



Bridgemates

Issue No. 17 July 2018



MARIO'S MESSAGE

My Friends,

As required under the constitution, notices have been sent advising members of the date of the AGM (set down for 24th August). We are looking forward to a good attendance.

Following the lessons (with 33 attendees), we welcome 28 of those who have joined the club. The Wednesday morning supervised play sessions are still active, and thanks are due to all those who have taken the time to assist.

The Pairs Competition prize was won by Norm and Ellen deChastel. Murray and Kim Schlecht were successful in coming first in the President's Day Handicap Pairs. Congratulations to those two couples whose names will be engraved on the appropriate trophies.

Celebration of President's Day was a great success. You would realise that these events don't just fall into place. There has to be a team of hardworking members who volunteer their efforts and time. The club is very grateful to them all. Eric's contribution of a historically artistic poster was greeted with enthusiasm and we thank him for this.

Unfortunately, we have to restrict access to the cupboards (entry by committee members only or by permission). This may seem harsh but we are forced into this by the disappearance of club equipment. Lost property is mounting; please check your supply of umbrellas, scarves, spectacles and "sunnies" before they are all sent to Vinnies.

I look forward to the continuation of enjoying your company and fellowship.

President Mario.

Events to look forward to

AGM 24 August, 2018 at 10.30am (BYO lunch if you would like to stay for afternoon bridge)

TEAMS EVENT	Entry for Members	Day 1 of 3 on Wednesday 15 August
	Entry for Members	Day 2 of 3 on Wednesday 22 August
	Entry for Members	Day 3 of 3 on Wednesday 29 August with Refreshments Afterwards



LIP ZIP RECOMMENDED

Paul Marston
The Australian
June 9th 2018

"It's a funny thing but, when someone criticises his/her bridge partner, it is normally the case that the grumbler is the true cause of the problem. It's as if they're trying to transfer the guilt."



MEET YOUR MEMBERS

Continuing our series of conversations with Bridge Club members

James Bazzo



My grandfather arrived in Sydney as a five year old, part of an ill-fated expedition that left Spain in July 1880 with 317 people on board 2 ships, and only 217 survived the journey. He arrived with 2 siblings, and 2 siblings did not surviving the voyage.

The sad story is told in 2 books:

“Turmoil – Tragedy to Triumph, The Story of New Italy” published 1980.

“The Phantom Paradise” published 1936.

Families were initially separated, but were eventually granted land near Woodburn (in NSW) to establish New Italy. My grandfather, James and his brother, Ernie moved from New Italy in 1911 on to adjoining farms at Black Mountain, outside Pomona. Dad walked 3 miles to school in Pomona.

Uncle Ernie operated the Majestic Picture Theatre from 1933 until his death in 1974.

Uncle Louis and his brother Joe owned a Shell depot incorporating an earthmoving business. The former was President of the Noosa Show Society and Uncle Joe played the piano in the local hall for dances.

My father met Mum at a local dance. Mum was the teacher at Black Mountain State School. After marrying, they bought a dairy farm 3 miles on the other side of Pomona and raised 8 children. I am the eldest and was born in the hospital in Pomona and attended the local Convent school for my primary school education.

Life on the farm was busy but an enjoyable one for children with little time spent in the house. Besides a herd of 50 cows, Dad grew beans and bananas for sale, as well as having a vegetable garden and fruit trees. We did not have electricity until after I finished primary school.



I boarded at Marist Brothers College at Ashgrove (Brisbane) for my secondary education. Having never spent a night away from home previously, it was a difficult experience initially. After school, I did one year only of a teaching scholarship, before working as a clerk for 18 months with the Sugar Cane Prices Board in Brisbane. In 1968, I moved to Townsville to train as a laboratory technician. This involved lectures 3 nights a week for 5 years, while working at the Animal Health Station at Oonoonba. The work was very routine, but I was often asked to perform post mortems on chooks. This was an invaluable help in anatomy for my later nursing training.



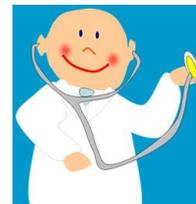
In 1974, I moved back to Brisbane and worked mainly in haematology at the Animal Research Institute at Yeerongpilly.



To follow a call to religious life, I moved to Sydney in 1976 to enter the Saint John of God Brothers. After 2 ½ years of religious formation, I started my professional training as a nurse at St Vincent’s Hospital. It was an interesting experience as I was 31, a Brother, and the only male in a class with 65 women straight out of school. Having worked previously was a huge benefit, and I was able to graduate with a high distinction in the State Registration Examination.

After graduation, I worked in a few different hospitals and developed an interest in Palliative Care. In late 1991, I made the decision (after 16 years) to leave religious life and return to Brisbane. Immediately I commenced work at Mt Olivet (now called St Vincent’s) in the Palliative Care Unit. It was an

exciting time as Palliative Care was being recognized as a specialist medical discipline and Mt Olivet was at the forefront of medical training in this area. I was fortunate to work with many caring and hard working doctors and staff. Later, I worked in the Home Care team and this involved being on call and often having to go out at night to patients and relatives in distress. One Christmas Eve, I was doing a routine visit to a lady in Paddington. Upon arrival at 10am, I found her at the kitchen table surrounded by several friends drinking home brew. I was asked if I wanted one and said "Yes", (my thinking was that it would make easier to be accepted by the group). As I was leaving, I was given 2 bottles of home brew.



After 19 years at Mt Olivet, I joined Queensland Health and worked in Palliative Care in community, hospital and nursing home situations.

Six months after retiring, Kathy and I moved to Sippy Downs in 2015, and I attended the bridge lessons here in 2016. I married Kathy on Christmas Eve in 2005, and have no problem remembering the year, as West's Cricket Club won the first grade premiership after 17 years (I was the scorer). Kathy had worked for my brother-in-law Ross, who owned a dental service company. For one of her many 50th birthday celebrations, she had asked Ross if he knew any suitable males to invite – as they say, the rest is history.



Two of my collecting cricket My cricket the local paper. spent 5 years as scoring for first Qld Cricket to These matches and a 1 Since coming up to the Sunshine Coast, I have been involved at the Nambour Cricket Club as first grade scorer.



interests are cricket and running. I started books at the beginning of my working life. scoring started after answering an advert in Western Suburbs was the closest club and I second grade scorer and then 12 years grade. There were some opportunities from score at the Gabba and Allan Border Field. appointments included 2 Sheffield Shield Day International (Australia v Pakistan).

Jogging has been part of my life for 51 years and I have competed in 140 official runs between 1977 and 2007. This included 13 marathons and 8 ultra marathons, as well as 5 City to Surf runs in Sydney, and 4 King of the Mountain races at Pomona in the 1990's.

I value the support of my wife and family. Whilst living in Brisbane we enjoyed regular monthly family gatherings.

I have been lucky to have had a rewarding working life and to have lived in a great country during a stable time in our history.



ENJOY YOUR BRIDGE AND HAVE LOTS OF FUN

Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.

BRADAGES

(a.k.a. "Bridge Adages")

Kay Webber, from the thoughts of Malcolm Allan of Rockhampton BC.

1. Many a man is walking the streets of London because he didn't draw trumps.
2. If there's one trump still out and it's a winner- Forget it.
3. If 3NT is at all likely- Bid it!
4. Don't bid a Minor Game without having seriously considered 3NT.
5. If it looks, quacks and waddles like a Duck- It's probably a Singleton.
6. Don't pre-empt over a pre-empt.
7. Lead low, 2nd plays low, 3rd play high, 4th pauses and considers. Commit your forces to the fray as late as possible.
8. Play the lowest of equals in 3rd position.
9. Finesse against Dummy, not against partner.
10. If Dummy is on your left, play through its strength. If Dummy is on your right, play around to its weakness.
11. Don't underlead an Ace or King against a suit contract.
12. Lead partner's suit or return partner's lead (and at least you won't do badly in the post-mortem).
13. *Give count on returning lead.*
14. Aces are for capturing Kings, Kings are for capturing Queens.
15. 6-5 come alive. 6-4 bid more.
16. *No Double, no trouble.*
17. Cover an honour with an honour. Cover the last of equals, Cover to promote.
18. *Should I finesse? Eight ever. Nine never.*
19. If you have A & K of a suit you don't have a lead problem.
20. *When playing NTs, take your losers early.*
21. If you diagnose a misfit, pass as soon as possible.
22. Don't ask partner to do something you can do yourself, but don't try too hard to rescue partner from an accident.
23. If there is something good I can do, like taking a winner in dummy, then do it now as I will not pass this way again.
24. A loser will be lost unless you can take some action to change its state.
25. A change of suit by a responder in an unpassed hand is forcing.
26. No entry to your hand? Don't bother establishing a suit. Seek a greener pasture.
27. *Count winners in NTs; losers in a suit.*
28. Really concentrate on the bidding, so that you have a mental picture of the other three hands when play starts.
29. Maintain parity with dummy, and parity also with what you visualise as declarer's hand.
30. To thine own partner be true! (Bid the first round strictly in accordance with your system card: you can bid on shape the next time around. Don't allow shortages till you've found a (suit) contract: the shortage points will disappear if your partner changes to NTs).

COMMITTEE CHANGES

More changes to be announced in the next Newsletter after AGM.

It is with sadness that we accepted Lynda Laffan's resignation as TREASURER from our Club. Fortunately, Lynda will continue to play but not seek election to be a Committee Member. Lynda took over as Treasurer in August 2016. What a fantastic job Lynda has done not only as Treasurer but as a very active member of our Club. We thank you, Lynda, for being our very dedicated and wonderful Treasurer for the past three years.