



Trump·It

Arana Bridge Club Newsletter

March 2026

2026 Committee



President: Bruce Hansen
Vice President: Trish Lye
Secretary: Sue Norton
Treasurer: Joan Mackay
Committee Members: Jeff Borg, Anna Green, John Hull

From The President

Welcome to 2026.
Our big achievement in 2025 was that, after four years of negotiation with Brisbane City Council, a new lease had been finalised for the Tramway St land. The lease is for 10 years and commenced in October 2024.
The lease requires the Club to have sub-user agreement with the Football Club. It was rumoured that the Football Club was to relocate to another ground, but that is not so, and it intends to stay at Tramway St for longer term.
I'd like to thank the many people who have helped me in finalising the lease.
The Committee is conscious of rising costs and has looked at various options to improve cashflow and defer an increase in table fees. The discontinuing of the free game vouchers

has saved the Club approximately \$6000 in 2025.

A recent consideration of the forward budget prepared by our Treasurer, Joan Mackay, highlighted a need to focus on revenues and it was decided to increase session table fees to \$7.00 from 1st January 2027. This motion was carried with majority at the AGM.

The first Congress of 2026 was held on Sunday 15th February using the MyABF system for registration and payment of prize monies. My thanks go to Linda Neil who has put a lot of effort into organising this very successful event. Thank you to all who helped on the day or who donated food.

The Committee received complaints from members that associate members generally only play at the Club when red points events are played or prize monies are awarded. The Committee has decided that those registering for Club competitions must be financial members prior to the events and have played at least 6 green point sessions in the previous 12 months before the event.

Grants supplement the funding of projects and major acquisitions. Currently we have an application with the Gambling Fund to assist with funding of a new defibrillator, repairs to rusted guttering and purchase of new chairs which may cost as much as \$10,000.

Thanks to Phil Chappel for preparing and submitting the grant. By March we should know if our application has been successful. Total grants awarded to the Club through Phil's efforts exceed \$160,000.

*Happy bridging,
Bruce Hansen
President*

Meet Gary Lynch – Life Member



Gary was born in Melbourne into a loving working class family. He was an only child. He finished his secondary education at Parade College and received a scholarship to attend Melbourne University. There he studied a science degree majoring in Maths and Physics and was offered a Commonwealth Post Graduate Award which enabled him to complete a Master of Science degree, majoring in Nuclear Physics. Gary had a varied working life – initially working for Shell as a computer analyst, then moving to Department of Defence. Gary also completed a Master of Administrative Studies degree at ANU.

Gary lived in Sydney, Canberra and eventually Brisbane. He met Lyn in Sydney and they married in 1971. They have two children – Brad (a lawyer) and Janine (a social worker) and are proud grandparents to four grandchildren.

Gary's sporting life was varied. In Year 5 he and John Bahen (who later played for Fitzroy in VFL) represented their school in Australian rules football. In 1960s, tennis was his interest and he played a couple of years at the A premiership level in the Victorian Catholic Lawn Tennis Association competition.

In his Honours year at Melbourne University, Gary returned to playing Australian rules football for the Old Paradian's reserves in the amateur competition. In final home and away game of the season, he ran into a steel goalpost and spent two weeks in hospital. In the collision, he lost three teeth, got a badly cut lip, a broken nose, a broken collarbone, a collapsed lung and a cracked kneecap. His accident was reported in the Melbourne Age

and, as goalposts were padded not long afterwards, Gary jokingly claims credit for this happening.

After he retired, Gary had what he considered the perfect balance. He played golf twice a week and bridge twice a week. Unfortunately golf gave him up. He joined the Arana Bridge Club in 1990 and, a few years later, was elected to the Committee.

The **Bridge Club** had ambitions of getting its own building and formed a sub committee of six people with Gary as chairman to further progress this aim. It wasn't very long before the sub committee was reduced to Gary and Bob Dancer. A number of options were investigated and proved infeasible before the Brisbane City Council floated the idea to the Bridge club, the junior Australian Rules Football club and the junior Cricket Club of a building on the Ferny Grove Tip site.

At that time, the **Bridge Club** had in excess of \$200 000 in cash reserves while both the Football Club and Cricket Club had no money. However, the State Government and the Brisbane City Council were not going to provide the large grants required solely for a bridge club, so the other clubs were required to give credibility to the project. It was with this understanding that Gary and Bob started the process of getting the grants to enable this building to happen.

For every two steps forward Gary and Bob were forced to take one step backwards but always on the foremost of their minds was the need to ensure that the bridge club's interests were not compromised. They commenced by subjecting the project to a cost benefit analysis. As the club was paying a peppercorn rent for the use of the Arana Community Centre, both Gary and Bob needed to be assured that the club could afford the upkeep of its own building.

This was the start of a long and demanding process over some three years where Bob estimated that he and Gary had put over 2000 hours into making this building a reality under terms favourable to the Bridge Club. The Arana Bridge Club is still a very financially secure, well managed club and, over the years, has retained its reputation as a very friendly and welcoming club.

In February 2026, in recognition of this work and also his input in negotiation of the new lease, Gary was awarded **Life Membership** of the Arana Bridge Club. *Congratulations, Gary.*

Club Membership

The Club currently has 239 financial members. We welcomed a number of new members since the start of 2026 – William Cottrell, Michael Walker, Mary Fletcher, Barbara Powell, Kerry Raymond, Anelda and Trevor Moore and Sue Vlack. New associate members are Phillip Allnutt and Rosemary Glastonbury. We hope that you enjoy playing at Arana.

Beginner Classes

Beginner classes commenced in early February. We usually have 6 plus tables. Our Teaching Team is comprised of Jim Taylor, Trish Lye, Kit Clarke and Sue Norton. We hope that the new bridge players will join our friendly Club.

Masterpoint Movements

Graduate	Jenny Byrne Vicki Lee Tricia Scanlan
Club	Jane Geutjes Nat Kay Karen Moss
Local	Michael O'Hara
Bronze Local	Dennis Piercy
Silver Local	Ross Hunter Barbara Sheppard
Regional	Jeanette Mutzelburg Byron Moss Peter Rhind
Bronze Regional	Warren Tealby
State	Merv Parmenter
Bronze State	Judi Sunman Trish Waters
Bronze National	Sri Sriprakash <i>John Murphy (MP Sec)</i>



Travelling again?

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ABF Members' Travel Insurance is live and ready to go.



Director's Corner

What Type of Bridge Player Are You? Be Honest... 😊

Every bridge table has characters, which one are you?

♠ The Silent Assassin

Doesn't say much. Just wins tricks. Calm. Deadly. Slightly terrifying.

♥ The Table Coach

"Interesting lead..."

"Are you sure about that?"

Gives free advice. Nobody asked.

♦ The Bidding Artist

Creative. Visionary. Occasionally misunderstood.

Partner calls it "optimistic."

♣ The Convention Encyclopedia

Knows 47 systems. Explains all of them. During the round.

👁 The Card Squeezer

Stares at every card like it might confess something.

😬 The 'It Was Just Unlucky' Player

Never wrong. Just statistically misunderstood.

ACBL District 16

Dawn Benes

Director

Partner Search

Natalie Bloch is the contact for Partner Search. When looking for a Bridge partner there are several courses of action which can be taken.

Speak directly to another member.

Ask the session director .

Use the Partnersearch service by sending an **SMS message to Natalie (0402 255 020)**

stating your name and session for which a partner is required. As a courtesy to Natalie, if you find a partner by other means after registering a Partnersearch request send another message to Natalie to inform her.

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Competition Results

August 2025 – Teams Championship

1. Kim McDonald, Judi Sunman, Joan Jenkins, Joyce O'Brien
2. Lex Ranke, Jack Rohde, Greg Gosney, Margaret Plunkett
3. Richard McLauchlan, Natalie Bloch, David Lehmann, Dennis O'Sullivan

- Monday Pairs

1. Greg Gosney, Margaret Plunkett
2. Julie Cutmore, Richard McLauchlan
3. Helen McLauchlan, Peter Neil

October 2025 Australia Wide Restricted Pairs



East/West Judy Greenwood, Cherylyn Rigney
North/South Anna Green, Helen Baran

November 2025 Saturday Pairs

1. Helen McLauchlan, Judi Sunman
2. Joyce O'Brien, Joan Jenkins
3. Kim McDonald, Sri Sriprakash

February 2026 Arana Swiss Teams

A Grade winners - Team Tully – Kim Morrison, Pele Rankin, Therese Tully, Paul Hooykaas

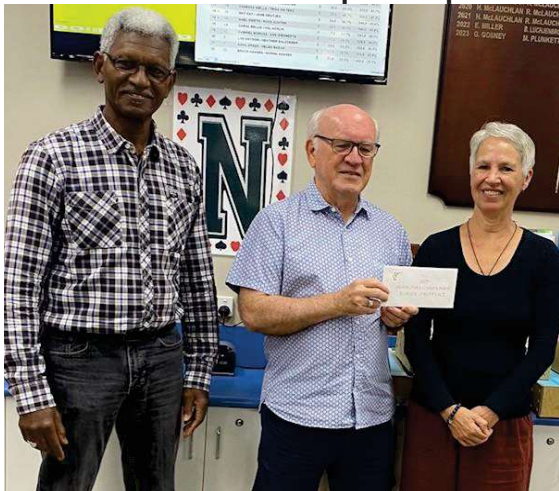
B Grade winners Team Cohen – Peter Gruthuysen, Jan Jones, Sarah Huntington-Wynne, Keith Cohen

C Grade winners Team Anderson - Brooke Anderson, Brian Clark, Tom Murphy and Ross Mangano



Carol Bellis, Tony Agar, Julie Cutmore and Budi Maher came second in B Grade. *Congratulations to all the winners.*

October 2025 Pairs Championship



1. Ibrahim Diallo, Judi Sunman
2. Dennis Sullivan, Kerry Barridge
Greg Gosney, Margaret Plunkett



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