SUNNYBANK BRIDGE CLUB INC.

THE DECLARER

August 2026 Issue 2026-04

President's Column

Greetings fellow Bridge Lovers.

Well, here we are into the second half of the year. I am writing this while sitting helping Michelle with Monday morning bridge, by answering questions so she can play. I would like to encourage players from Monday and particularly Thursday morning sessions to think about coming along to other sessions to experience playing against and meeting other members of our club. I believe the players in these other sessions will welcome newer players and be kind to upcoming players.

It is a little early to talk about Christmas, but this will be late August before you read this and I would like to mention our Christmas lunch this year. We have chosen Saturday, 5th December for our party and as for last year the committee has decided to subsidise to $30-00 for members and their plus one. We will also provide drinks (beer, wine and soft drink) as we did last year. A poster re the lunch menu and table lists will be on the notice board in the next month or so to give you a chance to choose your seating selection. I would encourage as many as possible to come along to enjoy a great social day and even play a free game of bridge after if we have enough numbers.

We held the Sunnybank Teams Congress on Sunday, 2nd August, and as usual it was a great success. It showed players like to come to our friendly, welcoming club and enjoy our hospitality. I will let Robyn comment on the results. May I thank Robyn for all her work to put the day together. A great job as always. Thank you to the many members who brought along food for the day to share. Thank you to Marianna for manning the kitchen and Michelle for her help as well, and as always Julie Jeffreys did an excellent job Directing.

Our beginner bridge lessons started early August with I believe our biggest roll up ever. Thanks to the members and friends for getting the message out to achieve such a great role up. Thank you Sue Holburt and her helpers for giving up their time to teach new people our great game. I hope many continue on to enjoy bridge.

Our new air-conditioning unit which was proudly supported through the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund was installed in early June and is working very efficiently and very quietly and I am sure it is using less power than our 20 plus year old unit. It has taken a little while on cool mornings for people to accept that it punches out a lot of warm air quickly to get the club room up to temperature before it settles down to a normal temperature. Speaking of power, our extra solar panels and batteries have reduced our power bills to about a quarter of what we were paying. It will be interesting to see what happens in summer when our day light hours are much longer.

As always happy bridging.
Doug Matthew.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have recently been promoted.

Angela Smyth	Graduate
Jacqui Dex	Graduate
Louis D'Souza	Graduate
Caroline Duncan	Graduate
Rhonda Harrison	Club
Suzanne Irwin	Club
Barry Butterworth	Regional
John Atkin	Regional
Christine Atkin	Bronze Regional
June McNamara	Bronze Regional
David Crocker	Bronze Regional
Brian Fawcett	Bronze State
Barry Koster	Silver Life

New Members

Our club warmly welcomes two new members. Ashantha Goonetilleke and Susan Smith.

We know you will be made to feel welcome and enjoy playing this great game at Sunnybank.

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Eclectics Explained

At the end of the month the directors produce eclectic results similar to calculating the results for a two-week competition.

The scoring is for individual players who may have played with a different partner for all of their sessions.

Hence the name eclectic.

Requirements

- A minimum of four days in the month for a session.
  e.g. 4 Tuesdays, 4 Sundays, etc.
- When there are four sessions – A players best 3 results are used.
- When there are five sessions - A players best 4 results are used.
- If a player misses one of the sessions, they are still eligible but their lowest score will be included.

Lending Library (Novels)

Thank you to Joan Campbell who took the initiative to source alphabetical dividers which make sorting and finding books by a particular author much easier.

It is great to see that this facility at our club continues to be used.

Happy reading.

Director's Corner

Card exposed during the auction

You are sorting your cards at the start of the auction when you accidently drop a card face-up on the table. What should you do?

Call the director. Law 24 applies.

When the card is an honour card - your partner is required to pass when it is their next turn to call.
When the card is a not an honour card – there is no rectification during the auction.

When you expose two or more cards- partner must pass on their next call irrespective of the rank of the dropped cards.
If the offender is to become a defender, the exposed card(s) becomes a penalty card.

Right to enquire about a possible revoke.

- The declarer may ask a defender who has failed to follow suit, whether they have a card in the suit led.
- The dummy may ask declarer.
- The dummy may not ask the defenders.
- The defenders may ask declarer and one another but do need to be careful about unauthorised information.

Sue Holburt -Director

Newsletter Editor Apology

Some members will have noticed that this Newsletter is published a month late. I have been away and, while originally due to be home in time to publish a belated July Newsletter, mechanical issues delayed us by a week. The remaining Newsletters for 2026 will now be the end of October and the end of November.

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Teacher's Corner

Thank you to the members who went the extra mile to promote the beginners' lessons. You know who you are.

We are halfway through the lessons with seven tables of newbies. It is wonderful to have this many people attending and we will be working hard to retain them to help boost our membership.

New Novice Section

The committee has discussed the possibility of adding a novice section (less than 100 MP) to one of our existing sessions.
Three or more tables would be required for this to be viable.

This would give our novice and rookie players the opportunity to play against others with a similar level of experience.

Please contact me if you are interested.

Sue Holburt.

Convenor's Report

Recent Events – Major Competitions

Championship Pairs – Saturday 27th June.

Our club's Championship Pairs event is for members only with the winners' names recorded on the Championship Pairs Honour Board.
This year it was great to have 30 pairs competing in this all-day event, which is the most since covid. As usual, it was a very pleasant day thanks to Director, Jo Neary. A big thank you to Jo and all those who brought wonderful food to share and/or helped during the day.

Winners were -

1. Lyn Tracey – Richard Spelman
2. Andrew McKee – Kevin Grundy
3. Peter Lang – Sherrell Cardinal

Congratulations to our 2026 Champions - Lyn & Richard



Sunnybank Teams Congress – Sunday 3rd August

This event is the highlight of our calendar. 26 teams entered the event, with 10 full teams of Sunnybank members, plus another 3 teams containing one or more of our members. As always, it was an excellent day and great to see so many players enjoying the event and staying back afterwards to enjoy a drink, nibblies and celebrate the winners.

Special thanks go to Julie Jeffries, our star Director; Michele Thorne, who assisted Julie all day; and Marianna de Jongh, who worked tirelessly to provide players with an excellent array of food throughout the day.

Thanks also to all the members who contributed to the day's success – those who gave their time (and expense) to bring in delicious food and those who helped with the setup and/or the clean up after the event.

Our club could not run the event without the help of these wonderful volunteers!

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Overall winners were –

- Tim Runting - Martin Qin - Patrick Bugler - Charlie Lu

Charlie Lu is a long-term Sunnybank member



Consolation (Section C) 1st Place

- June McNamara - Jenny Andrews - Alice Edwards - Lee Pitt



Other Sunnybank winners were

Plate (Section B) 2nd Place

- Tere Wotherspoon - Kathleen Clifford - Andrea Pappas- Speros Pappas



Best Sunnybank Team (not receiving any other prize)

- Robyn Chippindall - Albina Smyth - Anne Lovett - Dennis Lee



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GNOT Brisbane Zone Final – 22nd & 23rd August

Our club sent 3 teams to the Brisbane Zone Final. There were some changes to the original teams which qualified in the club GNOT heat. The team members who played in the zone final were

- John Blyth - Carolyn Blyth – Peter Heard – Cheryl Martin – Lee Pitt
- Lyn Crookall – Greg Holburt – Tomasina De Luca - Sheila Parsons - Kath Seefeld
- Di Robinson – Kerry Pope – Joan Gentner – Judy Heck

The GNOT Zone final is always a highly competitive event. This year 48 teams entered and only 4 teams progress to the next round.

Well done to the above team members and other club members who participated in the zone final. Special congratulations to club member Tere Wotherspoon, who as a member of QCBC Team 9, came second and has qualified to compete in the National Qualifying Finals.

RECENT EVENTS – Club Red Point Event Results

Evening Pairs – Monday 8th June

1. Carolyn Blyth – John Blyth
2. Cheryl Martin – Peter Heard
3. Lyn Crookall – Tomasina De Luca

Novice Pairs <100mps – Thursday 9th & 16th July

NS Bronwyn Taylor – June McNamara
EW Louis D'Souza – Jacqui Dex

Winter Pairs – Friday 17th & 24th July

1. Tere Wotherspoon – Lyn Tracey
2. Robyn Chippindall – Anne Lovett
3. Peter Heard – Cheryl Martin

Ekka Pairs – Wednesday 12th August

NS Sue Holburt – Greg Holburt
EW Ros Purchase – Doug Matthew

Birthday Celebrations

Congratulations Colin Chesher on your 80th Birthday.



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On a Lighter Note

Who Am I?

The mystery person from May was:

Suzanne Irwin

The clues for this month's mystery person are:

I was born in the Northern Hemisphere

I arrived in Australia age 19

I served time in the navy (overseas)

I worked on the construction of Tarong power station

I changed careers to telephone technician in mid life

I have a daughter adopted from overseas (India)

I love AFL GO THE HAWKS

Who am I?

A Lovely Idea

The next time you shop ask your checkout person what kind of candy bar they like and buy them one.
I did this today.
I was at a self-checkout but still.

Life Advice

Never let anyone tell you what you can or cannot do. Just look at Beethoven.
Everyone told him he would never be a musician just because he was deaf.
But did he listen?

Some Trivial Statistics (R Rated)

1. It takes 7 seconds for food to pass from mouth to stomach.
2. A human hair can hold up to 3kg.
3. The length of a penis is 3 times the length of the thumb.
4. The femur is as hard as concrete.
5. A woman's heart beats twice as fast as that of a man.
6. Women blink twice as much as men.
7. We use 300 muscles just to keep our balance when we stand.
8. A woman has read this entire text. A man is still looking at his thumb.

A Marriage Dilemma

A newly married wife suggested a game to her husband.
"If I say a colour you have to touch the right wall and if I say a fruit you have to touch the left wall"

"The one who loses will have to follow everything the winner says for the rest of their life."

The husband thinks for a minute and decides to play as he is sure he will win.

Wife: "Orange"

