



# Bridgemates

Issue No. 25



## UPDATE ON OUR BIG MOVE

Our special meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March was the opportunity for our members to come together to vote on a decision for the new home for our club. We had tried our best to change the mind of our landlord to prevent our eviction, but to no effect and so that led us to look at all the available venues which might accommodate us. After a great deal of work, the committee recommended that we chose the USC Cricket Clubhouse as being the best option to suit our requirements for storage, parking and times available. At the meeting, there were many questions asked and ideas put forward and then members voted in favour of this proposal 102 to 5 votes.

A new sub-committee has now been set up to carry out the wishes of the members in making this move happen. Led by President Sandi, the members of this group are – John Barton, Mark Boulter, Linda Boyle, Norm de Chastel, Dan Jepsen and Greg O'Connor. The work that must be done includes – the installation of toilets in one of the existing store rooms, lighting for the car park, a handrail on the cement path leading to the clubhouse and shelving for the storeroom which we will have exclusive use of for our gear.

Although we have \$ 122 000 in our accounts at present, we are keen to explore any grant funding that might be available and we are pleased to announce that \$10 400 has already been promised from the discretionary funding from two local councillors. A great start!

The cricket club is very pleased to have us as long-term tenants as the regular rental income will provide funding for the development of the club over time. So, we have received nothing but positive assistance from them as we start to make the adjustments needed for us to move in.

The committee has been approached by a couple of members who would like to donate some money to help facilitate the move to the cricket clubhouse. This generosity and support demonstrate how important the club is to our members. We all know how much the social interaction and the intellectual stimulation which the playing sessions provide, and how much it was missed during the lockdown.

**So, if you too would like to make a donation to add to the coffers as we make this move, please contact Sandi to make arrangements for this offer which, of course, could be kept confidential.**

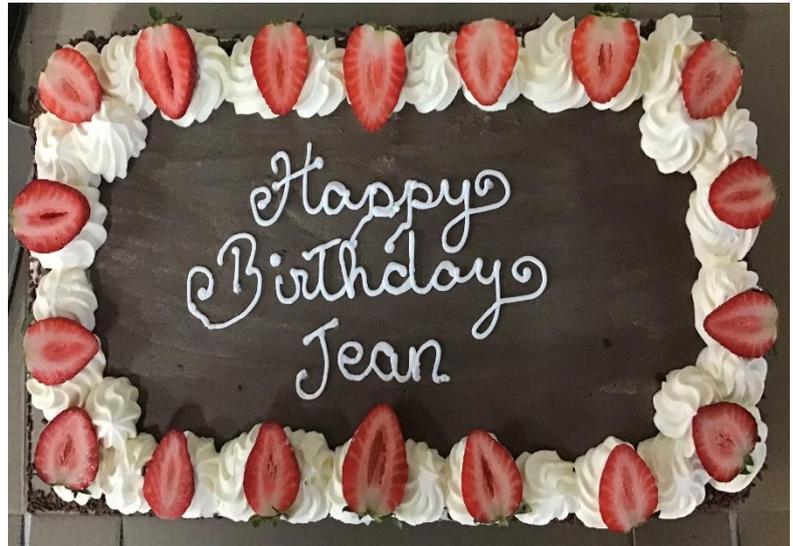
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## MEET YOUR MEMBERS

*Continuing our series of conversations with Bridge Club members*



Meet Bert Morris – one of the newest members of our club. Bert was born in the UK during the depression, a difficult time, but he earned a scholarship to attend a Grammar School. He spent three years working in accounting and then did his National Service with the RAF from 1950-52. This took him to South Rhodesia to the town of Gwelo where by remarkable coincidence, Cherith Suddens was a boarder at the local high school! (But they didn't meet until they played bridge at Sippy Downs.) Bert became a teacher and moved to Canada and then later to Brisbane to lecture at Kelvin Grove Teachers' College specializing in running courses for teachers to learn the best ways of teaching literacy. Bert is very competitive and is working hard to improve, and his advice to new players is – 'It does get easier.'



**Jean Thompson – 88 years young!**



### COVID RESTRICTIONS:

Thanks to all members for dealing with the short period of mask wearing recently. We are all pleased to live in a place where we are not badly affected by the virus, so it was a bit of a challenge to come along to bridge as 'masked marauders', but the players in the photo look like they were enjoying it. Is that a 'V' for vaccine or a 'V' for victory in scoring 6 NT or is there something cheeky happening there??



## TIME TO MAKE OUR BRAINS WORK!

Research has shown that regular **bridge** playing improves reasoning skills and long- and short-term memory. You'll feel the neurons firing not only while you play, but long after.



**This is an activity devised for beginners, but one that any of us could try:**

- The following little exercise will help you train your memory to remember what cards have been played. Warning: It's harder than it looks!
- Take a pack of cards, shuffle them and then deal 26 cards face up in a neat pile. Now stop - How many diamonds have you got left in your hand?
- Once you've done that for a few times and become proficient at it, add in the next step. What is the highest diamond left in your hand?
- Easy? Feeling confident? Try counting 2 suits!

## **PRO-AM WINNERS:**

Congratulations to Michael Stewart and Andreas Flach – winners at the ProAm competition held on 9 April to celebrate our 27<sup>th</sup> birthday.

