

From the President - Sylvia Bray

We are heading into the busy part of the year with the **Annual General Meeting** coming up on Tuesday 17th October. Come along for the afternoon, play bridge before, and enjoy a free glass of wine and nibbles afterwards. We'll try to make the formalities as scintillating as possible.

Over the next few months there are lots of events for you to enjoy, the **Mixed Pairs Championship** held over two weeks starts on Friday 13th October. There is another **Super Saturday** on the 4th of November - fun and lively frivolity provided by the Committee and John Nelson, and sponsored by Aspire2 Wealth. Do come, everyone enjoys these events so much, and as usual, we'll be providing finger food afterwards and a (silly but serious) competition.

Next is the **Melbourne Cup Day** on Tuesday 7th November (red points), come early for the sweep, watch the race, and bring lunch.

Don't forget **November Jackpot Week** is coming up, a full week of bridge with many of you qualifying on particular days. Then, most importantly, our **Christmas Congress**. This year we are having to hold it a little earlier, but nevertheless, it's still within the realms of Christmas spirit as it's our final annual bridge event.

The **Christmas Party** will be on Tuesday 12 December, if you haven't attended one of these before, now is the time to join with friends and perhaps get to know a few more club members and relax with a glass of wine and yummy food. We need you to register for catering purposes, and we'll let you know when the form is available.

You may not be aware but our wonderful cleaner has just returned after six weeks away. **John** provided us with a very able replacement but please welcome him back. John does a great job and is always willing to take on an extra cleaning schedule when needed.

The **Gardening Group** deserves hearty congratulations, as I'm sure you've all noticed the improvement at the entrance. This takes a good bit of time and effort and I want to thank all of the "Gardeners" for their great contribution. Please have a look on the website for more detail under the News tab - "The Gardening Gang".

NEWS AND EVENTS

- **Andy's back:** Lessons and Workshops from 9 October
- **Annual General meeting:** 17 October after red point bridge
- **Super Saturday:** 4 November - prizes, snacks, quiz
- **Melbourne Cup:** 7 November
- **Christmas Congress:** 24-26 November - check posters & website, see Martin if you need help entering
- **Christmas Party:** 12 December - Paella & prize giving
- **New members:** Marina Berzins; Jane Cowling; Alison Delaney; Jane Durkin; Helen Marie Ferrero; Sara French; Claire Fitzpatrick; Linda Martin; David Matthews; Duncan McMurtrie; Harry Nesbitt; Subhrendu Rath; Robin Salter; Anne Smithdale; Pamela Zink; welcome to WABC.
- **We remember:** Maurice Ferri

Member Profile - Leone Lorian

Celebrating her 90th birthday on 31st July, Claremont resident, Leone Lorian has been playing bridge for 40 years, achieving a Silver National ranking. She credits playing bridge as well as having many interests and being physically active for her remarkably youthful appearance.



Leone's praises were forthcoming from her bridge partner and proud daughter, Julie Lilburne, aged 59 (left of picture) who lives in Dalkeith.

"Mum is truly remarkable" says Julie. "In our family we don't bother with Google - we just ask Gran".

"In her middle years, starting out in the garage, Leone was fundamental in the initial structure and design of what became a very successful logistics business. She is a keen dress maker and in 1954 was crowned "Australian Bride of the Year" putting into play her impressive writing skills and modelling her own fashion designs on the catwalk. She has shared her craft skills with children as a volunteer at a local primary school, whilst her love of design and fashion is ever apparent in how she dresses. She's also a keen golfer, has raised 3 children and is always up for impassioned debate on topics from politics to nail polish with her 10 grandchildren".

"Maintaining a lively mind has helped Mum to retain a positive outlook on life even through some very dark days including when her beloved son suffered from and then passed away with Motor Neurone Disease. A private person, Leone only shares this in the hope that it may encourage others who have loved ones in distress or have passed away from this cruel disease".

Julie, herself a keen bridge player, says that it was overhearing Leone and her friends playing bridge back in the 80s that first piqued her own interest in the game.

"I was fascinated by the clink of glasses and lively chatter interspersed with cryptic phrases like "two hearts" or "double" or similar. And then after many periods of silence some rowdy arguments would break out heralded by the dreaded words - 'but partner that's not what I meant'. Or 'didn't you see my discard?'"

And apart from a game of bridge, how else would a loving family help Leone celebrate her birthday? With a surprise lunch and visit to the cinema to see the latest Barbie movie of course.

(Thanks to Penni Fletcher-Hughes for this article. Editor's note: a lady of great class, bridge skill and table etiquette.)

Cryptic Cottesloe Location

I date back to nineteen twenty six
Replacing a predecessor in need of a fix
Connections I've had with many overseas
Where I'm located, I enjoy the sea breeze

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; **Marine Parade**

Eddie Kantar humour



I had a very earnest pupil who got really excited when she had a void; she called me to her table during a supervised session showing me a void in spades but only 12 cards. I found the AS on the floor and gave it to her. Indignantly she replied, 'you've ruined my hand'.

Reptilian Twos Anyone?



Book Reviews

Master player, **Nigel Dutton**, has kindly prepared the following review of **The Complete Book of Overcalls in Contract Bridge** by **Mike Lawrence**.

When you first start on your bridge journey you learn lots of "rules" and guidelines, 12 points to open, lead 4th highest etc. If you are now ready to expand your horizons, then Mike Lawrence may be the man for you. Lawrence is a firm believer in the adage that "rules are for the guidance of wise men", a theme is advanced in his seminal work, *The Complete Book of Overcalls*.

In an early chapter Mike examines overcalling with a four-card suit – have you ever done that? Your right-hand opponent opens 1C, and you hold KQ109, K4, AQ65, 42. You want to bid but the "rules" suggest otherwise. For Lawrence, this is an automatic 1S overcall. He does caution that you should not get carried away, and opportunities for such interference will be rare. You will need good values and a good suit.

Lawrence's approach is never to give you rules, guidelines or an appropriate mantra. Rather, he points out the things that you need to think about before taking action. You will certainly need to read this book more than once. For this review, I think it was my fourth time. The book is nearly 20 years old but is still as relevant today as the day it was published.

Maurice Ford also recommends an old but reliable book, **Why You Lose at Bridge** by **S J Simon**. The book examines common mistakes club members make in declarer play, defence, bidding and not doubling. By the way, Charles Goren thoroughly recommended this book.

Karen Moller also recommends **The Modern Losing Trick Count** by **Ron Klinger**. Karen is a keen book reader but sometimes considers reading bridge books like 'sticking a needle in your eye'. Well Karen, as they say, no pain, no gain.

The Partner Paradox - Penni Fletcher-Hughes

The Fermi; Crocodile; Unexpected Hanging; Interesting Numbers; Lottery; Schrodinger's Cat; The Unstoppable Force; Achilles and the Tortoise and the Dichotomy Paradoxes are among the top 20 to tax the neurons of curious and serious philosophers alike. Arguably, of all the mysteries, contradictions and questions impossible to fathom is the antimony that the seemingly logical and sound premise that your partner is your greatest ally at bridge, so often turns out exactly the opposite.

You can't succeed without one – and often you can't succeed with one! And yet those who find and keep the perfect partner have surprisingly similar stories to tell.

Enjoying a purple patch recently Veronica (Ronnie) Ntoumenopoulos and Angie Somic are rising stars in the WABC firmament, so who else to ask? Top of the list Veronica tells me is trust in each other as the key and equally important – don't get upset – resisting even "The Look" when dummy goes down! They have found taking lessons with Andy- then practising later at home – working out from Deep Finesse where they can improve after each session, and remaining friends throughout is the winning formula for them. Also being good golf buddies and applying the same principles really helps, says Angie.

On the winners podium recently, Valda Gray and Nayda Keough who did their nursing training together in 1957 have been friends and then bridge partners for almost half a century. Valda learned the basics as a young mum of five children in Tom Price. On moving to Perth; she took lessons at Rosendorffs and then at University Summer School with Peter Smith. Since they both retired they have been able to play more frequently, including on bridge cruises. "We try not to take anything too seriously", says Valda. "No postmortems and definitely no difficult conventions. And above all, it's great to have that connection as friends playing bridge to enrich our lives".

So the solution is to learn together, respect each other, play nicely and no recriminations. It's really that simple.

Bidding Matters

♠ K Q J 8 7 6
♥ 9 3 2
♦ A 8 7 4
♣ —



♠ A 3 2
♥ A K J 4
♦ 2
♣ A K Q 8 6

Only half the field bid this grand slam the other day. How would you do? North has only ten points but this includes a good six card suit, an ace and a void, they opened at the

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	7 ♠

All pass

South's 4NT bid, Roman Keycard on spades by partnership agreement, had North showing two keycards (SK & DA) plus the SQ. Now, responder confidently bid the grand slam knowing that the diamond singleton was going to help. North holding the SJ was a bonus.

Please support our generous Sponsors

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

Aspire2 Wealth Advisors have continued with us in 2023 by sponsoring 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 - 4 November...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 & Christmas Congresses**. 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.

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