

# Byron Bay Bridge Club Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with monthly club news



October 2022

## President's Report

Hi everyone

It's hard to believe it is already October and another year is rapidly drawing to a close. I can't believe that we have been back from our extended trip a month already. But I have hit the ground running and next few months for our club will be exciting.

We started our first bridge lessons in a very long time and 17 arrived on day one full of enthusiasm for learning the game of bridge. After a week or two a few have dropped off which was to be expected. Quite a few have great potential. It is up to us to make sure that our students will stay in our club and your committee have booked the Cav Centre for the three Fridays after lessons have been completed for supervised play. This will involve teaching manual scoring as well as the bridgemates, time limit play and playing a set number of boards. Rather than having the same people help out each of these Fridays please let a committee member know if you are able to help on one of these Fridays. Dates are 14th, 21st and 28th October 9.30-11.30 It is very rewarding. And you will get to know new potential club members better.

On another note, we are UNABLE to play bridge at the Cav Centre on 4th November. FOR ONE FRIDAY ONLY WE WILL BE PLAYING AT THE BANGALOW BOWLO FROM 12.30 TO 4.30. The BB manager will not be charging us a room hire so PLEASE thank them by either coming early for lunch or having a drink from the bar afterwards. Eric and I will be away that Friday...pity...as we love the BB.

Happy bridging, Eda

We meet every Friday at the Cavanbah Centre  
Ewingsdale Rd Byron Bay.

**We ask that you be seated by 12.15 for play to  
commence at 12.30**

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE**

**Join us for a social time afterwards BYO + glass**

## Directory

President Eda Bridgeman 0411 872 423/66930359

Vice President Brian Sundstrom 0429 311 830

Secretary Leo Prendergast 0429 672 262

Treasurer Jeff Dolin 0455 315 099

Assistant Treasurer Greg Farrell

Partner Co-ordinator Peter Roger 0421635305

Masterpoints Helen Baker & Edna Millard

Welfare Officers Kay Milne & Peter Kiernan

Afternoon Teas Patricia Ellis 66870441

Recorder Peter Brosnan 0411 121 281

Meet & Greet on Friday's Eric Bridgeman & Pete Kiernan

Committee Members: Kay Milne, Greg Farrell, Helen Baker, Edna Millard, Patricia Ellis, Edith MacAuley

## OCTOBER REMINDERS

RED POINT EVENT

SPRING PAIRS WEEK 1 - 14TH

SPRING PAIRS WEEK 2 - 22ND

HALLOWEEN DRESS UP DAY

FRIDAY 28TH

**Advanced Notice NOVEMBER 11th**

**CHARITY DAY**

**SHIFT PROJECT "from welfare to wellbeing"**

[www.shiftproject.org.au](http://www.shiftproject.org.au)



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES OCTOBER  
Chris Chaseling 6th**

**AND TO ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS THAT WE  
DON'T KNOW ABOUT.. HAVE A GREAT B DAY**

## GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE AND OUR MEMBER PROFILE SECRETARY LEO



Member Profile  
Leo Prendergast

I am an inner city Sydney fellow who grew up and went to school in the eastern suburbs before living in the inner west from my early twenties when I was at Sydney Uni studying early childhood education. I loved the city and for many years could not imagine why anyone wanted to live outside those areas. I loved all the shows that are on in Sydney - the opera, the ballet, concerts, drama, modern dance and so on as well as the museums, art galleries, wine tastings and restaurants. We really made the most of living in the city. Some of my fondest memories of Sydney were when I worked as an extra with the Australian Opera and was paid to be on stage at the Opera House, listening to and being part of Nabucco, Carmen and Flying Dutchman - while holding a spear or sword and mouthing the words !!

In my first teaching job I met Sue (my better half) and we both enjoyed long careers as teachers – she as a Uni and TAFE lecturer in education and me more as a hands on teacher with children. We also travelled quite a lot, especially Europe and Asia.

However, twenty three years ago we took four months long service leave and travelled all around the eastern half of Australia. When we got back to Sydney we found the traffic, the noise, the crowds, the overhead planes, and the pollution of the city was suddenly all too much for us- well for me especially. We had spent many short holidays in the northern rivers and knew we loved the region so made the move in 2002 so as to get to know people before we retired.

We did enjoy 20 years of teaching in this region and we often go to a local shop and hear some child (or nowadays young adult) call out “leo” or “sue” to us in greeting. We have found the people here very welcoming and made new friends and are quite sure we made the right decision in leaving the city.

I had played bridge in the 1970s when at Uni at The NSWBA rooms in the city and then at the Blue Mountains Bridge club when I lived there for a couple of years at the beginning of my teaching career. However in the mid 1980s I was renovating a house in Marrickville as an owner builder, establishing my career, playing golf and both playing and organising billiard tournaments. Something had to give and bridge was put on hold for 30 years. Nearing retirement a few years ago I thought it was time to start playing bridge again and landed here at Byron Bridge. I do enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and friendly nature of the games at Byron – yes competitive, but not overly so – and a pleasant mob to enjoy my afternoons with at bridge.

## A costly Opening Lead out of turn

Mark Miller

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge dictate that the opening lead must be made face down and approved by the leader's partner before being faced. Why is this so hard to follow? It seems that in almost every session there is an occurrence of a face-up opening lead from the wrong hand!

When this happens, the assumed declarer is given his five options by the director and the player is allowed to choose whichever of these is the most advantageous. Many players when given the extensive list of options get a bit lost in deciding what to do but careful consideration of each option can produce a great outcome.

The options are:

1. Accept the lead and put your hand down as dummy. Your partner will be declarer.
2. Accept the lead but remain declarer. Partner faces his hand before you play to the trick.
3. Refuse the lead. Insist on a lead of the same suit from the correct hand. The incorrect lead card is returned to hand and does not have to be played.
4. Refuse the lead. Prohibit a lead of the suit that was incorrectly lead. The incorrect lead card is returned to hand.
5. Refuse the lead. Let the correct hand lead whatever they like and the incorrect card stays on the table as a major penalty card which must be played at the first legal opportunity.

Brd: 22		<b>North</b>	
Dir: E		♠ 108	
Vul: E/W		♥ 9	
		♦ AJ109876543	
		♣ -	
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>	
♠ QJ943		♠ A7652	
♥ AQ42		♥ K8653	
♦ 2		♦ -	
♣ K76		♣ J103	
<b>South</b>			
♠ K			
♥ J107			
♦ KQ			
♣ AQ98542			
6♦ N			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
		P	1♣
X	5♦	P	6♦

In the featured hand South opened 1 and West opted to double. Look at North's 10 card diamond suit. What to bid? Suspecting EW might have a vulnerable game or higher in a major, North chose a very sensible pre-empt bid of 5. Even if this goes off 3 tricks doubled this will be -500 which compares favourably with at least -620 if EW make game or higher in a major.

South has opened so must have something that will help so a big pre-empt to 6 is worth considering. East was unwilling to risk the 5 level and passed. Now South got a bit excited and bid 6. Yes they have excellent support but North is clearly pre-empting. Certainly if East bid 5 of a major then South should bid 6D but probably best not to do so unless forced.

So North is declarer in 6 Diamonds and West incorrectly faced his Ace of Hearts as the opening lead. The director was called and the above five options given. North clearly had a losing Heart and Spade so Option 4 was taken. If East is forced to lead a suit besides Hearts then maybe there was a chance that the Heart loser can disappear.

East lead the A dropping dummy's singleton King. Can they now lead a Heart? No — the prohibition of not leading Hearts stays in force until East loses the lead. So East is forced to now lead a Spade or a Club. Either will result in declarer being able to ditch the Heart loser on the A and 6 makes for a great score for NS.

If the incorrect opening lead did not occur then East will lead the A and after seeing dummy will then switch to a heart and now the contract fails for a poor result to NS as only one EW pair pushed to 5 or 5. Most NS pairs were left making 5 What a costly error by West!

Interestingly one declarer in 6 was able to make 13 tricks with a correct opening lead. This would seem to be impossible missing two aces in non-void suits. However it happened as East unwisely underled the Ace of Spades!

The hand analysis shows that EW can make 11 tricks in either major and West can make slam in Spades. Slam relies on not finessing the spades but dropping the singleton King. The odds say that finessing against the King is a better move but this would fail here. If EW bid to a Spade slam then NS should sacrifice in 7. Even if doubled they will only lose 300 compared with 1430. High level sacrifices are worth considering if you have a very long suit fit. Bidding 7 over 6 does not work here as a Heart slam should fail due to two losing Clubs. Nothing is certain in bridge!

**FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER  
CHRISTMAS  
BUFFET LUNCHEON AND BRIDGE AFTERNOON**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE OUR  
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON A MEMORABLE EVENT**

**TO KEEP COSTS DOWN THE COMMITTEE HAVE AGREED THAT CLUB MEMBERS  
BE ASKED TO DONATE A SELECTION OF DIFFERENT SALADS.  
SALAD SUGGESTIONS AND VOLUNTEER REQUESTS WILL BE SENT OUT IN  
NOVEMBER VIA EMAIL**



**A VARIETY OF CHRISTMAS MEATS, VEGETARIAN OPTIONS, FRUIT PLATTERS,  
WINE, CHAMPAGNE, BEER AND SOFT DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE  
BYRON BAY BRIDGE CLUB  
COST \$25 PER PERSON INCLUDES TABLE FEES AND A  
CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA**

## **Committee Musings**

### **Over the past few months the Committee has looked at**

**Club funds** The club has funds of just over \$30,000 which are now all in one bank account. With low interest rates it just was not worth the trouble of putting money into fixed deposits. Jeff, our treasurer will keep an eye on deposit rates and we may look at an investment if interest rates improve.

**Club Computer training** – We still need more people to operate the club computer during weekly bridge. Leo will organise a training session for those interested – but probably not till after the lessons have finished. It is not hard and anyone with average computer skills could manage it.

**Proxy voting at Special Meetings.** There has been concerns that members unable to personally attend a General meeting of the club (e.g. sick, away, flooded in, etc) are unable to vote. It has been suggested that allowing proxy voting at AGMs and SGMs may be a good idea. Leo is drafting a Constitutional change to allow proxy voting. Once the Committee is satisfied with the proposal the club will hold a Special General Meeting one Friday prior to or during regular Friday bridge to consider a change to the Constitution.

**Team Championship Day** was cancelled for 2022. There were not enough entries to hold a viable teams competition and we will try again in 2023 if we have more regular Friday players.

**Charity Day.** Charity day to now be held on Nov 11<sup>th</sup> and the SHIFT project in Byron for homeless women will be the beneficiary. It will be a normal weekly bridge event with RED points. Eda will organise someone can come and give a short presentation to members about SHIFT. Table fees for the day to go to the Charity and members will be asked to make further donations as they are able.

**Lessons** have been going very well, thanks especially to Pete Quirke and Helen Baker. Numbers at lessons are 17 beginners with some possibility of some others with some experience joining for the later lessons. Due to the high numbers the presenters are reliant on club members attending as helpers and mentors. A number of members have responded to assist. The lessons are being held 9.45-11.45 Fridays mornings prior to regular weekly duplicates. Once the lessons finish we may hold another month or so at that same time of a beginners duplicate session - with table fees, table movements, duplicate cards, scoring records, bridgemates, timer, silent bidding etc to lead into normal club play for the students. If we do we may well be looking for club members able to assist by partnering or mentoring players during the beginner sessions.

**Red Point Events 2022** There are three RED point days to come – Spring Pairs 14 & 21 October and the Charity Day on Nov 11<sup>th</sup>

**Name tags** Brian noted that with new members to join the club after the lessons that it might be good to get name tags for most members. While not all members wish to wear name tags, for those who do it might be nice to get similar tags. We have a good design with the Lighthouse logo and very clear and easily readable name lettering. If those tags are still available, we will organise for members who want to get the tags made for them.

**Christmas Function** Date to be 9<sup>th</sup> Dec with lunch at Cavanbah followed by weekly duplicate session. Further details will be available in a month or so. **Save the date**

Leo Prendegast (Secretary)

## Treasurer's Report

**Jeff Dolin**

SEE COMMITTEE MUSINGS FOR OUR TREASURERS'S INPUT  
OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS



## GET TO KNOW OUR PARTNER CO-ORDINATOR

**PETER ROGER**



I started work as a GP in Byron Bay in 1973. I was a keen surfer, cyclist and tennis player.

My wife and I joined the Byron Bay Bridge Club in 1975 under the tutelage of his medical partner Dr Guy Ethel who was a grand master. During a 9 month working holiday in France in 1977 we played bridge in many regional towns but on my return home family and work pressures led me not playing from 1978 until my retirement in 2016. My interest in bridge was strongly encouraged by my father who played auction bridge\*\* at school was still playing contract bridge at 102.

### \*\* Action Bridge

The card game **action bridge** was the third step in the evolution of the general game of bridge. It was developed from bridge whist in 1904, possibly by 1900. Auction bridge was the precursor to contract bridge. Its predecessors were whist and bridge whist.

Auction bridge trick scoring, bonus scoring, and penalty scoring are radically different from contract bridge, and there is no concept of vulnerability in auction bridge.

Bidding rules are nearly the same, although in contract bridge bidding, many complex artificial bids and bidding systems have evolved.



# BRIDGE HUMOUR



The puzzle is to slide the blocks around the box until the numbers read 1,2,3 as you go down.



How do you do it? And how many moves does it take? Answer below

# Bridge Column

Some of the playing cards have a life beyond the deck. For example, the seven of diamonds is known as the beer card. As any young bridge player would know, if you win the last trick with the seven of diamonds, your partner is expected to buy you a beer. Other cards are more Jekyll and Hyde. The four of spades is known as the Devil's bedpost because it has that evil look about it, and the similar looking four of clubs is said to foretell of an imminent setback of epic proportions. And the nine of diamonds has been known as the Curse of Scotland since the early 18th century. No one is exactly sure as to why, but it was certainly a curse to West on this deal.

<b>NORTH</b>			
♠	Q982		
♥	J985		
♦	K92		
♣	73		
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠	A5	♠	6
♥	43	♥	KQ762
♦	QJ104	♦	8763
♣	AQJ96	♣	1085
	West deals, both sides vulnerable		
<b>SOUTH</b>			
♠	KJ10743		
♥	A10		
♦	A5		
♣	K42		

<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the queen of diamonds against four spades. Declarer was in danger of losing two clubs along with a heart and a spade, but she found a way to keep East off lead. She won the ace of diamonds and played a spade, winning in dummy when West played low. She played a heart off dummy and beat East's king with the ace. If she now played another heart, she would be down. East would win the queen and return a club allowing the defence to take two club tricks for one off, but declarer did better. She played a diamond to the 10 and king followed by dummy's nine of diamonds, which she did not ruff. Instead, she cleverly discarded the 10 of hearts, a loser-on-loser play.

West could win with the jack, but he was end played. He chose to lead a heart (nothing is better). Declarer ruffed East's queen setting up two heart winners in dummy. Then she forced out the ace of trumps and later threw two clubs on dummy's good hearts, losing just a club, a spade, and a diamond.

The loser-on-loser play was certainly an elegant solution, but it was only possible because dummy had the nine of diamonds. Give it to East and the contract is down.

**Paul Marston**



## OCTOBER WINE TASTING

**AFTER BRIDGE  
FRIDAY 7TH**

**WINE HOST  
FAY BOGG**

**SOLUTION TO THE  
BLOCKSIDE PUZZLE  
8 MOVES LIKE THIS**

