

QCBC Newsletter



QCBC Clubhouse, 67 Ipswich Road, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102

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

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Coming Events

Wed 26 Boxing Day Pairs Red points
Jan Sun 6 GCBC Swiss Teams
Jan Tues 8 Red Points
Jan Mon 7 Margaret Leahy Trophy – best4/6
Jan Sun 13, 2013 QCBC Swiss Butler and Novice Pairs
16 – 29 Jan 2013 Summer Festival of Bridge – Canberra
Jan Fri 18 Red Point
Jan Sun 20 NSBC Teams
Jan Sat 26 Australia Day Pairs – Red points
Jan Sun 27 Kenmore Pairs
Jan Mon 28 Kenmore Teams Aust Day Holiday

From the President, Monica Pritchard

Welcome to our new members:

Ian Badham, Audrey Napier,
Bruce Vidgen, Joyce Gordon,
CP Kong, Greg Humphis and
Loretta Lovette.



May all members, friends and families and even enemies, have a safe and satisfying festive season. Spread much good will. ☺



QCBC Pairs Championship
Winners: Neven Burica, Greg Lee
Runners up: Peter Evans, Tony Treloar

We sadly acknowledge the deaths of Ron Rheuben, Fay Mitchell and Adele Dennis.

The Melbourne Cup event was a huge success. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves; the outfits were eye-catching; the food was yummy; the tables looked splendid and the bridge was just for fun. Margaret Roseler provided masses of perfumed roses for decoration. Over \$800 was raised via the sweeps, largely through the relentless selling of tickets by John Price.



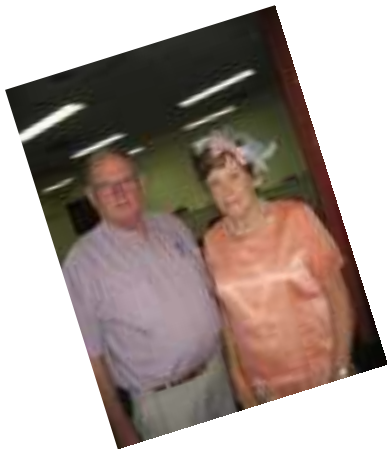
An eye for style: Margaret Roseler's winning hat.



Winning style by Barry



We took time to smell the roses on the Cup tables.



**You'll find
more photos
on the QCBC
Web Site.**

Melbourne Cup Extravaganza



Bring and Buy

Thanks to Jenny Williams for organising the November fund-raiser, which provided entertainment and over \$1600.



Teams of 3



Top 2 teams of 3: C. Liu, P. Hainsworth, C. Qin, C. Francia, R. Wallis, T. Runting, A. Lee, A. Dawson

♠7654		
♥KJ8		
♦Q73		
♣AK		
♠AQ		♠T92
♥7653		♥94
♦T8652		♦9
♣73		♣QJ86542
	♠KJ8	
	♥AQT2	
	♦AKJ4	
	♣T9	

Two Flat Hands

After an opening bid by the North hand and a two diamond response by South, the only sensible rebid is 2NT.

With these two balanced hands, the trick is to stay in 3NT. The spades in the North hand are so weak, and all high cards are outside the suit. So North wants to insist on NT; but with 3 cars spade support and two small clubs, South might bid 4S.

This contract will make, but in 3NT an wasy 10 tricks are available for a better score at pairs.

Dawn Cullen

Promotions

Andrew Woollons	* State
Jacqui Fardoulis	State
Patricia Middleton	* Regional
Joan Jenkins	** Local
David Goodsir	Local
Deanne Gaskill	Club
Yang Ming Shu	Graduate



Joan Jenkins ** Local YEH!

Fund- raising Frenzy

The amazing Jenny Williams has been at it again. She and the talented Jeanie Welch raised over \$500 in the Christmas Raffle.

A Well-Played Hand

	♠K	
	♥AQ1065	
	♦10963	
	♣AQ9	
♠J986		♠AQ102
♥K842		♥973
♦K4		♦A2
♣K65		♣J842
	♠7543	
	♥J	
	♦QJ875	
	♣1073	

Neville Francis opened the north hand 1H. After two passes sitting in the west seat I had to decide whether to balance. Of course I hate to leave any opponent in a 1 level contract but I was worried about giving him a better score.

Our balancing NT is 10 – 16 so that is a possibility. My kings are sitting under the opening bidder and the intermediates are terrible so I reluctantly passed. With no attractive opening lead Joan decided to try for a ruff so led the A D and another.

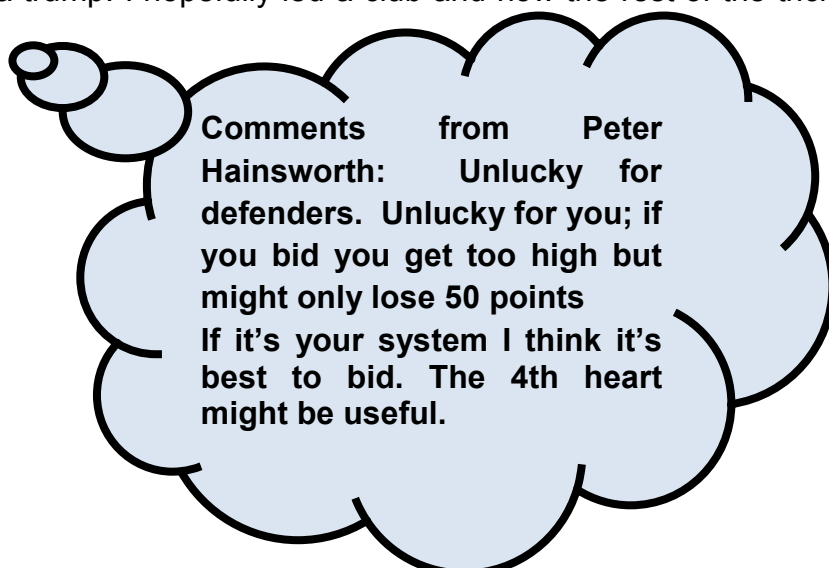
I made the obvious switch to 8 S hoping that partner would guess that I had no more diamonds and would give me a ruff.

Neville was probably chuckling knowing that no ruff was possible.

When the K S fell from north it became a good idea to play a forcing game. With a single H in dummy I should have length. Neville ruffed the second spade and paused for thought. He led a heart towards dummy. I won my K and continued the force. Neville decided to pitch potentially losing clubs instead of ruffing. Since the spades split evenly two more rounds exhausted that suit and the choice was a club or a trump. I hopefully led a club and now the rest of the tricks belonged to Neville.



Author: Dawn Cullen



Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all bridge players for your well wishes, kind thoughts, and humorous get well cards following my recent surgery and convalescence. Your messages of support helped make an unpleasant experience more bearable.

Thank you. David O'Gorman



David in hospital. But you can't keep a good man down.

Michael's Corner

Minor Matters

One of the most popular conventions amongst experienced players is the Inverted Minor.

The idea is that after 1C/1D a response of 3C/3D is **pre-emptive** (6-9 hcp) and 5+ C/D, and a response of 2C/2D is **strong** (10+ hcp, 5+ C/D and no 4 card major).

This last bit is important. Some of my partners used to think it was all right to fudge it. They no longer think that. The underlying principle is that both bids give a good description of the hand, and if weak the 3C/D call utilises the pre-emptive value of the eight card + fit (I'm assuming that my readers are discerning enough to play better minor). If responder has a stronger hand, the 2C/D call allows more room to try to find a reasonable game.

I play inverted minor over interference as long as the two bid is still available, as I feel that the pre-emptive element is even more important now.

This brings us to the old conundrum: ***are we better off in five of a minor or three no trumps?*** Generally if 3NT is a sound contract it is a better prospect than five of a minor unless there is slam interest. This is because any overtricks in 3NT will give you a better score, assuming you are playing normal pairs scoring (matchpoints). In teams or a Butler congress (imps) the best contract is the one most likely to make. Also, unless the hand is quite distributional, if you can't make nine tricks in no trumps, you probably aren't going to get eleven tricks in a minor.

After 1C 2C or 1D 2D, the usual procedure is to bid stoppers up the line with a view to no trumps; e.g. 2H would show a heart stopper, but not necessarily a four card suit, and is therefore alertable. For reasons already mentioned, if I have a fairly flat hand I would rather be in 3NT than 5C/D therefore I usually take the view that I only go to five of the minor if I know I'm wide open in a suit, not just because I think I might be. There are even occasions when you might prefer to play in a 4-3 fit in either 4H or 4S.

Minorwood

If the hand is distributional and you feel inclined to check out your slam prospects, you may wish to use the colloquially named Minorwood convention. This is like Roman Key Card Blackwood, but at a lower level. E.g. after 1C- 2C a bid of 4C at any point is Minorwood: 4D shows 0 or 3 key cards (depending on how you play your Blackwood); 4H shows 1 or 4; 4S shows 2 without the QC and 4NT shows 2 with the QC.

I hope you've enjoyed my columns this year, and that you all have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

I understand that I will be doing this again next year. The Editor knows where I live and her sister scares the heck out of me.

Best wishes to everyone, particularly my long suffering partners. Michael

The many appreciative comments about Michael's columns confirm that they are very popular. Ed.

Kate's rules to live by No. 9

Never Lie about Trump Length.

If you do, partner cannot make winning Level of Total Trump decisions. Or, s/he will choose the wrong trump suit. Or s/he will mis-defend because s/he has the wrong count.

♠AK8	
♥K1032	
♦A	
♣KJ983	
♠10942	♠J65
♥	♥QJ65
♦QJ10963	♦754
♣765	♣Q42
	♠Q73
	♥A9874
	♦K82
	♣A10

A Lucky Hand Well Played

After NS bid to 6H the opening lead was the QD won by the A in dummy. Now a small heart was led to the A. All looks plain sailing until W shows out of hearts. The KD was played pitching a C and a diamond was ruffed. Now a club was led to the A and the 10C to the K. The 8C was ruffed bringing down the Q. Next the QS was cashed and a spade led to the A and K in dummy. After luckily E has to follow to all these cards, a club is led from dummy and E with only hearts left has to ruff and is endplayed.

6H bid and made due to a very lucky distribution of the cards after the very bad split in trumps.

It was a Monday daytime hand. Of 8 pairs 1 bid 7H 5 bid 6H, 1bid 4H and 1 was in 3H. Only 2 pairs made 12 tricks. **Dawn Cullen** (West in Defence)

Comments from Peter Hainsworth

There is a safety play available to cope with a bad break in trumps.

When a heart is led at trick two declarer can put in the 9 the 8 or the 7 to cope with 3 Including the QJ in the east hand. On this hand with the 4 – 0 split one trick still has to be lost but the distribution does not have to be perfect.

(Note: playing ace then king wins 5 tricks 46.3% and 4 tricks 95% of the time so at matchpoints no safety play! The odds aren't good enough.)

The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up. Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.

🔔 ❄️ Christmas time ❄️ 🔔

By Don Worner

It was Christmas eve across the land
 Parents at home with presents in hand
 Have put the children off to bed
 It's Christmas in the morning it was said
 The children of course pretended to be asleep
 Eyes shut tight not even a peep
 They wait for the morning and its presents
 How they got there really makes no sense
 Supposedly a Santa Claus came last night
 Believed by young ones not yet bright
 But as children get a bit older
 They learn things and get bolder
 Do they tell parents it's a bit of tommy rot
 Don't believe in Santa Claus certainly not

I always thought Santa was great
 Until I was the age of around eight
 Then kids older in years by a few
 Said that Santa just wasn't true
 So the game goes on year after year
 Kids arise in the morning with a cheer
 Continued by generations we do pray
 And the family has a great Christmas day
 The presents you get all come from within
 Parents told porkies a bit of a sin
 But whether you believe in Santa or not
 Just play the game and don't be a clot
 We all have happy memories of our own childhood
 And Christmas certainly is part of it as it should

