

GNOT Provincial Restricted Teams

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS (GNOT) is a National GOLD Point teams' event, conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation, with heats held in all States. WA was entitled to five teams: three open teams from the metropolitan area plus one restricted (provincial) team and one country team.

The Undercroft Bridge Club congratulated our team below that represented WA in the restricted category in 2019.

Team selection was based on a preliminary event titled 'Grand National Open Teams' (GNOT) competition and not run in conjunction with another event. Clubs were required to use pre-dealt boards and provide hand records for all heats of the GNOT.

Air fares and entry to the National Finals were paid by the ABF.

Jane explained that it was rather intimidating to also be competing with the Grand National Open Teams in the country. However, it was an enjoyable experience and the team performed creditably.

WA Restricted Team 2019



Divyesh Shah, Rina Shah, Jane Adams, Christine Bacon



Chapter 7

Playing Bridge - Processes

Bridge is a complex game. The processes required to organize bridge playing therefore need to be sophisticated. The Undercroft Bridge Club has identified the processes and allocated roles to ensure efficient and effective bridge playing facilities for members.

Playing Opportunities: In order to cater for the large number of members, the club offers a range of playing opportunities during the week, both during the day and the evening:

- Monday afternoon and evening
- Tuesday morning and afternoon
- Wednesday afternoon and evening
- Thursday afternoon and evening
- Saturday morning and afternoon
- Sunday afternoon

Dealing: The difference between ‘kitchen bridge’ and ‘duplicate bridge’ is that the game is organized so that each player plays the same boards. Therefore, the results can be compared, and scores and rankings can be allocated to each player. The dealing process requires boards to be created for the required number of participants. Also the ‘record sheets’ for these hands are to be provided both in hard copy, for members to examine, and on the software program for efficient recording and ranking. Undercroft has sophisticated software to manage this process and a team of ‘dealers’ ensure that sufficient boards are prepared for each game.

Directing: The proper conducting of the bridge playing events depends upon the management of the process by ‘Directors’. The Undercroft Bridge Club has a team of Directors who are allocated to direct the 12 events that are conducted each week. Specific training is undertaken to provide this complex service that includes the determination of ‘movements’ according to the number of tables and the control of the play according to the rules of bridge play.

Recording: The results of each event are recorded with the use of specific software. The results are published in two forms: immediately on the screen located in the room and on the website under a dedicated folder titled ‘Results’.

Analysis of Play: ‘*Pianola*’ is purpose designed software that provides information on each hand and each player. The analysis includes: score, bidding and play performance. Each hand can be analysed and assistance is provided in the optimum bidding and relative performance.

Partnering: Bridge is a ‘partnering’ game. Everyone needs to have a partner and the pianola software enables members to secure partners online.

Bridge Playing Opportunities

The Undercroft Bridge Club currently has a total of members in excess of 500, 70% of which are home members.

In order to cater for the large number of members, the club offers a range of playing opportunities during the week, both during the day and in the evening:

Each session is conducted by a 'Director' who decides on the 'movement' from a range of possible movements, depending on the number of tables. Associate members are welcome to play at any of the sessions above. Visitors are also welcome. Partners are not required on Tuesday or Sunday afternoons, as the Director will enable players to partner with another.

A restricted session for players (less than 50 masterpoints) is run on Friday afternoons and Tuesday Morning. These sessions are created to provide opportunities for less experienced players to play together and earn master points.

The club has a series of learning programs that are advertised on the Undercroft Bridge Club website. The 'beginner' classes are conducted in the dedicated teaching room on Saturday mornings, with Leslie Routledge and assistant teachers.

Additional Saturday morning sessions to provide supervision and training are conducted in the main hall by an accredited Bridge teaching team: Christine Jenkins, Joanna Tennyson and Jenny Skinner. They provide assistance to individuals and partnerships to clarify their bidding and playing systems.

Analysis of Record Sheets After the Game



Margaret Melsom, Barbara Hendrie, Judy Clear, Joan Rosemeyer

The Dealing Process

Duplicate Bridge Characteristics: The key feature of competitive bridge is that bridge hands are dealt, so that each pair plays the same hands. The results can then be compared and the outcomes can be scored, rankings can be presented and results determined. The results are then allocated 'Master Points' depending upon the rankings of the pairs. The 'Master Points' are universal and can be compared across bridge clubs and players around the world.

This differs from 'Auction Bridge' that is often termed 'Kitchen Bridge' where the cards are shuffled and dealt individually. The result then often depends on the hands that are dealt, as well as the card play. The small groups do not require comparisons.

Process of Dealing: When the Undercroft Bridge Club was formed in 1972, the technology did not exist for the efficient preparation of duplicate hands. The cards were dealt and recorded by hand. And the results were handwritten and the scoring was done by hand. The difficulties of this process are well described by Nerilyn Mack (*see below*) who was playing bridge at the 'Basement/Undercroft' in 1975.

It was early days: no computers, dealing machines or bidding boxes – that was all for the future. We had card holders made from cloth with four stitched compartments to hold the cards. We used paper 'travellers' for recording. In the first round of the session, we had to shuffle and deal the hand. At the end of each hand (for the first round) we then had to manually record the cards.

Technological Change: Technological developments have greatly enhanced this process. A software program*, a dealing machine that connects to the computer and a printer have now enabled the dealing process to be computerised and record sheets to be printed.

Dealing the Cards: This is a process that takes an operator about 20 minutes, to complete a set of 33 boards. The only involvement by the operator in this process is to place the cards from a board into the machine and then place the board into the machine. The computer program then deals the cards back into the board in a different order. After the 33 boards have been dealt, they are placed in a box ready for a director to use them.

The computer will not allow the operator to change the way the cards are dealt. The dealing machine is very precise. If a card has been turned upside down in the pack or two cards are the same, then the computer stops the machine until the problem has been fixed.

* 'Dealmaster Program' is the software program adopted by the Undercroft Bridge Club.

2022 Dealing Team

			
<p>Alan Rolls Coordinator</p>	<p>Merilyn Letts</p>	<p>Shirley Latham</p>	<p>Jill Lyon and Angie Bloxome</p>

Directors

The concept of competitive ‘Duplicate Bridge’ depends on a person to organise or ‘Direct’ the proceedings.

The foundation of the Undercroft Bridge Club in 1972 was due to the initiatives of Gwen Johnson who not only arranged the venue, and attracted the members to form a club, but also to ‘direct’ the proceedings.

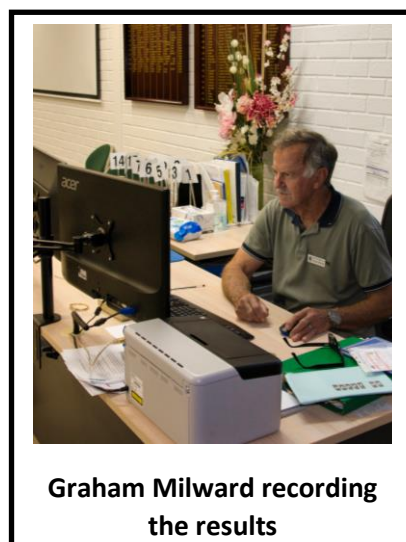
Below is a first-hand account of Gwen Johnson, as the director.

The Director having welcomed the players and decided on the movement according to the number of tables was then in control and continued to supervise the session, calling the movements, answering queries and enforcing regulations and laws as needed. Gwen would then take the ‘travellers’ home to manually score the session.

Current directors: The Bridge Club is fortunate to have a team of very capable directors led by David Cowell. The team comprises: John Bayly, Peter Wilson, Peter Stephenson, Gwen Kremer, Graham Milward, Matt Bampton, Wilhelmina Dadour and Edward Pascoe.

The complexity of a Director’s duties requires a four-night course for accreditation. The program includes:

- determining the ‘movements’ which varies with the number of tables;
- recording the information on the software, connecting with the Bridge-mates; and
- maintaining good conduct for harmonious play, adjudicating on issues; and
- analysing the results, identifying anomalies, and producing records.



Graham Milward recording the results

The duties of a director is to firstly ensure that the equipment is available – duplicate boards, table markers, bidding boxes, bridgemates, timer, and to arrange the room. Depending on the number of participants and tables, a ‘movement’ is then selected and the players are informed of the procedure. The director then ensures that there is an orderly conduct for the game and interprets laws when asked for a ruling. Penalties may be applied when necessary. At the end of the game the results are determined and record sheets produced, results are posted on the board and entered into the website.



David Cowell, Coordinator



John Bayly



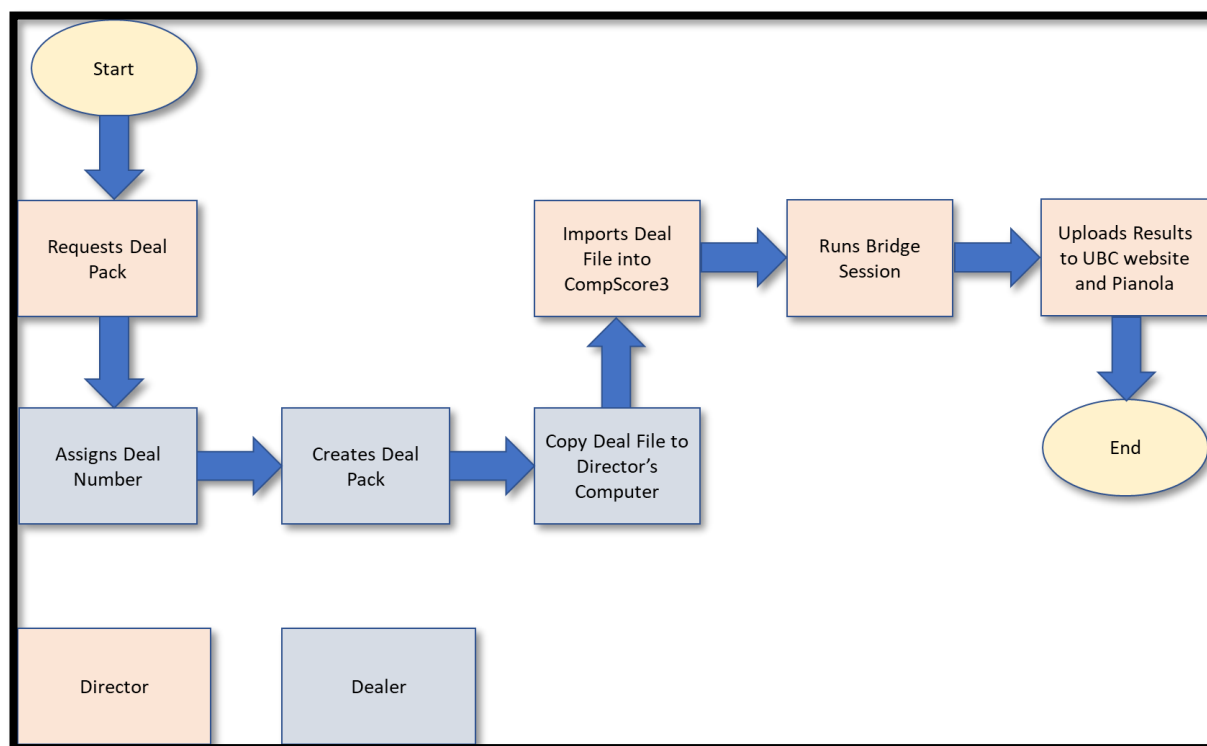
Graham Milward



Gwen Kremer

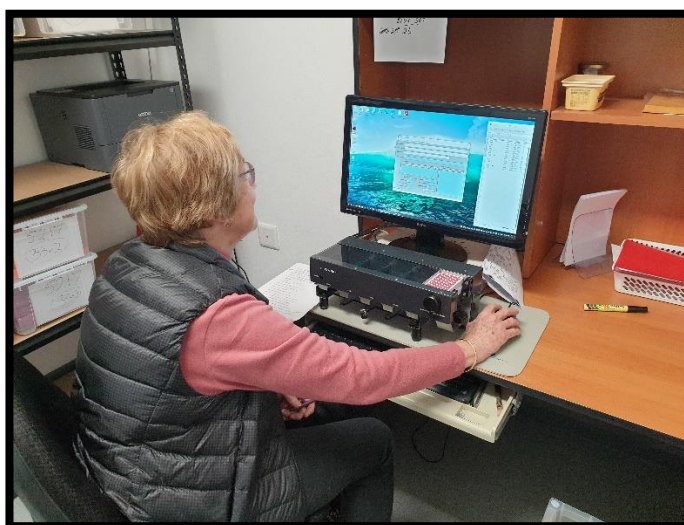
Technology

Technology has been deployed at UBC to support the Bridge sessions and the management of the club. The full lifecycle of managing and playing Bridge sessions is supported, as illustrated below:



Bridge Playing Life Cycle

The creation of the deal packs is managed by the Deal Master Pro software (DMP) by a trained Dealer. The cards are selected randomly, the cards are written to a Portable Bridge Notation (PBN) format file. The PBN file is imported into the DealMaster program. This program interfaces to the dealing machine that creates the deal packs. After the deal packs are created, the PBN file is transferred to the Director's PC.



Dealer creating Card Packs

There are two separate programs that are run on the Director's PC during a session.

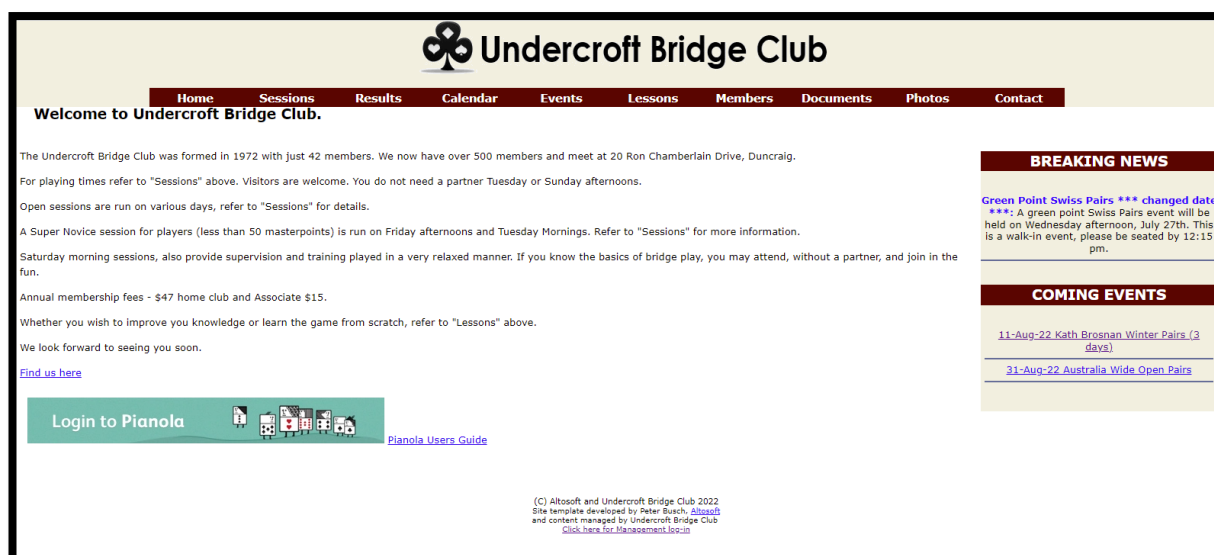
- Bridgemate Control Software (BCS) is the program supplied by the developers of the Bridgemate scoring units. It reads data from the Bridgemates via the Bridgemate server unit and holds the information in a database (known as a BWS file) on the PC. A Bridgemate device is provided to each table. Each Bridgemate device connects via WiFi to the Bridgemate controller. (Note: The WiFi used by the Bridgemates is provided by the Bridgemate controller and is completely separate to the Club WiFi described below.)



BridgeMate Controller and BridgeMate

- Compscore3 is the scoring program developed by Altosoft. It creates the BWS file that is used by the BCS and sends movement data to, and receives names and results data from the BWS file.
Compscore3 also determines the masterpoints from the session and includes options to upload the masterpoints to UBC website and Pianola.

The UBC website is configured by UBC using a template developed and supported by Altosoft. This website is the principal means by which the club provides information to members. The information provided includes general announcements, upcoming sessions, session results, documents and contact information.



UBC Home Page

The Pianola software provides a number of functions including:

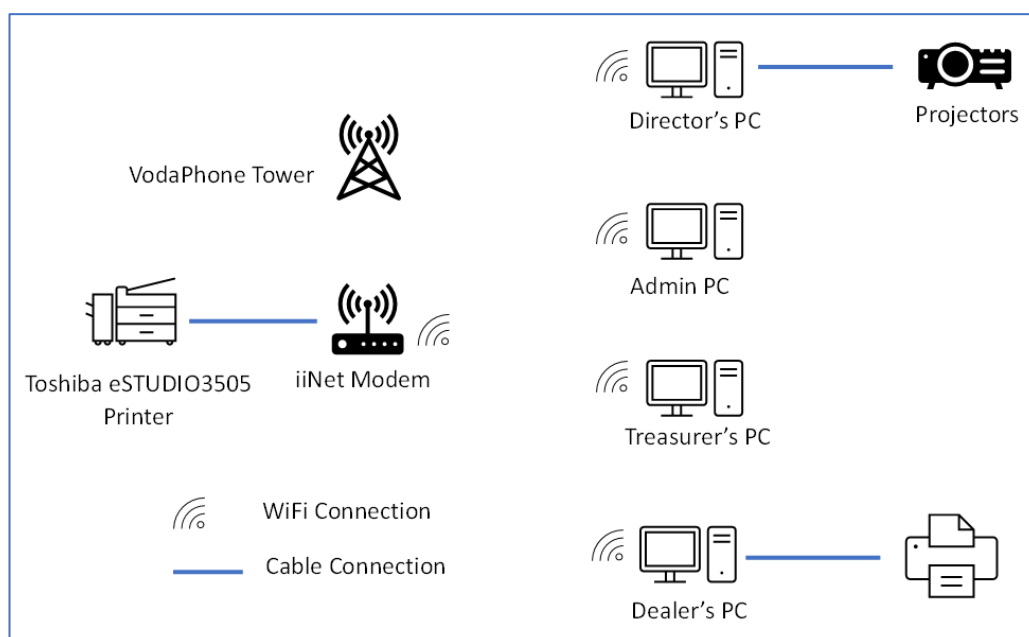
- Analysis of a player's session results,
- Requesting a playing partner for a session,
- Managing club membership.

Connectivity

A local WiFi has been established within the club. This network provides access to the internet and connectivity between the devices.

The internet provider is iiNet Limited.

There is no NBN connection to the club rooms. Access to the internet is provided by an iiNet service known as Home Broadband. This service uses a modem that connects to the internet via the 3G Vodaphone mobile phone network.



Network Diagram

Chapter 8

Bridge Teaching and Coaching



The Undercroft Bridge Club has given a high priority to the teaching and coaching of Bridge. This is a major factor underpinning the success of the club.

Bridge is an 'Olympic Mind Game' and is played throughout the world. The club has a number of players with international experience, including Tad and Beata Bieganski who returned to their home Poland for a world event. Richard Grenside was a full-time international director that required his services throughout the world. Sue Grenside also participated in international tournaments, and when in Cairo without a partner, the acclaimed Omar Sharif also needed a partner. They teamed up and performed well.

Undercroft Bridge Club provides teaching services at all levels. First there are the strategies to attract new players and introduce them to the game. The Beginners Courses were introduced by Allan Doig and have been maintained by Leslie Routledge for 16 years.

In July 2022 the club conducted a 'school holiday' program for school students.

The Undercroft Bridge Club has the benefit of outstanding players who are prepared to share their knowledge with aspiring players.



Bridge Teaching Initiatives

Key Question: What are the factors that contributed to the success of the Undercroft Bridge Club?

Answer: The Undercroft Bridge Club has established a comprehensive program to enable new and experienced members to learn the game, and improve.

History: Initial instructional classes were introduced in 2000 and have been an annual opportunity for new players to learn the game for 22 years. The idea was initiated by John Conway in June 2000, and he sought the assistance of our Allan Doig.

Allan had a teaching background and so he converted what was a lecture situation to teaching, consolidated through practice. The preparation required was extensive as the specific teaching hands had to be created manually, as it was before the advent of dealing machines. The program was so successful that numbers increased dramatically, so help was needed. Thelma Hope was a keen volunteer and Allan and Thelma formed an effective team. Their success was partially due to their ability to provide differentiated hands for players at different stages of development and hands were created to suit these different levels of ability.

The popularity of the program increased and so did the workload. Additional help was needed and Val Noble joined the team, and with her teaching background she was able to provide lessons for various groups. Wilma Piller was also a welcome team member, and Wilma provided a valuable knowledge of ACOL. The team was expanded to include a third team member, Dot Stagoll, *whose knowledge and general helpfulness was greatly appreciated.*

The program progressed, and the team was supplemented with the introduction of new team members: Jim Pinnington, and Leslie and Ray Routledge. Leslie was a qualified teacher and was a very helpful teacher in delivering the learning program, supported by her husband Ray. Jim was also a reliable source of support in undertaking any task that was required to ensure the ongoing success of the program.

The popularity of the program increased and at one stage the numbers were exceeding 100 participants. Allan again required further support and so he enlisted the services of Peter McCann. *His insightful and meticulous manner in which he explains the various intricacies proved invaluable.*

Concluding Comment by Allan Doig: *Over the 17 years that I have been operating I have been greatly assisted by the various committees and I have been greatly heartened by the support and offers of help that I have received from the club members. What has impressed me is the quality of the participants . . . the way in which graduates have helped in the smooth operation of our club. What pleases me in particular is the number of people that I see around the place that still play Bridge but only at a social level. Bridge has become an integral part of their social life.*

Leslie Routledge Graduates



2022



2021



2020



2019



2018



2017



2016



2015



2016



2015



2014



2014



2013



2012



2011



2010



2009



2008



Bridge Coaching

Bridge is a complex game and there are many levels of performance. There are many facets of the game that require more detailed study to improve player performance at all levels from Novice to Grand Master. As a player improves, he/she gains Master Points through participation in club, regional and State competitions. The rankings vary from the Graduate Certificate that is gained with 2 points, up to the Grand Master that is attained with 1000 points, and beyond to the Diamond Grand with 15,000 points. There are 21 levels and certificates are presented upon achievement at each stage; e. g., at 2, 5, 15, 25, 35, 50, 100 Points.

The ongoing interest in the game is facilitated at the Undercroft Bridge Club through a series of teaching-learning experiences provided by more qualified and experienced members.

The participants meet each Saturday morning and assemble in self-selected groups and explore bidding and playing strategies. Specific instruction may be provided by the teaching team and participants can request advice as required.

The supervised learning opportunities are provided by a team led by Christine Jenkins and supported by qualified teachers in Jenny Skinner and Joanna Tennyson.

Qualified Bridge Teaching Team



Joanna Tennyson

Christine Jenkins

Jenny Skinner

To gain qualification as a Bridge teacher, the team members were required to participate in an online course conducted by Joan Butts, who delivered an Accredited Teaching Program. This required the participants to attend lectures by Zoom and complete two exams to gain the qualification.

Chris Jenkins has been a driving force as Bridge Lesson Coordinator.

I have played Bridge for over twenty five years and have developed a great passion for the game. Following Allan Doig's retirement, I decided I wanted to give back to the club and volunteered my services to run the Saturday Morning Bridge lessons.

My role as Bridge Lesson Coordinator involves organising Saturday morning lessons, as well as, supervising and assisting members where needed. I have enjoyed planning and running a four week course on multi 2s and am expecting to present further lessons in the near future. I encourage anyone who has an expertise on a concept of Bridge to prepare and present a lecture on that topic. This informs and helps beginners to gain confidence and a better understanding of the complexities of the game.

A weekly roster is prepared so coaches can come and assist in these lessons. This makes my role simple because these outstanding helpers volunteer their time to allow the morning to run smoothly. I would like to thank them for their dedicated contribution in time and knowledge which benefits our new players.

Joanna, Jenny and I have all completed the Joan Butts Accreditation Course which makes us qualified Bridge teachers. I can confidently say we enjoy helping new bridge players aspire to get the best out of themselves and reach their full potential.

Chris Jenkins

Conversion Courses: ACOL to Standard American

Jenny Skinner and Joanna Tennyson also commenced a four-week course on the differences between ACOL and Standard American in 2022.

It is evident that the personalised teaching support is greatly appreciated, as the Saturday morning sessions have been very well attended over a number of years.

Regular teaching support sessions are being held on Saturday mornings



Saturday Morning Practice Session

Free School Holiday Bridge

The Undercroft Bridge Club is highly committed to the teaching of Bridge. The teaching program began with Allan Doig, a retired teacher and a Bridge player. Allan later moved on to teach the supervised group on Saturday mornings and Leslie Routledge took over the teaching of the beginners group. Allan has now retired from teaching Bridge, but always a good person to refer to if needed. Chris Jenkins is now the Lessons Coordinator, and is assisted by Jenny Skinner and Joanna Tennyson – all graduates of the Joan Butts Accredited Teachers Program.

School Holiday Bridge: The teaching program success prompted the Management Committee to consider offering school-aged children a day to be introduced to the game of Bridge during the school holidays.

The Free School Holiday Day was held on Sunday 3rd July from 10am, and was followed with beginners' lessons on the Monday 4th, Wednesday 6th and Friday 8th July.

The Sunday Program had 25 attendees together with parents and grandparents eager to find out what was Bridge. **Richard Grenside** began the day by introducing 'Mini Bridge' and the youngsters immediately began to play Bridge.

A highlight of the day was a visit from Renee Cooper. Renee spoke of her journey beginning to play Bridge at 9 years of age, to now playing on the international level. The youngsters were keen to know more and Renee was asked many questions, one of which was, does she always win; to which the reply was no, but always aims to. Thank you, Renee.

The day was successful with the participants playing Bridge and having substantial food and drinks during breaks. Five of the youngsters returned during the following week and began to be taught ACOL by Chris Jenkins and Jenny Skinner, assisted by Debbie James and Connie Coltrona. The youngsters took on the challenge with eagerness to learn and play this new game.

The Management Committee have made a commitment to continue the Youth Program and will be offering the lessons on a regular basis.

The success of every program is reliant on the assistance of the volunteers, so grateful thanks to Richard Grenside, Chris Jenkins, Jenny Skinner, Debbie James, Bernie Plath, Lorraine Rea, Greg McKie and also to Margaret Greville and Rachael Coltrona for preparing an enjoyable lunch.

Grateful thanks to Anthony Matteo from AJ Photography for taking the photos.

Last but not least, thank you to Nigel Dutton (of BAWA) and to Allison Stralow (of ABF) for your encouragement and financial support.



Grandmas with their grandchildren

Advanced Bridge Classes

As an extension to these developmental programs, more advanced courses are conducted by highly regarded Bridge members, who willingly share their expertise.

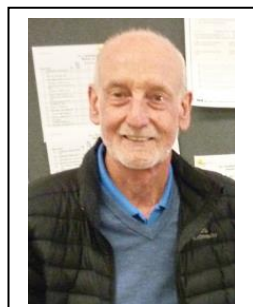
Coaching – Courses for Intermediate / Advanced Players



Joanna Tennyson

Joanna has provided specific instructional programs on the following topics:

- Using the Loser Count – explains another way of assessing the strength of your hand once you know you have a fit.
- Doubles - explains penalty, takeout, negative, lead direct and reopening doubles and when to use them.
- Signals and Discard Systems – explains and compares different signals and discard systems and when to use them.
- Bergen Raises for Standard American – explains how to show your partner how many cards you have in their suit and how many points you have.
- Checkback for Acol – shows partner how many points you have and if you have three card support in their major or four cards in the other major or both.
- Defence to 1NT opening – explains how to use pottage and the advantage of playing reverse pottage as a defence to the 1NT opening.



Martin Broome

Martin teaches a series of lessons and tutorials on key aspects of bidding. The course is not focussed specifically on any particular system, although ACOL is used in many of the examples.

The lessons emphasise the need for improving players to focus on evaluating their hand as the Auction develops. The course starts with an introduction to the Roth Total Point Count system and shows how hand

value can vary depending on both high card points and distribution.

It then goes on to discuss how the point count and 'quality' of the hand can be re-evaluated, either upward or downward, depending on a number of factors including partner's responses and any bids or overcalls by the opponents.

The object of the tutorials is to show the classes how to stop at the right level by competing for a part score, rather than ending up in a hopeless game or slam. It also endeavours to show (and this is not always regularly followed!) when to pull out of the auction and defend, if this is going to be the most profitable way to get a positive score out of the hand.

Topics covered include opening bids and responses, opener's rebid and setting the contract, avoiding misfits, pre-emptive bidding, control cards, the adjusted losing trick count, overcalling basics, offence-defence ratio, the Law of Total Tricks, take-out doubles, responding to take-out doubles, negative doubles, bidding over the opponents 1NT, balancing after two passes, and competitive bidding with fit-jumps and other gadgets.



Tad Bieganski

Tad provided a six-week course for intermediate players who wanted to improve their bidding skills and to better understand the Standard American system with Short Club and Multi-2 Diamonds.

This specific system is a very popular in Australia and overseas and is a little bit more advanced than standard SAYC system. This idea came from some of the club members who wanted to improved their level of Bridge and have one comprehensive system.

The lessons were structured in a way to provide general requirements to each of the opening bids, partner response depending on various holding, and an opener rebid to describe more accurately opener's hand, and also to emphasise predominately on the forcing and non-forcing aspects of each call.

The course included an explanation and an appropriate usage of a number of different conventions and gadgets to help improve the quality of bidding and achieve better outcomes. These included the following:

- Rule of 20, pre-empting bids and Bergen Raises – to better evaluate opener and responder hands.
- Checkback – to better describe shape of the hand with invitational values.
- Doubles – including takeout, penalty, negative, reopening, support, responsive and lead-direct. Explain meaning, holding requirements and appropriate usage of each double; additionally explain bidding responses and requirements of the doubler's partner.
- Introduction to reverse bids to show strong unbalanced hands.
- Drury – to find out the strength of the over-caller and opener in the third and fourth seat, after pass with an invitational hand.
- Multi-2 Diamonds – to show weak two or single-suited hands, or strong balanced hand.
- Jacoby 2NT – to force to game and investigate possibility of slam.
- Slam bidding – including RKCB 1430, Minorwood, Exclusion Blackwood and Gerber.
- Multi-Landy – to provide defence to 1NT opening and explain an advantage.
- Signals and Discard Systems – to improve defence and indicate leads to your partner.

Peter McCann



I prefer to teach 'card play' rather than 'bidding'. My father, Russell, taught me and he was a great card player. I regularly read the experts: Victor Mollo & Mike Lawrence particularly.

I have given a series of lessons including:

- Beyond the simple finesse
- "You gotta follow the rules (2nd player plays low; 3rd player plays high; cover an honour with an honour) Why? And how to spot exceptions
- Looking for overtricks
- Declarer play in Trump contracts. (First the basics of declarer play followed by lessons covering each of the 3 main techniques used by declarer to make trump contracts):
 - Basics of declarer play – forming a plan, counting losers, when to draw trumps
 - Ruffing losers with the short trump holding (usually dummy)
 - Setting up Dummy's side-suit. Use of the 'cross ruff'.



Chapter 9

Social Community Recreational

The Undercroft Bridge Club is an important source of social connection for many people within the club. The members value the friendships that are often retained for many years. There is a mutual concern for one another and this is evident when members suffer ill-health. This chapter is a snapshot of the social, community and recreational activities.

The 'Social Committee' has been formally created to organise and conduct events as per the UBC handbook and as requested by the Management Committee.

Social Committee: The social committee comprises:

- Connie Coltrona President
- Jill Lyon
- Margaret Greville
- Nita Fraser
- Lillian Haagensen
- Melissa Underwood

The Committee coordinates catering for the Red Point events listed in the UBC handbook, and coordinates special celebration activities such as the 'Volunteers morning tea'.

The Social Committee is responsible for the organisation of events that are regular parts of the social calendar, including Melbourne Cup and Christmas festivities', and charity events.

Social Committee



Connie Coltrona



Nita Fraser



Lillian Haagensen



Margaret Greville



Jill Lyon



Melissa Underwood

Community: The Undercroft Bridge Club also undertakes various community-support projects including the Cancer Council. Our artistic member, Kerry Golfinch, creates delightful cards and donates the proceeds to the council. She also adopted a project to support 'Wheelchairs for Kids' and raised \$830 in nine months.

As significant community events arise, the club also seeks to provide support, and raised funds for the Lord Mayor's Disaster Appeal (Flood, Fire). The club also regularly allocates funds from a Bridge event for 'Bridge for Brains'.

Social: After the game members take the opportunity to gather for a chat and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles.

After Game Drinks and Chat



Gill Blakey Ross Blakey Valerie Broome David Coulter Martin Broome



Melissa Underwood serves drinks at Friday Festivities

Melbourne Cup at The Undercroft Bridge Club

The Undercroft Bridge Club is like a large family, and many people depend upon the club for their social life. However, members like to play bridge every day of the year with the exception of Christmas Day, so bridge is combined with Melbourne Cup at the club.

Significant state holiday events are therefore celebrated within the club. On the WA Day Holiday the club played bridge, and members celebrated with some Aussie songs. 'I'd Love to Have a Beer with Duncan' – adapted to drink with local members including: Peter Mohen, Nick Jakowayna, Wendy Wheildon, Shirley Latham and Kerry Goldfinch.

On Melbourne Cup day the bridge game is only slightly truncated to enable everyone to watch the running of the race.

The celebration includes a sweep - so someone in the club is a winner.



Members are invited to dress for the occasion
as highlighted by some of the memorable photographs below

Prizes are presented for Melbourne Cup Hats Competition





Christmas Lunch

Christmas Day is the only day that Undercroft does not play bridge – but it doesn't stop members from celebrating Christmas.

Members dress for the occasion and the very capable Social Committee and House management team arrange a sumptuous spread and Christmas decorations for the celebration.

If there is a microphone in the vicinity Sharon Dyball is able to locate it and organizes various activities.





Friday Afternoon Entertainment at the Club by Shirley Latham

An initiative to make Friday afternoon Happy Hour even happier has been the provision of various forms of entertainment by club members in attendance.

Amazingly, the entertainment has been happening now for two years. It's organised on an informal basis by myself, and I encourage members to showcase their talents. I fill in as needed.

We have had a lot of fun, and it's been wonderful to see members throw themselves into the spirit of Friday afternoon, and numbers have grown steadily over the two years.

The acts include comedians, poets, singers, guitarists, an oboist, and an Elvis impersonator! Who would have thought so much hidden talent has been lurking at Undercroft, just waiting to be discovered!

One of the trickier songs was Three Blind Mice sung in rounds. Everyone joined one of the three sections. The singing was super and interspersed with much laughter.

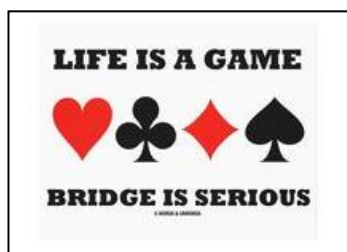
The recital of poems by Banjo Patterson has been fantastic with Brian Welton showing his wealth of knowledge of the poet, and his incredible memory.

Bush ballads and Elvis impersonation have been the province of Robin Clarke, a relative newcomer to the club, who abounds with energy. He has been a real crowd pleaser. Keep it going Robin!



It remains for me to thank Dermott Doherty and Mark Cooper for their guitar music; Sheila Byfield, Oboist; Lillian Haagensen, Kerry Goldfinch, Deborah Cooper, David Pitts, Mark Cooper and Dermott Doherty for singing; Brian Welton, Jerry Vise, Debbie James, Ky Khan for reciting poetry; Peter Mohen, Ron Kremer and Joe Peci for their jokes, and Joan Rosemeyer and Dino Pardini for their lovely ballroom dancing.

Thanks to everyone else for joining in. Special thanks to Sally Jowett and Robyn Woodhall who love Friday entertainment and are incredibly supportive, and make sure to keep it all going.





The Friday Afternoon Festivities

One of the enjoyable features of life at the Undercroft Bridge Club is the Friday Afternoon 'Afters'. The initiator and coordinator is our revered **Shirley Latham**, who has revealed some remarkable talents amongst the Bridge playing group. The casual atmosphere and appreciative audience have encouraged many reluctant members to discover some latent abilities. Thank you, Shirley.

The after festivities are supplemented with lovely nibbles organised by the kitchen manager and rostered volunteers.



Festive Drinks and Nibbles



Joan Rosemeyer and
Robin Clarke
Dancing Couple



Undercroft Bridge Club 'Choir'
Singing 'Six Hats of Thinking'

The Tuesday Lunch Bunch by Wendy Wheildon

We all love Bridge so much so that we wonder why we didn't join the club years ago. And of course, we race in at 8.00am on Tuesdays to choose the best Library books spread on the table – bonus – read them then return them.

The Tuesday morning bunch of players are friendly if not unruly and most came up through the ranks from Leslie's Saturday morning training. There are those that would have liked to stay on playing with the Tuesday a.m. bunch but find it difficult because with 50 points they have to move on to play with what we call the advanced group – or affectionately known as 'The Big Kids' and who play on p.m. days of the week. Our club is open 7 days a week on days and some nights.



We have some real characters in this Tuesday morning lot, and I will mention first the lady who does not like to watch TV – apparently not at all, and so she does craft at night – big time craft that is donated to charity. For instance she makes bears – the small knitted type that they send out to third world countries to accompany the wheelchairs given to disadvantaged children. The following is the press coverage she received when the initial lot was given to Wheelchairs for Kids.

Also, one of our male members assists once a week with the building of these wheelchairs and another of our members gathers the bears and crocheted rugs and has them delivered to that factory. This crafty lady then made lots and lots of little girls' dresses – which were given to another charity.

Then came the cards – birthday cards etc. and she made these suitable for every event, and the money – quite a lot – goes to various charities or as directed by the Bridge Committee. At this time, funds are given to the Cancer Foundation. Her partner is also a character, relating her stories of the cruise to the north-west. Wow, we were all green with envy about that story.

Several of our members support the charity Spirit of the Streets, which gives great support to those in need. Kitchen Bridge is another great activity that goes on, and of course our group in pre-COVID times love to go out once a month for lunch after our Tuesday morning Bridge session. Our bike rider always came along even if he gets their puffing and panting and a little late? The last lunch we had – with a booking for 30 people – the cooks went on strike and the lunch was not to be supplied – some of us who hung around in disbelief were given free coffee and cake – others left to go elsewhere what a disaster that was – COVID set - in life has changed -but we this week will return to our regular lunches.

Along with the fun we have also had our sad times of members losing their life partner – and they have shown great courage and regained their place at Bridge with signs of support from fellow members. We have also lost some of our supervisors – the ageing process in action.

Of course, we have our 'meet and greet' lady – ready with the biggest smile for the Bridge members who shop at Bunnings – she is one fun lady?

Romance, and we do have that at Bridge – yes, we do, and the rest of us look on with great envy.

The Loss of a player – who was not brave enough to play Bridge while wearing a face mask, but the masks are going so he will return.

We also have a ballroom dancer in our midst – just to add a bit of glamour to our day, as well as a headmaster and a bird watcher.

We have an ex-professional ballet dancer and author in our group, plus a talented professional student and a road-tripper who loves to see how far she can go there and back in one day! Not to forget the early morning ‘paddler’, who in retirement moved suburbs to be close to the beach. Also, a singing ukulele player, a professional mathematician, and professional oboe player.



Tuesday Lunch Bunch at Mia Cucina 2022



Undercroft Bridge Club

Chapter 10

Multiculturalism: Diversity and Harmony

Bridge has a remarkable capacity to bring people together for a shared enjoyable experience – regardless of cultural origins. John Frzop has captured an underlying feature of the Undercroft Bridge Club – ‘Multiculturalism at work’.

The 2022 Census revealed that 51% of all Australians were either born overseas, or have a parent who was born overseas. The Undercroft Bridge Club is a microcosm of our multi-cultural society. Our multi-culturalism generates benefits for the club. The diverse cultural perspectives have inspired creativity and driven innovation. Furthermore, the overseas talents provided many valued services for our club.

A young girl named Connie, was brought up in central Sicily and **became our president!**

Richard Grenside was born in Harpenden Herts, England. After emigrating to Australia, he became Director of the Australian National Championships in 1977. This led to his appointment as a Chief Tournament Director for international Bridge events from 1980 to 2016. **Sue Grenside** was originally from the USA, and she also participated in a series of World Championships. While playing in an International Bridge Tournament in Cairo, she was asked to substitute for a very good-looking man – Omar Sharif.

Satish arrived from India with a Master’s degree in pure mathematics, and exercised his statistical mind to introduce various Bridge systems including, Count System, Precision, Blue Club, Power Precision, Match-point Precision, and ACOL with variations.

Our international ballet dancer, **Beth Jancec**, was offered a position at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, and subsequently was a member of the famed Festival de Monte Carlo, performing around Europe. She is also an accomplished author of novels.

Ky Khan is a product of a Pakistani immigrant and an English mother. He formed a self-build group that enabled people to build their own homes. Ky is our maintenance supervisor.

Mario Rubanathan began his Bridge adventure at University Science Malaysia, Penang, that led to his position as President of the Chess and Bridge Club of USM. He became devoted to the language of bidding and is an ongoing source of inspiration in the study of various ‘multilingual’ bidding systems.

Maria Teresa Pirajno was born in Italy and had a breadth of experience as she taught in primary schools in various locations while accompanying her vulcanologist husband all over the world.

Wim Wouts was born in the Netherlands as the youngest boy in a family of seven. His early experiences on his family farm ultimately led to a PhD and international expertise in nematology. His abilities were applied at Undercroft as Treasurer and Director.

Tony Eardley was born in Nettlebank England and brought his musical talents to Perth where he tutored in music and established the programme for music specialists in primary schools. The Bridge club benefits from his expertise and entertainment value.

Kayoko was born in Osaka Japan, and Bridge has created opportunities to form partnerships that would not have occurred otherwise. She also adopts leadership roles and is captain of her golf club.

Tad Bieganski, shared his commendable expertise in conducting a series of sessions on the strategies for Standard American. He was assisted by his capable wife who provided information sheets.

Beata Bieganski has undertaken the role of communications director and publisher of the Newsletter. Beata and Tad participated in the 2016 World Bridge Games in Wroclaw, Poland. It was the first world championship organized in Poland and players of 69 nations participated.

Marj Rauschenberger volunteered to work in PNG in Rabaul and Sohano Island, off Bougainville. She would often work around the clock especially with midwifery patients. *I was to do my first delivery all alone at 1.00am with a husband, a tall Buka man threatening to kill me if anything went wrong. Fortunately, the baby survived.*

Luba Klein's family escaped the German occupation of Poland, and her first memory at the age of 3 was being cuddled from person to person, while singing as she travelled by train. Her mother almost fainted when she saw the pile of shoes outside Trebinka.

Some of our Australian born members are to be acknowledged including **Wendy Wheildon** who does a lot of charity work including organising crocheted and knitted blankets for Wheelchairs for Kids and beanies for the homeless.

Kerry Goldfinch is of Croatia descent and prepares greeting cards for charity and raised significant funds for 'Wheelchairs for Kids' and the Cancer Council.

Joe Peci's strong childhood memories as a child in Italy was to be given permission to sit beside his dad as he played Bridge.

Peter Peles was born Florina, Northern Macedonia and emigrated with his family at the age of seven years and settled at Hester near Bridgetown. He saw at first-hand the challenge of creating a farm within a jarrah and red-gum forest with dense undergrowth. He learned the value of determination and enterprise.

Patrick Garnett was born in South Elmsall, a coal mining town in West Yorkshire. He emigrated as a six year old with his parents and settled in Collie where his dad became a coal-mine manager. He attended UWA where he completed a BSc (Hons) and PhD in Chemistry followed by a Bachelor of Education. Patrick played A Grade cricket with the University Cricket Club (which included test players Rod Marsh, John Inverarity and Tony Mann!) and was a state squash

representative from 1973-1976. He was appointed a professor, then Deputy Vice Chancellor of ECU and chair of WA School Curriculum Council and Standards Authority.

Carol de Lobel was born in the small town of Stowbridge in the West Midlands. She was an outstanding swimmer and competed in the Nationals Championships. Her big heart led her to teach intellectually disabled children within the Department of Education.

Brian & Caroline Fensome were born in England and Brian went to Grammar school in Finchley, and then on to Bristol University where he got a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He became a civil engineer and helped build the M4 which ran from Chiswick to South Wales. Caroline clearly has literary talents and Undercroft has savoured her insightful poetry.

Don Fraser was born in Paisley, Scotland, and was ultimately awarded Life Membership in 1996, in recognition of his commendable services to the club. He served for Australia in his beloved *HMAS Toowoomba* that escorted vessels in the Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Aden.

Shirley Manlein is of Croation descent and maintained her strong connections with the Croation community. Her childhood was spent amongst the Osborne Park market gardens that would now border the Kwinana Freeway.

We have some representatives from the African continent including **Nesha Shah**, who was born in Nairobi, near the lakes of the Great Rift Valley, where she relished the natural life – spotting lions and zebras. Her mother defied tradition and encouraged Nesha to undertake a university education which led to opportunities of travel with British Airways and eventually to WA and the Undercroft Bridge Club – to our benefit – for she is our efficient office manager.

Ingrid Fredericks was born and bred in the Kimberley, the centre of South Africa's diamond industry. She was a product of the 'Apartheid Era' that led to her emigration to Australia where she taught primary school, and still shares teaching duties with the 'Bridge Induction' teaching classes.

Sheila Byfield spent her childhood in Southampton UK and gained degrees in Mathematics from Southampton and Hull Universities. She has played a very active role in mathematics education in WA. She played Oboe with the WA Symphony Orchestra.

Kath Tapper was born in a small town in South Africa called Nigel. She played hockey at high school with many of the team that went on to win gold medals at the 1980 Olympics.

Terry and Louise Colins were both born in South Africa, and were married in Johannesburg. They had the challenge of assisting in the development of a major water supply infrastructure project in Muscat, Oman.

Linda Duncan was born in Kaiapoi, North Canterbury, New Zealand. She gained a Bachelor of Business studies majoring in sport management & coaching, and in management generally. This led to administration with NZ Women's Golf, Executive Secretary for Wellington Tennis, Manager for the NZ Police Council of Sport, and management of the Harewood Golf Club in Christchurch.



PRESIDENTS

1972 - 2022

UNDERCROFT BRIDGE CLUB			
PAST PRESIDENTS			
1972-73	GWEN JOHNSON	2003-04	JOHN BEYFUS
1973-74	GWEN JOHNSON	2004-05	JOHN BEYFUS
1974-75	GWEN JOHNSON	2005-06	SHEILA PARKER
1975-76	GWEN JOHNSON	2006-07	SHEILA PARKER
1976-77	GWEN JOHNSON	2007-08	DIANE TILVERN
1977-78	GWEN JOHNSON	2008-09	SHEILA PARKER
1978-79	SYD NOAKES	2009-10	TONY MARTIN
1979-80	GWEN JOHNSON	2010-11	TONY MARTIN
1980-81	HARRY DOBBINS	2011-12	ANN HOPFMUELLER
1981-82	HARRY DOBBINS	2012-13	ANN HOPFMUELLER
1982-83	DULCIE CROSSLEY	2013-14	ANN HOPFMUELLER
1983-84	DULCIE CROSSLEY	2014-15	DAVID COWELL
1984-85	OSSIE TRIGWELL	2015-16	DAVID COWELL
1985-86	OSSIE TRIGWELL	2016-17	GRAHAM MILWARD
1986-87	JIM McILWRAITH	2017-18	GRAHAM MILWARD
1987-88	GWEN JOHNSON	2018-19	GRAHAM MILWARD
1988-89	GWEN JOHNSON	2019-20	JOHN BAYLY
1989-90	RITA HEALE	2020-21	CONNIE COLTRONA
1990-91	RITA HEALE		
1991-92	JOHN BERESFORD		
1992-93	JOHN LEES		
1993-94	KATH BROSNAN		
1994-95	KATH BROSNAN		
1995-96	BERT CONNELL		
1996-97	BERT CONNELL		
1997-98	BILLIE SKINNER		
1998-99	BILLIE SKINNER		
1999-00	JOHN SATCHELL		
2000-01	JOHN SATCHELL		
2001-02	OSSIE TRIGWELL		
2002-03	BILLIE SKINNER		



Undercroft Bridge Club Inc

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Rita Heale



Ossie Trigwell



John Lees



Kath Brosnan



Bert Connell



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