



# ARANA

## *Contract Bridge Club Inc*

July – August 2005

Vol 19 No 4

### From the President

It was a pleasure to be advised by Gay Hull that attendance levels are back to normal and our finances on target. It is vital that our information on club management is carefully control, to enable us to plan for the future.

#### 2005 Pairs & Teams Congress

Again a pleasant result. The formula of pairs and teams has proven most successful. Thirty pairs on Saturday and a full house for the teams. I thank all those members who participated in the event. Again we were congratulated on the event and once more catering-wise we excelled from 8:00 am on Saturday till 5:30 pm on Sunday. Never ending food and beverage was served. The efforts of all members who provide this bounty is most appreciated, members not participating contributed as well. This is what I call pride in your club. Consider having to purchase these provisions. It would exceed \$2,500. By the generosity of our club in being self-sufficient our retained profit for the event is sound; even allowing for normal prize monies and wine etc.

Special thanks to Ernie and Anne for their most generous cash donation that allowed us to raffle a gourmet hamper. To Bob Dancer for his print, Kay for the whisky and David for the wine. The above generosity allowed us to make 100% on raffle tickets purchased. Past raffles with purchased goods yielded little or no return. To Gay and Pam and kitchen staff – give yourself a pat on the back. I certainly slept well on Sunday night.

Special thanks to Helen & Richard McLauchlan our convenors. There is a lot of work involved and I'm glad I don't know and don't want to know the mysteries of convening a congress.

#### New Club Furniture

You would have noticed we have purchased an additional 20 chairs. This is your committee's short term plan to furnish the club to a comfortable capacity. Ten additional card tables and 1 buffet table are to be ordered from part of the profit of the congress. An additional 20 chairs will be purchased prior to the next congress. That will be the completion of necessary furniture ie 40 card tables and 170 chairs.

**Roslyn Akers** has had bridge play on hold for over 12 months but continues to deal cards on alternate Thursdays. Due to work demand Ros has had to defer both cards and dealing for a period. The club thanks you Ros for your loyalty.

To those on the sick list, our thoughts are with you and we wish you well.

Half the year is gone – WHERE!!!

Enjoy your bridge and the companionship of your fellow members.

#### Neil Hamilton – President

### Important Phone Numbers

#### ♣♦ Important Phone Numbers ♥♠

<b>Clubhouse Phone Number:</b>	<b>(07) 3851 – 0299</b>
<b>Email address:</b>	aranabridge@netspace.net.au
President:	Neil Hamilton 3300-4840
Vice-President:	Val Acklin 3851-3059
Secretary:	Tony Agar 3851-1362
Treasurer:	Gay Hull 3300-2050
Partner Contact:	Carol Wilson 3353-2297

## June 2-Day Congress Report

Sixty pairs and 42 teams were involved this year.

To date a net profit of approximately \$2,500 has been made which includes the sum of \$772 from the sale of raffle tickets. This profit was due to the very generous donations from club members of food, time given for serving and cleaning, the selling of raffle tickets, and the donation of raffle prizes.

The Committee wishes to thank the Convener, Helen McLauchlan and all those involved in the congress for their valuable time and expertise.

### Winners - Arana Swiss Pairs 04/06/2005

#### A Section

- 1 **JOHN MILLS - RALPH PARKER**
- 2 **ADRIENNE KELLY - ARNALDO REMEDIOS**
- 3 **IVY LUCK - IAN AFFLICK**
- 4 **ELLIE SPIRO - DAVID ANDERSON**

#### B Section

- 1 **IVY LUCK IAN - AFFLICK**
- 2 **BARRY MITCHELL - LIZ MARSHALL**
- 3 **PHIL HALE - TERENCE O'DEMPSEY**

#### C Section

- 1 **LORRAINE STEELE - MURRAY PERRIN**
- 2 **ROSEMARY MAPLE - JILL JOHNSTON**
- 3 **PRUE COX - ANN HECKSHER**

### Winners - Arana Swiss Teams 05/06/2005

#### A Section

- 1 **ANDREW PRYDE - NEVILLE FRANCIS**  
**PAUL GOSNEY - PETER HAINSWORTH**
- 2 **JILL BROAD - GREER TUCKER**  
**ROSA LACHMAN - PELE RANKIN**
- 3 **TONY JACKMAN - ALLAN RICHARDSON**  
**ROBYN CLAYTON - ALAN SMITH**

#### B Section

- 1 **KEN MOSCHNER - SYLVIA SENDER**  
**YVONNE KILVERT - GEOFF OLSEN**
- 2 **HELEN and RICHARD - MCLAUCHLAN**  
**VALERIE ROSE - JOHN ROSE**
- 3 **GEOFF THOMAS - CHARLES ADAMSON**  
**CHRIS BLOOMFIELD - ALAN KING**

#### C Section

- 1 **GEORGE MACIONIS - ANDREW GUMINSKI**  
**ROBERT and ROSEMARY MATTHEW**
- 2 **JANE EBERHARDT - MAY MOFFAT**  
**HELEN CLAYTON - KATHY PALMER**
- 3 **GEOFFREY GULLEY - BOB DANCER**  
**LIZ MARSHALL - BARRY MITCHELL**

## Australia-Wide Autumn Pairs Two Arana Teams in Top 100



Joan Hill and Zelma O'Connor scored a whopping 71.80% in this Competition and were ranked at No 7 in Australia. Zelma and Joan both learnt to play bridge at Arana under the tutorage of Judy Valentine our Club founder. Zelma joined Arana in the late 1980s and Joan has been a member since the early 1990s. Zelma and Joan have enjoyed a partnership on Wednesday evenings for 8 – 9 years.

Kent Taylor and Richard McLauchlan have only recently formed a partnership. Kent is a Diabetes Educator and Registered Nurse whose personal knowledge and skills are used extensively in the Queensland outback and local Brisbane hospitals. Kent has been a bridge player for 40 years and has represented Tasmania 7 times in the Australian National Congress Open Teams' Titles.

Richard has just attained the title of Grand Master (see page 6). Richard and Kent scored 62.50% and were ranked 96<sup>th</sup> in Australia.

Congratulations to you all.

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## “ALERT”

If you are attending a session and find yourself unexpectedly running late, phone the clubhouse on 3851-0299, the director can then set a movement to allow for this unforeseen hold-up. That way you will not miss out on a game.

It is also important that members note that unless you have a reason for an unexpected arrival, you should be seated at the table 15 minutes before start to allow the director time to set the movement.

## Something from the Congress

**PLEASE, would be good**, said the Editor, so –

One thing that surprised me from two days of bridge was the number of times I opened a weak 2 and ended up in a making slam, *eg* board 10 from session 2 of the teams –

♠ A Q J 10 9 7 3	♠ --	E	W
♥ A 6	♥ K J 10 4 3 2	2D*	2NT*
♦ A 3	♦ 10 8 4	3C*	4NT
♣ K 10	♣ A 7 6 4	5H	6H

My 2D opening was a multi – either a weak 2 in one of the majors or a balanced 21-22 count. Helen's 2NT was an enquiry with the 3C response promising a good weak 2H. The RKCB 4NT put us in uncharted waters. Usually this is in the agreed or last bid (if none agreed) suit. As far as I was concerned the last bid suit was Hs (promised by the 3C bid) so 5H promised 2 key cards (HK & CA) but missing the HQ. That was enough for partner to bid the making 6H.

We had some fun in the penultimate teams match against the WALLIS team, when we played Saturday's pairs winners John Mills & Ralph Parker.

		E	W
♠ A J 7 4	♠ K 10 8 6 5	2S*	2NT*
♥ A K 7	♥ J 9	3C	4NT
♦ A K Q 9	♦ 3	5D	5NT
♣ K 7	♣ Q 10 9 6 4	6C	6S

Another multi opening with 2S promising at least 5-5 S + a minor. 2NT asked for the minor. After 3C, 4NT was RKCB in clubs and I mis-bid (mesmerised by the SK... at least that's my excuse) 5D promising 1 key card. 5NT asked for outside Ks and I tried to undo the previous bid with another small fib of 6C = no outside Ks. 6S duly made and John Mills lamented that we had a top from a board that just happened to suit our system. Small slam is makeable in C, S or NT but the other table only managed to bid 4S.

They got a bit back on board 12 when I held-

♠ 7 6 5 3 2 ♥ Q J 7 6 ♦ 5 ♣ 8 5 2

and John (LHO) opened 1D. Helen bid 2NT\* promising at least 5-5 C + a major. Ralph attempted to close the auction with 3NT which I didn't like the look of, so I bid 4Hs asking Helen to pass or correct to 4S. John doubled, Helen bid 4S, Ralph bid 5D and I was satisfied... until John bid 6D which duly made at both tables... if only I'd left them in 3NT, making 10.

Ralph holds the record for most psyches against me. The last was a few years ago but on board 21, he couldn't help himself.

♠ A 3	♠ Q J 9 5	W	N	E
♥ A Q 8 6	♥ K J 2	2C*	3D	X
♦ A K 8 4 3	♦ 10 7	3NT		
♣ A K	♣ J 8 6 3			

Helen's 2C promised a 4 loser hand or better. Ralph held - ♠ 10 8 6 4 ♥ 5 ♦ Q J 9 2 ♣ Q 10 9 4 and assumed we were headed for 6H so he bid 3D. My threadbare 8 count required a positive bid so I doubled. 3NT promised a flat hand of at least 21-22 hcp. I suspected Helen had 23-24 but couldn't see slam and passed. 3NT made 10 at both tables.

At the end of it all, I asked to see Ralph's hand. He was most put out that for all his effort, 6H was not on... well we are not bidding it even if the Deep Finesse analysis says it is makeable with South holding ♥ 10 9 7 4 3. So what if Helen passes 3Dx Ralph? I'll play them as well as I can and make 2 or 3 tricks for minus 1400 or 1700 was the reply.

You gotta love this game some days... ps, we won this match.

**Richard McLauchlan**

## Behaviour at the Tables

Bridge players come in many age groups, sizes and temperaments. The more assertive amongst us would do well to consider our more shy opponents.

We have lost a number of valuable members through thoughtless behaviour during bidding and play.

If any member feels upset by another's behaviour, I urge them to speak to a committee member so the matter can be dealt with swiftly, quietly and anonymously (if required).

**Val Acklin – Vice President**

### Thought for the Day

Great opportunities to help others come, but small ones surround us every day.

**Sally Koch**



Examples: (All patterns in normal order ♠♥♦♣ i.e. 4-4-3-2 = 4 spades, 4 hearts, 3 diamonds, 2 clubs.

With 4-4-3-2	Bid 2D (you'll be happy if partner passes or bids 2H or 2S)
With 4-5-2-2 or 5-4-2-2	Pull to 2D hoping partner bids a major. If partner passes you are no worse off.
With 5-5-2-1	Bid 2D and hope partner bids a major
With 5-4-3-1	Bid 2D – naturally!

- A response of 2H is best treated as responder having a single-suited heart hand.
- A response of 2S denotes responder wished to play in spades.
- A raise to 3C is a pre-emptive action.

(b) After partner overcalls 2D

- With 3+ diamonds pass. However, if you have at least 3 cards in each major suit, you can bid 2H.
- Holding a doubleton diamond you will sometimes have to pass – particularly if a misfit is likely, e.g. you hold 5 spades – 1 heart – 2 diamonds – 5 clubs.
- Bids in new suits, starting with 2S indicate responder's own suit.
- A raise to 3D is pre-emptive.

(c) After partner overcalls 2H

- With equal length in the majors bid 2S. This will put the 1NT opener on opening lead – usually a good strategy.
- A raise to 3H or 3S is pre-emptive.

4. Further Observations

- i. The use of **DONT** over 1NT openings prevents the opponents playing in 1NT, and overcall interference in the direct seat denies the opponents use of Stayman and transfer actions.
- ii. All one and two-suiter hands can be shown safely without getting to the three-level.
- iii. The method will often allow you to find a playable contract in 2C or 2D. With most other conventions which locate minor-suit fits, you will be forced to play at the 3-level. This may not be comfortable unless you have a nine-card or better fit.

5. Further Reading

L Cohen, *To Bid or Not to Bid: the Law of Total Tricks*. (Natco Press, 1992)

L. Cohen, *Following the Law: The Total Tricks Sequel*. (Natco Press, 1994)

M Lawrence. *Disturbing Opponents No Trump* (C&T Bridge Supplies, 1995)

**“Better Bidding for Improving Players”  
by Dr Ross Dick**

You can arrange to purchase Ross's book by phoning him on 3378 4999.

**Masterpoint Movements**

NEW rankings for Arana home club members for the period ending 30 June 2005:

**Graduate Master**

Peter Ebert  
Gary Ypinazar

**Club Master**

Thomas Peake

**Local Master**

Barbara Hopley

**\*\*Local Master**

Jan McRobbie  
Ada van der Woude

**Regional Master**

Ray Cowie

**\*\*National Master**

Ailsa Smith

**Grand Master**

Richard McLauchlan

**Robert Matthew (MP Secretary)**

**Bridge Lessons for Beginners**

Arana Bridge Club will conduct two beginners' classes of 8 lessons over 8 weeks commencing:

**Date:** Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2005

**Time:** 9:30 am  
7:30 pm

**Cost:** \$60.00 for 8 lessons

**Enquiries:** Geoff Gulley 3851 3687  
Tony Agar 3851 1362

**Supervised Play** ☺ ☺

Arana has “Supervised play” on Monday evenings at 7:30pm. Supervised play is suitable for players who have completed the beginner's lessons or newer players who wish to hone their bridge skills.

**Enquiries:** Geoff Gulley 3851 3687  
Tony Agar 3851 1362

## A “GRAND” POTTED HISTORY

During 1988 our next-door neighbour, Muriel Miller, learned that Richard<sup>1</sup> played “bridge” each day at work during his lunch break. She convinced him that he wanted to learn to play contract bridge and booked them to take classes with Judy Valentine<sup>2</sup> starting in early 1989.

At the end of the classes Judy thought Richard ought to go straight into the “big room<sup>3</sup>” as he could already play the cards better than most. So began a long and fruitful partnership with Bob Pearce. Together they have won a great number of Wednesday pairs and teams championship events.

Richard attended all the intermediate and advanced workshops that Judy held over the next couple of years and read most of the few books that were in the club library including the “Law Book” thus extending his knowledge and ability.

After a relatively short time he was asked to direct some Wednesday night sessions and continues to do so to this day. He is often the fallback for directors and event organisers within the club.

At this time the Arana Contract Bridge Club was not affiliated with the ABF<sup>4</sup>. Judy was keen that this should happen and at the next AGM the members voted to do this. It was decided to incorporate the club along with the affiliation process. This was a fairly arduous procedure with which Richard was involved, as he was by now a committee member and his partner, Bob Pearce was president. The incorporation was completed in late 1990.

Over the years, Richard, with various partners and alone has won most club competitions. These include: Wednesday pairs and teams; Individual champion (now discontinued); Monday pairs; Tuesday pairs; Friday pairs; club championship pairs; and club championship teams. He has also been a member of a club representative team at the Brisbane Zone final of the GNOT a number of times and the Brisbane Zone Interclub team’s day (including that holy of holies 2003 when Arana won the overall title).

October 1993 saw Richard taking on the job of editor of the Trump-It, a position he held for just over six years until the end of 1999 having produced about half of the volumes to that time. During these years Richard was also the biggest contributor of articles (mostly of his congress exploits with myself).

In 1994 Richard donned the President’s cap for three years. During these years Arana started

looking for a site for our own clubhouse in earnest. Unfortunately none of the hard work chumming with Pine Shire councillors bore fruit.

After Richard happily accepted a redundancy from the (Qld) Department of Primary Industries in September 2002 he eagerly extended his regular attendance at club sessions to Monday and Tuesday mornings.

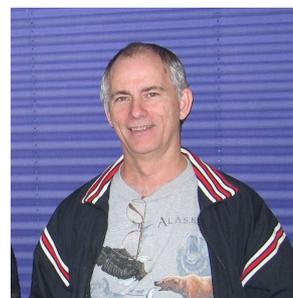
At my suggestion he took over the role of scorer from me, a position he still holds.

As we were both now retired from work (outside home), in 2004 we accepted an invitation from Liz Marshall and Barry Mitchell to team up with them at the Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra for the first time. Richard and I also played in a couple of team’s events and came home with a most welcome haul of gold points.

In 2005 we extended our foray to Canberra to the Seniors Teams which we played with our friends from Warwick, Valerie and John Rose.

After the ABF updated the masterpoints at the end of March 2005, Richard finished with total MPs of 998.54. We waited for the April update impatiently. It finally happened and Richard had fallen over that all important line of **1000 MPs** (including 700 red & gold and 200 **gold**) into the arena of the Grand Poobahship of bridge.

**Congratulations Richard, ABF Grand Master, from your greatest fan (and favourite partner).**



Richard is currently the title holder of the following club events:

- Monday pairs with Margaret Welldon
- Tuesday pairs with Helen McLauchlan
- Friday pairs with Helen
- Arana club teams championship with Bob Pearce, Helen, and Margaret
- GNOT heats winner with Kent Taylor, Helen and Margaret

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1 Richard McLauchlan, first Grand Master at Arana CBC

2 Founder of Arana CBC Inc

3 The playing room at the Arana Hills Community Hall

4 Australian Bridge Federation

**Helen McLauchlan (Author)**



## LIBRARY LINES

**Librarians Jan Rae & Kath Rooney**

Have you ever wondered why the library books are in such good condition, and who covers the books? Well the club would like to thank Pam Horton for her time and dedication to this task over many years.

**Note:**

The library index cards are now in numerical order not alphabetical. Please take care when extracting the cards and returning them.



**Our guest book reviewer this edition is Michael Staley ...**

**“The Art of Psychic Bidding (and its pitfalls)**

**By Julian Pottage and Peter Burrows**

One member was overheard to say that this book was a waste of the club’s money as nobody in their right mind would bother to read about psychic bidding (psyches) that are akin to bridge-players leprosy. The reason that I have dared to take this new book from the library was because I was intrigued about a topic, of which I was accused after making a simple mistake in my earlier bridge-playing years.

The authors define psychic bidding as ‘bluffing calls to create an illusion of strength or length in a suit or to conceal weakness’. However, they also acknowledge that there are several ‘degrees’ of bluff or concealment for as the say ‘like an elephant, a psych is easier to recognize when you see one than it is to define’. Is a bid made on a three card suit in a position that systematically requires four, or on a four-card suit when five are promised, a psych???

This book is awash with terms and acronyms...for example they speak of ‘rapier psyches’ where the

bidder makes a bid with a sharp thrust and then retreats or ‘blunderbuss psyches’ where the bid is made and like a blunderbuss that throws shot in all directions, results in injury to the side that fired it. They also discuss mini and maxi psyches where the bidder’s overall strength is respectively less or greater than the minimum or maximum required for the bid. They demonstrate these concepts with historical case studies, which include events, some of which were held on the internet.

I understand that this is the only recent full length book, which covers the subject of psychic bidding systematically. This book has descriptions of intriguing bidding and play where psychic bids have been employed. Would the authors use psyches? They don’t come out and say they would, but you are left with the distinct impression that given half a chance .....

They take the time in chapter eight to describe some positions which might warrant a psychic double the first I suggest many may have used sometime when trying to coax the opponents from bidding game with a well placed double. My favourite was definitely the Stripy-Tailed Ape Double. This gambit depends upon the fact that a small slam scores more than a doubled five-level contract with an overtrick. So if the opposition is heading slam-wards, you might double them before they get there and hope to intimidate them into stopping in five rather than bidding the slam.

The last and thirteenth chapter deals with the ethics of psychic bidding. The authors point out that law 40 allows for players to make psychic bids, provided that they are not based on a partnership understanding. However, this is obviously only likely to be the case when playing with a partner for the first time and even then, reputations and club norms may well indicate a propensity to psych, which has to be alerted and/or shown on your system card. Although written by English authors, they refer to the Australian directive of self-reporting of psychic bids and give a briefing of what they think is ethical ... is it ethical to psych against an inexperienced opponent?

Finally they suggest that there may be a benefit of having a reputation for psych bidding as this may create uncertainty in the opposition who may regard a natural bid as suspicious. Is the threat of your name being entered into the psych book worth this advantage ???

**Michael Staley**

July		
Sun	3	Qld Graded Pairs (QCBC)
Sat	9	Mackay Pairs
Sun	10	Caloundra Novice Pairs (<100 MPs)
		Noosa Teams; Lockyer Pairs
Wed	13	<b>Judy Valentine Red Point Teams (week 1)</b>
Sat	16	16-17 Bundaberg Pairs Congress
Sun	17	Ipswich Novice Swiss Pairs (<100 MPs)
		Broadwater Swiss Teams
Wed	20	<b>Wednesday Teams (week 2)</b>
Fri	22	22-23 Cairns Pairs & Teams
Sat	23	23-Aug 6 ANC - Sydney
Thu	28	<b>Wednesday teams (week 3)</b>
Sat	30	Moreton-Bribie Pairs
		Mackay Novice Pairs (<100 MPs)
Sun	31	Moreton-Bribie Teams; T'woomba Swiss Pairs; Nthn Subs Novice Teams (<100 MPs)
August		
Wed	3	1-6 ANC Interstate Teams - Victoria
Fri	5	<b>Friday Red Point Pairs (week 1)</b>
Sat	6	6-7 Maryborough Pairs & Teams
		6-7 Reliable Carrier Pairs (Townsville)
Sun	7	Sunnybank Swiss Pairs
Tue	9	Mackay Novice Pairs (0-99);
Fri	12	<b>Friday Pairs (week 2)</b>
		12-13 Brisbane Zone GNOT Final
Sat	13	13-14 Surfers Teams; Rockhampton teams
		Townsville Novice Pairs (<100 MPs)
Sun	14	Toowong Novice Teams (<100 MPs)
Wed	17	Brisbane Show Holiday
Sat	20	20-21 Qld Butler Pairs Championship
Tue	23	<b>Forest Place Red Point Pairs</b>
Fri	26	QBA Mixed Teams Champ. (rd 1) - QCBC
Sat	27	Tully Pairs
Sun	28	Sunshine Coast teams

## Copy Deadline

For July - August Issue

20 June 2005

Barbara Holmes – Editor

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Email: [wazbarholmes@bigfoot.com.au](mailto:wazbarholmes@bigfoot.com.au)



## Queensland Government

Getting more people  
active through sport  
and recreation

The Queensland Government provided \$263,900 to the Arana Contract Bridge Club for the development of the Ferny Grove Sports and Recreation Centre to get more Queenslanders active through sport and recreation.

### FUNNY FACTS

- ♣ We spend about 6 months of our lives waiting at red lights.
- ♣ American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating 1 olive from each salad served in first class.



## Mitchell Brandtman

Quantity Surveyors & Construction Cost Managers

*...is pleased to be involved in the  
development of the*

### **Ferny Grove Bridge Club**

Mitchell Brandtman has 31 years experience in providing innovative cost solutions to the construction industry.

Mitchell Brandtman's Asset Services Division advises investors on maximising returns on property investments using effective **tax depreciation schedules**.

For information on how you can maximise the return on your property investments contact Maoibh Cumming at Mitchell Brandtman on

☎ 1800 808 289

Email: [bne@mitbrand.com](mailto:bne@mitbrand.com)

Internet: [www.mitbrand.com](http://www.mitbrand.com)

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Definition in English: Caloundra Contract Bridge Club Inc. CCBC also stands for: Code Civil du Bas-Canada. Chevy Chase Baptist Church. Canadian College of Business & Computers. Conwy County Borough Council. Community College of Baltimore County. CCBC stands for Caloundra Contract Bridge Club Inc. (Australia). Suggest new definition. This definition appears very rarely and is found in the following Acronym Finder categories: Cyclo Club Boulogne Billancourt (French cycling club). Committee for Commonality in Blood Banking Automation (American Blood Commission). Canadian Council of Better Business Bureaus (Toronto, Ontario, Canada).