



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba Ph : (07) 46 384808 Email : secretary@toowoombabridgeclub.com.au



Ed : Glenys Clift September Newsletter 2026

Management Committee 2025-2026

President	Greg Munck
Vice President	Trevor Henderson
Secretary	Kathy Duke
Treasurer	Marie Steger
Committee	Chris Snook
	Ken Orange
	Ann Williams
	Rosemary Goodsell
	Stephan Nugent

Office Holders

Grounds Maint.	Margaret Tucker
Purchasing Officer	Graeme Ryan
Teaching Co-ord	David Roberts
MP Secretary	Chris Snook
Tenancy	Bruce Hinchliffe
Librarian	Gretchen Graf
Recorder	Ian Jesser
Chief Tournament	
Director	Chris Snook
Welfare Officer	Kerry Brown
Building Maint.	Terry Sheedy
Office Manager	Stephan Nugent
Congress Convenor	Chris Snook
Housekeeper	Ann Williams
Membership Sec	Ngairé Wills
Newsletter Editor	Glenys Clift

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Our President is currently away so I've been asked to give you a heads up prior to our AGM which is on Monday the 19th October @ 11am. Looking forward to seeing as many of you as practical there then.

Of particular note, our Management Committee has approved an increase to Table fees from Jan 1st, 2027, to \$8 and for Club Table Fees to be then indexed annually at CPI/Inflation rate (see page 2).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of our current committee for their contribution, ensuring our club is both well run and a welcoming place for members and visitors.

In particular, Greg Munck who has been our President for the last 3 years, Chris Snook for the time and effort he spends running our congresses, organizing the day-to-day bridge in the club as well as being on committee. And ofcourse all our office holders, without whom the club wouldn't function.

Trevor Henderson

TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB AGM 19/10/2026 11am



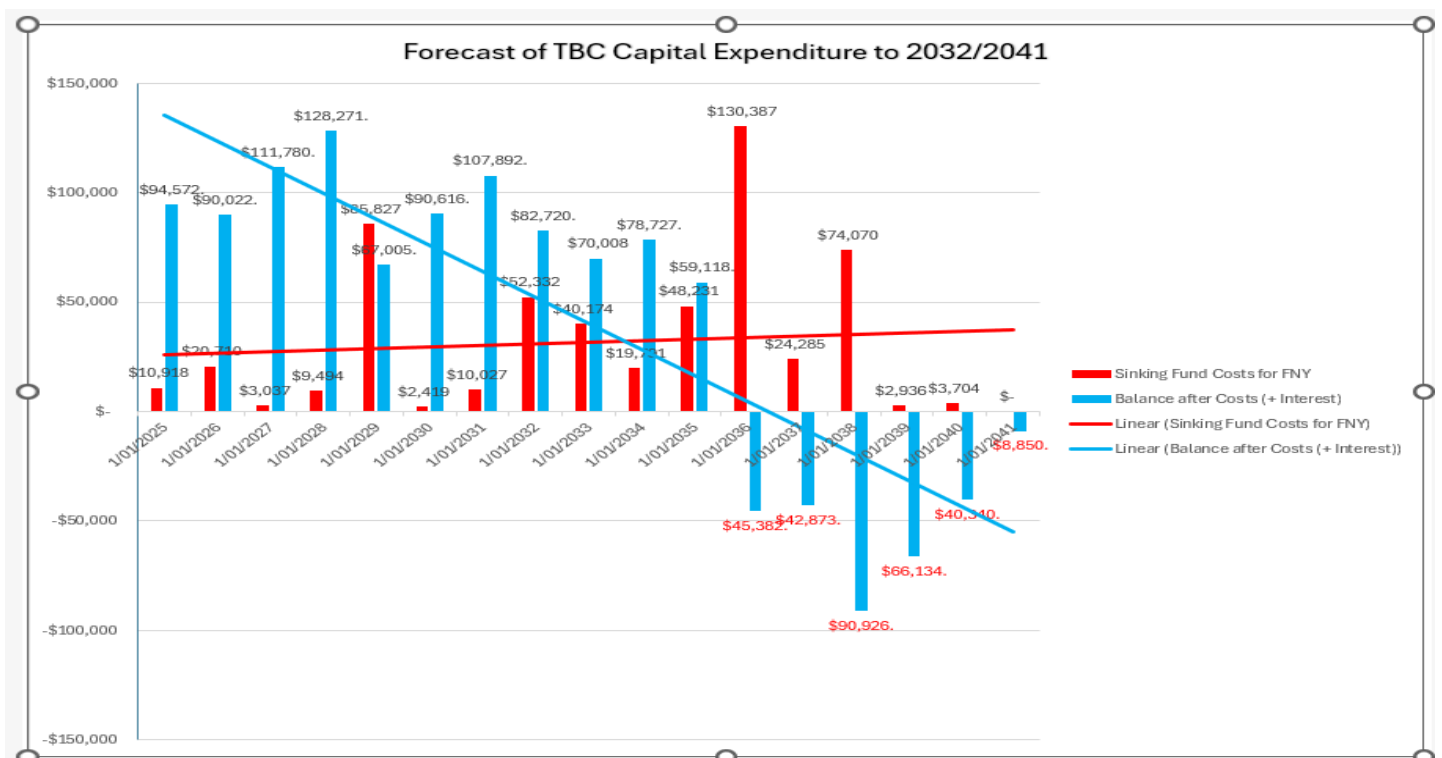
TABLE FEES

- 1) QBA & ABF have both increased their Annual Fees by \$3.30 each year from 2025.
- 2) ABF have increased their masterpoint fees by three percent per year in line with inflation for both 2026 & 2027.
- 3) Our kitchen costs have risen substantially over the past 3 years, with the overall increase of just under 10% for all of our operating expenses for this last year alone.
- 4) Our Sinking Fund/ Capital Works projections to 2032 recommend a Cash @ Bank target for 2032 of **\$175,000/\$200,000**, which is considered appropriate given the upcoming replacement cycles for items under consideration.

Our sinking fund model incorporates:

- A Bank Balance (2026) of **\$112,000** (Target balance (2032): **\$175,000 to \$200,000**)
- Interest rate: **3.5% (Estimated)**, CPI/ Inflation: **3% (Estimated)**
- Forecast Capital Expenditure to 2032: **\$ 170,000 (Estimated)**
-

More detail will be available at the AGM but a graph below illustrates this readily if we continue with a \$6 table fee.



Trevor Henderson

WISHING YOU ALL HAPPY BIRTHDAY



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER



Don Adsett	Shanaal De Zoysa	Greg Munck
Jeff Aitchison	Christine Downing	Maree Neale
Louise Barrett	Dianne Dwyer	John Oxenham
Kay Behrend	Patricia Egan	Jenny Pendlebury
Richard Behrend	Helen Fitzgerald	Jenness Perrin
Robyn Bell	Jan Flynn	Joan Philp
Yvonne Blakeney	Isabella Geldard	Elizabeth Pietsch
Judith Bodkin	Thea Hayes	Tim Porter
Jenny Bridge	John Hede	Genevieve Reeves
Joan Brownlie	Marion Hunt	John Ryan
Di Campbell	Mark Hunt	Susan Spinks
John Clift	Vicki Hyland	Jane Tait
Glenys Clift	Aino Jaatinen	Elizabeth Thorne
Harold Coggan	Greg Jacobsen	Morgan Tullock
Camilla Croft	Heen Kemp	Alan Trueman
Jennifer Darlington	Diane Montgomery	Mark Wyche
	Desley Mundell	Margaret Wyche



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 31st AUGUST 2026

Cash flow for August recorded a **net decrease of \$919.95**, due to payment of **\$5,351** for the Club's annual business insurance.

Current Assets Held as at 31 August 2026

- **Heritage Bank General Account:** \$1,154.32
- **Heritage Bank Online Saver S26 Account (3.2%):** \$20,144.04
- **Heritage Bank Term Deposit:** \$70,000 (maturing 27 October 2026 at 5%)
- **MyABF Funds Held:** \$19,480 (includes \$10,990 Congress entry fees)

Income

Table fees collected during August (GST inclusive) totalled **\$8,598**.

Audit

McConachie Stedman commenced the audit of the Club's financial records on **7 September**. The **Audit Report and Financial Statements** for the year ended **31 July 2026** will be made available prior to the **Annual General Meeting**.

Enjoy your bridge! Marie

SECRETARY'S REPORT



Bridge is Going Back to School!

I am very excited to share a new initiative of mine, supported by the TBC Management Committee, to introduce Bridge to primary-school students at Glenvale State School.

A special thank you to Terry Sheedy for making the initial introduction to the school principal and helping to open the door for this opportunity.

I will begin with some fun lunchtime promotional sessions later this year and, if there is sufficient interest, move into a school-based Bridge pilot in Term 1, 2027.

This initiative is particularly special to me because Bridge was played at schools when I was growing up. I would love to give today's students that same opportunity and create a pathway for those who enjoy the game to connect with the Youth Bridge Club in Brisbane and the wider Australian Bridge community. It's a small beginning, but perhaps one step towards developing the next generation of Australian Bridge players. Watch this space — Bridge is going back to school!

Beginners, please note:

The Thursday night Help with Play session is still in progress with Dave Roberts and I sharing the teaching responsibilities.

I also took over the Monday morning Improver Practise sessions from Chris for the month of September, and I will have one more lesson on Monday 12 October for anyone interested in learning more about Takeout Doubles and Overcalls

Kathy Duke

WELFARE REPORT



There is not very much to report this month. Condolence cards were sent to Judy Glasby and Jill Young. After sending a Caring Thoughts card a couple of months ago, I made a follow up phone call to Marion Hunt to check on her. All is good now, and she is back at the club.

Once again, if you know of anyone experiencing any kind of difficulty, please let me know. Stay well everyone and may life treat you well generally.

Cheers, *Kerry Brown*

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT



There have been no new membership applications received in the past month.

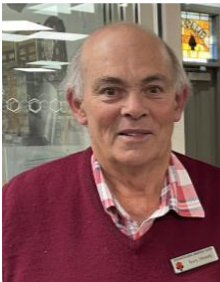
Gabriela Berger and Jenness Perrin have resigned from our club.

Our current membership of 316 members comprises:

- 5 Life Members
- 273 Home Members
- 37 Away Members
- 1 Youth member

Ngairé Wills

BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPORT



Bins:

I have chased this up and found that I can get bins that from the images and descriptions on their packaging appear to be essentially identical to the 4 we have now. Kmart, BigW and Target have them for about \$45 each.

This morning, I replaced the 4 bins in the Eastern and Western rooms and transferred the recycling information to the new bins. They are all the soft close lid type.

Power Points:

Chris has identified a requirement for additional power points in the office to tidy up the spaghetti mess we have there. We would need at least 12 outlets to remove the power board requirement. Mark Faulkner has replaced the faulty power point in the kitchenette. He has liaised with Tim Porter on the security system electrical upgrade requirements and also has made plans on how best to add additional power point outlets in the main office to overcome the existing spaghetti junction. He will attend to both upgrades next Tuesday morning, 29th September, as he needs to obtain appropriate materials.

Earthworks:

Greg asked me to organise some repair work to the driveway to the overflow car park in Horn Park. I have contacted Dow Landscaping to see what we can do. He is in Moree this week, but his wife took a message for him to contact me next week when he is back home. I will follow up on that, and the aim is to have that work done prior to the congress.

Cheers *Terry Sheedy*

Note:

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to extend our huge thanks to Terry who made arrangements at short notice to organise road fill for the back driveway and fill some of the holes. This was essential for our overflow parking for congress. Great work, as usual.

Thanks

Kathy Duke

VALE KEITH McDONALD



**KEITH McDONALD & PATRON CLIVE BERGHOFER
2007 OFFICIAL OPENING DAY STUART STREET CLUBHOUSE**

“Keith McDonald who graduated from 500 to playing bridge in 1974 was appointed the QCBC delegate on the QBA Council in 1980 and was elected president of the QBA in 1986.

For many years Keith held the dual roles of President of both the state and national bodies. He stepped down from the ABF in 2014 and from the QBA in 2017, the longest-serving in both having provided outstanding service to bridge in Queensland and Australia-wide.” (*extract from QBA bulletin announcing Keith’s passing*).

The Toowoomba Bridge Club was very fortunate in that Keith McDonald was the chair of the finance committee for the James O’Sullivan Trust Fund and the ABF fund when he approved the loans from the QBA and ABF toward our new club house. Without the contribution authorised by Keith and the support that Clive Berghofer gave us, we would probably be playing bridge in rented premises rather than our club house in Stuart Street.

Since his formal retirement from bridge administration, Keith remained a voluntary member of the QBA Finance committee until his passing on the 13 September. *Pictured above, with club member Vi Vella and our Patron Clive Berghofer in 2007.*

Masterpoint Secretary's Report

- Masterpoints are up to date to the end of September 2026.
- For August, I processed 39 sections from 30 sessions yielding
 - 143.43 green masterpoints (regular club sessions),
 - 8.46 red masterpoints and
 - 0.0 gold masterpoints.
- For September, I processed 40 sections from 31 sessions yielding
 - 140.57 green masterpoints (regular club sessions),
 - 46.32 red masterpoints (President's Cup) and
 - 0.0 gold masterpoints.

We have earned 1589.27 green points Oct-Sept (the ABF Census period) with a red masterpoint session entitlement of 30.91 sessions for 2027 (compared to 1474.40 green and 29.14 entitlement at the same time last year). These 30 sessions will be spread across the year, mainly focussed on our club competitions.

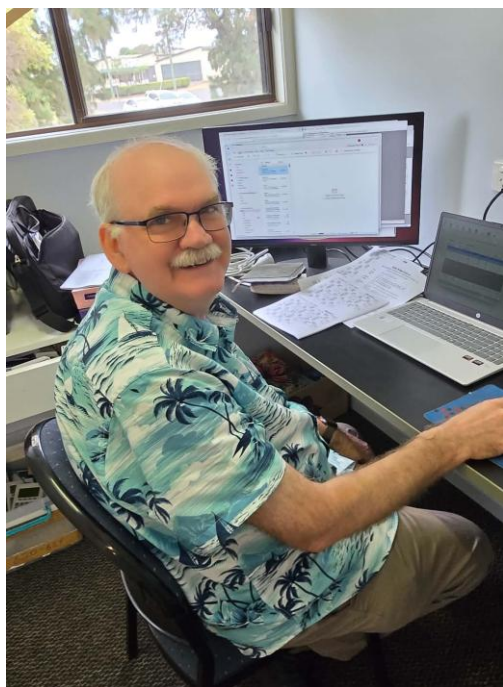
Club Member Rank Promotions for September are:

Name	New Rank	Total	2026
Price, Lawrence	Bronze State	149.05	20.82
Rutledge, Helen	Silver Local	36.59	13.31
Quick, Brenda	Silver Local	36.22	13.34
Bell, Robyn	Bronze Local	25.26	10.48
Brownlie, Joan	Bronze Local	25.03	11.48

Cheers

Chris

DALBY PAIRS & TEAMS CONGRESS



Director Chris Snook



**3rd Pairs-Trevor Henderson & Kathy Duke with
Dalby Bridge Club President Rebecca Knight**



2nd place in teams: Rod Brilliant, Ian Jesser, Jim Wood and Bill Redhead

Session Overview

During August/September, club directing was a bit of a struggle with so many people being away, some at short notice. The situation not helped by me being away quite a bit – but we survived. (This is kind of a call for help, so come and have a chat if you might be interested in a role in our Directing ranks).

Where's Chrissy (been)?

9 th August	Directing at Warwick
11 th – 16 th August	Playing in Coffs Coast Gold
18 th August	Drive to Maleny to pick up puppy
23 rd August	Playing/Directing in Toowoomba GNOT Zone Final
27 th – 31 st August	Director training and Directing in Yeppoon (it was a long drive)
6 th September	Directing at Queensland Graded Pairs
12 th – 13 th September	Directing at Dalby
18 th – 20 th September	Playing in GNOT Online National Final
26 th September	Running sessions for Online Director Training

I'm probably a broken record but would still like to see players spreading their wings and moving to, or at least trying, different sessions. If we keep only putting our eggs in the Monday and Wednesday baskets, all that will happen is the other sessions will fade away. Smaller sessions are more social and allow for longer rounds – so why not give Tuesday evening, Wednesday morning, Thursday evening or one of the Friday sessions a go.

Date Claimers

We have a lot of events coming up over the next couple of months. Now is the time to arrange those partnerships and check your diary so all the fun dentist (and other) visits are at different times so you can play 😊.

- **AGM:** 11:00am Monday October 19th October
AGM Pairs: 1:00pm Monday 19th October for red masterpoints
- **Melbourne Cup:** Details to follow – but it will be on a Tuesday in early November.
- **Toowoomba Swiss Teams congress:** Sunday 8th November.
- **Toowoomba Teams of Three:** Saturday Afternoon 14th November. This is another event for a combination of our newer and more experienced players.
- **Christmas Party & Awards Ceremony:** Saturday 12th December.

All these events are listed on our website in the “Calendar” area, are usually listed on the website front page, often have a flyer on display in the clubrooms, and are announced by the Directors (should be at the start of each session). They are also mentioned on the TV announcements when these TVs are switched on. Despite this, word of mouth remains the best way to get people involved, so always make sure you gee-up your friends to play 😊

Thanks *Chris*

GARDEN UPDATE

These images were all taken in early September. It was a beautiful sunny morning; honeyeaters and lorikeets were having a nectar picnic on one of the grevilleas and the bowerbird paraded around his bower.

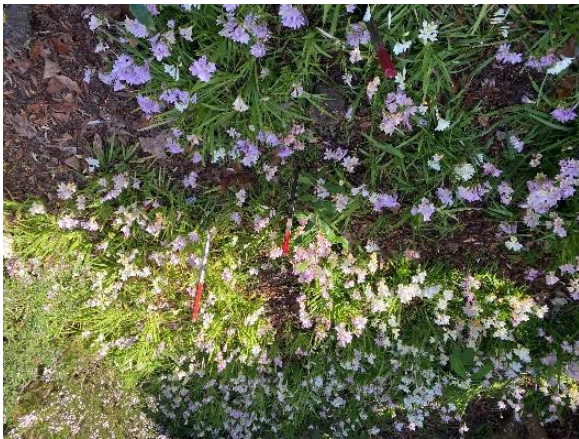
Such joy to work in the gardens with Margaret and Tony – then to have George bring us a morning coffee from Wendlands! Cheers, Melanie



Isopogon – a species in the family Proteaceae



Grevillea



A garden of freesias



Thryptomene



Fresh growth after hedging on the Photinia



Grevillea

President's Cup

This event used to be run on Tuesday nights, but was trialled on a Sunday in 2017, and hence moved to different sessions at President's discretion.

Year	Date	Director	Tables	Format/Comment
2015	Tuesday nights: 16th, 23rd & 30th June	Chris Snook		Green: Three session multi
2016	Tuesday nights: 14th, 21st & 28th June	Henry Eastment		Green: Three session multi
2017	Sunday 26 th March	Chris Snook	16.5	Green: Two session multi on one day
2018				Not held
2019	Monday Afternoons 5, 12, 19 March	Chris Snook	25.0 *	Green: Three session multi
2020	Friday afternoons 13th, 20th & 27th November	Chris Snook Via BBO	14.0	Red: Three session multi Started as 30 tables in March – Covid cancelled
2021	Wednesday Afternoon 29th September	Glenys Clift	26.0	Red: Single session evening, online
2022				Not held
2023	Saturday afternoons: 15 th & 22 nd July	Chris Snook	10.5	Red: Two session multi
2024	Saturday afternoons: 13 th & 20 th July	Will Higgins	8.0 & 5.5	Red: Two session multi
2025	Saturday afternoons: 19 th & 26 th July	Dave Roberts	7.0	Red: Two session multi
2026	Monday afternoons: 7 th & 14 th September	Chris Snook	15.0 & 6.5	Red: Two session multi as walk-ins

* 3 cups (A, B, C) business started ad hoc in 2019

This year the event ran over two sessions (two grades in each session), with some players moving from NS to EW and vice versa for the second week.

Congratulations to

Open – **Rod Brilliant & Bill Redhead**

Novice – **Jenni Darlington & Judy Bodkin**

Cheers

Chris

PRESIDENTS CUP



1st Rod Brilliant & Bill Redhead with Director Dave Roberts



2nd Trevor Henderson & Hema De Zoysa with Director Kathy Duke



Novice Placegetters 1st Jen Darington & Judy Bodkin 2nd Dianne Dwyer (missing Harold Coggan)

Winners are Grinners

The “Monthly Winners” are recognised as the “individual” winner of **eclectic** multi-session events. These events combine of all the green masterpoint sessions in a month that have not already counted toward a competition. If there are three available sessions then your best two scores are counted (shows as 2/3), if there are four available sessions then your best three scores are counted (3/4) and if there are five available sessions then your best four scores might be counted (4/5). If there are two available sessions, then they are treated as an eclectic event (best 2/2). If there are five days in the month, then we usually combine two of these (see the bridge diary) as a “**Two-Weekly**” and additional masterpoints are awarded to the top half of those whose partnerships played both days. The remaining three days are scored as an eclectic with (2/3).

August Monthly Winners

Monday PM Open	Andrew Struik & Nikki Riszko
Monday PM Novice	Gretchen Graf & Marie Steger
Tuesday Night	Mohan Trada
Wednesday AM Restricted	Ann Williams & Rosemary Goodsell
Wednesday PM Open	Will Higgins & Adrian Mayers
Wednesday PM Novice	Terry Sheedy & Mark Hunt
Thursday Night	Graeme Ryan & Lucy Parker
Friday Morning	Dennis Lincoln
Friday PM	Ian Jesser

September Monthly Winners

Monday PM Open	Henry Eastment & Glenys Clift
Monday PM Novice	Dianne Dwyer & Harold Coggan
Tuesday Night	David Roberts & Ngaire Wills
Wednesday AM Restricted	Brenda Quick & Kevin Grace
Wednesday PM Open	Bill Redhead & Rod Brilliant
Wednesday PM Novice	Terry Sheedy & Mark Hunt
Thursday Night	Graeme Ryan & Bruce Coward
Friday Morning	Graeme Ryan

And on the congress scene:

Queensland Graded Pairs – Under 750

1st Shanaal De Zoysa & Hema De Zoysa

Dalby Pairs

3rd Trevor Henderson & Kathy Duke
B 2nd Terry Sheedy & Mark Hunt

Well done everyone.

Cheers *Chris*

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS (GNOT)

Following three qualifying games at the club and the Darling Downs Final held in Toowoomba, two teams earned the opportunity to represent our region in the

2026 GNOT RealBridge Online Final:

Darling Downs Team 1: Dave Roberts, Ngaire Wills, Lawrence Price and David Edwards

Darling Downs Team 2: Denise Hartwig, Chris Snook, Pauline Curin and Kathy Duke

Over the weekend of **18–20 September**, a very strong field of 60 teams from around Australia competed online, including many of the country's leading Bridge players.

To put the strength of the competition into perspective, the average Masterpoint holding of the teams competing was around **1,600 Masterpoints per team**. Our Darling Downs teams averaged just **360 and 793 Masterpoints respectively**, making their performances particularly impressive. Both teams held their own against this formidable field and came away with some coveted **Gold Points**.

The final placings were:

- **Darling Downs Team 2 – 33rd**
- **Darling Downs Team 1 – 53rd**

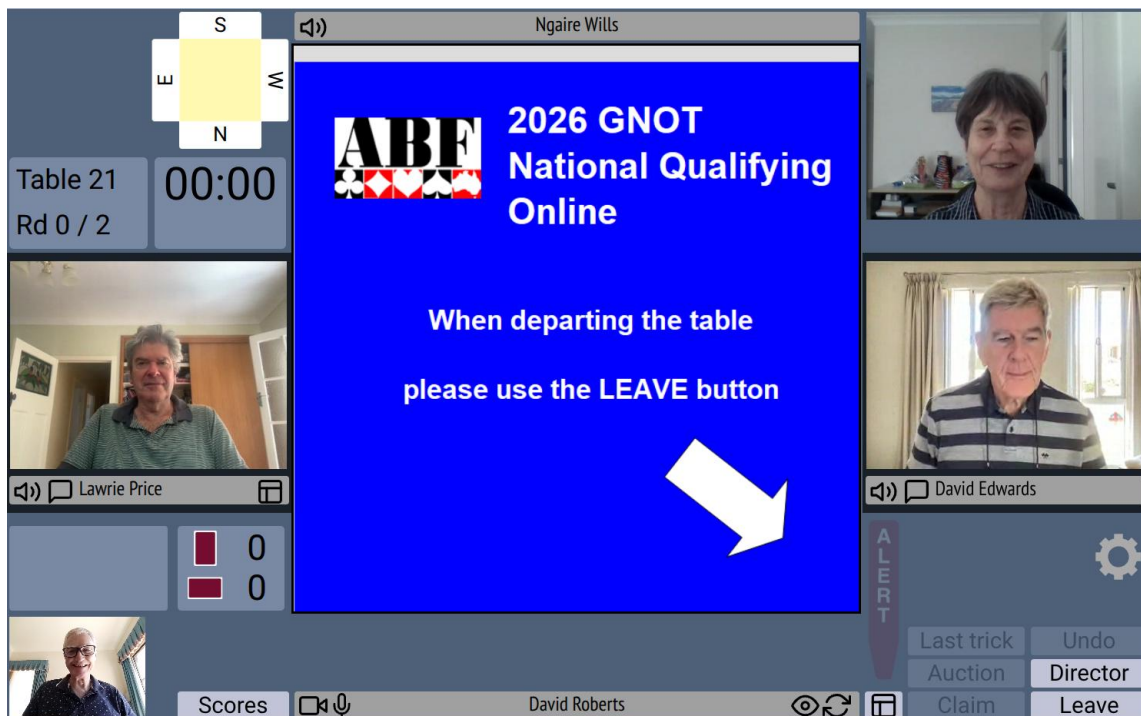
Team 2 came tantalisingly close to progressing to the next stage, missing qualification for the National Regional Final by just **2 Victory Points**.

A sterling effort from both teams and a wonderful achievement in representing the Darling Downs against such strong national competition.

Congratulations to everyone involved!

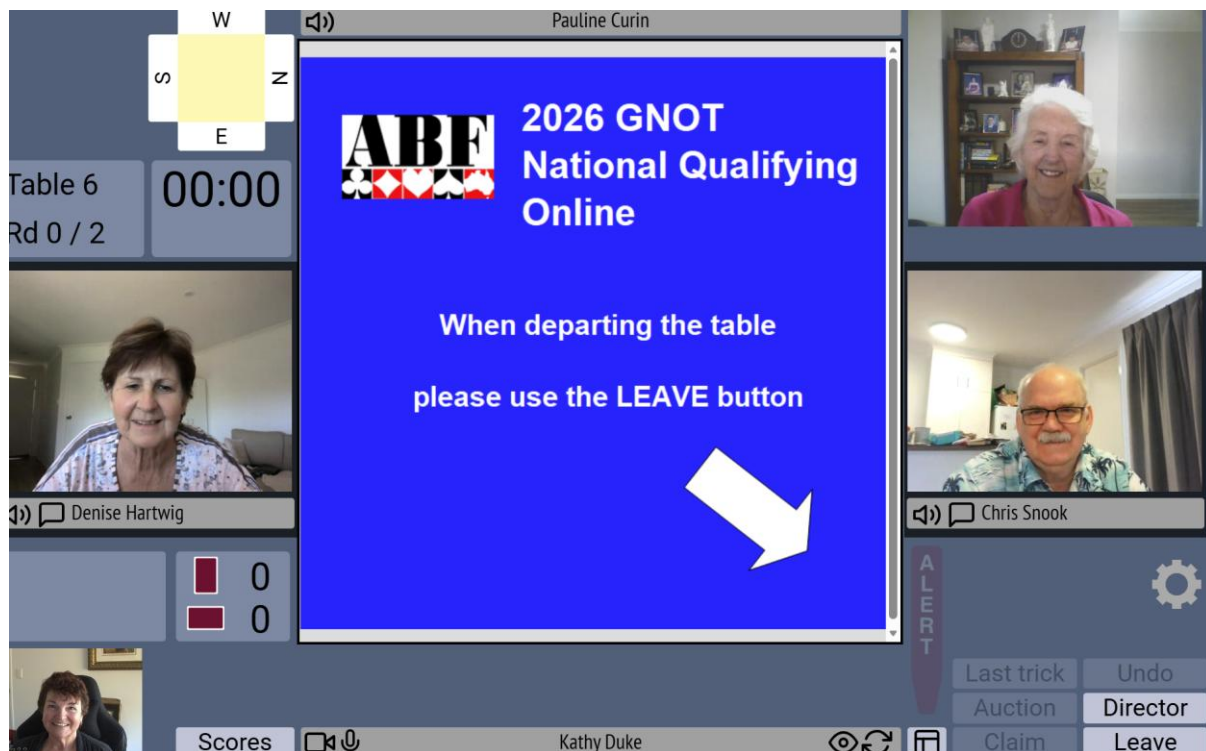
Darling Downs Team 1:

Dave Roberts, Ngaire Wills, Lawrence Price, David Edwards



Darling Downs Team 2:

Denise Hartwig, Chris Snook, Pauline Curin, Kathy Duke



TRAVELLERS TALES

Jerusalem - The City like No Other

(Travelling with your husband)

A few years ago, we travelled to Israel where I had 3 penfriends whom I had been corresponding with for many years. They didn't know each other, living in Haifa, Tel Aviv and the West Bank, coming from New York, South Africa and the UK in the 1960's and were very different to each other with their politics. Ironically, the places each of them took us to share a meal were Arab restaurants where the food was truly delicious.

However, most of our travelling in Israel we did by ourselves and perhaps the most extraordinary place we visited was the old walled city in Jerusalem enclosed by defensive stone walls built by the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is divided into four distinct quarters: the Muslim Quarter, the Christian Quarter, the Jewish Quarter, and the Armenian Quarter, each with their sacred shrines. As you walk around the narrow-cobbled streets more suited to donkeys than people, you honestly feel you have gone back in time.

We made Jerusalem our base and caught buses to visit other parts of Israel including the Dead Sea where the best you can do is float, because the amount of salt won't let you put your legs down and Masada which goes back to when the Roman Army was fighting the Jews and where you can still see the remains of the Roman encampment. Masada is now where new conscripts to the Israeli Army swear their allegiance to their country. Today tourists access the heights via an aerial Gondola Cable Car lift.

However, travelling with your husband is always interesting and the following is an extract from my diary.

"Arriving back in Jerusalem and leaving my husband to have a nap, I ended up in the garden of a Moroccan restaurant a few doors down from the Inn writing up my diary. Originally, I went there to see about booking a table for the evening. "Yes, Madam we are happy to take your booking, but we do not open for two hours" Then I saw their garden. "Would you mind very much if I sat in your garden to write up my diary?" "That would be perfectly alright. Would you like a coffee or tea?" "Tea please."

After spending two lovely hours scribbling, I arrived back at the Inn and that is when the problem started. "I have made us a booking at the Moroccan Restaurant a few doors down". "I don't want African food. I want to go back to where we went last night." "But hon, they have been so nice to me, it has a great write-up, and it will be fun."

I thought it was great, but it certainly wasn't fun. My husband hated it from the minute he walked in. He hated the Matre D'. He hated the décor, he hated the wine and he hated the prices. All he wanted was the food, the wine, the prices and the lovely girls who looked after him last night (and I might add, ignored me). By the way, when we went to Israel people were horrified - Hamas and Hezbollah were actively sending missiles into Israel. Maybe we were naïve (or stupid), but we wouldn't have missed it for anything.

Cheers, Glenys



The Western Wall, also known as the Wailing Wall or the Kotel, is an ancient limestone retaining wall in the Old City of Jerusalem that is the holiest place of prayer and pilgrimage in Judaism.



The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is the holiest site in Christianity, located in the Christian Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem



Al-Aqsa Mosque, located within a 14-hectare compound in the Old City is Islam's third-holiest site, after Mecca and Medina



The Markets or Souk in the Old City of Jerusalem covering 40 hectares, prohibit vehicles from 9am to 6pm



Once the Romans built a ramp to scale the heights of Masada, the Jewish forces chose to kill themselves rather than surrender to Vespasian's army. The buildings at the forefront are the remains of King Herod's summer palace.



The stone walls of the Roman camp at the base of Masada still in existence outlining the layout of the Roman encampment.