TRUMPS PLUS

No 21: May 2024



From the President - Sylvia Bray

The four air conditioning units for the WABC playing area have been replaced with four larger capacity "state of the art" units. The room temperature has been quite pleasant since the updgrade though there have been a few cool and some warm periods while Martin and the Directors work out the best way to operate the new units. Thank you to Needhamair for getting the work done so quickly and without much noise as our bridge games continued on regardless.

It has been busy with numerous events taking place. The **Restricted Teams Championship** was followed by the **Masters in Teams of Three** and then **Gala Open Day.** Almost 100 visitors came to the club to either play or learn about the game of bridge followed by

champagne, nibbles and a cake by Ronnie afterwards. Well done to Prue Hart, Penni Fletcher-Hughes and her intrepid husband Don, and Carla Sullivan who had almost half of the room learning about bridge. Carla's opening slide on bridge asked "How hard is it? Now, there's a



tough question! Intermediate tables with supervision by some master players and a small but competitive 4 table duplicate session rounded out the more serious side of the afternoon.

An amusing by product of Gala Day was a dramatic rescue of two Cottesloe residents who were helping out their absent son with the bins when they accidentally got locked in the garage by the automatic door. With no apparent way out from inside, and no one likely to return until much later that day, it was a relief when Don, delivering fliers, heard their cries and was able to get them out.

Also, thanks to Jan McNab who gave Carla much needed assistance. Also to our talented cooks contributing to the afternoon tea.

Happy bridging! - Sylvia Bray

EVENTS & NEW MEMBERS

- Restricted Pairs Championship: Friday 3 & 10 May, 9am.
- WABC GNOT HEAT: Tuesday 7, 14 & 21 May, 1pm. Gold Points.
- WABC CHARITY DAY: Friday 10 May. Raffle will be drawn at 12:45. Bridge starts 1:15pm.
- Alex Smirnov Workshop: Sunday 19 May, 10am-2:30pm. Competitive Bidding & Doubles.
- Australia Wide Novice Pairs: Monday 27 May, 9am.
- WINTER SUPER CONGRESS: Friday 31 May to Monday 3 June. A mix of one and two session events. Something for everyone.
- New members: Gayna Barnett, Jenny Bay, Gail Brazier, Helen Chomley, Nic Coupland, Lindy Cullen, Helen Gibbs, Anita Haygarth, Cherie Honey, Kate House, Phillip Hutt, Lisa Jarvis, Dorinda Jones, Sandie Jubber, Andrea Lee-Steere, Lisa McGuire, Reece Pitt, Karen Poole, Karen Reynolds, Lindy Roberts, Heleen Westbrook, Meredith Wilkinson, Bev Wilson. Welcome to WABC.
- We remember: Bettine Chapman, Sydney Deykin & Margaret Softley

Audrey Stokes by Penni Fletcher-Hughes

Multi-talented and competitive, **Audrey Stokes** can look back on a lifetime of achievement – as a part-time photographic model; mother of three; artist; singer; and latterly a lawn bowler. Audrey was born and brought up in country NSW, and Sydney. At 24, Audrey took over her parents hotel with a staff of 24 as they went on a world tour for twelve months - an early introduction to responsibility. In 1982, she moved to Western Australia when she married consultant physician, John Stokes whom she met while teaching golf in the Kooralbyn Valley. Not knowing anybody, Audrey took up bridge with Hans Rosendorff. Making many friends along the way, Audrey, now a Silver Life Member is to be found at the bridge tables at least once or twice a week.

It was however another game of strategy that has most profoundly influenced Audrey's life. Golf! Her natural talent for the game was spotted early but she casually refused an offer of professional coaching at 15, as it was an "old person's game". A scratch player, with an impressive overall handicap of 2, Audrey has met; played with or caddied for famous players such as Kel Nagle; Gary Player; Von Nida; Roberto De Vincenzo; Jack Newcombe; Jack Nicklaus; an exhibition match with American JoAnne Carner, and on one memorable occasion with the Prince of Brunei in Perth. She has played golf and on occasion provided advice on new course ratings around the world. She has been invited to play in Singapore; Hong Kong; Thailand and Malaysia at the inaugural Women's Open with Tunka Ampun, staying as her guest in the palace. Setting the newly designed The Lakes golf course in Sydney at one under par in a Ladies Silver event she remembers as a highlight. And Audrey has experienced the golfer's holy grail - a hole in one, not once but three times!

"You have to think your way around a golf course, working out the best strategy", says Audrey. "Starting from where to hit off your tee shot; steering away from trouble; knowing your capabilities – especially in matches when deciding whether to go for the big shot to the green or to get there through a layup. A job for a 7 or a 6 iron? Reading the greens; assessing wind conditions". Very similar to a winning approach at bridge!

Bringing up three children, Audrey also found time to become a keen choir singer and with an aunt who is an opera singer, loves the opera. An accomplished artist, she taught art at Wearne. She remembers with fondness mother-daughter exhibitions with daughter, Michele. Wryly says Audrey, Michele soon overtook her mother in talent and went on to solo exhibitions and became artist-in-residence at Perth Zoo. Sadly, Michele succumbed to an auto immune disease, three years ago.

Arthritis forced Audrey to hang up her golf clubs, but she now plays bowls as well as bridge, employing her knowledge of strategy and enjoyment of social interaction as a pennant player at Mosman Park, and representing WA in three test matches.

Cryptic Cottesloe Location

On a corner is where you'll find me A reasonable distance from the sea A song about 'me', written 1892 Think of a chain, that's a clue

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

Eddie Kantar humour



It's important to learn from your opponents' mistakes as you won't live long enough to make them all yourself.





Find the Queen (#2)

- **∧** xxxx
- ♥ AJx
- x x
- ♣ Axxx



- ♠ AKJxx
- ♥ K 109 x
- ♦ Kx
- **♣** K x

The Queen is not as powerful as the Ace or King. In fact, she isn't even counted as a control. Some will argue that she is overvalued by the normal 4-3-2-1-point count. But, despite all this, how often has one of your contracts depended on finding a queen?

You are playing teams, so making your contract is more important than overtricks. You reach 4♠ and West leads the ♣Q.

What is your plan if both defenders have at least one

Hint: Can you see ten tricks even if you lose one spade, one heart and one diamond? Answer below.

Book Reviews



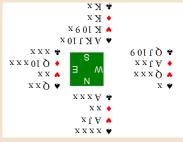
BETTER BRIDGE Books provide a structured comprehensive coverage of bridge topics from basic principles to advanced strategies. Books allow for focused, uninterrupted study without the distractions inherent in online browsing. Books often have exercises and quizzes to reinforce learning and foster practical skill development.

In fact doing a few problems can often be good way to warm up before a competition.

One great Book is **Better Bridge for the Advancing Player** by Frank Stewart. Ninety hands that come with a short story, let you think about the solution, and then lead you through the answer. Want to enjoy getting better? Borrow this book.

scard dummy's second diamond on the fourth heart. heart finesse into the West hand. This lets you safely dicond trump intending to finesse. You will also take the Win the ♠K, cash the ♠A, cross to the ♥A, and lead a se-

lead. want to keep East off going down. You really diamonds will see you queen? Now losing two the spade nor heart What if you find neither A tale of two queens.



Tind the Queen - Answer

A2W Information Session

Malcolm Davis (Aspire2Wealth) brought his team of advisers along to presented an informative & entertaining outline of what to look out for in the areas of aged care, the importance and pitfalls of making a will, philanthropy, and the challenge of keeping ourselves informed of recent government changes in these areas.

John Rigg attended and noted:.... I was one of 25 to 30 WABC members who attended an hour long presentation, followed by Q and A, in our club rooms for those interested to learn more about the full range of issues around succession planning, and a myriad of important topics related to aging, aged care and end of life planning. Malcolm, and four members of his team from Aspire to Wealth were excellent in dealing with a range of topics raised by attendees at the Q and A; Malcolm and his colleague John Bartle gave very good introductory presentations to start the evening.

Friday Nights & Charlotte Bruce

courtesy of Judy Crooke

Friday nights in the early 70's saw a special evening session of bridge run by Charlotte Bruce who was truly one of the characters of WABC.

The session was always well attended even for an evening. The "State" players had had their Monday and Thursday nights at Dalkeith whilst the serious Club nighters played on Wednesday. This left a core of between 8-13 tables to play a social game run by Charlotte. The evening had its regulars many of whom like Charlotte are no longer with us, no doubt enjoying a similar game somewhere else!

After a normal sort of session where the rules were often loosely applied for most of infringements, "Oh, take it back and play what you meant" or "it's not your bid- wait for North to bid" the players settled down to the serious business of the evening involving wine, cakes and stories of both bridge and non bridge experiences. If one left before midnight it was an early night.

Charlotte Bruce was a widow with a strong Indian background. She wore long flowing dresses and lived in a colonial furnished house in Lock St guarded at the entrance by two large glazed lions. She would have games at her house that were similarly informal using at least one elephant's foot converted to a side table.

Charlotte was a very competent director and she also often played if someone's partner was not coming or even arranged for a game herself with friends like Jill Millhouse. Those were the days of spoken bidding, thick cigarette smoke and manual scoring.

Sadly the Friday session ceased when Charlotte died in the mid 1970's as no one could really follow with the same cheerful atmosphere she had created for her "Friday Regulars".

Please support our generous Sponsors

We are fortunate to have two generous sponsors and an honorary auditor:

Aspire2Wealth Advisors have continued with us in 2024 by sponsoring the Fabulous Friday and equivalent events, 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.

TBIB sponsor our congresses. TBIB also support the ABF and a number of bridge clubs around Australia and are always keen to focus on the newer players. They offer highly competitive insurance products, especially travel insurance. One of their products includes travel insurance for people up to 90 years of age.

Ledger Financial Group's Managing Director, Steve Ledger, is our Honorary Auditor and the company supplies Business and Corporate Services.