

# QCBC Newsletter



QCBC Clubhouse, 67 Ipswich Road, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102

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

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## From the President, Monica Pritchard



The hard work of our house committee is evident in a number of ways about the clubhouse. **Our thanks go to Anne Barry, Karen Elmes, Barbara Bright, Val Ferguson and Vivian Solo for making our playing environment more cheerful.** We are also happy to be able to assist the Brisbane Bridge Centre by accommodating players from their Saturday session while their clubhouse is being repaired.

June Hay asked me during this week what had happened about the contract for the signage at the front of our property. The company involved has delayed the construction of the sign but we are still receiving the income specified in the contract. The Board of QCBC is constantly looking for ways to make our game more readily available to players. We welcome feedback on the times of playing sessions, the length of sessions and whether we should make some sessions available only to players with a restricted number of masterpoints. If you have an opinion about any of these things, please let us know.

### Coming Events at QCBC

**5 Star Trophy: Tuesday 7 August  
10.00am - walk in – Red Master Points**

Ekka Pairs: Wednesday 15 August  
10.30am – walk in – Red Master Points

**QLD Butler Pairs – Saturday & Sunday, 11&12 August - \$50 per player**

**9.30am each day**

Monday am comp: 27 August – Swiss Pairs – prior entry appreciated – 10.30am start Red Master Points

**Wilson's Car Park – Corner of Ipswich Rd & Henry St. \$2 a day to park 6am to 8pm.**

**Park at your own risk.**

Ticket must be left on the dash and be clearly visible.

**Clean Cruising invites you to a very special cruise event to discover the magic of cruising with all the comforts.**

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> August **Time:** 2pm

**Venue:** QCBC Woolloongabba

**RSVP by:** 15<sup>th</sup> August 2012 to [terri@cleancruising.com.au](mailto:terri@cleancruising.com.au)

## Recent Congress Successes

### QBA Graded Teams Grade A July 1<sup>st</sup>

**First** S. KAMALARASA, R. PARKER, N. VAN JOLE, N. FRANCIS

**Second** P. HAINSWORTH, M. GOODMAN, T. JACKMAN, T. TRELOAR

**Third** B. STACEY, L. COLLINS, P. LARSEN, T. COLLINS

### Australian National Championships: Womens Butler

**First** T. TULLY, P. RANKIN



### State Results for ANC

#### Womens Teams

1. NSW 2. WA 3. QLD 4. ACT 5. TAS 6. SA 7. VIC 8. NT

#### Youth Teams

1. WA 2. NSW 43. QLD 4. VIC 5. SA 6. ACT

#### Open Teams

1. SA 2. VIC 3. NSW 4. QLD 5. WA 6. ACT 7. TAS 8. NT

#### Senior Teams

1. ACT 2. VIC 3. SA 4. NSW 5. QLD 6. WA 7. TAS 8. NT

## Competition Winner: Identify the Owners



Veena Chotai

## And here are the owners:

1. Rod Curtin
2. Neville Francis
3. Peg Natrass
4. Cheryl Stone
5. Claire Green
6. Roz Hero
7. Dawn Cullen
8. Jan Peach
9. Margaret and Jim Millar
10. Rose Smith

## July Promotions

Peter Nilsson Bronze Life  
Barry Copley \* Locak  
Joan Jenkins \* Local  
Ruth Hoffensetz Club  
Deanne Gaskill Graduate



# CLEAN CRUISING

Find Your Dream Cruise Faster

*Paul and Vivienne comment: Had a great trip!*

## ANC Interstate Teams 2012 – Darwin (8-13 July) Report from Chris Larter

Last year I was asked to write a report about my experience of the ANC in Melbourne and I never got around to it. So I felt I should write one about ANC 2012 in Darwin – and here it is!!!



The Queensland Youth Team for 2012 consisted of Nathan Van Jole (playing captain), Andy Hung, Jessica Brake, Tom Wix and me. Luckily, only a couple of weeks prior to travelling, Andy was able to commit and join us. This allowed breaks for players. From around Easter this year, training and practice was held on BBO (Bridge Base Online) and occasionally at the club. I mostly practised with Jessica, who was to be my main partner.

We flew out on the Saturday and play started on the Sunday with three sessions of 20 board matches each day (9.30am, 1.30pm & 4.30pm/7.30pm). Since the Youth Competition had only six teams, we played three round robins. For the first round robin we were coming fourth to sixth with Jessica and I mostly playing together. In this first round robin I played against a Western Australia pair that played a yellow system called 'Forcing Pass'. Against players in club sessions or competitions, you usually play either Standard American, 2/1 or Precision (to name a few) which are green or blue systems. It was good experience playing against Forcing Pass.

In an effort to improve our placing, Nathan decided to swap partnerships around so that Jessica, Tom and I were playing with Andy and/or Nathan. This resulted in an improvement and we were hovering around second place for the second round robin. In the third round robin, we ended up playing the teams who had not performed well at the start and on the Thursday evening we played the team coming way out in first position (Western Australia). Before you ask the question, yes I played against the 'Forcing Pass' pair again. Even though we had a win against Western Australia in the last match, New South Wales, who were not far behind us, had a bigger win and overtook us to play the final against Western Australia. We ended up coming 3rd overall.

One hand that I played which I thought would be interesting to show was Board 5, Match 6 against New South Wales. I was South playing with Nathan (North) and our opponents were Adam Edgton (East) and Liam Milne (West). Adam and Liam are both Australia representatives in Youth Bridge. This hand shows that you need to plan your play and do not play your trumps out first.

N	E	S	W
1D	P	1S	P
2H	P	2S	P
3S	P	4S	P
P	P		

	♠AJ	
	♥QJ86	
	♦KQJ752	
	♣J	
♠63		♠T72
♥954		♥KT73
♦643		♦AT9
♣AK654		♣Q93
	♠KQ9854	
	♥A2	
	♦8	
	♣T872	

The AC was led, JC played in dummy, C3 from East and C2 from South. Then S3 was played from West. I played AS from dummy as I knew I had to keep



transportation options open. Next I played KD to set up the Diamonds in dummy and AD was taken from East. 7S was then led, taken with JS in dummy. Then QD and JD were led and two Clubs were discarded from my hand. D7 trumped with S10 by East and overtrumped by me with SQ. I was now home, making HA and losing H2 and C10. I made 10 tricks. Even though there are other ways to make the contract, the main message as I said above is to plan your play and do not play your trumps out first.

Apart from the bridge, on the Tuesday evening a selected number of bridge players, including myself, were invited to a reception at Government House hosted by The Honourable Sally Thomas, the Administrator of the Northern Territory and her partner Mr Duncan McNeill. Sally and Duncan are both bridge players who play when they have the time. During the reception, Sally made a speech which included the following poem, which Duncan and she composed.

*“We welcome you all to our fair city  
That you don’t come more often is such a pity  
You will enjoy the climate during your stay  
Which should encourage better play  
The fate of your game could rest on a card  
Knowing which one is what is so hard  
Let your bidding be at its best  
Responding too will be a test  
We know you aim to win the finesse  
To save your partner a lot of stress  
This tournament is for you all  
We hope that you will have a ball”*



Overall, I enjoyed the experience and have connected, re-connected and made friends with other Youth bridge players from the other states and territories in Australia. Lastly, thanks to the QBA for organising the Queensland Youth Team’s travel to Darwin.



Murray Perrin and Dawn Cullen



Carolyn Woolley and Margaret Millar



Lech Kaszubski and Paul Collins



Neville Francis, Betty Lee, Mike Robson – The Lagoon



David Harrison



Tom Wix, Nathan Van Jole

### More Southerners Enjoying the Darwin Weather

## My Favourite Hands: Part 3 by Alan Boyce

### Redoubling need not be troubling

Playing recently in the Toowong Restricted Butler Pairs, in what will be my last <150 MP event, and playing along-side Andrew Woollons, I heard East pass in 1<sup>st</sup> seat. I opened 1D at South holding:

♠JT98
♥AJT
♦AQT86
2
♣

Andrew and I play a strong club so my hand is limited, in general terms, to 15 HCP's. West doubled for takeout and Andrew bid 1H. 2C came from East which is interesting as East held:

<b>East</b>
♠7532
♥5
♦93
♣J98543

Perhaps, after North spoke, bidding with 1HCP might be a little intrepid! I doubled (support double) and West bid 3C as I recall. Andrew bid 4H which was passed round to West who chose to double, logically thinking we are "way short" of points on THIS auction. Passed round to me I decided that, if Andrew felt he could bid 4H in ignorance of my void, why should I not expect him to make the contract with the void's presence? So redouble I doth do!

	<b>North</b>	Dealer E
	♠4	Vul: Nil
	♥KQ9742	
	♦74	
	♣KQ76	
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>
♠AKQ6		♠7532
♥863		♥5
♦KJ5		♦93
♣AT2		♣J98543
	<b>South</b>	
	♠JT98	
	♥AJT	
	♦AQT862	
	♣	

  

10		
17	1	
12		

10 tricks can be made in several ways and most in the open room made 10 in hearts; but not all were at the game level.

Redoubling a doubled contract for "blood" was a 1<sup>st</sup> time for me. +880 in a non-vul game under imp scoring is a big result of course. And it begs the usual caution of, "**avoid doubling for penalty in imp scoring without natural trump tricks**".

## Scoring Methods

**(Thanks to Jan Peach for this (for me especially) enlightening article on a very complex topic. Novice Ed)**

There are many scoring methods used in competitive bridge. Double matchpoint scoring is widely used for everyday duplicate sessions. Each board is played at a number of tables and pairs receive 2 matchpoints for each pair they beat and 1 matchpoint for each pair with the same score. Say a board is played 10 times. A top score is earned by beating all 9 other pairs hence 18 matchpoints. Beating 6 pairs and tying with one means 13 matchpoints.

**At matchpoints pairs, one strives to make as many tricks as possible** - perhaps even taking risks for the sake of an overtrick. Showing good judgement to play in 3NT making 10 tricks will beat the pairs playing in 4H making 10.

Scoring by **International Matchpoints (Imps)** is often referred to as “teams scoring”. Scores obtained by each pair of a team on each board played against another team are added together and converted to imps using a scale. The imp scale reduces the importance of very large totals and ignores differences below 20. **Playing in 3NT making 10 tricks now gains nothing over 4H making 10 tricks and, at teams scoring, one plays in the safer contract.**

Say NS play in 4SN for +620 and their EW team mates come back from the other table having defended 3SN for -170. +620-170 is +450. Looking up our IMP table finds that 450 is worth +10 imp and the opponents get -10 imp.

Straightaway we see how damaging it is to miss bidding and making a vulnerable game. The commonly heard exhortation is to bid 40% games when vulnerable because, **over time, more is given away by missing the 40% vulnerable games than by failing in them.**

We also have **bland and boring Butler pairs scoring**. It's a Capital B for Mr Geoffrey Butler and there are a number of variations. Instead of comparing scores with another team, each pair's score is compared against a datum. The datum is commonly obtained by removing 1 to 3 scores (depending on the size of the field) from both the top and the bottom and averaging the rest. This would be an Average Butler.

Our NS pair above with their +620 may be compared to a datum of +470 so they have done +150 better than the average so get +4 imp.

Imps scoring also encourages cautious play. Only after ensuring one's contract is safe would attention turn to the possibility of overtricks. There is a misconception that overtricks don't matter at teams scoring. They do matter. One can't throw away an imp here and an imp there and expect to do well. It's just that we play for safety first.

**Let's look at AKQxxx opposite xx with no outside entry to the long hand and needing 4 tricks from this suit to make our contract. At matchpoint pairs, we might simply cash the AKQ hoping to make 6 tricks while at imp scoring (with no worries in other suits) we might duck the first trick as a safety play in case one defender had Jxxx.**

Butler pairs can have a bias for or against NS or EW when the NS imps and EW imps don't sum to zero on every board. It's nice to think the bias would average out; but getting caught on the wrong side for too long takes some of the fun out of Butler events. (Some of the problems with Butler can be reduced by cross imping but that is another story.)

Imps can be further flattened by converting them using a Victory Point scale. Using a WBF scale, a really good win would be 25-0 vp while a draw would be 15-15 vp.



I've noticed that QCBC's environment is more appealing lately. And here's why. Good on you, Anne and team.

### Notes from Housekeeping By Anne Barry (Housemother)

As you may know if you read last month's newsletter, we now have a housekeeping department. We have a group of willing workers who have been busy cleaning, tidying and reorganising. I would like to thank them for their help and hard work. We have quite a few projects in mind.

You are invited to make suggestions and help in any way.

We have lots of empty vases in the kitchen so please feel free to **bring your flowers** and plants; it all helps to make your bridge club more inviting and homely.

I have been asked to remind you that we have a **library corner** where you can bring books you have finished with and, for small fees, borrow others. We hope to have up-to-date well-kept books so that the avid readers among us always have a book at hand. We hope to make this corner more user-friendly, but it is a work in progress.

If you see flowers that need attending to, please, it is your club – go ahead, feel at home to take out the dead ones or throw out the bunch that has had it. **Pick up and tidy.** We will love you for it.

If you have a problem, please tell us. Our job is to make our club a pleasant place for all. One of the things that you all can give is a **smile.** You never know, it might make someone's day.



### What a Partnership! **Partnership longevity**

The year 1988 saw many changes to Brisbane being the year the city hosted World Expo, which showcased many aspects of life and sponsored friendship to all.

It was also the year of a bridge partnership that has continued for over 24 years and is still going strong today.

QCBC is a club that conducts bridge for the enjoyment of many; and the club originally held both competitions and classes at Manning Street, West End. It was at these premises that Mollie Muller met Desleigh Worner and they formed their bridge partnership.

This partnership is remarkable in that Mollie, who is now 90 years young and Desleigh somewhat younger, meet many players who believe they are a mother and daughter combination.

It is the endeavour of all bridge clubs to foster good relationships within their ranks and this partnership certainly exemplifies this.

Despite her age, although Mollie has now given up driving her car she still attends each week at QCBC's 'Gabba premises arriving by bus and at the conclusion of playing all day, returns home to West End by bus and is consequently well known by the bus employees.

For all bridge players Mollie is an inspiration, showing age is no deterrent to going out and enjoying life as we should.

Don Womer



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Sorcery





**Michael's Corner**  
**Brush up on Your Techniques: Finesses**

We all understand that a finesse is an attempt to win a trick which we might not otherwise make, but **when**, and in some cases, **how**, should we take a finesse? Here are a few tips.

**N** AJ9                      **S** xxx

Let us look at this suit in isolation. We're assuming that declarer can get back to hand whenever necessary. Declarer (S) leads low, followed by a low card from west. What to play?

**The obvious play of the Jack is almost futile:** a) the chance of East not holding either the Q or K is roughly 25% and b) most Wests sitting with both cards will play the Q to force the A.

The **far better play** is the 9. If the 10 is offside, you will lose two tricks just as you would have anyway. If the 10 is onside, then East will have to play e.g. the Q, allowing you, upon getting back to hand, to attempt to finesse the K for a possible second trick in the suit. The odds of all this working are still not favourable, but they are a lot better than the alternatives. It is also possible to play the Ace hoping to find East with either the Q or K singleton, but this is pointless as, if it works, then so does your main line of play.

**N** 10x                      **S** AKxx

Again we're looking at a suit in isolation. West leads low. If we simply play low from dummy, we have no prospect of making more than two tricks in the suit, as the 10 is dropping on the next round. Let us use a little imagination. What if West has led low from QJ? This is not probable, but certainly quite possible. In this instance it can do no harm to put up the 10, and you may get a nice surprise!

**N** Kxx                      **S** Qxxx

One more suit in isolation. South leads low to dummy's K. East plays low. Dummy leads low back towards South's Q, and East again plays low. Now what? If we play the Q it will almost certainly get mugged by West's Ace. The only chance is to play low and hope that West started with a doubleton Ace, in which case it will drop, allowing you to make your Queen.

<p><b>N</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♥</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Q</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Q</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Q</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	♠	♥	♦	♣	Q	x	A	Q	x	x	Q	x	x	x	x	x		x			<p><b>S</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♥</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">A</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">K</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">K</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">J</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">J</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	♠	♥	♦	♣	A	x	x	K	K	x	x	J	J			10	x			x	x				<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>W</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>N</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>E</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>S</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3H</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3S</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">Lead: 5D</td> </tr> </table>	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	3H	P	P	3S	P	P	P		Lead: 5D			
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**There is an old bridge truism that if a pre-empter makes an opening lead of anything other than their own suit, that's their singleton.**

The Diamond finesse is tempting, as if it works it will give you an overtrick. The catch is that if it doesn't, then the Diamond return may well get ruffed for one off. Keeping in mind that most of West's points should be in hearts, the finesse is looking fairly dodgy. The sensible play is the Ace,

followed by drawing trumps and setting up the club suit. Assuming that trumps don't break 5-0 (if they do, tough!) you will make your contract.

<b>North</b>	<b>♠</b>	<b>♥</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>♣</b>		<b>South</b>	<b>♠</b>	<b>♥</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>♣</b>		<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>W</b>
	K	A	x	K			Q	x	A	Q		1C	X	1D	P
	x	Q		J			x	x	K	10		1H	P	3NT	P
	x	x		x			x		Q	x		P	P		
		x		x					J	x					
				x											

**Lead:** 5H

With East having doubled the likelihood is that the K is offside. If we take the finesse anyway and the K wins, a heart back opens up the suit before we can establish the Clubs, for a probable one off. The better play is the A followed by attacking the clubs. Assuming that East has both outstanding aces, and therefore can't get the lead to West, the H suit can't be continued without conceding to the Q. The vital point is that your QH still has value regardless of which side the K is on. In this scenario you are making at least 10 tricks, as you will get either a second heart or a spade trick.

Michael Corner

**Kate's Rules to Live by: Number 4**

*Give the opponents a problem whenever you can do so with relative safety. If they have no problems, they will play well. If they have problems to cope with, then, no matter how good they are, they won't be able to solve them all. 😊*

**Thanks for the Bridge**



deserted me.

I wish to thank all of my valued bridge friends for the wonderful memories accumulated over the years. Although life has delivered some harsh burdens (especially the devastating loss in 2001 of my loving daughter, Dianne and her husband) I consider myself very fortunate to have had support from my good friends, my son, John, his wife, Megan and Dianne's sons David and Chris, who dearly care for me – especially now when good health has

Since it is unlikely that I will manage to return to the Bridge Club, please know that I have appreciated your companionship and partnerships, and I hope that you will be there to farewell me when my time comes.

Narelle Peterson