams Championship (rd 1) - QCBC
Sat	26	Red Points Tully pairs
Sun	27	Sunshine Coast Swiss Teams, Redlands Pairs

Copy Deadline

For September - October 2006 Issue

20 August 2006

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**Queensland
Government**

Getting more people
active through sport
and recreation

The **Queensland Government** provided \$263,900 to the Arana Contract Bridge Club for the development of the Ferny Grove Sports and Recreation Centre to get more Queenslanders active through sport and recreation.



Mitchell Brandtman

Quantity Surveyors & Construction Cost Managers

*...is pleased to be involved in the
development of the*

Ferny Grove Bridge Club

Mitchell Brandtman has 31 years experience in providing innovative cost solutions to the construction industry.

Mitchell Brandtman's Asset Services Division advises investors on maximising returns on property investments using effective **tax depreciation schedules**.

For information on how you can maximise the return on your property investments contact Maoibh Cumming at Mitchell Brandtman on

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