



BEERWAH CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB PTY. LTD.

Newsletter – October 2026 Quarter

A Word from the President

Social Highlights for the Last Quarter included: Christmas in July luncheon; a sweet treat to celebrate World Chocolate Day; an after-bridge gathering to mark International Beer Day and



Champagne's birthday; a Father's Day lucky draw for our male members, with Bill and Peter each winning a bottle of wine; and a visit from members of the Halcyon Bridge



Group in Buderim, which made for a pleasant afternoon and gave our visitors an enjoyable learning experience.

Best Wishes to Trish and Jillian who have both had extended periods away from the bridge tables due to illness. We sent flowers and our warmest wishes to them both for a return to good health. We hope to see them both back at the tables enjoying their bridge.

May your contracts be makeable and your partners forgiving, Keren Frohloff

Upcoming Events

- Friday, 16th October, Random Pairs, followed by refreshments & prizes!
- Tuesday, 3rd November, Melbourne Cup Day – **9 am start**, with refreshments & the race!
- Friday, 13 November, Bridge Club AGM. The meeting will follow morning play with light refreshments.
- Friday, 18th December, Christmas Party/Lunch after morning play. **Last day of bridge for 2026.**
- Tuesday, 5th January 2027, **first day of bridge for the new year.**

Yummy Shortbread Recipe

250 grams melted butter
1 cup corn flour

2 cups plain flour
½ cup caster sugar

Mix together. Place in a lamington tray. Press down until evenly spread and the same thickness.

Place in the middle of the oven at 160° fan force, 170° if not, 30 minutes. After removing from the oven and while still in the tin, prick with a fork; sprinkle with caster sugar; and cut into squares. Put back in the oven for 15 minutes. After the fifteen minutes, remove from the oven. Let it cool right down before placing in a biscuit tin or an airtight container.

Unless you have a family and friends like mine, this will last for three weeks!!!

Enjoy and share, Judith Boyd

Bridge Insight - Opening Leads (a summary from my bridge notes)

“Contract Bridge is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated. It satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect and at the same time both rewarding and maddening.”

Adapted from Arnold Palmer on golf

Generally, the opening lead is very important and can make or break a defence. It is recorded on the Bridgемate, because of its impact on the contract. The obvious decision to be made is which suit and which card of the suit to lead. The bidding by both your partner and your opponents should give an indication. The following points, in no particular order, may help.

Which Suit? If your partner has bid, lead that suit, unless there is a good reason not to. If partner has not bid, try not to lead any suit bid by your opponents. If you have to lead one of their bid suits, lead the suit bid by dummy. If you have small trumps lead a short suit, i.e., a singleton or doubleton. Don't be afraid to lead trumps if there is no attractive alternative or the bidding indicates that declarer will try to cross trump, e.g., 1club - 1 heart - two hearts. Lead low from your longest suit containing an honour, but not an ace.

Which Card? Lead top card from any doubleton. Lead the king from any combination such as AKx or KQx but not a doubleton. Lead the top card from a solid or near solid honour sequences such as QJT_x or QJ9_x or JT9_x or JT87. Lead the fourth best card from a four card or longer suit with no solid honour sequence. With QJ53, T963, KJ532 or 9763 lead the 3. In suit contracts, do not underlead an ace, i.e., if you have the Ace, don't lead a card of the same suit. Generally, avoid leading an unsupported ace, i.e., no king. Lead the top of an interior sequence, e.g., with KJT94 lead the jack. Interior sequences would include KJT, KT9, QT9. Lead low from 3 cards with one or more honours that don't form a sequence. From three rubbish cards, lead the top or second top say T87 or 875. In no trump contracts, it is acceptable to lead away from an ace, e.g., holding AKT52 in a suit contract, you would lead King or Ace. However, in no trumps you might lead the 5 being the fourth highest.

Happy Bridging, David Hallam

Upcoming Birthdays

- October: 4-Mike, 6-Don, 23-Ann, 27-Faye, 28-Amber and 31-Joanne
- November: 4-Louise, 14-Gordon, 21-Jen Leighton and 30-Marylyn
- December: 3-Jackie & Wendy, 4-Trevor, 9-Bev F-S, 10-Donna, 11-Jillian, 12-Tom, 13-David Hallam and 23-Libby

Jokes



Next year's car show due to gas prices!



Member Profile – Don Hubbard

Born in Orange Base Hospital, Central West NSW in 1957.

I was raised on a merino sheep farm until age 13. The farm was shared with my grandparents, Dad's 3 siblings and their families. As a child, it was a natural and carefree life, unaware of the dramas of drought, debt, erratic wool prices and blowfly strikes. I attended a one teacher primary school of around 30 students, at one stage 9 of whom were Hubbard's. With kindergarten to Year 6, the older kids often helped the teacher look after the young ones.



In my 20s, after going to University in Armidale, I worked at the Commonwealth Bank in Sydney where, for the majority of time, I was in the Electronic Banking Division. An interesting time, when the first ATMs were being installed; when EFTPOS was being launched; and Mastercard & Visa were being relaunched. The CBA had Australia's very first home banking unit. We were invited to think about big ideas.

I met my first wife in the very early days at the bank. We started a family. Ultimately, we moved out of the city in the late 80's before moving to South East QLD in 1991. We had two children, a boy and a girl. Bringing them up, was the most rewarding experience in my life. My life pretty much revolved around them and my work.

Fast forward to 2020, I retired to Beerwah, well, semi-retired. I started to look for things to keep my brain and body active. I stumbled across bridge, which I enjoy immensely, both the game and the companionship. Intimidating at first, but it's a fascinating game that can never be mastered. I also play pickleball at least once a week; go to exercise classes twice a week; and volunteer at the Glasshouse Information Centre. I have grandchildren to occupy my thoughts along with an amazing woman who enjoys everything that life has to offer.



I enjoy most music from the 70's through to the 90's: Joe Cocker, Bruce Springsteen, Fleetwood Mac, Creedence, John Farnham to name a few. My favourite movies are James Bond. I'd love to be so cool.

Famous person I met is Mark Ella. In my view, the best rugby player to come out of Australia. I had the pleasure of playing golf with him at a KIA sponsors' day about 20 years ago. Favourite subject: people. We are a fascinating lot. Also love my history.

My long-term goal is to beat Tom at bridge, Don Hubbard

Praying Mantis?

Early one autumn afternoon, I was gazing out the large picture window across the fields over the road in Chepstow, Monmouthshire admiring the beautiful autumnal colours in the woods. Suddenly, out of the woods came this quiet, huge plane in the shape of a praying mantis! Couldn't believe it... so beautiful and majestic. I had just witnessed the first British Concorde prototype on its maiden flight from Filton (near Bristol) across the Severn River in September, 1969.

A sight to behold, Jenny Donovan



Amazing Trip to South Australia



My week away in the South Australian outback was simply incredible. Seeing: Big Red, the largest sand dune in Australia, surrounded by water; the Simpson Desert with water between the sand dunes; Sturt Stony Desert with plants growing between the rocks; and the bird life on Lake Eyre. It is apparently the only time since Captain Cook's landing in Sydney Cove, that the whole of Australia has been covered in greenery and not likely to happen again in the foreseeable future. Then to cap it off cheetahs at the Monarto Safari Park, an open plain zoo, was just fantastic!

Happy Travelling, Amber Ross



Next Issue

Thank you for all of your contributions. Next Newsletter is due out **1 January 2027**. Keep your stories coming!!! *Wishing you a Wonderful Holiday and a Happy New Year!!!*