



**Congratulations to our
Club Champions 2014**

Tad and Beata Bieganski

Open Swiss Pairs



1st: Jonathan Free and Jo Sklarz



**2nd: David Schokman
and Dave Munro**



**3rd: Alfred and Sheelagh
Dupont**



Undercroft Bridge Club

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2014

28th Annual Congress

Swiss Pairs Winners



1st: Kim Morrison and Viv Wood



**2nd: Judy Clear and
Margaret Melsom**



**3rd: Domenic De Gasperis and
Christine Smitham**

Teams Winners



**1st: Merleine Wyllie, Ann
Hopfmueller, David Cowell and
Robert Wyllie**



**2nd: John Beddow, Beata and Tad
Bieganski and Egmont Melton**



**3rd: James and Stella Steer, Clive
and Inga Hunt**

Undercroft Bridge Club

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28th Annual Congress



= 4th Pairs: Ian Rowlands, Peter McCann, Brian Fensome, Jean Muller and Edward Roscow, John Beyfus (absent)



4th Teams: Peter McCann, Tony Eardley and Satish Bedekar, Margaret Szymakowski (absent)

Congress Report

By now you will all know that our congress held the weekend of 25 and 26 October has been a great success. Once again I was personally complimented many times upon the friendliness of our club. A special thanks to Bill Kemp our director, to Helen Larsen and her sub committee for organizing the lunch and to our members who helped in any way, and to those who made sandwiches, savouries or cakes to share.

The Swiss movements both days, allowed us to accommodate twenty four tables this year and meant that there is a good chance for everyone to earn some red points. This eventuated because on Saturday in the Swiss pairs, all players won red points. Once again this year in the Swiss Pairs, Undercroft were not to be outdone and we ended with five of the top six pairs being won by Undercroft people.

The results for the Swiss Pairs on Saturday were:

- First** Viv Wood and Kim Morrison
- Second** Judy Clear and Margaret Melsom
- Third** Christine Smitham and Domenico De Gasperis
- Fourth =** Ian Rowlands and Peter McCann, Edward Roscoe and Jean Muller and Brian Fensome and John Beyfus

The results for the Swiss Teams on Sunday were:

- First** David Cowell, Ann Hopfmueller and Merleine and Robert Wyllie
- Second** Tad and Beata Bieganski and John Beddow and Egmont Melton
- Third** James and Stella Steer, Clive and Inga Hunt

Happy Bridging!

David Cowell
Congress Convenor

Undercroft Members Out and About!

Congratulations on some great successes across the board!

Congresses

West Coast Bridge Club	3rd	Lynne Errington and Joanna Tennyson
Italian Club	3rd	Julia Corr and Maria Pirajno
Busselton Congress	=1st	Beata and Tad Bieganski
	6th	Chris Price and Amanda Torre
	7th	Jenny Bandy and Joanna Tennyson
Busselton Congress Teams	1st	Beata and Tad Bieganski
	6th	Martin and Valerie Broome

BAWA Events

Hans Rosendorff Swiss Pairs	2nd	Peter McCann and Ian Rowlands (p10)
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Undercroft members enjoying the Busselton Congress.

Tad and Beata Bieganski came equal first with Viv Wood and Kim Morrison in the pairs and 1st in the teams. Congratulations!



Bridge Oddities



What was that option again?

A director was called over because there was an opening lead out of turn (the lead being the \spadesuit A). The declarer was given her options. After pondering for a moment, she said, "I'm going to accept the lead. He bid $7\clubsuit$, he should have to play it!".

She tabled: **North**

\spadesuit Ax
 \heartsuit AKQx
 \diamondsuit xxx
 \clubsuit AJxx

So, the director just had to go take a peek at the (now) declarer's hand to see if this was the right decision. His hand was:

South

\spadesuit -
 \heartsuit Jxxxx
 \diamondsuit x
 \clubsuit KQxxxxx

That'll teach him to bid grand off an ace."



2nd Italian Club Congress
 Julia Corr and Maria Pirajno

President's Report



Christmas is not too far away and we are coming to the end of another busy and successful year at Undercroft. In this Newsletter you will see results of some of the Red Point events held at our Club. Congratulations to all our winners and a big thank you for all who supported the events.

It is also great to see Undercroft members competing in other Cub and BAWA events with considerable success. Keep it up!

With more than 450 members at the Undercroft Bridge Club, the running of the Club is fast becoming a full time job! I would like to say a very big thank you to all those helpers we have – all volunteers - board dealers, directors, kitchen helpers, office manager, Club recorders, Webmaster, Master points secretary, etc. To the committee (without whom not much would get done) and to our teachers and helpers on Saturday mornings, thank you. You have all been wonderful and instrumental in making our Club tick.

Because of the lack of space on Saturday mornings, we have been hiring Mildenhall next door for the beginners' lessons. This has been a bonus for us as it gives more space in the main hall for the more advanced lessons. Won't it be nice if we are able to build the extension to the Club, so that everything will be under the same roof!

As for the proposed extension, We have had plans drawn up and a Quantity Surveyor price the work, according to the requirements of the Shire. The estimate came to \$445,865. Graham Milward (who has had great deal of experience with buildings and building works) is heading our extension committee. We have had several meetings with the Shire and have also been talking to Councillors Russell Fishwick and Teresa Ritchie who have shown interest in supporting us. Up to now the Club has spent in excess of \$6 200 in providing plans, etc.

The committee has agreed to contribute \$140,000 of the Club's savings towards this project. Past Club committees have made presentations to the Shire in an effort to have our building extended but these were unsuccessful. However, the current submission has not been refused but there is still a long way to go. We will keep you informed.

On behalf of the committee and myself I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.

David Cowell
 President

Gwen Johnson Teams of 4 Winners



1st: Terry Farrall, David Womersley, Neil Consigliere and John Lees

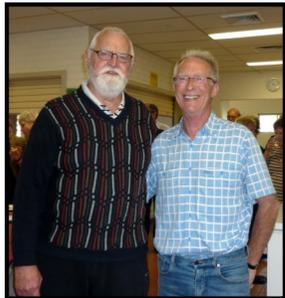


2nd: Margaret Britten, Peter McCann, Tony Earnley and Satish Bedekar

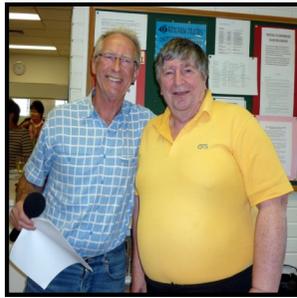


3rd: Joanna Tennyson, Jenny Bandy, Mary Lang and Tony Martin

Individual Championship Winners



1st Gary White



2nd Tony Martin



3rd John Lees

John Beyfus Spring Pairs Winners



1st: Ann Hopfmuller and David Cowell



2nd: Chris Smitham and Chris Shawcroft



3rd: Trevor Burr (pictured) and Brian Fensome

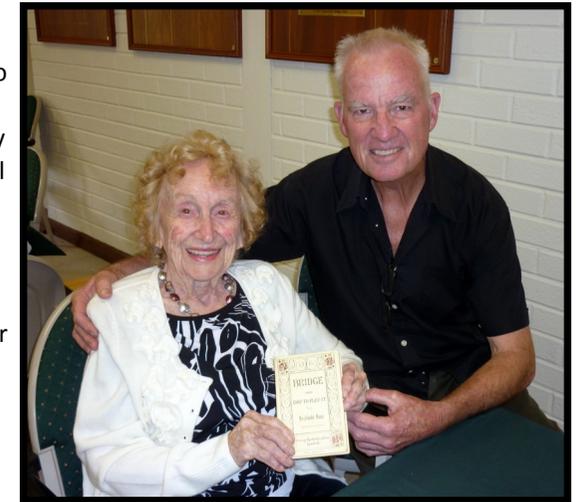
Aidie Silbert Calls it a Day

Aidie has decided to retire gracefully from playing bridge at Undercroft after enjoying many happy years at the Club. Sadly, she says, the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak!

Aidie was born in Melbourne in 1919 but her family moved to Sydney where she spent most of her school days. They lived at Double Bay and she remembers going down to Rose Bay to watch the Sea Planes coming in and out and seeing them flying under the bridge, and her father taking her to see Charles Kingsford-Smith fly in from England, probably after winning the air race from England to Australia in 1930.

After school, she did a secretarial course and her first job was with Shell in Sydney.

Back in Melbourne, while staying with an Aunt down there, she met her husband-to-be who came from Perth where they lived after their marriage. They had three children but Aidie still managed to work, firstly at the University of WA and then as a secretary in the Public Service, working for the Premier and several Ministers then finally for the Governor. She also worked for Richard Court before he became Premier and says that Sir Charles often knocked at the door with the words 'It's your postman knocking'. She thought he was lovely.



Aidie presenting a Bridge Book to Undercroft Vice President, Alan Tolley

After the children had left school and doing their various studies, Aidie obtained a degree in Applied Art, majoring in Sculpture, and did a lot of work in that field. Then she turned her hand to embroidery and was very talented in that area as many bridge members would attest to, always admiring her beautiful hand-embroidered jumpers and blouses.

Aidie joined the club when it started up in Marmion and later went to Kalgoorlie with her good friend, Chris Kinnear to help set up a bridge club there. She also went up there with Gwen Johnson at another time.

Aidie keeps very busy in her retirement village but says she will miss all her friends at Undercroft. She says she loves them all.

We wish Aidie a happy bridge retirement and assure her that she will be missed.

Judy Clear

Building Project Update

This is a bad news/good news story!

The Capital Works Committee (CWC) of the City of Joondalup recently considered the Club's application for extensions and toilet upgrades. It didn't approve our request but it didn't refuse it either. Instead, the matter has been referred back to the Chief Executive Officer to give further consideration to what we desire. However, the indications are that 2016/17 is the earliest anything will happen. President David and Graham Milward, Redevelopment Committee Convenor, made a presentation to the CWC and managed to get an Officer Recommendation to refuse our application changed to the referral back to the CEO.

The Club Committee is not letting the matter rest and an e-mail has been sent directly to the CEO of the City, detailing some shortcomings with the report which the officers submitted to the CWC. The report neither gave the history of the Club's approaches to the City going back 10 years or more, nor made reference to the fact that Club members get turned away from our major events, due to the lack of room.

The Club has received excellent support from Ward Councillors Teresa Ritchie and Russ Fishwick, and general Councillor sentiment seems to be positive. Questions posed by Mayor Troy Pickard at the CWC and subsequently, indicate that he is considering options which may assist the Club to achieve its objectives.

Please continue to bear with us.

Graham Milward

Redevelopment Committee Convenor

New Award

Undercroft bridge club is pleased to announce that a new award has been donated to the club by Tony Martin to encourage new members.

The award will be made annually to the most improved player who started this year as a Nil master (excluding experienced players who have transferred from overseas). There will be a trophy and \$100 1st prize, \$50 2nd prize and \$25 3rd prize. The winner will also be offered some mentoring.

URGENT ATTENTION REQUIRED

An item of jewellery has been found which may be of value. Anyone who has lost jewellery, please see our Secretary, Julia Corr.



Winner funniest hat



Winner prettiest hat



Winner most creative hat



A 'THANK YOU' POEM

*Committees come and committees go
some are industrious, some go with the flow.
At the end of the day though when all's said and done,
being on the committee isn't always fun.*



*Personalities come into the equation
and I'd say on more than one occasion,
backs go up, people rave and shout,
but working for our club is what it's all about.*



*Buying biscuits and tea for the members to brew,
making sure there's enough paper in the loo,
plenty of milk and booze in the fridge
when we all come along for a game of
bridge.*



*Competitions to organise, parties to run,
all part of the work that has to be done.
Besides the committee, there are those too
behind the scenes, with a lot to do.*



*Counting the money and dealing those boards
that we all come along to play, in our hoards.
Every now and again you see your name in print,
Just another willing person doing their stint.*



*Our own Mr Fixit Man, won't tell you how old,
still on the roof cleaning cobwebs, I'm told
Those Master Points that we all like to get,
be a few moans if we didn't, I bet*



*Making sure there are books for you all to read
organising the newsletter, is another good deed.
To the Directors too who give of their time
to keep you unruly mob in line.*



*Last, but not least there's Robin Hood and his band
who teach our beginners how to play a hand.
Just hope I've mentioned all the crew
as I wouldn't want anyone feeling blue.*



*I'd like to go on, but I'm out of time,
Besides, I'm running out of words that rhyme.
So my friends, the purpose of this ditty,
is to thank all those helpers and the committee;*

*and to thank all those people before us too
who also had lots of work to do.
On behalf of your committee and as member of the club
I wish you all a Merry Christmas and please enjoy the grub!*



By Carol Fensome

*We wish you a very merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!*

