

A Short History about the Clubs Origin

SUNNNYBANK CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB ***THE PAST***

The Club was formed at a meeting held on 8th May 1981, in the old church building at the corner of Old Beenleigh Road and Mains Road, which is still occupied by the Sunnybank Variety Group. At this meeting, I was elected President, Dick Droog – Secretary and Noel Copeland – Treasurer. Some of the 26 people who attended that first meeting are still playing with the Club viz:- Anne-Marie Ashton, Pamela Lynch, Doris & Harry Hornbuckle and Max & Joyce Worthington.

The Club has weathered a few rough patches and unfortunately we have seen many members come and go for various reasons. We are as strong at present as we have ever been; with 4 sessions each week and with up to 12 tables on the Monday and Thursday evening sessions. We are now playing at our Eighth Venue.

The SUNNNYBANK VARIETY CLUB HALL proved most unsatisfactory in winter with metal tables, metal chairs and cold winds finding their way through some slatless louvres. Our sessions were Monday and Friday nights and Wednesday mornings. We only lasted here a couple of months.

Our first move was to ST. THOMAS MOORE COLLEGE, which allowed us the Monday and Friday nights but of course cut us out of Wednesday morning. At this time there was always a small Auction Bridge group that played at Lister Street. As our membership grew a Duplicate Movement was instigated by Joan Marshall, one of our members, but as an extension of what had been called the “Lister Street Bridge Club”. The Lions Club allowed the Auction/Contract Club free rent for many years. School equipment to be tidied before play, (plus a few cockroaches) encouraged us to find another venue.

This was found at SALISBURY SENIOR CITIZENS HALL. We were very happy in this very large clean hall, until the rent was increased dramatically. A split had developed and another Social Club started at Brooklands Retirement Village.

The ENDEAVOUR HANDICAPPED COLLEGE in Troughton Road followed. No kitchen facilities or cupboard space and playing Bridge amongst the nets and ropes of exercise equipment, as well as limited space helped us to start the search again, and our tenure there was short lived.

The QE11 SPORTS STADIUM followed. At this stage the Club had virtually split in two. QE11 proved most unsatisfactory for the few remaining tables, with noise from the bouncing of the ball and whistle from the adjoining Basketball courts.

Another move to the SUNNNYBANK BOWLS CLUB (and a change of President) saw the Club return to its former strength.

While at the Sunnybank Bowls Club daytime Bridge was commenced at the Lister Street Lions Club Hall, where we rented the Lister Street Social Club bridge tables. We were very content with wonderful facilities at the Bowls Club; however, once again a rent hike saw us make a move to our seventh venue.

This time to the MOUNT GRAVATT SHOW SOCIETY where 2 daytime sessions were able to be played at the same venue as our evening sessions. After numerous meetings, discussions and dissent, it was finally decided to move to our eighth venue.

SOUTHS UNITED SOCCER CLUB at Runcorn – until plans for our own permanent building come to completion.

*With thanks to Max & Joyce Worthington who wrote this article in 1999.
Max is the Club's first President and a Life Member.
Shown here with his wife Joyce.*



Sunnybank Contract Bridge Club Inaugural Annual Meeting

May 8th 1981

26 members formed the new club.

**President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Committee:**

**Max Worthington
Dick Droog
Noel Copeland
Pam Lynch
Anne-Marie Ashton
Andrew Pryde
Joe Roache
Valerie Roberts
Brian McMahon
Doris Hornbuckle**

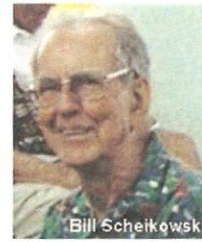


**From the August 1982
Sunnybank Contract Bridge Club
Members List:**

(All names marked * still play at the Club to date 2006)

Anne-Marie Ashton*
James Ashton
Desmond Bainbridge
Mavis Canard
Mrs. Cantamessa
M. Caswell
Jenny Cater
Jean Cole
Noel Copeland
John Cox
Dawn Cullen
Bill Davidson
Lyn Davidson
Dick Droog
Lydia Droog
Clive Eastgate
Zeg Fergus
Rena George
Susan George
Rita Gietzel
Grace Gilson
Len Gilson
Paul Griffin
Toni Gurley
Alice Heath
Joe Hoekwater
Mary Hoekwater
Doris Hornbuckle*
Harry Hornbuckle*
Bob Kennedy
Valerie Kennedy
Mona Knudson

Joyce Littler
Malcolm Littler
Gwen McKenzie
Brian MacMahon
Joan Marshall
Mary Mitchell*
Ann Monaghan
Jean Morgan
Pat Nolan
Eve Parer
Andrew Pryde
Fay Redgen*
Joe Roache
Valerie Roberts
Peter Roberts
Brian Rowell
Barbara Ryan
Diane Sakrzewski
Bill Scheikowski*
Len Shattel
Henry Russell
Roberta Tait
Jeff Smith
Ruth Turner
Maureen Tyler*
John Van Beest
Cyril Wadhams
Dorothy Wakerley
Val Whittle
Bill Whittle
Minna Weis
Pamela Wood*



Joyce Worthington*
Max Worthington*
Sidney Woelz



BUILDING the CLUBHOUSE
From Dream to Reality

From Committee Minutes 18-3-1997:

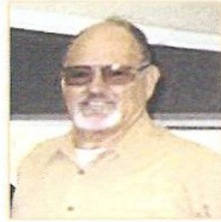
An application to the Brisbane City Council for a lease on the land at Nathan Road, Runcorn for clubhouse premises has been submitted – Feb. 1997.

From Committee Minutes 12-5-1998:

Letter received from Brisbane City Council advising a lease has been granted to the Club. 7-7-1998 – the lease is still being prepared by the Brisbane City Council.

From Committee Minutes 11/8/1998:

Bob Callaghan mentioned that a member of the Club, Mike Koster has offered to supply the structural steel for the building. The offer covers supply, delivery and assembly of steel painted with one coat of red oxide and delivered on site.



Mike Koster

The steel that was supplied

From Committee Minutes 16-3-1999: Clubhouse Building Committee formed: Ken Robinson, Vic Baker, Bob Callaghan, Sue Ross, Kevin Hamilton-Reen.

From Minutes of Building Committee Meeting Sunday 14-5-2000:

The first sod of ground turned and the land was cleared Friday 12-5-2000.

THE CLUBHOUSE IS UNDER WAY!!

