

**August 2023**

## Message from the President

Dear members,

A very big Congratulations to Kevin Kendell (KevinKen) who is now a Life member with our club. It is inspirational to see Kevin play with us so regularly. A belated Happy 96th Birthday Kevin for last month.



Our October Congress is now accepting entries. We are using the MyABF platform to handle registrations.

The Audio Video trials have been suspended for August as they clash with the Club Championships, however we are conducting private setup sessions for players as and when requested. The Sunday evening 8pm session is now an Audio Video session. The overwhelming feedback from players is that they like the format and they enjoy being able to see and greet and meet their friends and partners from all over our country. Being winter time some players are tucked up in bed with their laptop on their knees and enjoying the game. Good to see.

The morning Individual Tournament has a stable group participating each morning. If you haven't tried this challenge yet, give it a go.

The Monday night WA session has been abandoned. There were insufficient numbers to make it worthwhile. Perhaps when daylight savings commences there will be a demand and we will consider adding it back to the schedule at that time.

As previously advised the software development department is working on our new Teams format which should be available in September. This exciting addition to our playing program will be tested as soon as it comes online and new teams competitions will be announced.

A reminder our AGM is a little over 1 months away. It is vital that the committee attracts some talented people to participate in the administration of our club. Please consider if you have some skills to contribute and nominate to join the team.

Happy Bridging,  
*Sarah Zoral (SarahAn)*

## Committee

### President

Sarah Zoral (SarahAn)

### Vice President

Chris Larter (ChrisLar)

### Secretary

Chris Larter (ChrisLar)

### Treasurer

Suzi Ledger (Suzi)

### Chief Technical Officer

Mark Hetherington  
(Markhet)

### Committee Members

Duncan Welsh (DuncanW)

### StepBridge International Representative:

Epko Steinmetz (Epko)

## Non-Committee Roles

### Head TD

Sarah Zoral (SarahAn)

### Masterpoint Secretary

Antonina Hayles (Antonina)

### Newsletter Editor

Chris Larter (ChrisLar)

### Public Officer

Eric Taylor (EricTay)

## Email Address

[support@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:support@stepbridge.com.au)

Sunday 24 September 2023

5.15pm Australia Eastern Standard Time  
on Zoom

**AGM**  
Annual General Meeting

## Life Membership

### Kevin Kendall (KevinKen) - Life Member of StepBridge Australia



#### **Congratulations Kevin Kendall**



In July, Kevin celebrated his 96th birthday.

Kevin has been a member of StepBridge Australia for more than 16 years.

He originally joined 17th July 2007.

Kevin was a member of our Committee for a number of years and has played 5406 tournaments at the time of this article going to print.

We are proud to say Kevin is a Home Club member of StepBridge Australia and he now has the privilege of Life Member Status and free participation in all tournaments from 1st August 2023.

Kevin is a regular player and plays most days with us.

We hope Kevin remains in good health and that we get to celebrate his 100th birthday with him in 2027.

## CLUB PLAYING NUMBERS

Aug 2023		Jul 2023	9924	Jun 2023	8698	May 2023	8858
April 2023	9354	Mar 2023	9372	Feb 2023	8346	Jan 2023	9804
Dec 2022	9142	Nov 2022	9090	Oct 2022	9036	Sept 2022	8594
Aug 2022	9631	Jul 2022	10344	Jun 2022	9322	May 2022	9980
April 2022	9788	Mar 2022	10386	Feb 2022	9854	Jan 2022	12428
Dec 2021	9264	Nov 2021	9516	Oct 2021	11200	Sept 2021	13660

## Message from the Secretary

### Annual General Meeting

The 2023 StepBridge Australia Bridge Club Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Sunday 24 September at 5.15pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time) on Zoom.

As this is the main meeting of the club, all members are welcome to attend and participate.

We also welcome anyone who would like to nominate for a position on the Committee or submit any agenda items. If you wish to nominate for a position on the Committee, please email me at [chris@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:chris@stepbridge.com.au) for a nomination form ASAP. You can also talk to me about any position and what it entails. We are particularly looking for a Secretary and Committee Members.

To nominate for a position on the Committee and/or for any motions / matters of business for the meeting, please have these emailed to me by Friday 1 September at the very latest.

StepBridge members will be emailed information regarding the AGM, including the minutes from the last AGM, agenda, reports from the various positions, and a list of candidates by Sunday 10 September. If you have not received your AGM email by this date, please email me at [chris@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:chris@stepbridge.com.au), as this will mean your email may have gotten lost in cyberspace.

Finally, if you have any questions about the AGM, please email me at [chris@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:chris@stepbridge.com.au).

*Chris Larter (ChrisLar)*

## Congress Results

On Saturday 15 July, Grafton held another successful Congress. The Grafton Bridge Club would like to thank everyone for their support and the Directors for making the day run so smoothly.

The winners were as follows -

### Overall

- 1st Robert Stammel & Claire Stammel
- 2nd Heather Grant & Frank Campbell
- 3rd Christine Williams & Sally Clarke

### Best Novice Pair

Bob Northam & Ian Huxley

### Best Grafton Pairs

- 1st Bob Northam & Ian Huxley
- 2nd Tess Bloomer & Nettie Bennett

### Best Restricted Pair

Anne Heyes & Simon Tissera

## Director's Corner

### Why Do We Alert?

The answer to this question probably affects how you act and how you respond to others alerting or, importantly, not alerting. Think of your answer and write it down before reading on.

The **principle** in Bridge is that your Opponents are entitled to know *everything your Partner does about what your hand contains on the basis of your bidding. In addition, your bidding (and card play) is the only legal form of communication — anything else (talking to the table, hesitation, undos etc) create what is called Unauthorised Information, UI, which restricts what your Partner may do. We will come back to UI in the future but, for now, we will focus on correct legal communication.*



How do your Opponents know as much as your Partner with whom you may have been playing for years? You have to tell them! You do that in three ways:

1. You **must** have a system card (identical in meaning with your Partner's card);
2. You **must** fully disclose the systemic meaning of any bid immediately when asked by an opponent (whose turn it is to act); and
3. You **must** alert any unusual bids or bids which have an unexpected meaning or convey additional meaning.

Action (1) is pretty straightforward. You should endeavour to have a comprehensive system card that accurately reflects how you play with this particular Partner. Make sure you are playing the advertised system: doing something else will not work in your favour if there are any disputes!

Action (2) requires you to be watching for messages from your Opponents. You should reply privately as quickly as possible (and you might want to reply "...". before giving a full response to show you saw the question). No one should ask or answer questions to the table, as that creates UI and potentially restricts what your Partner can do. You click on the person's name from a message in order to reply privately.

Action (3) appears more complicated: what does unusual or unexpected mean? Well, there are a bunch of alerting regulations (<http://abfevents.com.au/events/tournregs/ABFAlertRegs2017.pdf>) but let's stick with the principles. Face-to-face you alert your Partner's bids — this is to avoid the inevitable UI that would happen if you described your own bids. Even so the Director sometimes sends your Partner away from the table if they are unable to correctly describe the systemic meaning of your bid. Online, however, you can describe your own bids because your Partner does not see the description so no UI is created — so you can happily describe bids even if they do not need to be alerted.

Face-to-face regulations also say you do **not** alert most bids over 3NT. Instead the declaring side should draw attention to any unusual features, particularly any unusual non-alerted calls (like control-bids and Blackwood responses) prior to the opening lead. Online, these delayed alerts by the Declarer before the opening lead are required as well, but the better time-saving measure is to describe the bids as you make them.

StepBridge **requires** you to alert and describe any of your own bids that face-to-face regulations say your Partner must alert. I would recommend you describe more of your bids than that: online it does no harm, and it has a remarkable way of reinforcing your own understanding of the system you are playing.

The one drawback of online alerting is the time taken to describe your bid. Many of us are not the best typists! But what if you could type them up in advance and just put in a code like 1M3d to mean "Bergen raise: four card support and 10-12 points"? Mac computers have a built-in system to do this (System Preferences -> Keyboard -> Text), and there are free text-expanders (such as the aText program) for Windows. Developing canned text for each of your bids over time is another great way of improving your understanding of your system.

So, we alert and describe the systemic meaning of our bids to keep our Opponents fully informed (as the spirit of Bridge compels us to do). Our Opponents can seek redress if we fail to fully inform them — they should call the TD who will adjust the result if the non-offending side have been damaged. Note that TDs do not "penalize" people for not alerting; they seek to find the result had the infringement not occurred.

**You should take pride in fully describing your bids. I look forward to seeing more better descriptions in future!**

### **What if your opponents don't Alert?**

We have previously discussed "*Why do we Alert?*" but *what are you supposed to do if your opponents don't alert or, worse, don't respond privately to your question about what their bid means?*

Although the Laws and Regulations of Bridge entitle you to know the full *systemic* meaning of all your opponents bids and plays, they also provide redress if it is not forthcoming. After giving your opponents a reasonable (and relatively short) time to respond, you are entitled to make any reasonable assumption about the meaning of their bid. If your assumption(s) result in any damage to your side, you should call the TD — they will gather information from you and your opponents, review the bidding and play, and, if appropriate, award an adjusted score. Sometimes they may need to refer the board to our Review Panel for a complex decision.

Reasonable assumptions that you might make include that a non-alerted bid is Natural or that it means what it says on the player's system card. It is usually better to just make this assumption (possibly letting the TD know privately) and continue play. Second best is to call the TD to help resolve the situation. Worst is to berate your opponents either privately or, worse, publicly — that just wastes time and annoys everyone, including the TD.

Often when you see the hands at the end of play, you will realise your assumption(s) did not affect the result, or that you got a better result than you might have otherwise. In that case no further action is required. If, however, you realise that your side may have been damaged you should call the TD and explain what happened.

Just one word of warning, don't think you can now "go wild" bid a slam and, if it doesn't make, hope the TD will adjust your score because of your opponent's failure to alert or explain a bid. In such circumstances, Law 12C1(e)(ii) says the non-offending side does not receive relief for such part of its damage as is self-inflicted.

So, if your opponents don't alert, don't reply to a question, or are otherwise less forthcoming than they might be about the systemic meaning of their bids:

#### **Keep Calm and Carry On**

and call the TD at the end of play if you think you have been disadvantaged.

For repeat offenders, you should let the TD know in a private message. There are procedural penalties that can be applied if players do not follow the TD's instructions, and those instructions can certainly require players to alert and/or fully explain bids. Such penalties are unlikely to benefit your side, but they may help others to play correctly "in the spirit of Bridge".

*Alan Bustany (TDAlan)*

## Novice Corner

Welcome everyone to the 7th edition. Thank you to everyone for their positive feedback from the previous newsletter. If anyone has any suggestions for next month's newsletter, please send me an email.

*Bridge requires you to have a good relationship with your partner. Long the journey to finding a good partnership there will be times when you will not find a suitable partner. In these times, it is important to be patient with your partner and try to improve the relationship, however, if it fails it is also important to be honest with your partner and tell them how you are feeling. In doing this you are trying to develop the partnership in a way it can become a good partnership. However, it may get to a point where it will not work and it is time to move on.*

*The game of bridge can be competitive, but it is essential to be happy and have a fun time while playing bridge. If you are interested in learning more about partnerships, please find below two articles.*

<https://www.dummies.com/article/home-auto-hobbies/games/card-games/bridge/10-ways-better-bridge-partner-224161/>

<https://www.larryco.com/bridge-articles/21-rules-of-being-a-good-partner>

We intend to have this page in the monthly newsletter from here on, so I encourage each of you to submit any ideas for the monthly newsletter.

I know it is daunting to find a partner, as a new player coming into our community. If that is the case for anyone in our community, please let me know and we will post your name on this page and we will endeavour to find you a regular partner. If you would like to be a part of the Partnership Finder List email me, your Username and contact details that you are happy to have published on our page. In addition to the above, we have set up a bulk mail out to all the novices when we receive emails in between newsletters.

### Partnership Finder List:

1. JohnHew johnhewitt789@gmail.com

I would like to introduce you to the following new novice players that started to play in July, please be supportive and friendly to these players. These people are single players looking for a game, so we would encourage you to volunteer your time and team up with these new members.

SaraF	Heather2	HelenKli	MargCos	TomH
MaureenL	LyndaD	DeclanA	DianaL	DoreenH
SusanLo	Helen2	BarbaraF	KimB	Michael2
Alison2	IreneK	AlanK	JohnLem	LynneB

Happy Bridging,  
Duncan Welsh (DuncanW)  
[duncan@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:duncan@stepbridge.com.au)

## Turkish Blog

### Sarah's Turkish Adventures - continued

What a month this past one has been!!

4 Weddings and a Circumcision!! Not dissimilar to the comedy movie "4 Weddings and a Funeral"!!!

#### Wedding Number 1.

Let me remind you that the week prior to this wedding we had atrocious weather, bad flooding, landslides etc. The venue for this salubrious occasion was at a Wedding Garden Salon not too far from where we live. Definitely a rural setting. Nobody actually knew this venue so I resorted to my trusty Google Maps App. Off we go, giving directions from an English speaking app to a Turkish speaking driver has its own problems. Suddenly the driver makes a right turn. No, no say I that's not what the directions say, we must go the other way. I am cried down by the rest of the occupants and we proceed along this goat track. Evidence of last week's inclement weather show washaways on the side of this track. Next minute we come to a causeway - this causeway is underwater and the water is moving quite swiftly. Nail, (the driver) proceeds to drive down to go through the water. I immediately panic, can't remember a single Turkish word and I am abusing him in English telling him to stop, hasn't he seen the idiots on TV who drive through floodwaters and the dire consequences!!! I am at the point of opening the door and getting out. We plunge into the water and he makes a left hand navigation change. I can see what looks like a boat ramp on the other side and he is aiming for the ramp. I don't know how, but we survive this complete lunacy climb the boat ramp minus the front number plate - we discover later and proceed down the goat track. All the while the map navigator is saying U turn go back U turn go back, we come upon another sign showing the way to this remote venue, he makes a left turn and here we are back at the river..... There is no bridge, it has been washed away. I yell at him to stop. DUR!!!! Fortunately this time he obeys. We have to back up, not enough room to turn around.

We proceed down the road and come across people walking, on motor scooters, bikes, in cars all looking for how to get to this venue. We can now see the venue on the other side of the river on top of the hill. In this procession of madness is the bride and groom and their entourage all honking their horns. We pass farmers and their wives on tractors coming home from a day in the fields and they look in amusement at the mayhem on their country lane and village. By the time we get to the function across a temporary bridge, everyone is frazzled and exhausted - especially me. I could do with a stiff drink and I know there won't be one in sight. Negotiating from the carpark to the wedding park was another feat, craters and ruts in the dried mud. I wore heels!!

We entered the gate into what could have possibly looked like a cricket oval with its picket fence perimeter. However that is where the similarity ended. We did not encounter freshly mown lawns, rather paddock like surroundings that could have been ploughed 3 weeks ago and the grass grown through. Tables and chairs surround a covered dance floor and sound booth. We find a table and take a seat awaiting the happy event. Haaaa! Everything is delayed. Many guests have failed to navigate the detours, we wait and listen to extremely loud Turkish music. And then..... we are attacked by swarms of mosquitoes, all large enough to rival an F1 Eleven fighter jet. They bite bare skin, through gabardine pants with nothing to stand in their way.

### **Sarah's Turkish Adventures - continued**

The Anatolian traditional women present who always dress covered from head to toe must have been laughing at those of us who were not. A day later writing this account of events I have more welts than you can count and they are burning and itching like the devil.

Back to the wedding. Finally the bride and groom appear, now we can get on with it. They dance, they invite others to dance with them. Traditional dancers perform. We have had a cup of tea during the wait, but up until this point it has been a very dry argument . The wedding cake appears. It is a fake cake of 7 tiers ceremoniously brought in on a trolley. The bride and groom are handed a giant cutlass and pretend to cut the cake. They are handed a plate with cake upon it and 2 forks . They feed each other a mouthful of cake and take a wine glass filled with I do not know what. They drink a toast to each other. This is the signal to feed the guests who have been patiently waiting for some 2 ½ hours by this time. Wine glasses are produced and a bottle of fanta and pepsi cola to each table. Next a waiter serves a plate with a piece of sponge cake and a couple of biscuits. This my friends is the wedding feast.

It is now time for guests to present their gifts to the happy couple. A small chest is placed on a pedestal next to them and a wide piece of ribbon placed around their necks. All the guests starting with family, present their gifts, It is acceptable to give money or gold. Some people pin the money or their gold if mounted on a ribbon onto the ribbons around the necks of the bride or groom. Others place an envelope of money into the chest. Everybody has a photo with the couple and then returns to their seats. You can imagine with hundreds of guests this is a time consuming enactment. Meanwhile the mosquitoes continue to feast. Finally people at our table begin to depart giving a signal that it could be a suitable time to wend our way home. I hasten to assure you it was NOT via the causeway this time.

#### **The Circumcision**

This event takes place during my StepBridge directing schedule. Sadly - or not I am unable to attend. Orhan leaves walking down the verandah steps laughing at me making snip snip motions with his hands. I shudder in horror and go back to my computers. He is gone for maybe 90 minutes and returns with the words - I'm hungry. Two English words he has mastered very well. I enquired about the event. He informed me the boy was 6 years old and that he wasn't very happy. Time apparently heals all wounds and bad memories, because when I ask doesn't he remember his "day" he shrugs his shoulders. Part of the culture and way of life here. A celebrated day in this small boy's life.

There are 3 Weddings left. I feel a headache looming.....

Two more weddings have come and gone, nothing of any real interest to report until we get to



### Sarah's Turkish Adventures - continued

#### Wedding Number 4

This wedding is different, it is being held in the backyard of the bridegroom's parents. They live in our village. Orhan tells me we are to be part of the welcoming convoy. We join about 30 cars and travel in convoy to the bride's home to escort her to the wedding. It is a treacherous narrow mountain goat track that is navigated by the convoy. Once we arrive, somewhat to the back of the pack, we are waiting while I imagine the bride leaving her home and getting into the car. Next thing there are many gunshots. This apparently is a tradition in the rural areas in the Black Sea provinces. Highly illegal in the city and this action would quickly see the Jandarma called out to make arrests. Two young men come along the convoy of vehicles and tie some tulle and ribbons to the wing mirrors of all the cars. After some time and more gunshots the convoy starts moving and heading back down the mountain and driving back to our village. The purpose of the convoy is to escort the Bride to her new village and welcome her to the local community. The backyard has been transformed into a wedding garden with beautifully decorated tables and flowers in archways around the grounds. I count more than 60 tables with between 10 to 15 people at every table. Eventually the proceedings get underway. Legal Weddings can only be officiated by Government Officers. (Same sex marriage is banned and the last time a survey was conducted 27% of the population supported same sex marriage.) Not likely any time soon. Another observation. Wedding and funeral services are conducted with almost indecent haste. No mucking around. No music, no speeches or eulogies in the case of a funeral. They are done in no time flat, done and dusted. Within 24 hours of the death the body has been buried. Finished!!! Oh another fact, no funeral parlours or expensive funerals. The local council come once there has been a death in the family, the body is washed and wrapped in a shroud, placed in a pine box provided by the state and with some urgency the funeral is performed. The jungle drums beat in the local village to announce the demise of a neighbour or friend. Well not exactly the jungle drums, but the speaker system attached to the local mosque is used to announce to all the passing and the funeral arrangements and time. We have a village burial plot on the family land and it is where all the locals are laid to rest.

I know nothing about the Hatched Department but certainly the Matched and Despatched Departments get on with the business, no frills. It seems here the intent for having such large weddings is in the hope of guests generously giving to set up the financial future of the happy couple. Sadly Wedding No 4 got quite out of hand with hand guns in the main being produced by many and shots fired. It was quite terrifying in the middle of more than 700 people and you don't know who is firing or at what. We had small children with us and made a rapid exit and went home early.

This part of the world has been hit by the record breaking heat waves. Fortunately here in Duzce, although the days continue to be very hot, the nights cool to pleasant temperatures so that it is not hard to sleep. Not so lucky further south.

The economy seems to go from bad to worse. All car owners previously paid the equivalent of car rego twice a year. Very expensive so most people do not own a motor vehicle. The government has decided to impose a levy 4 times a year to contribute to the earthquake recovery. Current inflation rate is more than 40%. Impossible to maintain a reasonable standard of living. Retirees are so far below the poverty line it is beyond my understanding as to how they are surviving.

## Bridge Article

### *Life in ..... 'The Restricted Zone'.*

Bridge sure is a journey ...

But we are very fortunate that there is a mind boggling treasury of books, articles, lessons, hints of wisdom, both in print and with web resources from 'wise owls' who generously provide their knowledge to us 'greener' players. They guide us on this journey.

What strikes me about Bridge is that there are quite starkly seven distinct variables involved which fall into 'knowns' and 'unknowns' (to plagiarise Donald Rumsfeld a bit). Things you can influence or control, and things that you absolutely cannot influence or control. As you play Bridge you come to enjoy the interaction of these seven variables because these 'things' make Bridge the spiciest pursuit of all.

First the 'unknowns' which are things you cannot control.

1. If sitting NS for example, what happens at the other tables with NS is outside your control. So how well your opposing NS plays is outside your control.
2. Also, at the other tables, how well the EW pairs who they face play, is outside your control.
3. At your table how well your EW opponents who you face play, is outside your control.

Next the 'knowns' or things you do have some influence over.

4. How you bid can influence the ability of EW to find the best contract and can prevent them if they are defending, to find the best defence when you are playing a contract.
5. How you defend against a contract which EW has secured is very much under your control.
6. How cleverly you bid to secure the optimum contract is largely within your control, and has become an art form in itself.
7. When you secure a contract, how well you play the cards you have in your hand and dummy is completely under your control.

We tend to lump beneficial outcomes from the first three as being down to 'luck'. Which surely must be true? 'Chance' is the deciding factor.

'Bidding' i.e. variable number six logically appears to get the most attention from the 'wise owls'. It gets quite sophisticated and a favoured combination of 'bids' or communications prevails over time. Things which you and your partner feel comfortable with.

Variable number four is related to this. Bidding is competitive, as it can be a smoke screen and can place the EW pair at a disadvantage.

Variable number five is clearly something you must have control over to ensure a good level of success. If your defensive skills are inadequate, all is lost.

But is it variable number seven in which you must perform with maximum skill because it is the only variable that is completely 'yours to own'? The objective must be to secure every possible trick without jeopardizing your contract. Without allowing the risk/return to be imbalanced.

One conundrum is to know what portion of the final scoring percentage is attributable to the above seven variables.

Many times I have played a session and felt that 'we did not do much wrong' but received a

percentage that disappointed. What I have noticed though is that it appears easier to perform better in defence when hands with some useful HCP are held. And I have noticed that in sessions where you play the hands as declarer well, a much better percentage result is achieved.

The puzzle still lies out there for me to solve.

*Tony Georgeson (TonyGeor)*

## Cookery Corner

Thank you to Brenda McClean (Brenda) for our monthly Cookery Corner.

### Smoked Salmon Pasta

#### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- 1 chilli, finely chopped
- 120g of smoked salmon
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- Handful of chives or chopped spring onions

#### Directions

- Cook spaghetti for 10 minutes al dente or to your choice.
- Meanwhile heat oil in a wok or large frypan and fry chilli to soften it
- Drain spaghetti, reserving a little water. Tip the water into the pan. Toss chilli and oil together with water until well mix.
- Add the salmon, lemon zest & juice, and spring onions. Toss again and then serve.



### Macadamia Brownies

#### Ingredients

- 275 gram dark chocolate, chopped finely
- 150 gram butter, chopped
- 2/3 cup (150g) caster sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten lightly
- 1 cup (150g) plain flour
- 1/2 cup SR flour
- 2/3 cup macadamias chopped
- 100g milk chocolate
- 100g dark chocolate
- Icing sugar to dust

#### Directions

- Preheat oven to 170°C (150°C fan-forced). Grease and line the base of a 20cm square shallow cake pan with baking paper.
- Combine the chocolate and butter in a medium pan and stir over low heat until smooth. Remove pan from heat.
- Stir in sugar, then eggs and mix well. Fold in the combined sifted flours, then the macadamias, milk chocolate and extra dark chocolate.
- Spread mixture into the prepared pan. Bake for about 35 minutes or until moist crumbs cling to a skewer inserted in the centre. Cool in pan.



# Funnies Page

Thank you to Bev Cleary (BevClea) for sending through Funnies for the newsletter this month.



I threw 5 shoes , 3 broom whacks  
And Half a can of Raid extra power  
Turns out it's a hair clip



Silence is golden. But when you have  
kids, silence is suspicious.



# Funnies Page

Thank you to Bev Cleary (BevClea) for sending through Funnies for the newsletter this month.

I wonder how this marriage turned out



# Funnies Page

Thank you to Bev Cleary (BevClea) for sending through Funnies for the newsletter this month.

The firefighter was asked why he laughed while saving this old woman...  
He said that the elderly woman said to him: "You reminded me of my wedding night.." 🤔🤔🤔



Imagine you're traveling and opening your passport at the airport and boom!!!.... 🤔🤔🤔



**Never seen anyone jogging and smiling, so that's all I need to know about that.**

I forgot my cat outside.  
I am too scared to let him in now.



This may be my last post

If you think you're having a bad day, remember the woman standing behind 3 mannequins. 🤔🤔



## Monthly Awards: July 2023

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
<i>Highest Player Average in July 2023</i>	Overall	<b>1</b>	<b>59.26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Robert Van der hoek (RobertV)</b>
		2	57.64	17	Rez Karim (MeemKar)
		3	57.48	17	Ziauddin Kazi (Ziauddin)
	Open	<b>1</b>	<b>59.26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Robert Van der hoek (RobertV)</b>
		2	57.64	17	Rez Karim (MeemKar)
		3	57.48	17	Ziauddin Kazi (Ziauddin)
	Restricted	<b>1</b>	<b>57.12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Bill Gilmore (BillG)</b>
		2	56.17	6	Sandra Mulcahy (SandraMu)
		3	55.98	8	Jane Venter (JaneV)
	Novice	<b>1</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Sylvia Skeels (SylviaSk)</b>
		2	57.24	7	Jo Quinlivan (JoQ)
		3	54.49	6	Sue Mittermair (SueMit)
	Open IMPs	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Noel Daniel (NoelDa)</b>
		2	12	7	Clare Filmer-Ramsay (ClareFR)
			12	7	Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi)
Open	<b>1</b>	<b>56.02</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>John Friesen (JohnFri)</b>	
Individual	2	55.64	6	Nimal Weerasinghe (NimalW)	
	3	54.26	9	Wendy Doyle (WendyDo)	
<i>Highest Pairs Average in July 2023</i>	Overall	<b>1</b>	<b>58.95</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Rez Karim (MeemKar), Philip Bapty (PhillB)</b>
		2	58.1	8	Dianne Dwyer (Dianned), Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
		3	57.58	7	Nimal Weerasinghe (NimalW), Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
	Open	<b>1</b>	<b>58.95</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Rez Karim (MeemKar), Philip Bapty (PhillB)</b>
		2	58.1	8	Dianne Dwyer (Dianned), Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
		3	57.58	7	Nimal Weerasinghe (NimalW), Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
	Restricted	<b>1</b>	<b>57.49</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Peter Thorpe (PeterTh), Bill Gilmore (BillG)</b>
		2	56.31	10	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG), Tammy Hubbard
		3	56.17	6	Sandra Mulcahy (SandraMu), Frank Broos
	Novice	<b>1</b>	<b>57.24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Jo Quinlivan (JoQ), Sylvia Skeels (SylviaSk)</b>
		2	53.33	7	Jennifer Kroon (JenKroon), Ronald Kroon (RonaldKr)
		3	53.3	6	Kaye Waddell (KayeW), Kerstin Gale (Kerstin)
	Open IMPs	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi), Clare Filmer-Ramsay (ClareFR)</b>
		2	7	7	Diva Hatfield (DivaH), Richard Gilbert (RichardG)
		3	6	8	Margaret Dyer (MargDy), Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)

As an incentive for the player / pair who has most sessions in the month and the most improved player / pair in the month, a prize will be awarded to the person / pair that comes first in each category. The prize is 100 participation points per player. The players who have received the prizes are marked in red text below. Congratulations!

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
<i>Player Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in July 2023</i>	Overall	<b>1</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)</b>
		2		58	Dianne Dwyer (DianneD)
		3		56	Wendy Harris (WendyH)
	Open	<b>1</b>		<b>74</b>	<b>Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)</b>
		2		47	Dianne Dwyer (DianneD)
				47	Michele Tredinnick (Michele)
	Restricted	<b>1</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>Wendy Harris (WendyH)</b>
		2		32	Tammy Hubbard (TammyHu)
		3		29	Rhonda Henry (Rhonda)
	Novice	<b>1</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>Carmel Murphy (CarmelM)</b>
		2		21	Havah Nielsen (HavahN)
		3		19	Julie Barker (JulieBar)
	Open IMPs	<b>1</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>Margaret Dyer (MargDy)</b>
				<b>8</b>	<b>Whalley Robin (WhalleyR)</b>
				<b>8</b>	<b>Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)</b>
				<b>8</b>	<b>Robert Stammel (RobS),</b>
				<b>8</b>	<b>Claire Stammel (ClaireS)</b>
	Open	<b>1</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>David Cumming (DavidCum)</b>
	Individual	2		21	Chris Van Wyck (Wicky)
		3		20	Pam Leahy (PamL)



As an incentive for the player / pair who has most sessions in the month and the most improved player / pair in the month, a prize will be awarded to the person / pair that comes first in each category. The prize is 100 participation points per player. The players who have received the prizes are marked in red text below. Congratulations!

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
<i>Pair Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in July 2023</i>	Overall	<b>1</b>		<b>46</b>	<b>Robert Stammel (RobS), Claire Stammel (ClaireS)</b>
		2		23	Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi), Clare Filmer-Ramsay (ClareFR)
		3		22	Beryl Morris (BerylM), Celia McKew (CeliaMcK)
	Open	1		38	Robert Stammel (RobS), Claire Stammel (ClaireS)
		2		20	Gillian Bugeaney (GillBu), Gayle Keenan (GayleK)
		3		18	Christopher Girvan (ChrisGir), Alex Glikin (AlexGlik)
	Restricted	<b>1</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Beryl Morris (BerylM), Celia McKew (CeliaMcK)</b>
		2		13	Patricia Hamilton (PatHamil), Christine Meijer (ChrisM)
		3		12	Bob Hawkins (RobertHa), Pam Hawkins (PamH)
	Novice	<b>1</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>Cath Morrison (CathMor), Vera Boston (VeraB)</b>
		2		8	Marie Rothnie (MarieR), Adele Mitchell (AdeleM)
				8	Constance Lewis (CLewis), Judith Lambkin (JuditLam)
	Open IMPs	<b>1</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>Margaret Dyer (MargDy), Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)</b>
				<b>8</b>	<b>Robert Stammel (RobS), Claire Stammel (ClaireS)</b>
		3		7	Diva Hatfield (DivaH), Richard Gilbert (RichardG)

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Most Improved Player in July 2023</i>	Overall	<b>1</b>	<b>7.18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Nicholas Scott (NichoS)</b>
		2	6.77	13	Joan Lenehan (JoanLe)
		3	6.63	8	Yvonne Wang (YvonneW)
	Open	<b>1</b>	<b>6.27</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Sandy Spencer (SandySp)</b>
		2	5.15	13	Annie Williams (AnnieW)
		3	4.59	9	Sarah Zoral (SarahAn)
	Restricted	<b>1</b>	<b>7.79</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Nicholas Scott (NichoS)</b>
		2	7.22	6	Lily Gulati (LilGulat)
		3	7.08	12	Mal Hughes (MalH)
	Novice	<b>1</b>	<b>4.52</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Carmel Murphy (CarmelM)</b>
		2	4.49	6	Kerrie Goldston (KerrieG)
			4.49	8	Kay Dengate (KayD)
	Open IMPs	<b>1</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Dot Slattery (DotS)</b>
		2	0.1	7	Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi)
		3	0.08	7	Diva Hatfield (DivaH)
Open	<b>1</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Nimal Weerasinghe (NimalW)</b>	
Individual	2	3.71	9	Wendy Doyle (WendyDo)	
	3	2.79	12	Kay Baguley (KayB)	
<i>Most Improved Pair in July 2023</i>	Overall	<b>1</b>	<b>6.12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Dee Sinton (DorothyS), Gloria Carlson (GloriaC)</b>
		2	6.01	6	Mukesh Parekh (Mukesh), Ken Hubbell (KenHu)
		3	5.81	9	Pauline Moore (PaulineM), Annie Williams (AnnieW)
	Open	<b>1</b>	<b>6.01</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Mukesh Parekh (Mukesh), Ken Hubbell (KenHu)</b>
		2	5.81	9	Pauline Moore (PaulineM), Annie Williams (AnnieW)
		3	5.53	9	Megan Grant (MeganGra), Margaret Boniface
	Restricted	<b>1</b>	<b>6.12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Dee Sinton (DorothyS), Gloria Carlson (GloriaC)</b>
		2	4.87	10	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG), Tammy Hubbard
		3	4.31	6	Carole O'Connor (CaroleO), Ann Gale (AnnGale)
	Novice	<b>1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Janet Wilkie (JanetWi), Frances Pope (FrancesP)</b>
		2	1.9	8	Constance Lewis (CLewis), Judith Lambkin (JuditLam)
		3	1.18	7	Jo Quinlivan (JoQ), Sylvia Skeels (SylviaSk)
	Open IMPs	<b>1</b>	<b>0.08</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Diva Hatfield (DivaH), Richard Gilbert (RichardG)</b>
		<b>0.08</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi), Clare Filmer-Ramsay (ClareFR)</b>	

# Masterpoint Promotions

## July 2023

Angeline Christie	Grand	Ina Buhse	State
Barbara Kent	Grand	Robyn Wells	State
Eugene Wichems	Grand	Ian Fraser	State
Jeff Conroy	Gold Life	Denise Llewellyn	State
Mardi Grosvenor	Silver Life	Mary Cotterill	State
Clare Filmer Ramsay	Bronze Life	Robert Pride	State
Kate Nadebaum	Bronze Life	Chris Green	State
Meredith Goodlet	Bronze Life	Suzanne Harrison	Bronze Regional
Sarita Singh	Bronze Life	Peter Cotton	Bronze Regional
Jenny Buckley	Bronze Life	Duncan Welsh	Regional
Shayne Palfreyman	Bronze Life	Ken Macdougall	Regional
Marieta Borthwick	Life	Helen Thomas	Regional
Rohan Bandarage	Life	Jean McGonigal	Regional
Mardi Hogarth	Silver National	Jan Miley	Regional
Margaret Regan	Silver National	Toni Arnott	Regional
Jay Novak	Silver National	Alex Wu	Silver Local
Lyn Redgate	Bronze National	Penelope Shilling	Silver Local
Sandra Mulcahy	Bronze National	Marie O'Sullivan	Silver Local
Robert Fulcher	Bronze National	Anne Portess	Silver Local
Seb Wright	Bronze National	Wendy Byrne	Bronze Local
Diane Smith	Bronze National	Connie Lewis	Bronze Local
Sue Thomas	Bronze National	Seizo Taguchi	Bronze Local
Debbie Jerkovic	National	Clive Riseam	Bronze Local
Frank Broos	National	David Callan	Bronze Local
Graham Harms	National	Susan Ozich	Bronze Local
Lyn Dempster	National	Peta Carney	Local
Colleen Webb	National	Penny Daines	Local
Eamonn McCabe	National	Barry Jackson	Local
Jamshid Vazirzadeh	National	Gwen Clarke	Local
Erica Gray	National	Jeffery Bradley	Local
Rosalind Dey	National	Pam Smigowski	Club
Trish Thomson	Bronze State	Dale Hancock	Club
Louise Walker	Bronze State	Freda Ietto	Club
Libby Heyward	Bronze State	Robert Ford	Club
Agnes Marsh	Bronze State	Samuel Li	Graduate
Joscelyn Charters	Bronze State	Jan Spry	Graduate
Elaine Jones	Bronze State	Kerry McGregor	Graduate
Gary Ruxton	Bronze State		

## StepBridge Tournament Fees

Green Point Session: 50 Participation Points

Red Point Session: 75 Participation Points

## Session Times

Open: 1pm (Monday - Saturday)

2.30pm (Sunday - *All Around Australia*)

4pm (Monday - Saturday)

8pm (Everyday)

Open Individual: 10am (Everyday)

Restricted: 1.15pm (Monday - Saturday)

2.30pm (Sunday - *All Around Australia*)

7.45pm (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)

Novice: 10am (Saturday)

2.30pm (Sunday - *All Around Australia*)

4.10pm (Monday - Saturday)

7.45pm (Tuesday & Thursday)

## IMPs Sessions

Tuesday: 8pm Open

Thursday: 8pm Open

## Contributions to the Newsletter

All contributions, big or small, would be welcome to this newsletter.

- Do you have an interesting hand for a recent bridge session or congress?
- Can we interview you, so we can all get to know you better?
- Do you have a favourite recipe you would like to share?
- Do you have any other information you wish to share?

Please email your contributions to [support@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:support@stepbridge.com.au) with the subject title of the email being **Newsletter**.

## Facebook

Visit our StepBridge Australia Facebook page [www.facebook.com/Stepbridge.com.au/](http://www.facebook.com/Stepbridge.com.au/)

## Upcoming Red Point Sessions

### September

*Friday 1 September*

- 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

*Sunday 3 September*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Tuesday 5 September*

- 4.00pm Open & 4.10pm Novice

*Thursday 7 September*

- 7.45pm Novice & 8.00pm Open

*Saturday 9 September*

- 10.00am Open Individual & Novice

*Sunday 10 September*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Tuesday 12 September*

- 10.00am Open Individual

*Thursday 14 September*

- 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

*Sunday 17 September*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Monday 18 September*

- 4.00pm Open & 4.10pm Novice

*Friday 22 September*

- 7.45pm Restricted & 8.00pm Open

*Sunday 24 September*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Wednesday 27 September*

- 10.00am Open Individual

*Saturday 30 September*

- 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

### October

*Sunday 1 October*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Sunday 8 October*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Sunday 15 October*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Sunday 22 October*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice

*Sunday 29 October*

- 2.30pm Open, Restricted & Novice