

# **BRIDGE MATTERS**



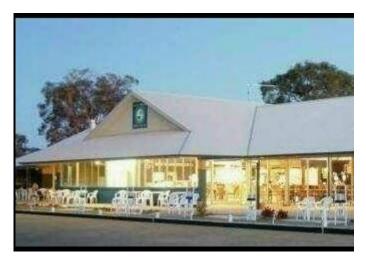
### **June 2018**

Caloundra, Coolum, and Sunshine Coast Bridge Clubs



### **COOLUM'S ACCOMMODATION**

Allison Walker



Coolum Club has relocated to the Pacific Paradise Bowls Club, 13 Menzies Drive, Pacific Paradise.

The closest parking is behind the North Shore Tavern, with entry to the club via the ramp between the clubhouse and the greens. The playing area is entered via the Games Office.

Regrettably, Coolum Bridge Club is still without a permanent home. The old Coolum Cinema building looked very hopeful for most of last year. However, the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's typically unrealistic costings for the renovation and removal was to be met mostly at our expense, making the project impossible for us. To go into huge debt to alter an old timber building for a maximum of a 30-year lease was not feasible. It's also amazing to us all that after twenty odd years of begging for some land on which to build, and being told there was absolutely no land available, the council suddenly found several sites when this old building could be relocated. We still have faint hope that current plans for development of a block in Banksia Avenue might actually come to fruition. Fingers crossed!

Late last year we made a huge mistake and relocated from the Coolum Waters Retirement Resort to the Coolum-Peregian RSL. We were led to believe our financial input was much needed and it would be a community service to help the RSL. Initially, we were made to feel very welcome and a promise of dedicated space for the future seemed perfect. Unfortunately, nothing was obtained in writing. A change of management within the RSL resulted in a great deal of unpleasantness and our eviction, at very short notice. At this time, we had no idea where we could go and faced the prospect of moving from venue to venue for our different sessions. Fortunately, one of our newer members found out who we could contact with regard to renting space at the Pacific Paradise Bowls Club, which is now our home. Hopefully, by the time the site is redeveloped we will have our new home in Banksia Avenue.

At the time of printing the entry forms for the Coolum heats of the GNOT we were unsure if we would have a home suitable for the sixteen-table field. We were very grateful to Noosa Bridge Club who was generous enough to allow us to hold the heats in their club house on Wednesday afternoons.

Also during this time of turmoil, our new series of lessons was scheduled to begin with Alan Sinclair. Thankfully, he was able to obtain temporary space on a Saturday afternoon at the Baptist Church in Coolum so that the lessons were this able to start on schedule, on 28th April.

The lesson format is ten lessons, with a practice day after five weeks. This is followed by supervised play at which any member or visitor is welcome to attend.

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### **CALOUNDRA NEWS**

### 1- CLOSING FOR RENOVATIONS

### Drew Dunlop

Following the very generous donation from one of our members and almost 12 months of considering various options, the Caloundra Bridge Club will be closing for renovations for two weeks from July 8. Tradesmen will commence work 7am Monday July 9.

Renovation works undertaken will be:

- The kitchen, ladies' bathroom and gents' bathroom will be refurbished.
- The main clubroom will be re-painted.
- A new cabinet and bookshelf will be built and installed near the existing library.
- A new awning will be installed outside the kitchen window.

Members are invited to help with a working bee on Sunday July 8, followed by a BBQ. Members are requested to put their names on the noticeboard if able to volunteer. Depending on the number of volunteers, we expect to start the working bee about 1 or 2pm on July 8. The club will be providing meat and drinks for the "volunteers". Any contributions of salads would be appreciated.

Another small working bee will be needed on Sunday July 22 to put the club back in order prior to bridge recommencing on Monday July 23.

Sunshine Coast Bridge Club has kindly volunteered to allow Caloundra members to play at members table fees (\$5) in all their sessions during our closure period. Please refer to the website <a href="https://www.suncoastbridge.com.au">www.suncoastbridge.com.au</a> for session times, and please be prepared to enter your ABF Numbers at any sessions you attend.

### **CALOUNDRA LESSONS**

Start Tuesday August 7th

Details at www.caloundrabridgeclub.com.au

PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIENDS

### 2- LOYAL ROYALS



This touching scene of Caloundra's wedding celebrations of May 19<sup>th</sup> was captured after the photographer had managed to exclude the rowdy revolutionaries pressing for overthrow of the aristocracy.

Finery was supplied by LIfeline Bridal Salon.

### **SUNSHINE COAST NEWS**

John Stacey

About seven weeks ago, a large gum tree between our premises and the Art Group next door suddenly died. We have alerted the Council and asked about progress to remove it but the wheels seem to be turning quite slowly. Many members have been concerned about the danger posed by the tree but all I can say at present is that we are maintaining the pressure.

The Club pairs championship has been conducted over three Mondays and our Club Champions for 2018 are Peter Busch and Verna Brookes. Second in the event were Vilma Laws and George Kruz. There was an award for the best performed pair from the bottom half of the field which was won by John Stacey and Bob Small.

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## KEN'S CHESTNUT

Ken Dawson



# AT TEAMS, ALWAYS PLAY IN THE SAFEST CONTRACT AT PARTSCORE, GAME OR SLAM.

In teams play, there is little difference between 3D making and 3H making.

Similarly, 6H making scores the same as 6NT making. So, if 6H is the safer contract, then that is the contract which we should select.

At pairs, 3NT will often be selected ahead of 5 of a minor. 3NT making 10 tricks achieves a much better score than 5 of a minor making 11 tricks. For this reason, minor suit contracts are frequently not investigated thoroughly at pairs. Many players regard teams as a more "pure" form of the game since all denominations are treated with equal respect.

### **KEN'S KONUNDRUM #8**

How do you plan to play these trumps?

**♠**AJ43

**♠Q652** 

The answer is that you should lead  $\triangle 2$  to the  $\triangle J$ .

Your trumps are not good enough to lead AQ, planning to run it. You have no "stuffing" in the suit. For that play, you would need AT also. If you lead AQ here, west, holding the AK, will simply cover, it promoting the AT or A9 in either his own or partner's hand.

If ♠2 to the ♠J holds the trick, things are looking better. Now, bang down the ♠A and, on a good day, ♠K will drop from west's hand giving no loser in the suit. The layout which you seek is

**♠**AJ43

**♦**Kx **♦**xxx

**♠**Q652

or

**♠**AJ43

♠K ♠xxxx

**♠**Q652

Here, your thoughtful play holds the suit to one loser.

Notice that the declarer play is the same for:-

**♠AJ4** or **♠AJ74** 

**♦**Q6532 **♦**Q6532

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



### Caloundra

Bea Rogan John Andrews

Jill Mazengarb Helen Warren

Michael Stone Melanee Frangenheim

Joycelyn Lerch Robyn & Bill Hart

Joanne & Tony Carter

Barbara & Richard Szwed

### Coolum

**David Richards** 

### **Sunshine Coast**

Neale Lawrence Judy Mawbey

Linda Murray Kirsten Rune

Freda Star

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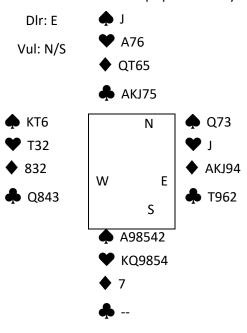
### MIKE'S MESSAGES

Mike Phillips



### THE POWER OF SIX-SIX-ONE

Speaking about distributional hands, Ron Klinger's mantra is "six-four, bid more; six-five, come alive." I'm not sure what he says about six-six hands\* but this board from a pairs event illustrates the power of a freak distribution. Our unusual methods coped well, but only one other pair reached the slam, which the declarer failed to make when he drew two rounds of trumps prematurely.



The bidding went:

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
<u>Shirley</u>		<u>Mike</u>	
	1♦	<b>1</b> ♥ <sup>A</sup>	Pass
1NT <sup>A</sup>	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5 <b>^</b>	Pass
6♥	All pass		
A = Alert			

My 1♥ overcall showed both majors, 8-15 HCP. Shirley's 1NT response asked me to describe my hand, and the jump to 4♥ showed the 6/6 shape.

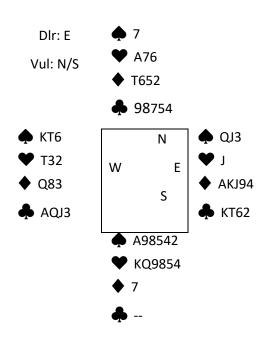
With her 15 HCP and good hearts partner started looking, and when I showed two key cards and the heart queen she went for the slam.

After a diamond lead to the ace and continuation the play was routine. The second diamond was ruffed in hand, and after AA, two spade ruffs in dummy established the long spades, ruffing clubs back to hand each time. Trumps were drawn and the spades provided tricks 11 and 12.

At those tables where East had not opened the bidding a club was led (against 4♥) allowing the losing diamond to be discarded for 13 tricks.

Would your methods have coped with this hand? If East opens 1 ♠, playing Michaels you should overcall 4 ♠ to describe your extreme shape, but you are unlikely to go past 4♥ by North. If instead East passes, you should open 1 ♠ on your 4-loser hand and jump rebid to 4♥. If partner gets the message you may find the slam.

What is also interesting about this board is that, opposite that South hand, North does not even need the side suit honours. Imagine the North hand with the same distribution, but with no honour cards other than the A. The board might look like this:



Such is the power of the six-card suits that on your lowly 13 HCP combination, as the cards would lie there would still be no defence to the small slam in hearts - but I doubt that you would be allowed to find it. North won't bid at all on that rubbish hand. With all those high card points East/West are not going to stop short of game, and it needs best defence to defeat 5♣ or 5♦ - two major suit aces and a spade ruff by North.

\* All I can come up with is "six/six, more tricks." Can you do better?



# CONTRIBUTIONS PLEASE!

To the Bridge Matters Editor:



Peter Bishop pjbishop@aapt.net.au 5437 6009



### LIP ZIP RECOMMENDED

Paul Marston The Australian June 9<sup>th</sup> 2018

"It's a funny thing but, when someone criticises his/her bridge partner, it is normally the case that the grumbler is the true cause of the problem. It's as if they're trying to transfer the guilt."

### **HOW BRIDGE COULD BE IMPROVED**

Mike Phillips.



Ten years ago, I was the bridge instructor on a cruise ship - 28 days all round Australia. My responsibilities were limited to days at sea, not when the ship was in port. I was required to run a beginner's class in the mornings and a duplicate session in the afternoons.

It was a large ship, and I had 60 pupils in my beginner's class. There were twelve sea days on the itinerary so I was able to complete the entire beginners course in twelve 1-hour sessions.

One of my pupils was an elderly foreign gentleman who attended every class, accompanied by his wife, a little old Eastern European lady, who told me that her husband suffered from terminal cancer. She did not participate in the lessons and, as likely as not, would fall asleep before the end (no reflection on me, I assure you).

At the end of the course this lady approached me and said that she did not agree with the way bridge is played. I asked what she meant.

"Well," she said, "you are playing without jokers. There are two jokers in every pack, and if you borrowed two more from another pack you could play the game with four jokers. It would be much more interesting."

I nodded sagely and replied "I'll pass your suggestion on."

### SOME INTERESTING DEFENCES

### Mike Phillips.

Sunshine Coast Bridge Club is unusual for the wide variety of bidding systems that have been adopted by the members. In any given session one is likely to encounter all of Standard American, Two-over-One, Acol and Precision, in each case with or without multi twos, and to say nothing of the Phillips family's own quirky Power-based system. This makes a session at Buderim more interesting than at many other bridge clubs, but it means also that your defensive mechanisms must be able to cope. Here are some conventions that you may want to consider - but make sure that your partner is on the same wavelength!

### TWERB (also known as TOXIC)

Many pairs play a version of Capaletti (also known as Hamilton) over opponents' strong 1NT opening, but have no particular defence over a strong 1 or 2 . Twerb is a simple universal gadget that can be used effectively against all three of these strong opening bids, by the defender in the second seat. The acronym stands for Two-Way Exclusion Relay Bid. The purpose of Twerb is more to disrupt the opponents' auction than to fight for the contract.

Double shows a strong balanced hand, most often used against 1NT. Any overcall in a suit at the lowest level shows *either* 6+ cards in the next suit up, *or* at least 5/5 in the two higher suits above that. (The suit you actually bid is *excluded* from your possible holdings.) A 2NT overcall shows two non-touching suits: either hearts and clubs, or spades and diamonds.

If Responder passes, your partner must bid the next suit up the line - pass or correct. If your LHO then bids or doubles, your partner can pass, or double (or redouble) for more information. Obviously, with the opening bid known to be extra strong, the overcaller will be relying more on the power of distribution than on high card points.

For example, RHO opens 1NT (15-17), and you hold:

- ♠ KQTxxx ♥ Kxx ♠ AJx ♠ x, bid 2 ♥, pass partner's mandatory 2 ♠ (or rebid 2 ♠ if LHO calls and partner doubles)

### **RCO Twos**

RCO Twos, a variant of Multi-Twos, used to be popular and will still be encountered at congresses. RCO stands for Rank, Colour, Odd, referring to an opening bid showing a weak 2-suited hand. 2 ♠ is a normal multi opening, to which you will already have a defence. 2 ❤ shows Rank - both majors or both minors. 2 ♠ shows Colour - both reds or both blacks. 2NT shows Odds - either hearts and clubs, or spades and diamonds.

Ron Klinger gave me this effective defence to RCO openings when, in second seat, you have a hand strong enough to overcall, with two suits in the same R or C or O pattern as that of the opener's hand. If one of your suits is clubs, you bid 2NT (or double their 2NT opening). If neither of your suits is clubs, bid 3 • ! In either case your partner will now know exactly which suits you have, and respond accordingly. Some examples will make this clearer.

- You hold ♠ AKQxx ♥ AJxxx ♠ x ♣ KQ. RHO opens 2 ♥. Your bid: 3 ♣ to show both majors.
- ➤ You hold ♠ KQ ♥ AJXXX ♠ KQTxx ♣ x. RHO opens 2 ♠ .. Your bid: 3 ♣ to show both reds.
- You hold ♠ KQ ♥ AJXXX ♠ x ♣ KQxxx. RHO opens 2NT.. Your bid: double to show clubs and hearts.

Of course, if you don't have the appropriate hand shape for this RCO defence bid naturally - double with a strong hand, 15/16+, or bid your single suit if that's what you have, or just "wait and see".

#### **Ghestem**

Ghestem (invented in the 1960s by a French world champion of that name) is a more refined version of Michaels cue bids. It is used to denote a two-suited hand when calling over a one-level opening. Ghestem is intended as a constructive action so opening values, or else extreme shape, would be required. The Ghestem bids are:

- > 2NT the two lowest unbid suits
- 2-level cue bid the highest and lowest unbid suits
- > 3 the two highest unbid suits

Responding to your partner's Ghestem overcall, invitations are made via jump support bids at the three level (if available), a cue bid denotes slam interest, a bid in the fourth suit is to play, as are direct game bids. For instance:

$$(1 \spadesuit) - 2 \spadesuit$$
 (shows  $\spadesuit$  &  $\clubsuit$ ) - (pass) - ??

- > 2 \(\nabla\): to play (misfit)
- ➤ 3 ♣ : weak support bid
- → 3 ♠: invite with spades as trump suit
- ➤ 4 ♣: invite with clubs as trump suit
- → 4 : to play
- → 3 

  → : slam interest

Following responder's cue bid, the Ghestem bidder makes a relay bid in the next strain, and the bidding continues with the responder indicating the trump suit:

The Ghestem bidder will now either sign off in game in the agreed trump suit, or take it further.

### **Transfer responses**

The Phillipses play these and you are likely to encounter them at any major congress. After an opening bid of 1 ♣, any one level response is a transfer bid. Thus:

$$1 - (pass) - 1NT shows 5+/4+ in minors$$

The recommended defence for the player sitting in the next seat, if partner is a passed hand, is:

- Double means that Responder pinched your bid.
- Bidding the next suit up Responder's real suit - is equivalent to a takeout double of that suit. Above that, bid naturally. Example, the auction begins:

$$1 - (pass) - 1$$
 (showing hearts)

In next seat if you hold:

Some "experts" you may meet in congresses play a system of transfer opening bids, against which this defence also works.

(If you want to know more about these transfer bids see Paul Lavings' *Bridge into the 21st Century* at

http://www.abf.com.au/newsletter/Mar2013.pdf
(p20) or email me at mike@thephillips.com.au.)

### **MICHAELS- READY OR NOT**

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While a bid of the enemy suit in most auctions is used to show a strong hand, the immediate bid of the enemy suit is used differently, as a Michaels Cue Bid showing a weak 5-5 hand including any unbid major. What would you do with the following hand after an opponent opens 1C or 3C?

S JT9754 H KQJ643 D — C J

Over a 1C opening by an opponent, bid 2C Michaels, showing at least 5-5 in the majors. This does not promise a strong hand — about 7-11 HCP is typical. Over an opponent's 3C, bid 4C Michaels. The extreme shape of this hand deserves to be given a voice.

Here is the full deal, from a past Trumps Teams Congress:

Dealer East, NS vul.

### **NORTH**

S JT9754 H KQJ643 D — C J

WEST EAST
S A S K2
H T87 H 952
D AK9752 D T4
C KT6 C Q98432

SOUTH S Q863 H A

D QJ863 C A75

W N E S - 3C P 5C 5H P P X 5S X All Pass After East with only six mediocre clubs opened an aggressive favourable vulnerability pre-empt and West raised to game, North figured a Michaels Cue of 6C would be excessive so settled for 5H, then when that got doubled tried the other major, 5S, which was also doubled. South was happier with spades, although as it happens 11 tricks were available in either major.

Another hand from the same tournament:

Dealer South, both vul.

NORTH
S 82
H QJ9
D 8
C AT98764

WEST EAST
S QJT943 S 7
H 87652 H A4
D 3 D KQJ9762
C 3 C KQJ
SOUTH

S AK65 H KT3 D AT54 C 52

W N E S
- - 1D
P 1NT P P
2D! All Pass

Over South's 1D, West was not good enough for a Michaels 2D or a weak jump to 2S. North responded 1NT because the hand was too weak for 2C. East passed, unable to bid 2D because that would be Michaels.

I like to play that West's belated 2D bid is natural (showing diamonds), but he meant it as Michaels (showing majors, but too weak to have bid earlier). To East with seven diamonds it was pretty clear what West intended but he was happy to pass it anyway, finding an unorthodox way to finish in the making East-West contract.

### **OUR OWN WINDSOR CONNECTION**

### Pauline Clayton

A goodly number of people watched Prince Harry marry Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle.

Well, one of our founders and certainly one of the most consistent bridge players at our club, Mary Murray has a family connection with said castle. Mary's Aunt May lived in a cottage in the grounds of Windsor castle and was given a cat by a housekeeper from Windsor castle - a royal cat.

Aunt May never married, nor left the UK, and quite obviously enjoyed living in one of the world's most famous stately homes. But Aunt May's brother, Arthur Heaford Malpas, Mary's father did leave the United Kingdom and while he took his time getting to Australia, once he settled he left a family legacy in the form of a building.

For those who know of Boyne Island (off Rockhampton) will know there is a modern church in Sayre Crescent, off Malpas Street.

But the tiny building next door that looks as though it has been moved from Stratford-on-Avon was built by Mary's father and other members of the then small Boyne Island community and was the first church on the island.

Arthur is still listed as the architect of this literally hand-made building, which they completed in 1924, when it was dedicated by Dr Philip Crick the Bishop of Rockhampton. It was heritage listed in 1992.

Mary remembers her father cutting down trees and dragging them behind the horses in the days before power tools and government grants.

And she is one of the few alive today, who was there when a time capsule was placed under the alter, due to be opened in 100 years.

The reason Mary's father ended up on Boyne Island was because with his brother Tom, they picked up a stowaway, a Frank Salgado, on one of their crossings from the UK to Canary Islands.

Frank was hitching a ride to Australia to his brother a Tony Salgado who had a grazing property on Boyne Island.

No one on that ship knew where Boyne Island was. But Tom and Arthur found the tidal island estuary in the Boyne River, 15 miles south of Gladstone.

You could cross when the tide was out, mostly by sulky and horse. So, Mary's father and her Uncle Tom paid Frank's fare and brought him legally, to Australia and to his brother on Boyne Island, and there they stayed.

And so the Malpas family story in Australia began, as Arthur with his brother Tom helped a stowaway.

### **ZONE GNOTS**

### Tony Walford

The Semi-Final of the Sunshine Coast Bridge Zone GNOT was held at the SCBC on Sunday 10th June. A total of 34 teams contested the event & the following ten teams qualified for the Zone Final which is scheduled for the weekend of 1st/2nd September at a venue to be announced shortly:-

1. STANTON SUNSHINE COAST 2. ANDREW **NOOSA** 3. CLEMINSON **CABOOLTURE** 4. RUBIN **MORETON-BRIBIE** 5. GREEN NOOSA 6. McNAMEE **COOLUM** 7. McDONALD **NOOSA** 8. BROOKES SUNSHINE COAST 9. LINDSAY **CALOUNDRA** 10. O'BRIEN\* **CALOUNDRA** 11. FEENEY **NOOSA** 

The Club shown is the one at which that team originally contested the Qualifying rounds & does not necessarily indicate the Home club for the majority of its players.

\* The O'Brien team voluntarily withdrew after realising that, in the event that it finished in the top 3 of the Zone Final, it could not meet the QBA requirement that it **MUST** be prepared to travel to the National Final at Tweed Heads (starting 30th November).

The Feeney team was therefore promoted to fill the 10th spot. If there are further withdrawals, the Zone will invite additional teams starting at the 12th qualifier & so on.

Team Captains are required to ensure that team members are aware of all QBA regulations.

Queries can be directed to Tony Walford (5443 5780).