
'Table talk'

**Franklin Bridge Club Newsletter
March 2018 – with Richard Solomon**



Dessert Evening

The second of our social evenings was held on Friday night 23rd February and was a "Dessert Evening". Members, their families and friends were invited to bring along their favourite dessert, enter it anonymously on the long display table, and put it up for judging (and - yum, yum - eating). Entries were wonderfully varied, ranging from meringues, to cheesecakes, to "Crazy Italian Chocolate Cake", to a peach tarte tatin, and English trifle.



Those present were invited to place their vote with a \$1 coin in a cup next to each dessert, and a small panel of judges had the final say. The cash collected was awarded to the winning entry.

The judges said it was an extremely difficult decision, and instead of a single award made the following:

- **Best presentation** - Peanut Butter and Chocolate Cheesecake (Maria Casci)
- **Best taste - Pinolata** - a Tuscan pine nut cake, topped with a small fortune in pine nuts (Tina Fulton)
- **Overall winner** - a beautiful crème brulee, decorated with half apricots (Ann Anderson)



Crème brulee with apricots courtesy of Ann Anderson

Heads down and concentrating very hard are the judges, Robert Brake and Margaret Gardiner. You will see why by looking at the table of goodies on the next page.





Desserts to "die for"

After the judging, those present tucked into the desserts and all agreed they were simply delicious! Many thanks to those who entered.

And after eating too much, what about coming along for a laugh... well, more than one laugh, we hope!

Friday March 23rd 6.30pm

An evening with a difference!

A LAUGHTER Evening



Bring your favourite jokes. Either tell them or ask someone else to read them out. The big screen will be rolling with wonderful humour including a Mr Bean segment.

Bring finger food to share and your favourite drink.

Remember - humour is the best medicine!!

So bring your friends and family and share a laughter filled evening at the bridge club.

"Have you heard the one about the bridge player who..."

Happy Easter, everyone!

Just a correction to our programme booklet for Good Friday. The booklet shows no bridge on April 13th. It should read March 30th as that is Good Friday. Monday night no bridge is correctly shows as April 2nd.

Restricted Teams on Mondays

The next piece highlights some players not concentrating on their own cards!

"It is good to see 11 teams playing in Monday night Restricted Teams. Some players were amused the other Monday night to look across the room and see Richard Solomon and Sean Wilson (playing together) striking identical poses -- right arm raised above head and hand scratching scalp -- was this a secret signal or was one of them wondering what on earth partner's bid meant? Results indicated they must have worked it out!"

And good numbers on Fridays too

Also good to see 7 tables playing on a recent Friday. Have you tried Friday Bridge? Please be there for 10.15am. Play starts at 10.30am and there is a half hour break for lunch (BYO lunch). The day usually finishes around 2pm. Madeline Dodds, phone 232 8800, will help you find a partner if you need one.

Golden Time at the Gold Coast ... though more so away from the table.

Last time, we listed the good size contingent of Franklin Bridge players who headed off to the Gold Coast Bridge Congress. It would be nice now to be able to report on their successes. They would all have enjoyed the experience and the week away though these were the best of the Franklin results I could find:

Restricted Pairs E Final.	4th	Teresa Phillips and David Spencer
Weekend Match-point Swiss Pairs	19th	Carol De Luca and Bev Henton (out of 176 pairs)
Seniors Teams	20th	Andrew Janisz
Open Teams	29th	Grant Jarvis (out of 226 teams)

Nice Open Result

That's for Bev Henton and Bev Guilford who finished 3rd in the recent Howick 5A Open Pairs.

Will there be anyone left?

A number of our members will be tripping overseas in the next couple of months. If you are not listed below, we expect to see you "reporting for duty" at every bridge session of the Franklin Bridge Club!

Parlez-vous francais?

Bon voyage to Stephen and Penny Stafford Bush as they head off to a family reunion in the French Alps, north of Nice. Then on to visit friends in places as diverse as Iceland, Finland and the Faroe Islands and then on to St. Petersburg, former capital of Russia under Peter the Great.

And happy holidays to Pam Lorimer, who is off to La Rochelle on the north-western coast of France, which has been a centre of fishing and trade since 12th century, then on to visit her daughter in London.

Altrimenti - parla italiano?

Maria Casci is looking forward to her June holiday in northern Italy, where she will meet up with her Glasgow-based son, and his Italian girlfriend and her family. Our roving reporter

recently met an elderly lady at Clevedon bridge club, who had just returned from a holiday in Italy. She said that she'd learned one word in Italian -- "Prosecco!", the famous sparkling wine of Italy. So in that spirit, we wish Maria "Salute" ☺

And Richard and Kathy Solomon will spend a week near Rome as part of their forthcoming UK/Ireland based family holiday -- buon viaggio to you, too.

Or if you prefer to speak English daily

Best wishes to Lynne and Arie, who head off next month to visit Seattle, followed by a cruise north along the Inland Passage from Vancouver to Alaska, and then explore the area around Vancouver. It will be beautiful as it will be springtime.

Autumn time is wedding time

Very best wishes for a happy day to Jenny and Dan Colgan, whose older daughter Joanne is to be married in Auckland on 24th March.

Sweet Revenge one Wednesday

Now, it's great bidding a grand slam and even better if you make it! Ideally, you do not want to have to take any finesses to make your slam but if you must, then that is what you have to do.

The story starts one board earlier when one Wednesday night, Jonathan Taylor and Darren Old took on Maria Casci and Chris Glyde. Jonathan and Darren got a little too high, well a lot too high as they were doubled in 6♠ going down 4 for -800. No grisly details here.

So, this was the next board:

Dealer	North					
West	♠ J954					
E -W vul	♥ 543					
	♦ J84					
	♣ Q96					
West	<table border="1"><tr><td>N</td></tr><tr><td>W E</td></tr><tr><td>S</td></tr></table>	N	W E	S	East	
N						
W E						
S						
♠ A103		♠ K72				
♥ AK106		♥ QJ872				
♦ AQ32		♦ 5				
♣ 73		♣ AK84				
	South					
	♠ Q86					
	♥ 9					
	♦ K10976					
	♣ J1052					

Darren, West, opened 1♦ with Jonathan replying 1♥. There was no stopping them after that with Jonathan getting a club lead to 7♥. He had to take the diamond finesse to dispose of the spade loser and he had to ruff two clubs in dummy before drawing the last trump as trumps broke 3-1. So, a well-played hand making up for a slight indiscretion a board earlier. Only two other pairs even reached 6♥.

Any making grand is sweet. This one brought instant revenge.

If we can keep "our roving reporter" active, we will bring you an April Table Talk all the way from Brosna (you all know where that is, don't you!) ... and a May one from somewhere near London.



Richard Solomon
