

May 2026



## BRIDGE BUZZ

### Special points of interest:

- Ton Vankan 101 years old
- AGM Reminder
- Master points News

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### From the President—Susan Kennard

Dear Members,

It has been a wonderful and energetic start to the year at the club, with strong participation, excellent results, and a full calendar of events bringing members together both at the table and socially.

Our **President's Day** event was a highlight, with a great turnout and a warm, friendly atmosphere enjoyed by all. Events like this remind us of the strong sense of community that makes our club so special.

A particularly memorable moment was celebrating **Ton Vankan's** remarkable 101st birthday on 29 April. As a Life Member of the club, Ton continues to inspire us all, and it was a privilege to

share in such a significant milestone.

On 12 April in the Queensland Graded Teams Competition held at Toowong we wish to congratulate club members **Brooke Anderson, Tom Murphy, Brian Clark, Suzy Brownlow** in winning C Grade. Competing at this level is an outstanding achievement, and we are proud to have such dedicated players representing our club.

In addition to these highlights, our club and special events have been well supported, and our involvement in inter-club competitions has continued to strengthen our connections within the wider bridge community. It is pleasing to see so



many members actively participating and enjoying all that is on offer.

A very special thank you must go to **Sandra Routley** for her outstanding organisation of club events. Her dedication, attention to detail, and enthusiasm have played a major role in ensuring everything runs smoothly and successfully.

With such a positive beginning to the year, we look forward to many more enjoyable and successful events in the months ahead.

Sue

*"Good bidding gets you to the right contract; good play brings it home."*

## President's Day Delivers Great Results and Generous Support



President's Day was a fantastic occasion, combining friendly competition with outstanding support for a very worthy cause.

Congratulations to all of our winners. In the Over 50's MPs, Over 50 President's Day winners were [Melissa Weber and John Henderson](#); second were [Debbie Gibbards and Gary Gibbards](#).

In the Under 50 President's Day section, the winners were [Helen Shephard and Jan Dann](#); second were [Debbie Paltridge and Ian Paltridge](#).

Well done to everyone who participated and contributed to such an enjoyable and competitive day.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all members who donated raffle prizes. Your generosity made a significant impact, with all proceeds going to [Give a Child A Chance](#), supporting school-aged children with essential school provisions.

Events like President's Day highlight not only the spirit of competition within the club, but also the strong sense of community and willingness to give back.

Congratulations again to all involved.



please note

### AGM

Monday

15 June, 2026

At 10 am

Redcliffe Bridge Club

Irene Street, Redcliffe.



The Over 50's MPs, first place winners [Melissa Weber and John Henderson](#) with [Sue Kennard](#)

## Celebrating Ton Vankan – 101 Years Young

A very special milestone was celebrated on 29 April, as Ton Vankan, Life Member of RBC, turned an incredible 101 years of age.

Ton has been a valued and much-loved member of the club for many years, and reaching this remarkable birthday is an achievement truly worth celebrating. His ongoing connection to the club is a testament to both his love of bridge and the friendships formed along the way.

Ton celebrated his birthday at the home where he now lives, surrounded by his family and special guests. The T-shirt that Maree had made for the occasion was especially meaningful.

Happy Birthday, Ton—and many happy years ahead!



Maree Filippini with Ton Vankan

## Queensland Graded Teams Competition

Congratulations to Tom Murphy, Brian Clark, Brooke Anderson, and Suzy Brownlow on their participation in the Queensland Graded Teams Competition, held over the weekends of 7–8 and 14–15 March.

This prestigious event brings together strong teams from across the state, providing a high level of competition and

an excellent opportunity to showcase skill, teamwork, and determination at the table.

Representing the club in such a demanding event is a wonderful achievement, and we congratulate Tom, Brian, Brooke, and Suzy for their C Grade win.

Well done to all involved!



## In Memory of Peter Godfrey

It is with deep sadness that the members of the Redcliffe Bridge Club acknowledge the passing of Peter Godfrey on 16 May.

Peter joined the Redcliffe Bridge Club in 2015 and quickly became a valued member of our bridge family. Over the years, he earned the rank of Regional Master, a testament to both his skill and dedication to the game he loved. However, those who knew Peter would agree that his achievements at the bridge table were only part of what made him such a respected and admired member of our club.

Peter was a regular and enthusiastic participant in club activities and competitions. He approached the game with thoughtfulness, patience, and good sportsmanship, qualities that earned him the respect of partners and opponents alike. His long-time bridge partner, Tony Hill, shared many successful and enjoyable years of bridge with Peter, forming a partnership built on friendship, trust, and mutual respect.

Members often spoke of Peter in the highest regard. He was known for his quiet dignity, gentle nature, and unfailing courtesy. Never one to seek attention, Peter's presence was nevertheless strongly felt throughout the club. He was always willing to offer encouragement, share a kind word, and contribute to the welcoming atmosphere that makes our club such a special place.

In a fitting reflection of his love for the game, Peter played his final bridge session on the Monday before his passing. Partnering with Tony Hill, the pair achieved an excellent result, finishing second on the day. It is comforting to know that Peter was able to enjoy one of his favourite pastimes and the companionship of his fellow players right to the end.

Peter's memorial service was attended by many members of the Redcliffe Bridge Club, including our President, Sue Kennard. The strong attendance was a reflection of the esteem in which Peter was held and the genuine affection so many members felt for



him. Stories shared at the service spoke of a man who lived with integrity, kindness, and humility, and whose friendship enriched the lives of those around him.

Beyond bridge, Peter's greatest devotion was to his family. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Sonja, his three daughters, and their families. He was a much-loved husband, father, grandfather, friend, and bridge partner. The love and pride he had for his family were evident to all who knew him.

Peter's passing leaves a space that cannot easily be filled. His quiet strength, warm friendship, and gentle character made a lasting impression on our club and on everyone fortunate enough to know him. While we mourn his loss, we are grateful for the years he spent with us and for the many memories he leaves behind.

On behalf of all members of the Redcliffe Bridge Club, we extend our sincere condolences to Sonja, his daughters, and their families.

Peter will be remembered with great fondness and respect. He was, quite simply, a good man.

Rest in peace,  
Peter.



## Masterpoints news

| Name              | Rank            | Date   | Total   | 2026 MPs |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|----------|
| Lehmann, David    | Gold Life       | Feb-26 | 1051.03 | 23.74    |
| Barr, Robert      | Silver Life     | Jan-26 | 662.16  | 6.03     |
| Weyling, Noreen   | Silver Life     | Mar-26 | 517.60  | 6.79     |
| Morriss, Ted      | Life            | Mar-26 | 401.29  | 15.39    |
| Leal, Melva       | Life            | Mar-26 | 400.66  | 14.62    |
| Reiter, John      | Silver National | Feb-26 | 384.36  | 11.64    |
| Wong, Magdeline   | Silver National | Mar-26 | 345.64  | 11.32    |
| Kennard, Susan    | Silver National | Mar-26 | 326.73  | 7.27     |
| Doyle, Jane       | Silver National | Apr-26 | 324.31  | 10.58    |
| Borg, Jeff        | Bronze National | Mar-26 | 257.17  | 8.00     |
| Hendry, Annette   | Bronze State    | Mar-26 | 146.74  | 3.00     |
| Brownlow, Suzy    | Bronze State    | Mar-26 | 104.03  | 12.32    |
| Almond, Linda     | State           | Mar-26 | 55.54   | 3.84     |
| Piovesan, Claudio | Silver Local    | Jan-26 | 38.22   | 3.29     |
| Watkin, Joan      | Silver Local    | Mar-26 | 35.31   | 0.56     |
| Little, Neville   | Bronze Local    | Feb-26 | 29.34   | 4.34     |
| Little, Ilene     | Bronze Local    | Feb-26 | 29.25   | 4.25     |
| Paltridge, Debbie | Bronze Local    | Apr-26 | 26.72   | 14.42    |
| Paltridge, Debbie | Local           | Jan-26 | 23.21   | 10.91    |
| Loton, Chris      | Local           | Jan-26 | 21.54   | 8.35     |
| Paltridge, Ian    | Local           | Mar-26 | 15.93   | 5.96     |
| Hill, Tony        | Local           | Mar-26 | 15.62   | 2.65     |
| Capra, Michele    | Club            | Jan-26 | 6.55    | 1.97     |
| Landrigan, Brian  | Graduate        | Mar-26 | 2.10    | 1.15     |

In contract bridge, **masterpoints** are points awarded to players based on their performance in sanctioned bridge events. They are used as a measure of a player's experience and achievement and are accumulated throughout a player's bridge career.

In Australia, masterpoints are administered by the Australian Bridge Federation. Players earn masterpoints by placing well in club sessions, congresses, regional events,

state championships, and national competitions. The number of points awarded depends on factors such as the size of the field, the type of event, and the player's result.

As players accumulate masterpoints, they progress through various ranking levels. These ranks recognise both participation and success in bridge competitions.

## Special Events

### 12 January—Championship Teams

In the world of competitive bridge, championship teams are not simply collection of talented players, they are finely tuned units built on trust, discipline, and strategic cohesion. While individual brilliance matters it is the partnership dynamics and team synergy that ultimately determine success at the highest level.

Results of the day include:

1. Team Gemmell—Gordon Gemmell, Harold Rienstra, Annette Hyland and Robert Barr.
2. Team Stride—Peter Stride, Melissa Weber, John Henderson and Carol Bailly
3. Team Morriss—Ted Morris, Carolyn Adcock, Elizabeth Gibson and John Scriven

### 12, 19 & 26 March—GNOT Club Heats

The **Grand National Open Teams (GNOT)** is a nationwide bridge competition run under the auspices of the Australian Bridge Federation. It's a team event open to players of all levels, typically starting with qualifying heats at local clubs. Successful teams progress through regional or state finals, with the top teams advancing to the national final.

Results of the event include:

1. Team Gibson—Elizabeth Gibson, John Scrivens, Gary Gibbards and Debbie Gibbards
2. Team Hyland—Carol Bailey, Annette Hyland, Peter Stride, John Henderson and Melissa Weber
3. Team Routley—Sandra Routley, Brooke Anderson, Carolyn Adcock and Wayne Parker

## Club Events

### 9 February—Team of Three

Our recent **Teams of Three** event proved to be an enjoyable and well-run day of bridge, with a slightly different format adding to both the challenge and the fun.

Players were nominated in advance, and team captains were appointed to guide each team through the day. Captains made good use of the players' system cards when forming partnerships each round, ensuring compatible pairings and smooth play throughout the session.

Results of the day include:

1. Team Paltridge—Ian Paltridge, Debbie Paltridge, Cheryl Williams and Ted Morriss
2. Team Piovesan—Claudio Piovesan, Maya Widomski, Max Kershaw and Susan Kennard
3. Team Little—Neville Little, Ilene Little, Sheryl Windsor and Gordon Gemmell

### 10 April—Single Session Teams

Our recent **Single Session Teams** competition was played across two sections—**Red** and **Blue**—allowing for a well-balanced and enjoyable event.

Teams competed within their allocated section over a single session, playing a series of matches against a variety of opponents. This structure ensured a smooth movement and gave all teams the opportunity to enjoy competitive and friendly bridge throughout.

Red Section:

1. Team Shardlow—Annette Hyland, Brian Clark, Ross Shardlow and Gary Gibbards
2. Team Gower—Patricia Gower, Ken Griggs, Joan Mills and Max Kershaw
3. Team Reiter—Jan Kinross, Rosemary Floquet, John Reiter and Bev Connell

Blue Section

1. Team Leal—Melva Leal, Ted Morriss, Elizabeth Gibson and John Scrivens
2. Team Kennard—Jane Doyle, Midge Spice, Sue Kennard and Duncan Cape
3. Team Cassin—Debbie Paltridge, Ian Paltridge, Paula Cassin and Gordon Gemmell

## 4 January—Inter-Club Competitions

The Inter-Club Competition, held on 4 January was a resounding success and a wonderful start to the new year. This much-anticipated event brought together players from another club for a day filled with friendly rivalry, good humour, and a shared love of the game.

Teams competed enthusiastically throughout the day, with a strong display of skill, strategy, and sportsmanship across all tables. Congratulations go to [Redcliffe Bridge Club](#) for taking out this year's honours—an excellent achievement and well deserved.

Beyond the competition itself, the day was a great opportunity for members to connect, catch up with familiar

faces, and build new friendships across clubs. The welcoming atmosphere and spirit of camaraderie were evident from start to finish, reflecting the true essence of inter-club events.

A sincere thank you to everyone who participated, as well as those who helped organise and run the day so smoothly. Your efforts ensured an enjoyable experience for all involved.

It was truly a memorable day, enjoyed by all, and we look forward to continuing this valued tradition in the years to come.

## Why Your Presence at the AGM Matters More Than You Think!

At the Redcliffe Bridge Club, our strength has always come from our members—the friendships we build, the games we enjoy, and the shared commitment to keeping our club thriving. One event brings all of this together each year: the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

For some, the AGM might sound formal or easy to skip. In reality, it's one of the most important and empowering events on our calendar—and one where every member has a role to play.

### Have Your Say in the Club's Direction

The AGM is where important decisions are made. Committee positions are filled, plans for the year ahead are discussed, and the direction of the club is shaped. By attending, you ensure your voice is part of that process. The Redcliffe Bridge Club works best when its members are actively involved.

### Stay Informed and Engaged

The AGM is your opportunity to understand how the club is running—from financial updates to future initiatives. It's about transparency and keeping everyone informed, so you feel confident and connected to what's happening within the club.

### Support the People Who Support the Club

Our committee and volunteers dedicate many hours behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly. Attending the AGM is a simple but meaningful way to show your support and appreciation for their efforts—and to welcome those taking on new roles.

### Bring Fresh Ideas to the Table

Every member has valuable insights. The AGM provides a forum to share ideas, raise suggestions, and contribute to the continued improvement of our club. Your input can help shape an even better experience for everyone.

### Strengthen Our Community

The AGM isn't just about reports and motions—it's also a chance to connect. Catch up with familiar faces, meet newer members, and reinforce the friendly, welcoming spirit that defines the Redcliffe Bridge Club.

### It's Your Club—Be Part of It

The Redcliffe Bridge Club belongs to its members. Attending the AGM is one of the simplest and most effective ways to show that you care about its future and want to be part of its success.

[When the AGM comes around, we encourage you to be there. Your presence matters, your voice counts, and together we can continue to build a club we're all proud to call our own.](#)



Redcliffe Bridge Club

## Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) News . . .

<https://abfevents.com.au/newsletter/December2025/December2025.html#p=1>

## Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) News . . .

<https://qldbridge.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/QBADec25-1.pdf>

## Things of interest in the Redcliffe Bridge Club 2026 Programs

The club was established in 1967.

Any player expecting an urgent call must inform the Director before the start of play.

As per Section B, QBA Regulations players considered to have psyched are needed to record their own psyches in the Psyche Register.



"I THOUGHT YOU WERE KICKING ME UNDER THE TABLE BECAUSE YOU WERE READY TO GO."

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### Dates to Remember

**Saturday, 11 and 18 July (2 Saturdays)**

Ton Vankan Anniversary Pairs

**Sunday, 26 July @ Caboolture**

Inter Club with Caboolture

**Sunday, 16 August (All Day)**

Redcliffe Congress

**Friday, 28 August**

Australian Wide Open Pairs

**Saturday, 29 August**

Brisbane Zone GNOT Finals at QCBC