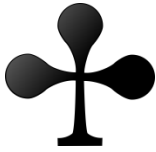


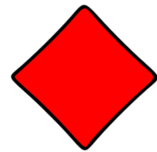


# BRIDGE MATTERS



## March 2018

Caloundra, Coolum, and Sunshine Coast Bridge Clubs



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



#### Coolum

Christine Atwal	Piara Atwal
Helen Kubina	Dianne Musgrave
Sandy Long	Hilary French

#### Caloundra

Barbara Walsh	Cathy Clarke
Glenys Rousell	Greg Lawler
Errol Miller	Dorothy Gehrke
Shirley Wilson	Liset Teis

#### Sunshine Coast

David Alexander	Vivienne Bellingham
John Elich	Damien Haigh
Betty Markkanen	Judy McKenzie
Catherine McPheat	Rae Murer
Jill Nicholson	Pamela Coombes
Alan & Pauline Medland	

### SUNSHINE COAST NEWS

*John Stacey*

Mary Murray OAM, who has been a massive contributor to the success of our Club, recently celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, the occasion being celebrated with a morning tea the next day at the Tuesday session. TV crews from Channel 7 and WIN attended this happy occasion and not only is Mary still a competent bridge player but she is also quite adept at handling a TV interview, as shown in the photo on Page 10.

The QBA Senior Teams was held at our Club on 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> February and was won by the Francis team (Neville Francis, Tony Hutton, Lyn and Malcolm Carter). The best performed local team was Olsen (Geoff Olsen, Chris Palmer, Maureen Jakes and Dick Trollope) who came third.

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### CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE!

To the Bridge  
Matters Editor:



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5437 6009



## HELP WANTED

### 1- CALOUNDRA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Thursday 31st May

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE, not in the calendar.

In conjunction with the scheduled bridge session, commencing at 9.00 am, plus a Devonshire Morning Tea and a glass of bubbly. Entry fee \$10.

In each of the last two years, with generous donations from the Club and local businesses, we raised over \$4,000 for **Cancer Council Queensland**.

You are kindly requested to consider donating any unwanted gifts which may be given as door prizes or sold on our Bring-and-Buy table which has been a huge success previously. And plenty of notice to the keen gardeners amongst you who may also like to polish up your green fingers and propagate some cuttings for the event. Plants sell well.

Since the sale of raffle tickets generates the largest part of our income, we are seeking volunteers to sell tickets to their family, friends and perhaps even to members of other Clubs to which they may belong, such as Probus or a bowls club. Worthwhile prizes are promised.

Most of us are affected in some way during our lives by Cancer so we hope to raise at least as much as we did last year. All donations and help will be gratefully accepted and we look forward to your support on the day. As Anne Manester will be overseas until early May, please direct all donations and queries to:-

**Contact- Shona Sandes 5437 2084  
email:sandesshona@hotmail.com**

### 2- CAN YOU SEW?



If the answer is "Yes", we would love having you join us to make basic clothing for our young children, many of whom cannot go to school as they simply do not have enough to wear.

**Brighter-Future-4-Kids-Foundation**, which incorporates **Uniforms-4-Kids**, is managed by volunteers and re-makes donated uniforms into skirts, shorts, pinafores and pants for children in need.

The Foundation has several partners including Federal & Queensland Police and Australia Zoo. Terri Irwin AM recently said: *"Australia Zoo is so proud to be a part of this unique program."*

Most recently, the Uniforms 4 Kids supervisor, Yvonne Pattinson OAM, was asked by Queensland Police domestic violence unit for clothing to go to children in temporary accommodation.

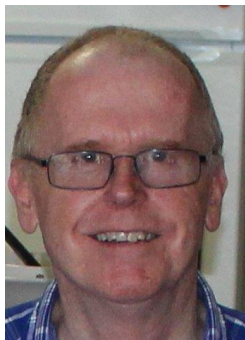
Everything is supplied by Yvonne who is happy if a sewing group or someone at home can make just one item a month.

#### Contact:

- **Yvonne Pattinson on 0413 133 791 or email: [justyvonne@bigpond.com](mailto:justyvonne@bigpond.com), or**
- **Sunshine Coast Bridge Club member Pauline Clayton- 0409 044 112, or [claytonp@bigpond.com](mailto:claytonp@bigpond.com)**

## HELP WANTED 3

*Peter Busch*



## THOUGHT OF BECOMING A DIRECTOR?

Our clubs are always on the lookout for members willing to learn the laws of bridge and become directors for their club sessions. Could this be you?

Club directors do not need to be law experts. They need to understand the basic laws and need to be able to find their way around the law book. There are ABF publications that make this easy, including a small booklet titled "The Director Is Called" which is a guide to the typical calls a director has to deal with. There is also a 2 page "cheat sheet" that most directors at our local clubs use, so that they can quickly look down the list of infractions and see what to do.

Directors also need a basic understanding of movements, but that doesn't have to be very complicated. Your club will have preferred movements for different numbers of tables, which eliminates the decision-making. With Bridgemates and foolproof scoring software used at most clubs these days, it's pretty much impossible to get a movement wrong.

You do not need to be a qualified director to direct a club session. You just need to convince the Club's Games Director that you can handle the job. However, for those who want to further their directing careers, there is a qualification process. The first level consists of Club and Congress Director exams run by the QBA every year. Beyond that there are State, National, and International Director qualifications, all of which are attained by individual assessment, usually based on involvement in major gold point events.

New directors don't initially get thrown into the deep end. They can co-direct with an experienced

director in sessions that require two directors, so there's always someone available they can turn to for advice.

An important point to remember is that knowledge of the laws can only be good for your own game. It's very beneficial to know your options after an opponent's infraction without having to wait for the director to tell you, and you can be making your mind up before you're put under the spotlight when the director advises the table of your rights.

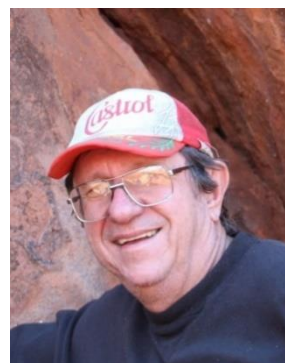
If you're interested, a good starting point is to shadow an experienced director for a while. When they get called to a table, you follow them and listen in. After a while, you might make the ruling while the experienced director stands by. Your Games Director can arrange this for you.

Your Club will be only too pleased help you get started, either by some initial one-on-one coaching or in a small group. For more details, speak to your Club's President or Games Director.

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## KEN'S CHESTNUT

*Ken Dawson*



## ALWAYS PLAY AT SLAM LEVEL IN THE SAFEST CONTRACT.

This should always be our goal, whether playing teams or pairs. At pairs, it is sometimes tempting to shoot out 6NT in the hope of making a better score but this is generally a dangerous decision unless you can count the tricks. At pairs, one has to consider what's happening at other tables:-

- Will other pairs find this slam?
- Might it rely on ruffing?
- Will pairs playing a different system find it?

## KEN'S KONUNDRUM #12

You are defending, sitting South.

Partner leads ♥2 and declarer plays low from dummy.

♥2
♥AT6
♥Q97

In answer to your question to yourself, you should play ♥9.

Usually, it's "Third Hand High" but not this time. Partner almost certainly has an honour, either ♥J or ♥K. Same for declarer.

If declarer has the ♥J, he will win the first trick cheaply and still has the ace to come making *two* tricks in the suit. If you had risen with the ♥Q, you would have won the first trick but declarer will now finesse your partner for the "marked" ♥K. Again, declarer makes *two* tricks in the suit.

Look what can happen if you play ♥Q and declarer has ♥K. Declarer will swallow your ♥Q and then finesse ♥T against partner. Now, he makes *three* tricks in the suit.

Occasionally, there may be a reason to rise ♥Q and hope partner has ♥K. This is when you have a really important lead to make and no other entry. e.g. Your partner has overcalled 1S and you hold ♠QJx. There is nothing in dummy in spades and you suspect declarer, in No Trumps, has ♠Kxx. That would explain partner's failure to lead his own suit.

You want to grab the lead with ♥Q, and bang down ♠Q. If you insert ♥9 and declarer wins ♥J, that may be his 9<sup>th</sup> trick.

## BRADAGES

(a.k.a. "Bridge Adages")

*Kay Webber, from the thoughts of Malcolm Allan of Rockhampton BC.*

1. Many a man is walking the streets of London because he didn't draw trumps.
2. If there's one trump still out and it's a winner- Forget it.
3. If 3NT is at all likely- Bid it!
4. Don't bid a Minor Game without having seriously considered 3NT.
5. If it looks, quacks and waddles like a Duck- It's probably a Singleton.
6. Don't pre-empt over a pre-empt.
7. Lead low, 2<sup>nd</sup> plays low, 3<sup>rd</sup> play high, 4<sup>th</sup> pauses and considers. Commit your forces to the fray as late as possible.
8. Play the lowest of equals in 3<sup>rd</sup> position.
9. Finesse against Dummy, not against partner.
10. If Dummy is on your left, play through its strength. If Dummy is on your right, play around to its weakness.
11. Don't underlead an Ace or King against a suit contract.
12. Lead partner's suit or return partner's lead (and at least you won't do badly in the post-mortem).
13. Give count on returning lead.
14. Aces are for capturing Kings, Kings are for capturing Queens.
15. 6-5 come alive. 6-4 bid more.
16. No Double, no trouble.
17. Cover an honour with an honour. Cover the last of equals, Cover to promote.
18. Should I finesse? Eight ever. Nine never.
19. If you have A & K of a suit you don't have a lead problem.

*(continued on Page 6)*

# MIKE'S MESSAGES

Mike Phillips



## 1- THE POWER OF POWER

Dlr: W      ♠ AT32  
 VUL: N/S    ♥ QJ8742  
               ♦ QJ4

	♣ --								
♠ 9 ♥ AT9 ♦ KT2 ♣ J98653	<table style="width: 100%; height: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">N</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">W</td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">S</td> </tr> </table>		N	W		S		♠ K65 ♥ K653 ♦ 98765 ♣ 7	
	N								
W									
S									
	♠ QJ874 ♥ -- ♦ A3 ♣ AKQT42								

Ron Klinger invented the Power system back in the early 1980s and was hugely successful with it. However, hardly anyone plays Power these days because it is suitable only for established, dedicated partnerships, and perhaps also because the Power book is somewhat daunting.

Writing recently in the *Sydney Morning Herald* Ron featured this board from the semi-finals of the National Seniors' and Women's Teams events in Canberra. It's a classic example of why the Power system is so, well, powerful.

Only two declarers were successful, managing to stop in 4 or 5 ♠. Another South was one off in 5 ♠. Every other North/South charged on to a hopeless slam (Ron himself bid 7 ♠, four down).

Power-style bidding is tailor-made for this type of board and would easily have averted disaster. A power auction would have gone thus:

W	N	E	S
Pass	1 ♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2 ♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3NT <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4 ♣ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4 ♠ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Only 10 HCP but great shape.
2. Artificial and forcing to game. The auction can now proceed slowly.
3. Roman Key Card Blackwood in spades.
4. 1 or 4 key cards.
5. South has calmly arrived at the optimum contract, by virtue of the immediate game force bid and the low-level RKCB.

After South's 2 ♠ North might have been tempted to splinter to show the Club void, but that would almost certainly have propelled the partnership to the unmakeable slam.

There is, of course, much more to the Power system than this simple example and it works well almost all the time. The key features can easily be incorporated into standard methods - but both partners must be on the same page, as it were.

## 2- "ONCE IN A BLUE MOON"

I have written extensively - *ad nauseam*, some might say - about the Kabel convention, by which an opening bid of 3NT asks partner to identify specifically which aces and kings, if any, are held.

The opportunity to use this convention is rare, "once in a blue moon" indeed being a rare event (it is defined as a second full moon in a calendar month, one of which occurred on the night of Wednesday 31 January 2018).

Possibly inspired by this lunar event, one player in the evening session at Sunshine Coast BC decided that board 13 was his opportunity to use Kabel for the first time.

BD: 13	♠Q2	Dlr: N
	♥2	Vul: Both
	♦QJ8764	
	♣9876	
♠		♠A
KT9653		
♥		♥KJT986
A7		
♦		♦A
T93		
♣		♣AKQT4
J2		
	♠J874	
	♥Q543	
	♦K52	
	♣53	

After two passes East opened 3NT and was amply rewarded when West responded 4H, showing the Ace of hearts. East jumped to 6H and West made twelve tricks, losing only to the trump queen.

This, in fact, was not a classic Kabel situation and conventional methods would, and did, produce the same result, but the East player felt good about it, and that's important too!

## BRADAGES- Continued from Page 4

20. When playing NTs, take your losers early.
21. If you diagnose a misfit, pass as soon as possible.
22. Don't ask partner to do something you can do yourself, but don't try too hard to rescue partner from an accident.
23. If there is something good I can do, like taking a winner in dummy, then do it now as I will not pass this way again.
24. A loser will be lost unless you can take some action to change its state.
25. A change of suit by a responder in an unpassed hand is forcing.
26. No entry to your hand? Don't bother establishing a suit. Seek a greener pasture.
27. Count winners in NTs; losers in a suit.
28. Really concentrate on the bidding, so that you have a mental picture of the other three hands when play starts.
29. Maintain parity with dummy, and parity also with what you visualise as declarer's hand.
30. To thine own partner be true! (Bid the first round strictly in accordance with your system card: you can bid on shape the next time around. Don't allow shortages till you've found a (suit) contract: the shortage points will disappear if your partner changes to NTs).

**Remember 1-** *Whatever is said about how to play bridge, you will soon find an exception to that rule.*

**Remember 2-** *Groucho Marx, who said "Don't bother signalling Partner. If you liked my lead just smile.*

**Remember 3-** *She won't smile if you trump her Ace.*

For an un-Bowldlerized version of the adages, contact [malcolm@the-allans.com](mailto:malcolm@the-allans.com)"

# THE HAND OF PAIN !

David Farmer\*

Board 17 Dir: N Vul: Nil	♠A96 ♥984 ♦AKJ932 ♣4	
♠KQ853 ♥K ♦Q765 ♣T98		♠JT742 ♥732 ♦ ♣KJ732
12 10 5 13	♠AQJT65 ♥T84 ♣AQ65	N: 1♣7♦7♥7NT S: 1♣7♦6♥7NT E: 2♠ W: 2♠

This is not a happy tale. It started off innocently enough with North opening 1D, my passing as East, and South bidding 1H. Then my partner overcalled 1S, I got excited, and things went downhill.

North bid 2D, and I counted my losers coming to 8. I was not sure whether to bid 3S or 4S on my massive fit and diamond void, so I temporized and bid 3S, telling myself that when I later bid 4S it might stop the opponents from doubling or continuing to bid.

After 3S, South bid 4H which was passed around to me, and sure enough I bid my 4S - not taking into account South's confidence in bidding game without any sign of a fit from partner.

So was South intimidated enough to pass and leave 4S undoubled?

No and no. Rather South just bid 6H.

Passed around to me I pondered what I had done, fearing that with South's solid heart suit and North's solid diamonds the slam might well make. Desperate for a way of ensuring the slam failed I remembered Lightner doubles - in this situation asking partner (who would be on lead) to find my void for a ruff in

particular by avoiding our suit and leading dummy's first bid suit. Seemed like a good plan, get a diamond ruff, return a spade to partner's top spade and get another ruff. Double it was.

Partner led the SK. I remembered a little later that our system notes on Lightner doubles refer to opponents' freely bidding to a slam, not competing to a slam... Bad choice or just impulsive wishful thinking?

Of course partner did not hold the top spade so my plan to get back to her so my plan did not have legs anyway.

To rub salt into the wound, South as declarer did not play me as the doubler with the HK but declined to finesse in trumps and dropped partner's singleton HK. All in all with the diamond queen, and my club king and jack also on side, declarer wrapped up 13 tricks for 1310 - a score not often seen.

And of course our team mates, the only other pair to play in 6H out of the entire field, while having the same lead, reasonably did not drop the HK and then did suffer a diamond ruff - going off for a score of -50 and a team swing of -1360.

Bridge is a humbling game and little slips tend to add to the pain of unfortunate distributions and key card locations.

\* David Farmer edits the website [bridge-game.info](http://bridge-game.info) on which more interesting hands and other bridge materials are published.

David plays at Sydney's Peninsula and Manly Leagues clubs.

## GOOD HANDS IN NEW ZEALAND

Steve Brookes

Recently, John and Bev Stacey, Adrienne Kelly, Geoff Olsen, Verna Brookes and Yours Truly played in the New Zealand National Congress. The best result was Bev Stacey and partner Liz Havas of Canberra who came second in the Senior pairs - Congratulations to Bev.

Two interesting hands appeared which I think are worth sharing with readers.

In a qualifying round of the open teams partnering Geoff Olsen this hand bobbed up. We were N/S and Vul against 3NT.

NORTH			
♠ AKQ9			
♥ QJ10			
♦ Q1086			
♣ 62			
WEST	DLR- East	EAST	
♠ J10		♠ 76	
♥ 542		♥ K98	
♦ AK742	VUL- N/S	♦ 53	
♣ QJ3		♣ K109875	
SOUTH			
♠ 85432			
♥ A763			
♦ J9			
♣ A4			

North	East	South	West
-	3C	pass	3NT

All Pass

North took four spade tricks and switched to the Queen of Hearts. We took the first nine tricks and realised we had been well and truly done; and by opponents who were barely out of adolescence I might add. Their partners of course bid and made 4 Spades. 3NT is a great bid. Should we have had the hands to double, then they run to 4/5 Clubs.

The other interesting hand was well played by Jimmy Wallis, who would be known to most of you as this year will to be the 30<sup>th</sup> year in which he has played with Toni Bardon in our winter Congress.

They have won heaps of those events and you can see why after the way he played this hand in New Zealand. I have reproduced an article written up in one of the daily Bulletins describing Jimmy's play of the hand.

NORTH			
♠ A9762			
♥ 10732			
♦ J			
♣ AK7			
WEST	DLR- West	EAST	
♠ KJ3		♠ 105	
♥ 8		♥ Q654	
♦ AQ1087	VUL- All	♦ 6532	
♣ QJ32		♣ 985	
SOUTH			
♠ Q84			
♥ AKJ9			
♦ K94			
♣ 1064			

North	East	South	West
-	-	-	1D
1S	Pass	2D	Pass
4S	All Pass		

At the other table, declarer went down in 3S, mis-guessing the position in both majors. Here, Jimmy Wallis made 4S. East led a diamond, which Jimmy ducked to the queen. West was a bit stuck now but switched to the queen of clubs and declarer won the ace. The king of spades was a strong favourite to be with West. One option was to cash the ace then duck the second spade, hoping to find the king doubleton. But there was an alternative – the intrafinesse, which would



pick up a three-card holding, just so long as East held either the jack or the ten. Jimmy led a low spade and called for dummy's eight, the intra-finesse. That lost to the jack and West was again a bit stuck. He got out with a low club and, not at all sure of the club situation but knowing what he wanted to do in spades, declarer went up with the king, crossed to the ace of hearts and led the queen of spades. Whether or not West covered there was no second defensive spade winner. Having drawn the outstanding trumps, it remained only to take the heart finesse to bring in 10 tricks and a big swing to the Nash team.

## A MISTAKEN BID

### OUR EXPERT PANEL'S OPINION ON A DIRECTORS RULING

	N (13)				
	♠AK764				
	♥T64				
	♦KJ86				
	♣Q				
W (15)	DLR- S VUL- BOTH	E (7)			
♠953		♠Q82			
♥KQ		♥A8732			
♦AQ75		♦42			
♣A832		♣JT7			
	S (5)				
	♠JT				
	♥J95				
	♦T93				
	♣K9654				
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	2	-	-	-
S	-	2	-	-	-
E	1	-	2	-	2
W	1	-	2	-	2

South passed, West opened 1NT and North overcalled 2C, explained as both majors. East

passed, South bid 2H, West passed and North corrected to 2S, passed out and making nine tricks.

It soon became apparent that North held less than four hearts and the Director was called. North explained that she originally had a diamond in with her hearts. The Director ruled that this was a simple mistake, the systemic agreement had been explained, and no adjustment to the result was required.

Leaving aside that the contract should not have made (the defence was, of course misled by North's original call) the Question put to the Expert Panel was:

After hearing South's explanation of the overcall and subsequent choice of hearts as trumps, was North allowed to correct to spades?

The opinion offered by our three experts was that, in the circumstances outlined, the bid of 2 spades was allowable

North certainly thought she had both majors when she called 2C but obviously realized the mistake at her second turn

Had North thought she was only showing a spade suit when she called 2C, and was woken up by partner's explanation, then she could not bid 2S. She would need to make her call assuming partner knows what she is showing and is still choosing to bid a different suit.

However, If North believed she had 4 hearts when it came around to her, it is likely she would have passed partner's 2H, her reason about having a diamond with the hearts could be accepted, so bidding 2S is reasonable. So no adjustment.

## REMINISCENCES OF ACOL

*Mike Phillips*

A number of you purport to play the Acol system, albeit with some differences in detail and, in reality, all akin to modern “Australian” Standard but with a weak 1NT opening.

A C O L. Hands up if you know what Acol means. I thought so, not too many of you. Is it an acronym like Dopi or Twerb? The best I could come up with is Ace of Clubs Over Lead, but it makes no sense. Or perhaps it’s the name of its inventor, like Sam Stayman or Easley Blackwood?

The answer, gentle reader, is more mundane than either of the above. The Acol system takes its name from one of London’s oldest bridge clubs, so called because it was housed in an old three- or four-storey terrace house in Acol Road, in north-west London. This is where your scribe cut his bridge teeth, so to speak, in the 1950s. A bunch of us, all teenagers who thought they could play bridge, would go there on a Saturday night to play rubber bridge for two bob a hundred – big money in those days and you could win or lose a few quid. The only one of our gang of neophytes who knew what he was doing was the late Jimmy Borin, who went on to be, with his wife Norma, a stalwart of the Australian team, and the owner of a successful bridge club in Melbourne.

Bridge in those days, and the Acol system for that matter, were so different from what we are accustomed to. Duplicate bridge was unknown. At the Acol Club we played in small, dimly-lit, smoke-filled rooms, one table per room. Before each rubber (do you know what a rubber is?) we cut for partners, so one could be playing with strangers all night long. This meant that our bidding system had to be simple and so the Acol system was born; just one step up from the Culbertson that had dominated in the pre-war years.

Simple it was, indeed. Four card suits up the line; a weak 1NT; all twos were strong single-suiters, game force. Conventions? We had simple Stayman, simple Blackwood and Gerber; and we knew the rule of eleven. Transfers, two-suited openings, complex overcalls, weak jumps,

defensive signalling, pre-dealt hands – they were all in the distant, unforeseeable future. Even the scoring was different, and of course the only technology we had was pencil and paper - and bidding was spoken. Bridge was a seat-of-the-pants game. Honestly, you players of today don’t know how lucky you are with the panoply of gadgets at your disposal.

One thing that we did get at the Acol Club was a bridge education. I look back fondly at those happy days or, rather, nights in West Hampstead, the foundation of a life-long love of the game.

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### MARY: THE CENTENARIAN INTERVIEWEE

