

# QCBC Newsletter



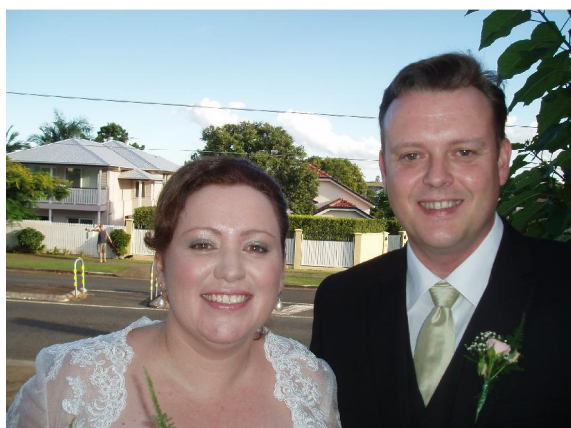
QCBC Clubhouse, 67 Ipswich Road, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102

<http://www.qcbc.org.au/>

Welcome back Rose. We all missed you

## Inside This Issue

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**Two Hearts doubled:  
Congratulations Dominique  
and Tony**

Ed. Note: My apology to Jan. She did not resign as Newsletter Editor as she never was the editor. She merely agreed to produce the newsletter until a new editor appeared on the scene.

## From the QCBC President:

Monica Pritchard



One of the most critical aspects of running a bridge club is to ensure that each playing session is competently directed. **QCBC is fortunate to have a number of dedicated directors** who manage this task. These individuals are responsible for setting up the tables for play, deciding the movement, distributing bridgemates and boards, setting the time for play, making rulings where necessary, correcting scoring errors on the bridgemates, finalising the scores at the end of play, posting results on the noticeboard and the internet, collecting and packing away the bridgemates, collecting boards and placing them ready for redealing.

Whereas congress directors are paid for their work, at general club sessions, where the director may also be playing, **the work is completely voluntary**. As a matter of etiquette then, it seems to me that **all players should assist where they can** by helping the director with any of the tasks outlined above but particularly by returning bridgemates and boards to a collection point at the end of play rather than walking out leaving their table strewn with the debris of the game. Thanking the session director is a matter of common courtesy.

Many of you already assist in this way and it is appreciated.

## ~ Vale ROD SHELBOURN ~

**Maurie Cullen**

Rod Shelbourn recently passed away having lost a recurring battle with a very aggressive cancer.

Our deepest sympathies go to his wife Carolyn, who was the love of his life and a special tower of strength in the last weeks of Rod's life, Rod having elected to curtail all treatment and die at his home.

I had the pleasure of playing with him on a Monday night for several years. It was a very happy experience. You learn a lot about your bridge partner if you play with them for long enough. I learnt Rod had several great loves in his life (apart from Carolyn).

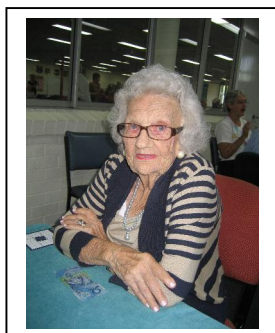
There was Aviation. He often told both amazing, and sometimes very funny, stories of his service in the RAF as a Flying Officer on British aircraft carriers (some very scary adventure stories about that stage of his life), also in his later job as a Commercial Pilot with several different airlines. He loved all things involved in aviation (especially the latest electronic gadgets). He was also very hooked on computers, so long as they were Apple branded.

He had a real affection for his two dogs. One Monday night I heard how one of his dogs had broken a tooth and he was looking at having to pay almost the national debt to have complex dental work done to fix the problem.

The other major love in Rod's life was bridge. He had played all over the world in big and small clubs and was a keen student of the game. If we decided we needed to amend our system, Rod would research all the options on the internet and present to me the best ideas he managed to find online to deal with the bidding problems we had at times. He liked bridge gadgets and played lots of conventions. I often forgot them and this destroyed some of his great bidding plans. He never complained about my mistakes, and they were frequent (as any playing director knows it is difficult to both play good bridge and direct at the same time). Every now and then a gadget would get us into a really good spot and he was overjoyed. I guess he played bridge in the same way he controlled aircraft, lots of gadgets to use when dealing with unusual situations. Monday night was great for Rod as there were always lots of newer players looking for advice and encouragement. Rod was always happy to give helpful tips and encouragement to anyone who asked for his opinion. He always was in good humour; we had many a good joke and lots of laughs during the night's play. Monday night bridge sessions will never be the same for me now that Rod has so prematurely left us, having been called to play at the top table.

**A new suit at the  
three level is forcing**

**Dawn reminds**



*Claris Bateman will be 96 in July. She took Bridge lessons only a few years ago: the perfect demonstration that Bridge keeps you young.*

## Recent Successes

### BBC Easter Graded Pairs Championship

- 1<sup>st</sup> P. Hainsworth, N. Van Jole  
2<sup>nd</sup> R. Lachman, B. Hunt  
3<sup>rd</sup> P. Schoen, P. Hale

### B Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> A. Dawson, E. Zeller  
2<sup>nd</sup> P. Evans, T. Treloar

### C Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> A. Boyce, A. Woollons

### BBC Easter Teams Championship

- 1<sup>st</sup> R. Lachman, B. Hunt, L. Afflick, R. Green  
2<sup>nd</sup> A. Hung, R. Parker, N. Van Jolie, A. Braithwaite

### B Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> M. Hoenig, C. Green, S. Beer, B. Macleod

### C Grade

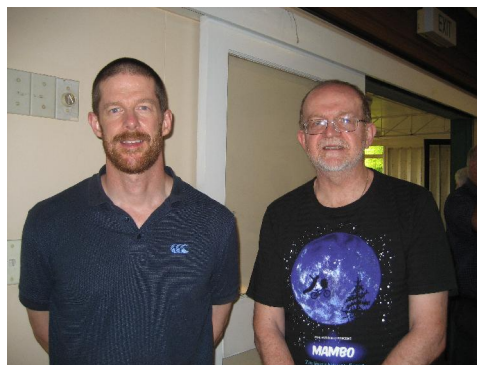
- E. Mander, J. Stacy, F. Jones, J. Hollands

### Australian National Championships Queensland Open Team

- N. Francis, K. Steffensen, B. Lee, M. Robson, P. Hainsworth, S. Kamalarasa

### Raie Matthews Trophy

- 1<sup>st</sup> R. Kuypers, T. Larsen  
2<sup>nd</sup> R. Curtin, I. Kidger  
3<sup>rd</sup> B. Longford, M. Pritchard



A. Woollens & A. Boyce



Friday's  
Fundraiser  
Feast – Not  
much left to  
photograph.  
Yummm!

**Jeanne Welch**  
Volunteer baker  
extraordinaire:  
one of the  
reasons to love  
being part of  
QCBC



## A Short Course in Work (Bridge) Relations

The **six** most important words:

"I admit I made a mistake"

The **five** most important words:

"You did a good job"

The **four** most important words:

"What is your opinion?"

The **three** most important words:

"If you please"

The **two** most important words:

"Thank you"

The **one** most important word:

"WE"

The **least** important word:

"I"

**Omar Sharif**

Many games provide fun, but bridge grips you. It exercises your mind. Your mind can rust, you know, but bridge prevents the rust from forming.

Two common reasons for delays can be eradicated: post mortems and writing in personal record sheets twice per board.

The greatest time saver is for declarer to claim when it is obvious how the remaining tricks will be won and lost.

### ♥ Message from the Director: When Time Runs Out ♥

Running out of time to play boards is no big deal and isn't always because of slow play. Nevertheless, our rules are clear and apply just as much to the last round before lunch and the final round of a session. **Play of a board shall not continue if the opening lead has not been made when time is called.**

We can all help our playing directors by observing this requirement. An average score from time to time isn't such a bad thing and will rarely make a significant difference to the end result.

What does spoil our fun is when a late finish at one table is allowed to snowball and affect many tables.

Playing directors tend to conserve time because they never know when they will be called away. Look at the skills they use. The first board is on the table ready to play. Cards are being removed from the board as greetings are being made. The next board is up and ready while the played one is being packed away.

Jan Peach

## The Concept of Fast Arrival

In any Game Force auction, Fast Arrival applies. It is useful for distinguishing between a minimum hand and a better one.

W	N	E	S
P	P	2♣	P
2♦	P	2♥	P
3♥	P	4NT	P
5♦	P	6♥	P
P	P		

## SLOW SHOWS

- 2♣ From E shows a 4 loser hand and is a Game Force bid.
- 2♦ Waiting (regardless of points)
- 2♥ At least 5 Hearts
- 3♥ A strong bid inviting opener to explore slam
- (4♥ [Fast Arrival] would be weak. A responding hand with no values, a void and at least 3 Hearts would bid 4 based on a ruff.)
- 4NT (RKC) with 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> round control in all suits.
- 5♦ Shows the missing Ace

♠ Q9653 Dlr: S  
♥ 53 Vul: E-W  
♦ K5  
♣ J963

♠ AT ♠ 8  
♥ J872 ♥ AKT964  
♦ T76 ♦ AJ32  
♣ Q542 ♣ AK

♠ KJ742  
♥ Q  
♦ Q984  
♣ T87



## PLASTIC (Surgery) EVALUATION

This method of hand evaluation will give you a realistic and accurate guide to the changing value of your hand as the bidding proceeds.

To the original point count value of your hand, add a point for every J Q or K in the suits bid by partner. Take off a point for every J Q or K not bid by partner.

The readjusted value of your hand will be a remarkably accurate guide to its true worth.

For example: you hold ♠108 ♥AQ753 ♦QJ83 ♣92

In the first auction the bidding proceeds 1♣ (P) 1♥ (P) 1♠  
Your hand has become effectively 6 points. Tread carefully.

In the second auction the bidding proceeds 1♦ (P) 1♥ (P) 2♥  
Your hand has become effectively a 12 point hand – a sound game invitation.

While this method is not infallible – some partners always seem to bid bad suits – you will find you are bidding more when it is right to, and staying low when that is right, on superficially the same point count.

Example 1: You hold ♠AJ864 ♥973 ♦QJ8 ♣K9

Partner	You
1D	1S
2C	3D
3S	?

In Diamonds, your hand is worth 15 points. 6 Diamonds is a strong possibility.

Since Declarer has bid three suits, she must be short in the fourth suit. It sounds as if she has only one heart in her hand.

Example 2: You hold ♠KQ863 ♥KQ83 ♦A9 ♣93

Partner	You
1D	1S
2C	?

In Diamonds your hand is worth 10 points. 3NT is likely to be high enough.



Friday's contingent in the Assisted Session

Margaret suggests:  
repeat (to yourself) each  
card played in order to fix  
it in your memory.

## AN INTERESTING HAND FROM THE SECOND FRIDAY GNP SESSION

The bidding has proceeded as follows: Dealer N (ALL VUL) Pass, Partner East 1♦, South 4♥

It is now your turn to bid. Sitting West you hold ♠KQJ9874 ♥6 ♦95 ♣Q87. What would you do now?

I CHOSE TO BID 4 SPADES, (Thinking it would not be too bad a spot opposite my partner's opening bid). North chose to double and 4Sx became the final contract. My worst fears were realised when dummy was displayed with a spade void. I was looking at:

♠Void ♥J1083 ♦AQJ1087 ♣K106

The spades are certainly breaking badly - perhaps 5/1 or 4/2 with the Ace and 10 probably in the north hand (hence the double). So there are likely 2 spade losers, 1 heart loser, 1 club loser and possibly 1 diamond loser if the diamond finesse fails. There are too many losers. This is not a good situation. This contract is likely to fail by 2 tricks.

The possibilities for the hand are to hope the Ace and 10 of spades are not in the same hand so the spade losers can be kept to 1, and if the Diamond finesse works, then there are no diamond losers, and then 4 spades is making if the club can be kept to 1 loser. **When in this sort of situation, when you really need cards in certain places to give you any chance of making your contract, I play for that to occur.** (Why not, if the only chance you have to make the contract is to **hope cards are where you need them to be?**) On this occasion I got lucky, the full deal is as follows:

Dir: N ♠A653

Vul: All ♥5

♦K632

♣J432

♠KQJ9874

♥6

♦95

♣Q87

♠T2

♥AKQ9742

♦4

♣A95

♠

♥JT83

♦AQJT87

♣KT6

On 6 of hearts lead (definitely a singleton), South won with the Ace and returned a small heart (asking for a club switch), for North to trump. I trumped with the Jack S, which drew the Ace S from North. A small diamond was returned, I tried the finesse of the jack (as I really do need this finesse to work to have any hope). The Jack won. Wow! Now I led a small club from dummy (trusting South's signal for a club and hoping that South had the Ace of clubs), towards the Queen. South played the Ace (more good news). South then led the King of hearts. I certainly needed to trump this but could not afford another high trump (I had yet to draw trump). Nor could I afford to be

over ruffed by North. I had to hope the 10 of spades was in the South hand and so decided to trump with the 9 of spades. This also worked and so I could then draw three rounds of trump and claim 10 tricks (6 Spades, 2 Diamonds and 2 Clubs). LUCKY!

Maurie Cullen

## **My brilliant congress career continues.....**

**Monica Pritchard**

Hello all my friends. I thought I would bring you all up to date on the latest episode in my brilliant congress career.

Byron Longford, that nice boy from Toowoomba, had asked me to be part of a team playing the Gympie Congress. Of course I said yes. (I always say yes to anyone who asks me to do anything).

I did receive an email from Toni Bardon asking me if I had forgotten that the teams event was in Gympie on the day immediately after Tony Treloar's wedding to Dominique. Of course I had forgotten but I did not tell her that.

On the eve of the teams event, we heard that one of our team had broken her arm and was unable to play. Of course I said I would be able to persuade some other poor fool to substitute.

Over the course of Tony and Dom's wedding, I importuned the following to play as a substitute: Tony Bardon, Tony Treloar, Jimmy Wallace, Carmel Martin, Peter Evans, Cheryl Stone, Peter Hainsworth, Alison Dawson and some nice man with a beard who said he was good at five hundred. Strangely, they all laughed.

I mentioned the delightful prospect of a 5.30am start, the 21/2 hour drive north, the scintillating company, my fabulous music mix, the excitement of playing in our team (ranked 21st), and the 21/2 hour drive home. Strangely, they laughed even harder.

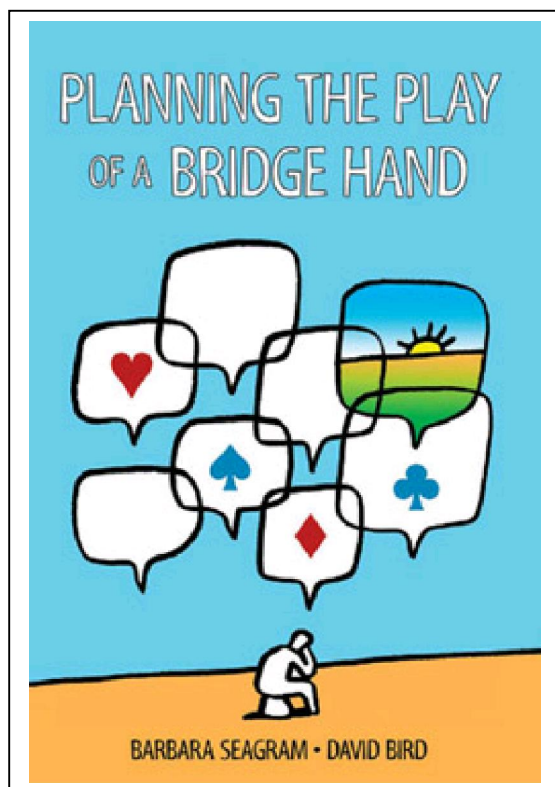
During the wedding, we received notice that up in Gympie, they had arranged for a lovely local novice lady called Angela to play in our team. Of course I was happy, but still strangely disappointed that I had to limit the extent of my wedding enjoyment to ensure that I was in top form for the next day.

The cheerful 5.00am alarm was music to my ears. By 5.30, Byron and I were on our way. I know he loved my music mix, especially Willie Nelson. All went well until we came to the point near Caboolture where the Bruce Highway was completely closed due to a traffic accident. The detour we chose took us onto the wild, unsealed roads through the forestry west of the Old Gympie Road. Of course that worked very well and 2 hours later, we found our way back to a bitumen road that eventually took us back to another road that took us through Lansborough back to the Bruce Highway. By 9.00am, (start of play) we were near the Caloundra turnoff. Fortunately, the Director, Peter Busch, had by this time arranged for our team to be augmented by two of the lovely kitchen staff who played the first round.

After driving for 4 1/4 hours, we arrived in time to play the second round. Of course we all played brilliantly for one win, two draws and a final position of 20th. Of course I was ecstatic yet strangely disappointed that I had to limit the extent of my celebration enjoyment to ensure I was in top form for the long drive back.

If anyone wants coaching in how to play congresses, I'll be happy to help.

Ed.Note: What an offer. First come.....



### From the Library

#### Book Review: Barbara Seagram & David Bird: Planning the Play of a Bridge Hand

The book is divided into three sections: Planning a Suit Contract, Planning a No Trump Contract and Adding Clever Moves to Your Plan. It is methodical and written in clear language with many examples and exercises.

The emphasis throughout is on the **PLANNING**. With **suit contracts**, finessing, discarding losers, ruffing losers, establishing a suit and timing for drawing trumps are dealt with. With **No Trumps**, topics covered are: holding up, establishing a suit and winning the race.

The third section goes into other types of finesses, entries, options for drawing trumps, the danger hand, combining chances, hold-ups and using counting to formulate your plan.

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