



# Table Talk

An occasional newsletter of the Hunters Hill Bridge Club – May 2018

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## New Beginnings

This is the first edition of the Club's newsletter under the banner headline "Table Talk" – a name suggested by Life Member, Linda Allen.

Soon after the Club was established on 17 February 1976 it was decided to publish a monthly newsletter to be known as "Trumps" so as to keep the members aware of happenings at the Club. The name of the newsletter would appear to have been a strange decision as Trumps Bridge Club was then in existence.

Nevertheless the first edition of "Trumps" was published by the Club on 10 April 1978 under the editorship of Merle O'Shea who continued in that role until 15 February 1981. She was succeeded by Kay O'Connor (June 1981 to February 1983), Pat O'Connor (February 1983 to September 1984), John Wagner (October 1986 to October 1987) and Margaret Watson (December 1987 to October 1989).

By this time the home computer was coming in to vogue and as its popularity grew the publication of "Trumps" became more sporadic and infrequent and communication between the Club and its members took other forms, for example, the introduction of the annual Calendar of Events and Membership List.

However, approximately 10% of our membership today does not have a computer and is therefore unable to access the Club's excellent new website. Whilst this is not the only method of communication with the members, it is an important tool. The Committee is keen to ensure that all members know what is happening at their Club and it is therefore proposed to publish "Table Talk" approximately every quarter in the future.

The newsletter will aim to be entertaining and informative and will, as far as possible, cover all activities of the Club and its members.

### **Coming Club Events**

Many important Club competitions will be held over the next three months and you should note these dates in your diary now –

#### **May**

- Friday Teams Event will be held on Friday 4, 11, and 18 May. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 30 April is required. The entry fee of \$140 per team is payable at the first session. There will be no side game available during this event.
- The State Open Pairs Qualifying Event will be held on Tuesday 8, 15 and 22 May. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 1 May is required. Red points will be awarded and a \$2 surcharge per member per session will apply. Winners of the event will be sponsored by the Club to the Metropolitan Final on 24/25 November. There will be no side game available during this event.
- The Hunters Hill Cup (Pairs) will be held on Monday 14, 21 and 28 May. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 7 May is required. Red points will be awarded for this event.

#### **June**

- The State Open Pairs Qualifying Event will be held on Friday 1, 8 and 15 June. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 25 May is required. Red points will be awarded and a \$2 surcharge per member per session will apply. Winners of the event will be sponsored by the Club to the Metropolitan Final on 24/25 November. There will be no side game available during this event.
- Queen's Birthday Pairs will be held on Monday 4, 18 and 25 June. Bonus green points will be awarded for this event.
- GNOT Qualifying Event will be held on Wednesday 13, 20 and 27 June. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 6 June is required. Gold points will be awarded for this event and a surcharge of \$2 per person per session will apply. Winners of the event will be sponsored by the Club to the Metropolitan Final on 15/16 September.

#### **July**

- The Deb Bennet Under 50 MP Pairs will be held on Monday 9, 16 and 23 July. Bonus green points will be awarded for this event.

- GNOT Qualifying Event will be held on Tuesday 24, 31 July and 7 August. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 17 July is required. Gold points will be awarded for this event and a surcharge of \$2 per person per session will apply. Winners of the event will be sponsored by the Club to the Metropolitan Final on 15/16 September.
- The Carolyn Molloy Pairs Event will be held on 25 July and 1, 8 August. Registration on the Entry Form on the Club Notice Board not later than 18 July is required. Red points will be awarded for this event.

### **Recent Winners**

The winners of recent major events conducted by the Club include –

- The Valentine's Day Pairs was won by Sarah Kelsey and Wendy Hawker (NS) and Parveen and Jamal Rayani (EW).
- The State Mixed Pairs Qualifying Event was won by Carol Sheldrake and Tim Cregan. They will be sponsored by the Club to play in the Metropolitan Final to be held on 26/27 May.
- The Autumn Pairs was won by Trish Whitton and Mike Bush.
- The winners of the April Pairs were-  
Section A  
Charles Fisher and Tim Cregan (NS)  
Robert and Erica Gemmell (EW)  
Section B  
Lilyan Hervey and Leo Fernandez (NS)  
Chris Dale and Valerie Thomas (EW)

The State Mixed Pairs Qualifying Event which was due to be held on Tuesday nights commencing on 10 April had to be cancelled as there were insufficient players.

The "Best on Mondays" award determined by Peter Gill was won by Roz Tindall and Jenny Wiedenbein for the month of March.

### **Supervised Sessions**

The Club is now conducting two supervised sessions a week –

1. Each Thursday from 1.15pm to 3.15pm under the supervision of Carol Sheldrake, an ABF accredited teacher.
2. Each Tuesday night from 7.30pm to 9.30pm under the supervision of our director, Eric Lam.

Everyone is welcome to attend these sessions. It is a wonderful way to improve your bridge with the assistance of experienced bridge teachers.

### **Congress 2018**

Our Congress this year will be held on Sunday 9 September 2018.

We would suggest that it is not too early to organise and register your team online through the NSWBA website ([www.nswba.com.au](http://www.nswba.com.au)) so as not to miss out on this exciting day of competitive bridge.

There will be three categories this year –

1. Open Teams;
2. Restricted Teams (each player less than 300 MP's);
3. Novice Teams (each player less than 50 MP's).

The Congress is limited to 50 tables so be sure to register early.

The Committee hopes to attract a large number of Novice Teams to experience a new bridge challenge as this is an opportunity to play team bridge against players of your same rank.

The Congress Convenor is Geoff Lawson so if you have any queries contact Geoff whose email address is [lawson.geoffrey@yahoo.com](mailto:lawson.geoffrey@yahoo.com)

### **New Members**

Since 1 February 2018 the following new members have joined the Club-

Frances Paterson  
Susie Tan  
Bob Blayney  
Arthur Raymer

Thai Chan  
Shashi Wilson  
Neera Srivastava  
Neena and Ashok Bajaj

We extend a very warm welcome to our new members and trust that you will enjoy your bridge with us.

### **The Director's Lament**

1. East- West teams should move promptly to the next table at the conclusion of a round. Refrain from discussing hands previously played at the table.
2. Players should have clearly completed system cards. This is particularly important for competitions.
3. Never, never, never park in the pre-school parking area. This could result in a substantial fine being imposed by the authorities.

### **Rank Promotions**

We congratulate the following members on their recent rank promotions-

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Masterpoints</u> | <u>Previous Rank</u> | <u>New Rank</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Shashi Wilson     | 3.32                | Nil                  | Graduate        |
| Robyn Bowen       | 25.40               | Local                | *Local          |
| Tricia Carton     | 25.06               | Local                | *Local          |
| Erica Gemmell     | 25.05               | Local                | *Local          |
| Dianne Stacey     | 35.54               | *Local               | **Local         |
| Susan Nicholas    | 35.47               | *Local               | **Local         |
| Valerie Thomas    | 50.21               | ** Local             | Regional        |
| Richard Sheldrake | 50.68               | ** Local             | State           |
| Helen Hobbs       | 113.81              | State                | *State          |
| Charles Fisher    | 151.73              | *State               | National        |
| Jamal Rayani      | 301.21              | *National            | Life            |
| Joyce Law         | 400.49              | Life                 | Bronze Life     |

### **Vale Eva Veress**

Eva Veress died suddenly and unexpectedly during the Easter weekend. She was aged 86 years. Eva had been a member of the Club for over 30 years and was an excellent bridge player. Eva and her husband Gabriel escaped from Hungary after the 1956 uprising and following a short stay in New Zealand moved permanently to Australia in the early sixties. Eva was a keen participant at congresses and in the week before her death she played in the Central Coast Super Congress at Long Jetty which was one of her favourite congresses. Although she was a complex woman, Eva was loved and respected by other members of the Club which was emphasised by the large number who attended her funeral service at Villa Maria Catholic Church. Beautiful eulogies testifying to Eva's spirit, resilience, charm and ability as a bridge player were extolled by Debbie Rose and Tim Cregan.

### **Vale Ava Barhon**

We have recently received news that Ava Barhon passed away in December 2017. Ava had escaped from Czechoslovakia in the early seventies and settled in Hunters Hill with her husband George who predeceased her. Ava was one of the first members to join the Club after it was established in February 1976 and continued playing actively until she left Hunters Hill in 2013. "Trumps" newsletter dated 23 February 1979 records that Ava and Peter Jong created a Club record by winning North-South for five consecutive weeks on Tuesday night which was then the Club's biggest session of the week. Ava is survived by her son, Martin and daughter, Dana and their families.