

Members, please hand items of interest to James Staiff.

Welcome to our new members - Thelma Bettess, June Starkey, Nora Stuij and welcome back Rikki Kerr.

Heather Menz who will be missed in our club.

Diary date. Our team qualifier for the regional GNOT is on the 2nd of May. Start forming your team now.

Need a partner? Contact Kathy as soon as possible - phone 8326 1174.

Warm up the grey matter. A bridge book and a bookmark cost \$31.00. If the book costs \$30.00 more than the bookmark what is the price of each?

Rudi's Deal.

I found an interesting deal among my souvenirs, dating from the times when the bidding was natural and transfers were not in fashion, it gives you the idea that perhaps they were not needed after all.

After North opened with 1 no trumps, South bid 2 Hearts and West 2 Spades; North introduced his Clubs (forcing) and somehow found himself as Dummy in **4 Hearts**. West led the Ace of Spades and these are the cards Declarer could see.

Ace of Spades led.

8 7 5 4 3

A Q

A Q

Q J 10 6

K J 6 4 3

8 6 5 2

A 8 3 2

South was probably influenced by the Club fit and his void in spades but now he had to make this contract or fall on his sword (with Partner glad to give him a hand). How would you go about it? By the way, to give you some help, West doubled, which turned out to be unwise!

Players' Responsibilities.

Check you are playing the correct boards.

Agree the tally of tricks before collecting your cards.

Agree the travelling sheet details.

Code of Conduct. See the noticeboard.

Discussing Hands. If you must discuss quietly at the table after finishing the round then do not describe your hand, i.e. points and shape.

NEVER discuss hands during the break where you will be overheard.

(Most of us have at times been guilty of erring on this matter.)

THE FIRST HAND: SILENCE DESCENDS.

Bridge developed via card games: 'triumph' or trump' in England, and in Europe 'triomphe' (or French ruff), 'trionfi' and 'rionfa' - all used the concept of trump or ruff in the 16th century.

'Ruff and Honours' grew into the early forms of WHISK, also known as WHIST, meaning "the silence to be observed" or the "silent game of cards".

Seventeenth century writers commented: "Talking is not allowed at whist". The very word implies "Hold your tongue" because the game required "close attention and silence".

Nineteenth century French Nobles went to England to learn to think(!) and they took back with them the 'thinking game' (WHIST).

(Source: "Cavendish on Whist", 1884.)

Whist was the forerunner of auction bridge.

In 1925 Vanderbilt developed contract bridge and it was almost identical to the scoring table we use today.

Thought is still paramount and a respectful hush is expected.

ALERT PROCEDURES.

Alertable Calls are those calls at the minimum level which are not natural or have a special partnership meaning (includes passes, bids, redoubles and replies to Stayman 2C).

The following bids do NOT require an alert from partner:-

DOUBLES

CUEBIDS

OPENING TWO BIDS

JUMP OVERCALLS

OPENING 3-LEVEL BIDS

SKIP BIDS

BIDS PAST THE LEVEL OF 3 NT

STAYMAN 2C.

An opponent may ask the meaning of a bid WHEN IT IS THEIR TURN TO BID.

RUDI'S DEAL. See the noticeboard next Monday for the solution.

Enjoy your bridge.