

Maylands Bridge Club Inc.

Chit Chat

June 2022



From our President

In memory of Alan Baldock, who was such an important member of the Maylands Bridge Club since its inception, the Committee decided that the existing 'Spring Pairs' (12 and 19 September) will become the 'Alan Baldock Perpetual Trophy'. A new trophy has been purchased to reflect this decision.

We have some lovely new tablecloths, very generously funded by Jean Martin and organised by Ilda Martin. Many thanks to both Jean and Ilda.

I have very little to say this month. Enjoy your bridge.

Linley

Robert Oakes Life Member



Robert was Born in Perth in 1939. He spent his early years in East Perth and was a student at East Perth State School. Robert's secondary schooling continued at John Forrest High School in Mount Lawley.

Like many of the local lads, he spent a lot of time 'hanging around' the Swan River in East Perth including around the Powerhouse and Gasworks. Robert's first job was at the petrol station in Angove Street pumping petrol. Later, he went to work at Kraft Foods in East Perth.

In 1958, Robert did his then compulsory National Service at the Campbell Barracks in Swanbourne. Following 'Nashos', he continued in the Army Reserve (Infantry – Cameron Highlands) rising to the 'dizzy' rank of Warrant Officer Class II after five years. In 1964, Robert married his wife, Josephine. From 1965 to 1969, he joined the army full-time with a posting to Albany to run the Army Depot there. In all, Robert's time with the Army, including as a Reservist, amounted to more than 30 years.

After his Army stint in Albany, Robert returned to Perth working back at Kraft Foods as a Salesman. His last job was with Australia Post where he worked for 20 years, first at the Mail Exchange in Stirling Street Perth, and after that closed, at the Parcel Centre in

Welshpool. The Oakes lived in Maylands until recently when he and wife moved to a retirement facility in Menora.

In his early adult years, Robert liked to go dancing at the various venues around Perth but gave dancing away, he claims, when he realised his wife's dancing skills were 'not up to his standard'. Robert played many sports as a young man including football ('but I was a bit skinny') and baseball – a sport in which he had a promising future 'that National Service killed'. During his four years in Albany, for a brief period, he played soccer filling in for a Polish-based team. Robert also played basketball for 20 plus years.

Robert took up Bridge after retirement. Whilst waiting in London for the commencement of a coach tour of parts of Britain, he noticed a guy wearing a 'Dockers' hat. He asked him 'what's with the hat', not realising that the 'guy' in question was Charlie Pears. After some 'small talk' each discovered the Perth connection. Charlie mentioned his love of Bridge and asked Robert if he would be interested in finding out more about the game.

Once back in Perth, Robert rang Charlie who invited him down to the Caledonian Avenue venue of the Maylands Bridge Club where he watched a few games of Bridge play. After returning from a trip to the US in around 2000, Robert decided to join the Club. He was a quick learner and we all know how successful Robert has been in competitive Bridge in the last 20 years or so.

Robert's first regular Bridge partner was Alan Baldock and together they won many trophies, both Club and Inter-club level. Other Bridge partners at Maylands include Pam Le Page. As we are all aware, Robert likes to keep the bidding simple with only a couple of basic cue bids.

For his service to the MBC, including Committee membership, employing his handyman skills in modifying and repairing our tables and other furniture, and organising social functions (including cooking) and facilitating other Club events, Robert was awarded Life membership in 2014.



Robert with Fran Carter



Robert with Alan Baldock

The Winners of the recent 2022 David Scott Memorial Trophy were Vince Menezes and Anne De Souza. Second place was Brian Harris and Robert Oakes. Third place was Linley and Pamela Le Page.



Vince Menezes /Anne De Souza



Robert Oakes



Linley and Pamela Le Page

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

LOOKING FOR A SATURDAY GAME OF BRIDGE

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR FRIENDLY SATURDAY SESSIONS (currently starting at 1pm)

VENUE: THE JIM SATCHELL COMMUNITY CENTRE

1 LIGHT ST , DIANELLA

Please note

FROM 18 JUNE 2022, SATURDAY BRIDGE WILL START AT 12.30PM

PLEASE BE SEATED AT 12.15PM

PRESIDENT FRAN CARTER

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