

# THE TRUMP

City of Melville Bridge Club Newsletter  
September 2016

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## The Management Committee

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A new committee was elected at the Annual General Meeting, where the picture below was taken.



**From left to right:** Errol Jacobs, Di Nelson (Secretary), Noele Smith (Treasurer), Kathleen Thomson (House Manager), Salim Songerwala (President), Rachel Shave, Laurie Money (Tournament Manager), Merwyn Menezes, Clare Weston. Member not in photography, Lyndie Trevean (Vice President). Also in photograph, Richard Power, (extreme right) the recipient of the Bob Simpson award for long and outstanding service to the Club.

The meeting also saw the end of Nicole Bertinshaw's highly successful term as Club President.



*We asked each member of the Committee to provide a few words about themselves.*

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**Errol Jacobs**

Likes: Music, sports, chess, scrabble, card games, chocolates

Dislikes: Liver, mussels

MBC (2016/17): An even more (already) friendly club that will attract more members.



**Merwyn Menezes**

Joined Melville Bridge Club in May 2010.

Having played bridge during my university days, I only began playing again after retiring. Won in 2012

BAWA most improved player trophy.



**Laurie Money**

Laurie is the interim Chair of the Tournament Committee.



**Di Nelson**

Likes:- Walking, cycling, yoga, wining and dining and of course playing bridge!

Dislikes:- Housework and housework.

Looking forward to a quieter year as Secretary this year.



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### **Rachel Shave**

After a break of approximately 30 years, I began playing bridge again at MBC 4½ years ago, mainly on Mondays. I became a club bartender last year and now aim to help members by also working on the committee.



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### **Salim Songerwala**

Joined MBC in 2000 served as Vice President in 2005/2006 . Looking forward to taking our wonderful Club to greater heights. Hobbies: Cricket, Footy, Snooker and of course Bridge!



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### **Noeline Smith**

This will be my third year on the committee as treasurer and I look forward to preparing for the big move to our new premises.



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### **Katherine Thomson**

A member of the M.B.C. for about the last four years and previously played bridge in UK, Bunbury, Geraldton and still a member of South Perth. Volunteered for the position of House Manager as I believe members should be involved in any organisation to which they belong. At present some of my interests include walking, travel and I enjoy entertaining people at home. In a previous life I have been very involved in community activities, some of which include Shire President and an active Justice of the Peace, a founder member of BPW Club and most positions in the parent's organisations of the schools my children attended, all in the Margaret River area, where I lived for 34 years as a farmer's wife. Presently, very happily "retired" just doing the things in life I enjoy – mostly bridge !!



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## Lyndie Trevean:

I have been a member of the club for 6½ years. Previously, I have enjoyed working on the committee as secretary and house manager.

I am now very happy to have been voted in as vice president and to be a part of the committee again over the next twelve months. We have a great club and much to look forward to in the future

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## Clare Weston

Have been on the Management & Tournament Committees for 4 years.

I am the partnership Coordinator for MBC and organise the bridge lessons for the year.

Very happy to hear from anyone wishing to add their names to the partnership email group or have friends interested in bridge lessons.

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## From the Tournament Manager

### The Dora Wilson Trophy

The winners were:



Dave Sloan and Gary Frampton

Joint runners up:



Merwyn Menezes and Hilda Remedios with Joan Valentine and Barbara Frost

## The Mayors Trophy

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This event was held today and well attended. The winners were Sarita Singh and Alfred Leung. Russell Aubery, the Mayor of City of Melville presented the Trophy.

The Tournament Committee is established by the Management Committee of the Club to ensure that bridge playing standards are maintained in all bridge playing sessions and are effectively organised and managed in the Melville Bridge Club.

The Committee needs to ensure that all club events have a competent Director in charge who understands and can use the prevailing computer software system.

The Committee will recommend:

- a calendar of all Club major events which needs to be done in co-ordination with BAWA, ABF and similar events in other metropolitan clubs - as far as is practicable.
- Manage Club Championship *events so that* :
  - a qualified Director is appoint;
  - Conveners who are responsible for organizing a Club Championship event are appointed and supported;
  - the integrity of Club championship events in terms of board security and eligibility are maintained.

*Laurie Money*

## From the President

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*Hello Members*

I was very happy to see that there were more then 300 votes for the various positions at the Club this AGM and that so many members were interested in giving their time for the Club. It truly shows how much the members are interested in how the Club functions.

We all share a common goal and that is to help our wonderful Club grow and prosper.

As members have voted at the AGM to go ahead with the relocation to the Melville Leisure Center, your Building Committee is working hard to negotiate with the City of Melville Council for the best possible outcome for the Club. Their experience has been very favorable so far and we hope in the next few months to update members with more positive news.

There will be challenges ahead but I am sure your Committee is more than capable of meeting them.

Our members have always put their hands up when required to help at the club and I would like to give them my special thanks and wish for them to continue their involvement at the Club.

This Club rises and falls on the backs of those who volunteer their time. If you have the time and the ability to contribute then I ask you to consider putting your hand up to ensure the longevity of the Club in the years ahead. Much of the hard work has been done in progressing down that path All we need are the resources and people to keep things moving along.

Vale: Albert (Bert) Ten Haaf sadly passed away recently. Bert was a long time and well respected member of our Club. He was also the Bar Manager for many years doing a

great job. He was made a LIFE MEMBER in 2009 in recognition of his excellent service to our Club. Our deepest sympathies to his family. R.I.P.

Next fun competition for members is the Butler Pairs over 2 Wednesdays starting 21st September. I urge more members to enter and support our club.

Lastly I would like to take this opportunity to thank last years's MC for the great work they have done under challenging circumstances in the past 12 months and everyone who has worked behind the scene to make our Club a success.

*Happy Bridging.  
Salim*

## **The 2016 Paralympics**

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Two new (or fairly new) members of the club are Ken and Sally McClure. Their son, Jeremy, who is legally blind, has recently set off for Rio for the Games.

He has qualified for the 100 metres backstroke. Jeremy is no stranger to the Paralympics having finished sixth in Athens (2004), seventh in Beijing (2008) and eighth in London (2012).

His events take place on September 9 and will be watched by his parents. We wish him well.



Seeing Jeremy off at the airport

## Procedures & The Laws of Duplicate Bridge

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One of the reasons I was asked to write these articles is that there is so very little is taught about the etiquette of bridge. This a little odd since it is such an important aspect of the game. The majority of people are polite and well mannered, but that's not the same as understanding the correct procedures of the game outside the actual play.

Of course the reason Bridge etiquette and correct procedures are barely touched in upon is that Bridge is such a complex game that it is difficult enough for our many fine teachers to cover the basics of the game let alone the finer points of what is acceptable at the table.

When deciding to learn Bridge, I chose to do a course of lessons with Peter Smith. Following the lessons, I played in supervised sessions for a few weeks which were held in the supper room at SPBC. Then I was pushed in at the deep end by playing 'in what was called the big room' against seasoned and top players. For the most part, everyone was patient with me and my partner although I quickly learned what NOT to do!

People often become very distressed when the Director is called but in actual fact you MUST call the Director in the event of an irregularity or a 'possible irregularity'. (As a matter of fact NOT calling the Director is in contravention of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge.) Our capable Directors spend a great deal of time learning the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and occasionally consult with other Directors. They also have meetings to discuss problem areas. They have access to the book which covers The Laws and as the name implies it reads like a legal document. In my opinion one has to have the ability of lawyer to interpret many of The Laws. So their job is certainly not an easy one by any measure.

Some people will say things such as 'it is just a friendly game' or 'we are not playing for a sheep station'. So why bother with formalities? These sayings may sound like a good defence to ignoring the Law but I am sure that many of the same people are happy to place first or get their master points awarded or receive a new ranking certificate or even sometimes win a prize.

When we use the expression that 'the director is there to restore equity', it does not mean to make us all of equal ability but rather to make the results fair. This is because your score affects not only you and your opponents but everyone in the room. Say, for example you are North/South and the opponents revoke. You see it but ignore it They score their game of 4H plus one when there are only 10 tricks available if it were not for the revoke you ignored. So they have received an illegal bonus not available to the other East /West pairs. You, perhaps by trying to be nice, have now disadvantaged every other East/West pair in the room by allowing your opponents a better score.

Besides collecting table monies, scoring and many other tasks, our Directors have to sort out complex problems including calming things down when there is a heated discussion or disagreement at the table. We must NEVER try to sort things out



ourselves. We should not turn over cards unless we are asked to do so by the Director. We should not touch anyone's cards but our own. After a board is played we should not pull cards out of their respective slots to see what partner or the opponents had. This can easily cause the cards to be wrongly placed and the board to be 'fouled'. Now the Director and the next to play the board have big problems due to your actions.

As I said, we are all reasonably polite and well behaved but when things go pear-shaped we can turn into different characters. Bridge, like all competitive sports has an element of stress and tension. Occasionally mild-mannered well-behaved people can turn into monsters.

Things which may seem minor to some may seem important to others. In psychology there have been studies on encroaching on the personal body space of others. At bridge we are all very close and simply taking up too much space at the table can sometimes seem like a grievous offence. So try to be thoughtful of these things by not cluttering the table or blocking the view of any player.

Also we need to be careful not to distract the opponents. Any distraction can break your concentration. A novice playing in a supervised session at another club told me he misplayed a hand because a Committee member made an announcement about club business during play rather than waiting for the end of the session. Someone else told me they misplayed an easy hand because in the middle of play someone at the table called the Director to have the air conditioning adjusted. In both cases simple courtesy and common sense would have prevented the distraction.

So we need to be careful about affecting the game of others by loud discussions and anything else that common sense would suggest might disrupt the game.

So in closing don't worry about becoming an expert on the procedures and the laws as we have our capable Directors to sort out those matters. But DO call the Director every time something goes wrong at the table.

*Suzanne Goodall*