

Members are our 'DNA'

Joondalup Bridge Club recently used this term in a newsletter - it is also our mission. In this edition of Trumps Plus, two members are highlighted in stories and another 29 mentioned.

WABC continues to strive to deliver a great experience for all involved. Without prejudice, can we mention Brian Embleton for his bar stewardship - often when he hasn't played. A smiling face and great service. There are many other 'Brians' in the club - far too many to mention - but we need more, especially to help Kerry Barns and her crew in our congresses. Unfortunately it comes as no surprise that other clubs are struggling to find volunteers.

This edition features a report from our President, Sylvia Bray, on behalf of our hard working Management and sub-committees.

Please note some excellent book reviews from our library - all about the often forgotten topic of good defence.

Don't forget Super Saturday 12 August and the AGM 17 October.

NEWS AND EVENTS

- **Super Saturday 12 August** - a great event prizes, snacks, quiz - and all for normal table money
- Check **club calendar** - 10 or more main/red point events coming up
- **Annual General meeting** - 17 October after red point bridge
- **New members:** Lisa Beckley; Judy Canute; Kate Clough; Evan Paul Dodd; Trish Gibbs; Peter Hollinsworth; Beverley Lurie; Rosemary Ongley; John Penman; Ayako Salamon; Elaine Shergis; Josephine Walton; welcome all to WABC.
- **We remember:** George Elliott and Lawrie Bonadeo

Great effort by WABC Members in the ANC

Our club had 8 representatives in 3 high level interstate teams events, all of whom performed well. Special mention also to Jane Henderson and Tracey Kudelka as well as rising stars Veronica Ntoumenopoulos and Angie Somic. I'm not sure about Val and Phil Jacobsen and John Finlay Jones and Prue Hart featuring as the 'bridge brains' in the Post Newspaper article last week - maybe Phil's great beard and the others' good looks clinched the photo.

Anyhow it was a great event involving support from WABC and our members as well as all other clubs, ABF and BAWA. Well done to all who competed.

Eddie Kantar humour.... about partners



Husband and wife team are bidding against each other, both holding strong hands - husband with spades; wife with hearts. Wife slams down 6H; husband buys the auction with 6S. When dummy goes down, husband realises 6S goes off and 6H is certain.

Meekly he apologises, 'Sorry, dear, I should have withdrawn'. Response from angry wife, 'No, your father should have withdrawn!!'

Member Profile - Penni Fletcher-Hughes



Bridge has from early childhood been a part of my life. At first in the dim light as I drifted off to sleep memories of glamorous couples in off the shoulder 50s gowns, natty suits and Brylcreem hair at home dinner parties, where after the g and ts and liqueurs, a friendly game of bridge would round off the evening's entertainment. As a teenager, briefly, I was pressganged into being a fourth at the kitchen bridge table as Mum, Dad and boyfriend all played bridge - "you just have to sit there and hold the cards".

My beloved aunt and godmother who lived at the time in Northern Rhodesia (Malawi) was a grand master. An Aunt Mame kind of character she would morph into an unrecognisable dragon at the bridge table. Her husband refused to play with her - and the rest of us kept out of sight.

But the fascination had its seeds in those early days, and I always knew that eventually bridge would become a passion. When I migrated to Australia in 1982 with my first husband we were sent to Bunbury - where I appeared a few times at the Bunbury Bridge Club - and made one of many newcomer gaffes - turning up with not one but two empty plates! We then went to New Zealand for two years, during the heady days of the Americas Cup. On returning to Darlington in the hills two boys and a busy series of jobs in marketing and media put bridge well into the background. The last of these was as communications manager on Rottnest Island for 15 years. My life had taken new direction, and new life partner in the 90s.

A colourful character, Donald Hughes will have been spotted by many at the Club, in various out-there outfits. With a talent for languages, he is also a good musician and entertainer. In his early 20's, Donald's life took an interest in the Kibbuz system. Working in the Children's house, he fell in love with an Israeli girl and converted to Judaism. After learning and teaching multiple languages in a number of schools, here we are. A very talented sportsman and entertainer, having appeared on 'TV Stars of the Future' at age 11. Our life together has been 30 years of fun and laughter. Sadly not a bridge player, he thinks a slam must somehow relate to a slam dunk, Donald enthusiastically supports my passion for bridge.

Joining WABC has been another life changer. My thanks to all the partners who have nurtured me through the steep and often confronting learning process. Bridge provides many hours of intellectual stimulation and fascination - always engaging, often frustrating and sometimes elating, more often downright devastating. But then that's bridge.

(Editor's note; Great story Penni and we appreciate your work in marketing for the club and as a popular club member. Please see our President's Report. Great effort.)

Cryptic Cottesloe Location

Interesting airmen, is part of the clue
Involving duties, they sometimes do
A nearby place, for some of you
Commanding a great, ocean view

First **two** correct answers win a bottle of champagne or wine.
One guess/entry per person
john.nelson@cewa.edu.au or text 0419 948 640
Last solution; North Street

Salute: Malcolm Weatherhead

- war hero

On 27 July, a memorial to those who fought in the Korean War was celebrated in Kings Park.



Only twenty veterans from other states and three from WA are survivors of what is often described as the 'forgotten war'. Our very own Malcolm is one of them.

Malcolm signed up as a 19 year old from England and went to the war in 1950. He was a rifleman initially with less than 300 rounds of ammunition and one hand grenade. His father was formerly part of commanding the 3 spitfire squadrons that operated out of Darwin to repel the Japanese invasion in WWII. Malcolm told me that the casualty rate amongst his division was over 43% and that he lost many mates - only 3 or 4 metres away in the trenches.

Malcolm returned to England to become a wool trader and then came to Australia in the 60's, settling in Mt Pleasant then Glyde Street, Mosman Park. Wool trader, antique dealer and part time bookmaker, Malcolm loves Perth. We salute you Malcolm, and hope you enjoy WABC. Thanks to Jenny and Geoff Sharpe for their information.

Library books feature - all about defence - four 'must read' recommendations

John Rigg has recommended a book review by renowned teacher, Fiske Warren - '**Winning No Trump Leads**' by **David Bird and Taf Anthias**. Fiske notes that their advice is based on a number of computer generated models. Fiske has a number of comments, concluding with, 'I would highly recommend it to all players at an intermediate or advanced level. It teaches you to think about the auction and to question whether the leads you have been making all these years are right after all'. The book covers new ground in a clear and easy way. Fiske suggests to borrow it from our library as urgently as possible and 'not be trampled in the rush'. Thanks John Rigg; the full review was included in a past edition of 'Trumps Plus'.

Tessa Mayall has also recommended two good books; '**Step by Step**', by **Robert Berthe and Norbert Lebel** takes a different approach of counting winners rather than losers. A number of examples are provided in this book including problem deals with easy to follow questions and answers. Tessa also recommends 'The Golden Rules of Opening Hands', by Julian Pottage; discussing the right card to lead, noting that the fate of many contracts depends on the lead card - this accords with Fiske Warren's review. The lead card can be the most important play in the whole hand.

Finally, **Maurice Ford** has found another gem in our library, '**Eddie Kantar Teaches Modern Bridge Defence**'. This book emphasises the importance of defence as a partnership agreement and the importance of signals such as count, suit preference and discards. Maurice rates this book as a 'must read' for effective defensive partnerships. Thanks to all for your great recommendations; all books included in WA's best bridge library.

President's Report - What's Happening? - Sylvia Bray

Since my last report in the April issue, we've had several events to keep everyone busy and involved, the main one being our annual winter congress. I take this opportunity to thank Martin for running this event and to David Burn for directing every session without an official assistant - an endurance feat indeed. Usual thanks to all who contributed to the all important catering, Kerry Barns and team and those contributing to the fabulous platters. Special thanks also to Kate North.

This was swiftly followed by the Masters Teams of 3, a most enjoyable day. Our numbers were a bit down this year. Do have a go when it comes up again, it's great fun. The masters in the team are there to gently advise, and everyone, including masters, look forward to this event each year. It concludes with a supper afterwards, so do join us in 2024 - lots of fun for all.

In July a lot of us entered the daunting challenges of the ANC at the Perth Convention Centre, the first time for a truly national event for many. It will be 6 years before Perth hosts another one so stick around; the way the year is going it will be back here before you know it. Check out our website for club winners and grinners.

I hope you all have access to The Post Newspaper as we are being regularly featured in photos and stories. This is entirely due to our roving reporter, Penni Fletcher-Hughes who is doing an outstanding job in chasing stories and giving us some much deserved publicity at last. We have tried to capture the interest of The Post in the past, but thanks to Penni - and Carla Sullivan who had a valuable contact - we have now got their attention.

I recently attended a State Planning Department meeting regarding the progress of the Children's Hospice development. We should be seeing some activity on the site in the next few weeks, and serious building is proposed to begin in February 2024. We have been assured they will be keeping us in close liaison to ensure we can be kept up to date on issues that affect us.

I take this opportunity to gently remind you that reserving tables for members is not an option as it's unfair to those who arrive early, sometimes having to queue.

I urge you to check out our website as this is updated regularly and has plenty of information on past events, including photos and what's coming up. You are of course encouraged to contact Martin for any suggestions for our website. There are quite a few of you travelling; enjoy the freedom and the fun and come back safely to your bridge friends. Incidentally, TBIB are worth considering if you need travel insurance.

I look forward to seeing you at bridge, especially for our Super Saturday on 12 August; feel free to bring a visitor along. And don't forget our AGM and Melbourne Cup which will soon be upon us. Please think of Jocelyn Parry who is physically unable to attend bridge.

Please support our generous Sponsors

We are fortunate to have two generous sponsors:

Aspire2 Wealth Advisors will continue with us in 2023, committing to sponsor Six Super Saturdays or equivalent - prizes, food etc. This is a great outcome and we sincerely thank Malcolm Davis and his crew. Please consider contacting the company for any of financial or investment advice you may need. Remember, in times of uncertainty, best to seek certainty. The next big sponsored event is our Super Saturday. Make sure you come along - 12 August...and bring a visitor if you can.

TBIB are our sponsor for congresses and similar events. We thank them for sponsorship of our highly successful winter congress. TBIB support the ABF and a number of bridge clubs around Australia. They offer highly competitive insurance products, especially travel insurance. One of their products includes travel insurance for people up to 90 years of age.