

S.P.B.C. JANUARY 2013 NEWSLETTER.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR MEMBERS & VISITORS!!

FROM THE PRESIDENT - PAT HOBSON:

I hope you have all enjoyed a very happy festive season.

As 2013 begins I am looking forward to a very good year for our Club. The Members of the new Management Committee are all very enthusiastic and keen to make the Club, and all of our coming events, work well. Feedback is the go! Let one, or all of us know your thoughts on Club issues.

The Christmas Party was a great success and that particular format appears to be very popular. Champagne was offered to Members on arrival, then a session of Bridge, followed by Christmas Lunch. Merlene and John Paul again entertained the Members with some great music. A very special thank you to: The Volunteers who helped to set up and decorate the room - it really looked beautiful; The Volunteers who helped in the kitchen and to clean up later; and The Volunteers who then helped to re-organise the room in readiness for play again. Without your hard work things would not have run so smoothly. A Very Happy New Year to Everyone..... Pat.

FORTHCOMING JANUARY COMPETITIONS:

Red Eclectic Summer Monday - including Restricted - 7/1, 14/1.

Red Eclectic Tuesday - including Restricted - 22/1, 29/1.

Australia Day Dress-up Pairs Green Sat. (half-day) - 26/1.

RESULTS OF DECEMBER COMPETITIONS - CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL.

Graded Monday Duo Pairs - Black: Noeline Rossiter and Kathleen Newman

“ Red: Janice Pearson and Gloria Angland.

“ Orange: Mervyn Rossiter and Rhonda Wang.

70% Percenters: Brian Borrell & Peter Lloyd Tuesday Night 4/12 - 71.4%.

Best for year: Jeanne Adams & Evol Cresswell Thursday 26/1 - 75.3%.

Consistent Winner: Gloria Angland has had 5 consecutive wins (with three separate Partners), on December 8,10,12,14, & 15.

PROMOTIONS: CONGRATULATIONS FROM BEVERLEE TRAVERS & NOELINE ROSSITER.

Graduate: Carol Mackenzie.

Club: Eunice Seton.

Local: Tasha Krohn.

National* Barbara Brouwer.

National** Gus Govan & Ann Hawken.

Life: Peter Lloyd.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: FROM LINDSAY KUBLER (MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY).

Pat Adam (1417), Jill McDougall (1432), Gina Franzen (1435), Liz Piers (1436)

Wolfi Schimmelfeder (1433) Monika Schimmelfeder (1434), Peter Schmidt (home club elsewhere).

New Members for December: = 11. Including 4 from Beginner's Lessons.

Total Membership as at December 2012: = 670. Home (inc. Life Mbrs) 513; + Non-Affiliated Mbrs. 157.

Computer Attendance Analysis: November 2012 = 3602; November 2011 = 3594. An increase of 8 Attendees.

WHO AM I? – GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BRIDGE MATES: (SEE FROM THE EDITOR).

1932: The Sydney Harbour Bridge was opened; the ABC began broadcasting; the Archibald Fountain became operational; and in a little country hospital in the Riverina.....I was born.

I was raised on a farm. My first school was a little one teacher school called Jera Jera, eight kilometres from where we lived. We travelled there by horse and sulky until the day our horse bolted, and while we three survived the resulting accident, the sulky was a "write off". After that my brothers rode bikes to school, while I rode a pony. My parents then decided that my brother and I should become pupils of Blackfriars Correspondence School and finish our primary education at home.

I spent the first three years of my secondary education at Wagga Wagga High School. My family then moved to a farm fifty-four kilometres from Dubbo in the Central West of N.S.W., and I was sent to a small private school in Blackheath in the Blue Mountains. It was there that I sat for my Leaving Certificate. The day I arrived home from school, my Father said: "Can you drive a tractor...no?...then tomorrow you learn!" - and so I did, and drove it every day until harvesting was finished. I always loved working outdoors, whether it was driving tractors or rounding up sheep or bringing in cows to milk and even milking them.

Next it was back to Wagga Wagga and Teacher's college after which I had a varied career in teaching. First, the infants in a three teacher school, 51 pupils and seating for 50. That was a disaster! Next I was appointed to Dubbo infant's school where I believe I actually learned to teach. A small class to begin with, mostly aboriginal children. I spent three happy years there. I then applied for a transfer to Sydney and was sent to Daceyville.

In 1958 I was sent to the School for Deaf Children in Darlington. I married, taught children and produced three babies, after which I took a break from teaching. In 1964 I did a course in order to become a teacher-librarian and remained in that field for the rest of my teaching career. My last school was in Moree, from where I retired in 1993.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE M.C.M. (FAYE'S FULL REPORT ON NOTICE BOARD).

* **Carpet:** Discussions were held regarding the replacement of the carpet, and quotes were received from World Carpets and Modern Commercial Floor Coverings. The Management Committee put forward opinions on – the withdrawing of the carpet motion for the AGM - the replacing of the chairs - inserting lumbar supports on the chairs - having a ballot so that Members may vote on carpet - the calling of a Special General Meeting if Members disagreed with a decision to replace the carpet - laying vinyl in the Office instead of carpet, Trevor said in his opinion the Meeting Room carpet did not need replacing - the availability of funds - the timely laying of new carpet and acceptance of criticism no matter what was decided.

Kaye advised that both companies agreed that our selection met all specifications for a Club such as ours regarding type, colour, weight and durability. It was moved by Kaye and seconded by Faye that we accept the quote of \$17,523 from World Carpets. An order will be placed and a deposit of \$4,500 will be paid immediately, the balance to be paid upon satisfactory installation of the carpet and vinyl. A vote was taken and the motion was carried 10-2 with David abstaining and Trevor dissenting.

{ Whilst the carpet is different from the original selection, it is still brown. A sample is on display in the Club. Editor }

* **Office Manager:** Peter Lloyd's resignation as Office Manager was accepted, with regret. Pat advised that Ica Poppa will be trained from 1/1/13 in the running of the office, at a remuneration to be decided upon. Pat advised that in the future employing a professional Office Manager may have to be considered.

* **Treasurer's Report:** David reported a small cash deficit of \$491 for November. He also advised that the 2013 budget will be presented to the MC at its next meeting.

* **Congress:** Trevor reported the Novice Congress will be held on 16 March 2013. He also advised that some Congress entrants have mentioned that they are unable to enter online. Faye advised that our website does not have the facility for online entry. Trevor offered to contact Peter Busch to ascertain whether this can be amended.

* **Directors:** Philip suggested that we generate interest from Club Members in becoming a Director, and that the Club pays the cost of Members attending the Director's Training Course conducted by the G.C.B.C. Carried.

* **Exteriors:** Terry Luckett recently painted the paths, however it seems they are slippery when wet and one Member has had a mishap. Pat will ask Terry to mix some sand with a neutral shade and paint the sloping and landing areas of the paths.

* **Social:** Jan reported that the Christmas Raffle made a profit of some \$1,400.

* **Grant Money:** Trevor advises the Gaming Commission and Jupiters have \$40 million and \$5 million respectively in Grant Money. It was agreed that Trevor process an application with the Gaming Commission to replace our chairs.

* **Zone:** The Zone minutes were received and it was noted that GNP finalists will now be given \$250 each to subsidise expenses whilst in Canberra.

* **Library:** Kay Burchill (new Library Manager) reported that few books are being borrowed from the Bridge Library. It was agreed that the cabinet remained unlocked and an honour system be put in place to encourage Members to borrow Bridge books. Kay offered to purchase a suitable book so that Members may record their borrowings.

BEGINNERS & SUPERVISED PLAY: FROM EDITH GRUNWALD & KAYE DONALDSON.

Edith advises that coming early is best for Tuesday afternoon Supervised Play if you haven't got a Partner. If you are recovering from illness, it is fine to come in just for an hour or two. We play pre-dealt boards, and helpers are at hand if you have any questions. Our last day of play was a very happy one, and the promise of chocolates set a frenzied search for a slam in motion. At lunch we all sat together and enjoyed German homemade Stollen, delicious Chocolate and Champagne. The Players had the opportunity to have a chat with our President, Pat Hobson and Vice President Kaye Donaldson, which they all enjoyed. Thank you all and see you on Tuesday 1st January, from 12.30 to 3.30.

Kaye advises that Saturday Supervised Play will continue throughout the holidays, and the new class of Beginners will commence in early February.

TABLE TALK - FROM KAYE DONALDSON (TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR).

Invariably bridge players tend to listen to the bridge advice from other so-called "expert" or "more experienced" players than themselves. Indeed, this seems to be the main method of learning after initial bridge lessons have finished. Let's look at the word "expert". This extract is taken from the official encyclopaedia of bridge (Henry Francis).

"Expert – a player of conceded skill. The calibre of the player accorded this title will vary with the circle in which he regularly plays. Expertise cannot be measured by masterpoints or in any other mechanical way, such as by having won one tournament or even by having played in international competition. His title of expert will probably be recognized as valid only when it has been awarded by a verdict of the expert's peers. It is however, used to characterize anyone who plays better than the usual level of the game in which the player plays."

It is often wise to "check" the advice given at the table....Kaye.

FROM THE EDITOR...MERLE GOLTZ. Thank you to Jennifer Brack for her contribution to Who Am I? For many people born and bred in the city, it is very interesting to read about life on a farm. This is the 15th edition of the Newsletter that I have published, and while it was sometimes a challenge, I thoroughly enjoyed doing it. It is now time to pass the baton to someone else with new and/or different views and ideas. Thank you all for your support, especially the "Who Am I?" Contributors. Regards, Merle.