

QCBC Newsletter



QCBC Clubhouse, 67 Ipswich Road, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102

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

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Coming Events

Friday 14 Sept: September Pairs
Monday pm 17 Sept: Jubilee Cup
Tuesday pm 25 Sept: \$50 night
Wednesday 26 Oct: Ascot Trophy
Monday 1 Oct: Queen's Birthday Pairs
Thursday 4 Oct President's Cup Pairs
Friday 12 Oct QBA
Mixed teams QCBC Round 1
Saturday 20/Sunday 21 Oct QBA Open
& Novice Pairs
Saturday 27 Oct: Annual General
Meeting
Tuesday pm 30 October: \$50 night

*☞ Farewell to Narelle Peterson
who passed away on August 20th.
also to Marjorie Outridge a
longtime, former member, still
fondly remembered ☞*

Monica Pritchard: President's report



I recently found an article in a very old volume of the *Journal of Leisure Research* suggesting that there were four types of bridge players: tournament players, regular duplicate players, regular social players, and occasional players. Analysis of their bridge knowledge and associated activities indicated that the types were statistically different from each other.

For the past week I have been in a small town in the north of South Australia and missing my regular bridge fix. Online play is just not the same as the face-to face game in my opinion. Imagine my delight then, when I discovered that there is a bridge club here. They play one night a week and usually get up to three tables. If I could organise my own partner, I would be welcome to join them.

This experience has made me realise just how lucky we are to have a range of options for playing bridge in and around QCBC. Not only are there multiple venues and game times, there are also plenty of partnership opportunities and a broad range of skill levels with provision for those mostly interested in social aspects of the game, those whose bridge playing is primarily competitive and those who like the mix of these two aspects of the game. I'll check out the local club tonight and report back.

(And we are so lucky to have Toni Bardon to Match-make. Ed.)

**QBA Butler Pairs
Winners and
Women's Champs:**

Margaret Millar &
Carolyn Woolley
With Jim Evans



Men's Champs



Ralph Parker &
Peter Hainsworth

Rank Promotions

Grand Masters: Neil Gibson, Rosemary Mooney

National Master: Anne Barry

State* Master: Margaret Cooper, Karen Elmes

State Master: Chris Larter

Regional * Master: Wendy Harvey

Local ** Master: Mick Rasis

Local * Master: Del Dudman

Local Master: Annette Scott

Graduate Master: Dominique Treloar

5 Star Trophy: Winners: Annette Maluish
and Neville Francis

Runners Up: Selena Pearce and Barbara Holmes

Another Productive, Enduring Partnership

Jan Russell and I met in Beginner's Class in 1991. When I decided to take up bridge, the only card-playing experience I'd had was childhood Rummy and Penny Poker. I sat in a class in the Manning Street QCBC Club feeling bewildered by unfamiliar terms – counting points, take-out doubles, negative doubles etc. When the teacher said, 'Now find yourself a partner', I thought a particular lady seemed nice – not likely to attack me if I played the wrong card. I asked her if she had selected someone to play with and when she said "No", I asked her if she would play with me and she agreed. Thus began our twenty-one year partnership. **Rita Gorman**

And from Jan:

On 14th June 1991, I fronted at 17 Manning Street to join the bridge world – and what a frightening and intimidating experience it was. But fortunately, I paired off with another lost soul - Rita Gorman – who for 21 years has been my partner and great friend and the very reason I persisted with this wonderful game.

To summarise what has contributed to this long partnership takes some thought. But I guess first and foremost, we both accepted from the very start that we both make mistakes and at all times are trying to play seriously enough but conscious of each other's feelings.



We are always open to each other's new ideas or conventions and can discuss pros and cons without risking conflict. Thanks to bridge we have a beautiful friendship which has been very valuable support and understanding during personal experiences – both happy and not so good.

I moved to the Gold Coast in 2001 and have been commuting to "The Gabba" twice a week ever since – such is the value I place on our bridge partnership. **Jan Russell**



Paul: hooked on cruising?

Here he is looking very French wearing his French beret and French Freedom Fighters shirt at the most enjoyable and informative **Clean Cruising** soiree held at QCBC on 19th August.



Barbara Bright and Jim Love enjoying the new cushion covers that Barbara made. Jim may not be handy with a sewing machine but he is **Master of the Bridge Mates**.

Bridge the game by Don Worner

There are many congresses to be won
And many more club days just for fun.
You start out in the beginner's class,
You're taught systems that seem a farce;
But the more you play the more you learn
Resulting in a win even if only in turn.
You go along each week to play,
Get some good hands and have your say.
You bid according to what you think is right,
But go down sometimes when tricks are light
We all reach a level as some kind of master -
Some even turn up with limbs in plaster.
When playing bridge there are people to meet
Where making friends becomes a treat.
Not many people watch and cheer,
But the players certainly hold the game so dear.
No matter your level, your brain is in gear
That is why we play bridge year after year.



Marie and John Simpson
Congratulations from Queen Elizabeth II received on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory. 😊



My Favourite Hands by Alan Boyce

Playing with Andrew Woollons at Toowong on a Thursday night I heard Andrew, sitting East, open 1C. In our system, this is a 16+ opening hand, or with less, typically shows no worse than 5 losers and consequently nice shape, and good trick-taking potential. South immediately overcalls 1H. With 13 HCP's I make a point-showing double. We play that a double shows 8+ points, whereas a cuebid would show a game-force and, in this case, first round control in hearts. My hand was:

♠ AK
♥ 9876
♦ KQJ32
♣ 53

I had no other suitable bid as, in our system, 2D would show <10 pts. North now bids 3H. This is likely to be weak and 4 hearts as South may well have close to an opening strength for his bid. So, not too many points left for North.

East now made the surprising bid of 5C! This generally means, in our system, <16 HCP's but very shapely. Passed around to me I try to construct a likely hand for East. I expect that there is a heart void, given my 4 hearts. I also expect that East has a solid club suit and would not bid 5C without having either spades or diamonds under first round control. Given my spades controls, I expect something like:

♠ XX
♥ void
♦ Axx
♣ AKQXXXXX

Only 13 HCP's but with a likely 9 playing tricks a very strong hand and one that would justify the opening bid. Placing this hand opposite my hand and 13 tricks would be there! But I can't be totally sure that the clubs aren't AKXXXXXX. Now a 1C opening is less likely. Or perhaps the clubs are AQJ10XXX? Now a possibly loser of the club king is there. So a "safety" raise to 6C seems fine, duly bid and made.

East's hand was: ♠ QJ8 ♥ void ♦ A874 ♣ AQJ642

5 losers including a void makes 1C a standout opening in my mind in our system. And the 5C rebid plays homage to the value of the void. Of interest is that 7D makes on the combined 27 HCP's, again mainly due to the power of the void. But 6C was an excellent place to land, and was worth 94% with one pair finding 6D, making 12.



BEGINNERS LESSONS

1st lesson is free

♠ **Monday 10 September - 7.30pm**

♥ 8 week course - \$75

♦ **Tuesday 18 September - 10.30am**

♣ 4 week course - \$40

If you are in doubt as to whether to make a slight underbid or overbid, prefer the underbid, keeping a little in the bank – you are less likely to get into trouble that way.
Focus on Bidding by Danny Roth

Michael's Corner: Not So Simple Stayman

Partner opens 1NT. For the purpose of this article we are assuming a range of 15-17. You are holding 0-4 HCP with nothing to transfer to. Alas poor partner! Not only might they have insufficient to make 1NT, but entries to dummy will be scarce, if any.

However, all is not necessarily lost. If you have a certain shape, you may be able to get out of trouble with the wonderfully named **Garbage Stayman**! The ideal shape is 4S,4H,5D,0C, however I also consider 4,4,4,1; 4,3,5,1; and 3,4,5,1 to be worth the effort. One of the beauties of simple Stayman is that there are only three responses: 2D no 4 card major; 2H 4 hearts and possibly 4 Spades; and 2S 4 Spades but not 4 Hearts.

The idea with Garbage Stayman is that responder bids 2C and then passes whatever partner bids. (2D, 2H, or 2S).

If partner bids a major they will be playing in either a 4-4 fit (ideal) or a 4-3 fit. In either case declarer should be able to ruff clubs in dummy, resulting not only in tricks, but precious entries. If partner bids 2D and you have five of the things, the worst scenario is a 5-2 fit, where you will again have club ruffs as well as natural trump tricks. You may, of course, find that you have an excellent fit and are laughing all the way to the bank. The only real worry is if you decide to bid 2C with the 4441 shape, in which case if partner is holding a 3325 it could be your first shout at the pub. Any other holding should be manageable.

The whole point, of course, is that you are trying to find a more playable contract than 1NT.

In a similar vein, partner bids 1NT and you are holding either 5S and 4H or 4S and 5H and 0-7 points. The usual approach would be to transfer and pass, although with a good 7 one might get a little keen. **By "good" we mean that your points are in your long suits, and a singleton would also be nice.** The catch is that you could be missing your 4-4 fit. No worries! You simply bid 2C, and if partner bids a major, pass. If partner bids 2D you bid your 5 card major, showing 5 of that suit, 4 of the other major, and a weak hand. You may end up with the weak hand playing the contract, but think of the times when you're in your 4-4 fit and your friends are in a 5-2 fit, hopefully with a bad trump break.

N.B. If you are thinking of playing either (or both) of these devices, make sure that you discuss them with partner first!

A couple of playing exercises to finish with:

1. Declarer has AJx; AKxx; xx; KQxx; dummy has xxx; xx; AKxxxx; xx

Partner has had a late night, so you find yourself playing the questionable contract of 3NT. The lead is a low heart, taken in hand with the A. How to proceed? The only real chance is to establish the D suit. We therefore lead a low D towards the dummy. Now comes the tricky part. If we take the trick in dummy with the K, cash the AD, and lead a low D, as long as the suit is breaking 3-2 we will have established 3 diamond tricks, with no way of getting to them. The lack of outside entries is why you shouldn't be in 3NT unless you have shown partner help in the suit.

The **correct play** is to concede the first D trick, and upon regaining the lead, play your second D which you will take in dummy, followed by cashing your other D trick. If diamonds are indeed breaking 3-2 you then run the suit, squeezing the defence and with an excellent chance of making your contract.

2. Declarer has KQTxx; Axx; KJx; xx; dummy has A9xx; Kxx; Qxx; Axx. Contract 4S, lead Cx. The reality is that you should lose no more than three tricks, as long as you have no trump losers. Unless trumps are breaking 4-0, in which case the J is a concern, you should be home. Even with a rotten break, the contract is still as cold as an Eskimo, you just have to play carefully. You are holding two top honours in hand and one in dummy. You therefore take the first trump trick in hand with either the K or Q. If the trumps are 4-0, you are still able to finesse the J regardless of which side the break is on.

The Murder Hand

It was reported that in Kansas City in 1929 Myrtle Bennett shot her husband, John during a friendly but tenaciously-fought game of bridge with Charles and Myrna Hofman.

When John Bennett failed by two tricks in a game in spades, apparently part of the problem was that John had opened light. Also apparently, you need to be able to 'play the spots off' the cards if opening light is your practice.

Reading an article about this reminded me of yesterday's hand where I opened after two passes with two aces and two doubletons, justifying my bid upon partner's complaint by explaining that Neville says he opens with nothing in third seat. Fortunately, Dawn Cullen, my partner at the time, can 'play the spots off' the cards and she made the contract. (This is another tactic to add to my extensive "**Well I won't do that again**" List.)

Incidentally, Myrtle was acquitted of murder. I'll flesh out the story in a future newsletter provided no partner shoots me in the meantime. Joan Jenkins

QUEENSLAND CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB

67 Ipswich Rd, Woolloongabba 4102 3391 3241

4 September 2012

NOMINATION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Nominations are hereby called for Directors of the Queensland Contract Bridge Club.

Shirley King, Keith McDonald and Monica Pritchard, will retire from the Board in accordance with the Articles of Association. **All will stand for re-election.** Jenny Williams resigned from the Board earlier in the year and her position on the Board was filled by Dominique Treloar, who will stand for election.

Nominations are called for four positions.

Nominations should be signed by a Proposer and a Seconder who are FINANCIAL members and bear the signature of the Nominee accepting the nomination.

Nominations close on Tuesday 18 September, 2012 at 1 pm. Forms for "Nomination of Office Bearer" are available on the bench by the phone and at the main entrance.

Completed forms should be addressed to the Manager at the Club premises.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Toni Bardon Secretary/Manager

Plastic 2 litre & 1.25 coke bottles needed for craft. Please leave in the kitchen.

Thank you ♥

QCBC

FESTIVAL PAIRS

SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER

Match point scoring

QCBC welcomes new members

Joan Murray

Jane Postle

SheilaWills

