

Brisbane Water - May Bridge Club Newsletter 2026

Editorial
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What better to do on a cold, wintry afternoon than play bridge in a warm and friendly environment at the club? However, viruses are lurking around the corner and are not welcome. Please do your bit to avoid passing on any infections.

Our Charity Day is coming up shortly, on 8th June (not the date given in the program). This is a worthy event and we encourage as much support as possible.

We note a couple of recent significant achievements. Congratulations to David Bowerman for reaching the rank of Grand Master. We also congratulate Sally Clarke and Sharon Mayo for their selection into the NSW State Women's team.

New Grand Master David Bowerman

At the end of April David Bowerman achieved the wonderful ranking of Grand Master. If quizzed about his journey he'd be able to tell many stories, some good and some perhaps not so good. It has taken perseverance, dedication and a lot of hard work traversing clubs and congresses, accumulating experience, master points and many friends and acquaintances along the way. Our club is fortunate to have David who readily offers knowledge and tips helping others on their way to improve their game.

David regularly plays at CCLCBC and Brisbane Water. At both clubs he is heavily involved providing technical assistance, directing and congress work to the level of organiser.

David is a frequent competitor in regional congresses, club championships, and special red point events. He is pictured here with his bridge and life partner Dasha Brandt.



Congratulations David

Player Promotions

Last month four of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations all. Well done.

May all your finesses come off.



BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
Bowerman, David	Grand	1,004.44
Eastman, Sue	Silver Life	560.16
Chapman, Thuy	Graduate	2.14
Lawther, Colin	Graduate	2.03

What's happening on Charity Day?



It's all happening on Monday, 8th June. The bridge will commence at the usual time and place and the cost is \$15. To make the day special the Charity ladies will be serving a delicious variety of soups from 11:30am. They'll also be supplying the bowl and utensils so there's no need to go to any extra trouble.

Note: Charity Day is a Red Point event with all table fees going to our club charity fund.



Charities we support...

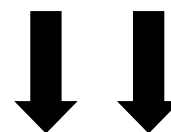
Our club supports two charities.



The Food Pantry Woy Woy. The pantry operates every Friday from the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Blackwall Road. They also provide meals for people every Wednesday from 5.00 to 8.00 pm. It is also an opportunity for people to meet and socialise.

We Care Connect. The charity supports local children. This year they reached a milestone caring for more than 50000 children.

More info on these charities at the end of this newsletter.



Coming Attractions at BWBC

- ♣ President's Cup – Monday, 1st June – 12:30 start
- ♣ Charity Day – Monday, 8th June – 11:30am - \$15 includes soup lunch.
- ♣ Winter Teams – Saturday, 27th June – 12:30 start.

BWBC Congress
18th & 19th July
Entries Now Open

Coming Attractions at Nearby Clubs

◆ Gosford

- GNOT 16th June – 9:30 start.

◆ Long Jetty

- Interclub Teams – Wednesday, 24th June
- Novice and Restricted Congress. 25th and 26th July

Results - BWBC Special Events

◆ Club Championship for Mixed Pairs

Winners and placegetters were

1 st	Sylvia Foster and Jaan Oitmaa	113.07
2 nd	Stephen Calcroft and Margaret Driscoll	111.27
3 rd	David Adams and Judy Wulff	107.00

◆ GNOT Qualifier (23rd May)

Seven teams competed in the event, with the top two teams eligible to progress to the next round, to be held at our club in August. The winners and runners-up were

1 st	Judy Wulff, Susan McCall, Barry Foster, Chris Hasemore	87.26VP
2 nd	Pauline Caust, Alan Bustany, Anne Grayden, Julie Sadler	75.34VP

Results – Away Events

◆ State Mixed Pairs/Country Mixed Pairs (16th -17th May)

This event was held, as usual, at the Sydney Bridge Centre in Goulburn St. Four pairs from our club and other Central Coast clubs were among the 32 pairs who played in the qualifying session on the Saturday. Two pairs, David Bowerman/Dasha Brandt and Dorothy Berzins/Larry Bryant, made it to the Sunday final and finished respectably in the middle of the field. A separate Country Final was not held, due to lack of numbers. Dorothy and Larry become the Country Pairs champions! Those who did not make the final played in the Autumn Swiss Pairs.

◆ Maitland Swiss Pairs (24th May)

A field of 48 pairs took part. David Bowerman and Dasha Brandt had a great day, finishing in first place (!!!). Stephen Calcroft and Roy Cotton also made it into the top third, finishing 16th.

◆ State Seniors Championships (26th -29th May)

This important event took place at the Leagues Club in Gosford. A number of BWBC members competed, in strong fields. In the Pairs event (35 pairs), top-third results were

1 st	Dorothy Berzins and Larry Bryant	1726 matchpoints
2 nd	Sally Clarke and Sharon Mayo	1721

3 rd	Di Coats and Jan Clarke	1629
8 th	Chris Hasemore and David Snow	1565
9 th	Sylvia Foster and JaanOitmaa	1537
11 th	Anne Grayden and Julie Saddler	1502

In the Teams event (14 teams) Di Coats and Jan Clarke (playing with Sydney pair Richard Douglas and Bob Sebesfi) finished a good 4th. The rest of us struggled.

Message from Lorraine's Daughter

Hi all... I was taught to play bridge at BWBC by my mum Lorraine Lindsay and was hoping you could let the members know that she's now in a nursing home in Turrumurra. She does have dementia but she still loves to have visitors and chat. If anyone is going through the area and has time to call in she would love to see you. My sister takes her out most weekends.

She's at Turrumurra House, 34 Curagul Rd. She also takes calls 02 9144 2444.

She may not remember you but she's still chatting and funny.



From the Library



Karen Ody, our club librarian, has decided to call it a day and retire from her duties. Karen has been conscientiously fulfilling this job for so long we actually don't know. She always made herself available to help interested players find a book that matched their skill level. Karen, your club appreciates the time and effort you put in maintaining this important feature of our club. Thanks.



From the Directors Chair – by Matthew McManus (National Director)



Just because you say you counted your cards, it doesn't mean that you will have 13 of them at the end of the hand. The Laws require players to count their cards before looking at them at the start of the hand. It also requires that this count ensures that you have 13. Many players either don't count or count carelessly. If at the end you find you are missing one or more, expect the worst when the director comes.

Beginners Lessons

- ◆ Commencing - Monday, 27th July.
- ◆ 9.30 to 11.30am ◆ Cost: \$6 per lesson.
- ◆ Contact David on 0413 337 023 or davidplaysbridge@gmail.com



At The Bridge Table

BOARD 20					
BD: 20	♠ 974			Dir: W	
	♥ 42			Vul: ALL	
	♦ 65				
	♣ KQJT64				
♠ KQ65			♠ A832		
♥ QT85			♥ J76		
♦ K9742			♦ J8		
♣			♣ 9853		
	♠ JT				
	♥ AK93				
	♦ AQT3				
	♣ A72				
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	4				3
S	4		1		3
E				1	
W				1	
					6
					10
					6
					18

Interesting hands come up all the time. Here is one from a recent club session.

Suppose you are sitting in the North seat and are declarer in a 4-club contract, as I was. The opening lead is the diamond J. The opponents have not bid, so there are no clues there. You have to make a crucial decision at trick 1 – to finesse or not?

Planning your play, you have 2 quick spade losers and a likely diamond loser, as East is most unlikely to be leading away from the king. If the lead is a singleton, which it certainly smells like, you will be in danger of losing the first 4 tricks if you finesse and it loses. What would you do? I decided to go up with the Ace.

The contract is actually cold at this stage, but there are traps lurking. What are you going to do with your third potential spade loser? If the enemy trumps were to split 2-2, you could draw trumps in two rounds and still have a trump in dummy to ruff a spade. This is a poor plan, as the 2-2 split is only about 30%, and does not occur here. You need to establish a diamond trick in dummy. There are a few minor variations but the best is to lead the diamond Q (or T) from dummy at trick 2. This seems counter intuitive, as West will win the trick and can give partner a ruff, which is what you were trying to avoid in the first place. But see what happens. West does win trick 2 with the diamond king, but East follows with the eight. So the lead was not a singleton as you feared. West now leads a small diamond. You can ruff this in hand, but need to be careful to ruff high. You can then draw trumps and concede two spade losers at the end, making your contract. I found a way to mess this up, and finished with only 9 tricks. I trust you would have done better.

There were only 5 tables at the session. The results were

3NT (by North)	3S lead	9 tricks	+600
1NT (by South)	4D lead	11 tricks	+210
1NT (by South)	KS lead	9 tricks	+150
4C (by North)	JD lead	9 tricks	-100
5C (by South)	5H lead	9 tricks	-200

Funnily enough, if I had made my 4-club contract (for +130) our matchpoint score would have been unchanged. The peculiarity of matchpoint scoring is that the only thing that matters is where your result stands in relation to the other pairs. In a small field, as here, this effect is even more exaggerated.

May Special Event Winners



Mixed Pairs



GNOT

Stay safe out there... - Cheers Barry and Jaan

I told my boss I needed a pay rise as 3 other companies were after me... He asked which ones? I said "gas, water & electric"



We Care Connect

3d · 🌐

🎉 BIG NEWS FROM WE CARE CONNECT 🎉

We've officially reached an incredible milestone:

💛 50,000 children supported. 💛

50,179 local children who have received clothing, linen, school essentials, books, toys, baby items and everyday basics through this community's generosity.

50,000 children reminded that their community cares deeply about them.

When We Care began 10 years ago in the back of a church hall, supporting just over 400 children in a year felt enormous. We never could have imagined that one day we would reach this milestone.



Community Food Pantry Woy Woy

15 May · 🌐

Look what you get for \$25 at food pantry today. You can also purchase separately, soft drinks, meat, pet food, toilet paper, eggs

