



# BRIDGE MATTERS



Newsletter of the Caloundra, Coolumb and Sunshine Coast Bridge Clubs June 2014

## SUNSHINE COAST TASTES VICTORY AT THE GOLD COAST !!!!!

### MOVIN' ON UP

**Brent Manley (co-editor of the Gold Coast Bulletin 2014)**

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In the first session of the Intermediate Pairs Final A, Steve Hughes and Drew Dunlop did not have much to brag about. Their 45.16% game put them ahead of only five pairs in the field of 28. They scored 58.08% in the second set to move up in the standings, then zoomed to victory with a 73.79% effort in the third and final session. The winners are from Caloundra (Sunshine Coast). Hughes is a retired financial analyst, Dunlop the owner of an import business. They have been playing together about three years and have reason to feel that their game is on the upswing. In 2012, they finished second in the Restricted Pairs. Last year, they were runners-up in the Intermediate Pairs.

**Winners of the Intermediate Pairs : Steve Hughes and Drew Dunlop**



## WINNERS OF THE THURSDAY ROOKIE PAIRS (less than 10 MPs)



**Dianne Thatcher and Bev Northey (Sunshine Coast) with sponsor Annette Maluish (left) and ABF National Teaching Co-ordinator Joan Butts (right)**

Di and Bev were also runners-up in the Sunday Rookie Pairs. We have a feeling they'll be over-qualified for this event next year!!!

## WINNERS RESTRICTED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

Ken Dawson

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### Winners 103 to 93 IMPs Laurie Skeate, Denis Ward, Monty Dale & Denis Moody

Denis Moody (Caloundra) and Monty Dale (Coolum) combined with Brisbane pair, Laurie Skeate and Denis Ward to win the Restricted Teams Championship at the recent Gold Coast Congress. The two pairs found each other through team co-ordinator, Toni Bardon. Don't let the absence of teammates or partners stop you from playing Gold Coast! It is YOUR event.

The cobbled-together team finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place out of 68 teams! However, they then had to play a 48 board final against the 2<sup>nd</sup> placed team. Board by board, the results were unfolded on the internet. After 12 boards, our team trailed by a massive 45 imps. They steamed home but still needed Skeate-Ward to bid and make 4H South on the penultimate hand while 3H had been bid and made at the other table.

#### Board 18

Dealer E

Vul N-S

♠ T974

♥ 6

♦ Q973

♣ KJT8

♠ K3

♥ J853

♦ AT52

♣ Q32



♠ A865

♥ KQT2

♦ J

♣ A975

♠ QJ2

♥ A974

♦ K864

♣ 64

10  
6 10  
14

#### Makeable contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	3	-	3	1	2
S	3	-	3	1	2
E	-	1	-	-	-
W	-	1	-	-	-

It's not clear how 4H made on an opening lead of ♦3. Perhaps South sneaked a club to ♣Q and back to ♣A before cross-ruffing the hand. Lose 2 clubs and ♥A. If 4H had been defeated, we have a different winner!

Denis and Monty were members of the winning squad in the Novice Teams three years ago.

**WHAT ANNOYS BRIDGE PLAYERS - REVISITED**

In my last column, I presented a list of things that annoy me at the bridge table. I was prepared to face some flak from members telling me to stop being a grumpy old man, but I have been overwhelmed by the number of people agreeing with me. Many players have also shared their own pet hates and I'm going to devote this column to listing some of these. Many of these are actually infractions under the laws.

**Rearranging dummy to close up a void:** This gets my goat as well. When dummy becomes void in a suit during the play of the hand, some dummies move the remaining three columns of cards together to fill the space. Defenders keep a mental picture of the shape of dummy which helps them plan their defence, and when the hearts column is suddenly the diamonds column it is off-putting and disruptive.

**Dummy perfection:** Some dummies are overly fussy about neatness. When laying out dummy, they first place the four suits in four neat piles, so you can only see the top one of each, then they neatly move each card down, repositioning any cards on the way that are more than a micron out of line. Once done, they will fuss and move any column that is not completely square or equidistant from the others. During all this, the opponents are unable to make their assessment of dummy and have to wait for the show to finish.

On the other hand, I guess I'm at the other extreme when it comes to laying out dummy. I'm sure my partners despair when my 13 cards hit the deck in a very "casual" layout. Maybe this infuriates opponents who fall into the "fussy dummy" category.

**Hogging the Bridgmate:** In my opinion, the correct way for the EW player to accept a result is to leave the Bridgmate on the table as they press the Accept button. That way, all four players can see the following screen showing the other results. Some EW players hold the Bridgmate up in such a way that no-one else can see the screen as they press Accept, and leave it there as they look at the other results before placing it back on the table.

People have also mentioned to me that they don't like it when that player reads all the results out. As well as creating problems when it's overheard at the next table, there are times when the opponents know they got a bad result and don't

want to know the gory details. My advice – look at the result if you want, but say nothing – if the others want to know, they can look too.

**General rudeness and impoliteness:** This is something close to the hearts of many players, but I must admit it isn't a biggie in my book. People have complained how rude it is when pairs continue their post mortem of the previous hand and completely disregard the incoming players as they take their seats. People have also complained about general impoliteness they've encountered at the table – general discourtesies, not helping to pass boards, not clearing rubbish from the table at the end of the session etc.

Opponents arguing with their partner is also something people hate and I agree this can be unpleasant for others at the table. However I look at this philosophically - partnership disharmony can only worsen their results and improve your score, so my advice is to disregard it and look forward to some good boards coming your way.

**Congratulating partner:** The bridge etiquette books tell us it's polite to say "Well played, partner" after your partner makes a contract as declarer. I don't agree - silence is a wonderful thing. There've been times when I know my partner or I have mis-defended and it's only because of this that the contract makes. It's twisting the knife somewhat when an opponent congratulates their partner for their brilliant declarer play when it was not their good play but our bad play that let the contract make. I admit it can be difficult for newer players to notice when mis-defence has occurred – that's why I maintain that the best thing is to stay silent.

**Matters of impropriety:** Things like hesitating before playing a singleton; hesitating when playing in second seat to make declarer think you've got a missing honour; asking questions or making comments to mislead the opponents; making comments or doing other things to suggest something to partner; prolonging play unnecessarily (e.g. failing to claim when the outcome is obvious); asking questions for your partner's benefit – these all fall under Laws 73 and 74, and infractions can be subject to procedural penalties. These laws also deal with etiquette, so the Director has the power to penalise general rudeness and impoliteness by a score adjustment if they feel it is appropriate.

The following are more to do with points of law, but are still listed as player gripes.

**General handling of cards:** The Laws state that at least one opponent must be present before cards are removed from the board. The laws also forbid the

touching of another player's cards (except that Declarer can touch the cards in dummy). Both these laws are regularly flouted.

**Detaching a card before it's your turn to play:** This is a specific item mentioned in Law 74 and seems to irk a lot of people. It's poor form because you are telling your partner that whatever they or the next hand does, this is the card they are playing. It is specifically listed as an infraction in Law 74B3, and also constitutes Unauthorised Information under Law 16. It also falls under the category of Deception if your aim is to suggest to the opponent that you only have one card that can be played at that turn and in fact you don't.

**Dummy playing without instructions from declarer:** Dummy is just that – dummy. They cannot take any part in the play of the hand and can only do what declarer tells them to do. This means they shouldn't pick up a card and play it until declarer calls for it, and this even applies if there's only a singleton on the table, or if Dummy thinks declarer's play is obvious e.g. ruffing or playing low under the Ace. If the Director finds that Dummy suggested a play that wasn't what Declarer was going to do, they can award an adjusted score. I've seen occasions where dummy reaches for a trump expecting this to be Declarer's plan when Declarer may have thought the card they led was a winner, or worse, Dummy hovers over a discard when they know that Declarer has led a winner but Declarer may not have realised their lead was a winner and was planning to trump.

**Quitting a trick then re-facing it in order to ask others to re-face their cards played:** The laws allow a player to ask to see all cards played to the last trick until they have turned their card over. However once they've turned their card over, they can't turn it back and ask others to show their cards. If this happens to you, you are within your rights to politely refuse.

**Semi-forcing 1C opening:** Some players play a short club as part of an otherwise natural system, but partner may respond to 1C no matter what their point count is, admitting when challenged "I couldn't leave opener in 1C – they might only have 2 clubs". If this is your agreement then you need to alert the response.

#### **WHAT'S IT REALLY ALL ABOUT?**

Would you rather come 2nd in the B Grade or somewhere near the bottom in the A Grade (forgetting about prize money)?

Would you rather come 2nd E/W with 61% or 1st N/S with 55%?

## MICHAELS AND CHESTEM

Rosemary Crowley

**An introduction to 2-suited overcalls used when the suit bid by the opposition is not one of your two 5 card suits.**

**Why:** 2-suited overcalls make for good, aggressive interference BUT you must consider the vulnerability of the hand.

**Strength:** This entirely depends on partnership agreement.

**Distribution:** 2-suited overcalls over a 1 level opening bid should always be at least 5 - 5

### MICHAELS CUE BID

Michaels is the simpler to remember and is easily recognisable, but does have its drawbacks. It is used when the suit bid is not one of your two 5 card suits. It doesn't cover all situations and the suits aren't always defined.

**Over a minor suit opening bid** (excluding Precision 1♣) a cue of the minor promises at least 5 - 5 in the majors, strength dependent on partnership understanding and vulnerability, eg 1♦ / 2♦ promises at least 5 hearts and 5 spades.

**Over a major suit opening bid** a cue of the major shows at least 5 of the other major and 5 of a minor, strength depending on partnership understanding and vulnerability, eg 1♥ / 2♥ promises at least 5 spades and 5 of a minor.

**Over any 1 level bid** (excluding Precision 1♣) 2NT promises at least 5 - 5 in the lower 2 of the other suits, eg 1♥ / 2NT promises at least 5 - 5 in the minors. 1♦ / 2NT promises at least 5 clubs and 5 hearts.

**Note:** *The 2NT bid is alerted. Cue bids are not alerted*

### GHESTEM

Not used over a Precision 1♣.

There are 3 overcalls reserved for Ghestem:

1. 2NT shows at least 5 - 5 in the lower two of the other 3 suits. eg 1♦ / 2NT shows clubs and hearts.
2. 3♣ shows at least 5 - 5 in the unbid suits ((ie not the suit bid by opponents and not clubs), eg 1♦ / 3♣ shows both majors - but see "Exceptions" p7.
3. Cue bid of the opened suit shows at least 5 - 5 in the two extreme suits (highest and lowest), excluding the bid suit, eg 1♦ / 2♦ shows clubs and spades.

**Exceptions (Ghestem)**

1♣ / 2♦ shows at least 5 - 5 in the majors

1♣ / 3♣ shows at least 5 - 5 in the two extreme suits

1♣ / 2♣ shows nothing more than a club suit (at least 5)

**Note:** All bids other than cue bids are alerted.

**GHESTEM QUIZ**

To use the quiz as a learning tool:

- a) Cover the middle column and pretend that partner has made the right hand column bid. What does he have?
- b) Cover the right hand column. The middle column is your hand. What do you bid?

Opening bid		
1S	5C - 5D	2NT
1C	5D - 5S	3C
1D	5C - 5S	2D
1S	5D - 5H	3C
1H	5C - 5D	2NT
1C	5H - 5S	2D
1H	5D - 5S	3C
1S	5C - 5H	2S
1D	5C - 5H	2NT
1H	5C - 5S	2H
1S	5C - 5D	2NT
1D	5H - 5S	3C

**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT**

*The harder I practice, the luckier I get.*

*The more you sweat in practice, the less you bleed in battle.*

Gary Player

Unknown

**WELL, GIVE ME ONE GOOD REASON WHY NOT!***Gold Coast Bulletin*

This year's World Open Championships will be held in Sanya, China which is noted as one of China's premier holiday destinations. Note the word "Open" in the name of the event – everybody is invited to play in a huge array of open, women's, mixed and senior events in both pairs and teams. If you've never played in an international event, (and 68 Australians played in the Open Trans-national Teams in Bali), then 2014 would be a great time to 'carpe diem'. Put it in your diary for 10th to 25th October 2014. (<http://tinyurl.com/lwhu48k>)

**DOUBLE TROUBLE****Steve Brookes**

Would you take the following double as penalty or take out?

Ken Dawson saw the following auction in the prestigious Vanderbilt competition. It generated much discussion as to the meaning of the double.

The Sequence:

<b>S</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>
1S	/	1NT	/
2D	/	2S	/
/	X	/	?

Ken forwarded the sequence to a number of people requesting their interpretation. Not all agreed as to the meaning. Some of the opinions canvassed are quoted below:

1. "I would expect it to be for takeout. If I think two spades will go down I would pass rather than let them run to a better spot. Besides, partner might think it is for takeout when you mean it for penalties and bids something you don't want to hear."
2. "It would depend for me just how short I was in spades. Looking at two or more spades, I would guess takeout. With a void or singleton I am passing. My partner is then almost certain to be holding a 5 or 6 card S suit and have a good hand. They won't want me pulling it and I wouldn't, unless I was really weak and holding a long side suit. "
3. "West has not doubled two diamonds for takeout, so it should be a penalty double. This is a situation where you need to be careful unless discussed with partner."



4. "I believe it must be for penalties. If they had found a fit then it would definitely be T/O. As responder has reluctantly gone back to spades they have at best a 5-2 fit in spades & a 4-3 fit in diamonds, leaving responder with the majority of their cards in the other two suits.

Partner could still have a big hand but couldn't X the first time as they had spades. If I am wrong it will be disastrous. However if I bid there is a great risk of being doubled by responder. I guess the main thing is for us all to have an agreement."

How would you have taken the double?

For my part, I agree with the comments as given by 1. I would have taken it for takeout, however, as suggested, the important thing is for regular partnerships to have an agreement.

#### **SOUND ASLEEP ON THE GOLD COAST**

**Wendy O'Brien**

OK so it was around about the 130th board on day 3 of the gruelling Gold Coast Teams Championship, but that really isn't an excuse. Somewhere around trick 6 I realized I didn't have the faintest idea what was going on. I had drifted completely away.

Declarer led a diamond over to dummy, who held the trick. In 4th seat, I didn't have any more diamonds so I looked for something useless to discard. The ♥6 didn't look like it was worth anything so I threw that and settled back into blissful torpor. "But why isn't somebody doing something?" I vaguely wondered. Then my partner politely pointed out that it was my lead. My lead? How can it possibly be my lead? I had tossed the useless ♥6.

From the murky depths came a flicker of comprehension. Hearts must be trumps! Hey, I had better wake up quick smart! So I did, sending my partner a trick and receiving another diamond for a second ruff, setting the contract by 2 tricks.

My partner is much too astute not to have realized exactly what was going on, so I had to own up afterwards, and she was kind enough to limit herself to one mildly sarcastic remark. We had a good laugh but it wouldn't have been at all funny if I had come up with a useless discard in one of the other suits.

There's class, and there's that other thing.

#### **BUT THERE'S PROBABLY NO HOPE FOR ANY OF US**

*Two things are infinite. The universe and human stupidity. And I'm not sure about the universe.*

Albert Einstein

## SQUEEZES

Reg Busch



Squeezes are a very arcane area of bridge. You could go through your bridge life and become a competent player without knowing much about squeezes. One hears players saying 'I was squeezed' when forced to find discards. This is not being 'squeezed'. A squeeze has a special meaning. When you have to find discards, there is a 'correct' card to discard – one that does not cost. But, when you are squeezed, there is *no* correct suit to discard. The lie of the cards is such that, whatever card you discard, you have to give up a trick to declarer. An example shortly.

Clyde Love has written a whole book (250+ pages) on squeezes. So, in one short article, I can't even start on any detail. There are so many types of squeezes – simple squeezes, double squeezes, compound squeezes, trump squeezes, strip squeezes etc.

Many squeezes are automatic. You have almost certainly in the past executed a squeeze without realising it simply by playing out your long suit. But you need to know a few basic rules to follow for a squeeze to operate. Then, once you have executed your first squeeze, you'll have bragging rights for a few months.

### Example 1

Here is a basic situation. Spades are trumps, and we are at trick 11.

♠-	
♥Q9	
♦J	
♣-	
♠-	♠-
♥J10	♥43
♦Q	♦5
♣-	♣-
	♠10
	♥2
	♦2
	♣-

South leads the ♠10. What can West do? If he discards the ♦Q, the ♥9 is discarded from dummy and dummy wins the last two tricks. If West discards a heart, South discards the ♦J and dummy's two hearts win the last two tricks.

The ♠10 we call the 'squeeze' card, and the ♦J is called the 'menace' or the 'threat' card.

The principle is that one player has to keep guards in two suits, and the play of the squeeze card in another suit forces him to surrender his guard. This is a 'simple' squeeze. In other situations, two players may be squeezed e.g. West may have to keep guard on clubs, East may have to guard diamonds, but in doing so neither may be able to keep guard on the heart suit. This we call a double squeeze.

**Basic Rules:** There are some basic rules you should know about squeezes.

1. For a squeeze to operate, you must be exactly one trick short of your contract. Thus, in 4S, you must be able to see 9 tricks and no other way of making your tenth trick. In 6S, you must be able to see 11 tricks.
2. In addition to rule 1, you should have lost all the tricks you can afford to

lose before the squeeze will operate. Thus, in a 4S contract, you must have lost 3 tricks. In a 6S contract, you must have lost one trick. If you haven't yet met this requirement, you must arrange to lose the appropriate number of tricks before you can expect a squeeze to work.

The same principles apply when trying for the overtrick in pairs (often an important trick). You are in say 4S, and you can see 10 tricks, but not 11. You must lose two tricks before trying a squeeze by playing your long trump suit.

There is much more to know about squeezes, but, provided you follow the above rules, a squeeze may operate automatically.

### Example 2

	♠65	
	♥AK42	
	♦AJ83	
	♣J65	
♠987		♠KQJ42
♥J7		♥109653
♦1065		♦9
♣87432		♣109
	♠A103	
	♥Q8	
	♦KQ742	
	♣AKQ	

You get to 7NT on the lead of the ♠9 with East playing the ♠J. How do you proceed? You can count exactly 12 tricks, and there is no way of making another unless the ♥2 comes good. One of the opponents must hold at least four hearts, so your ♥2 in dummy can never become a winner. No opponent seeing dummy will discard a heart.

Your only chance for the thirteenth trick is via a squeeze, and it has to be in hearts and spades. Now you know from the lead that East probably started with the ♠KQJ, so he must save a spade honour as a defensive trick. So, if he also holds four hearts, see what happens as you play out all your winners.

You have won trick 1 with the ♠A. You play ♣A,K,Q. Then ♦A,J,K,Q, and now your fifth diamond from hand at trick 9. After trick 3, East must find five discards. Here is the situation when all hands are down to the last 5 cards:

	♠6	
	♥AK42	
	♦	
	♣	
♠8		♠K
♥J7		♥10965
♦		♦
♣87		♣
	♠103	
	♥Q8	
	♦2	
	♣	

East has had to save the ♠K and 4 hearts. When you lead the ♦2 (discarding the ♠6 from dummy), East now has a choice of how to commit suicide. Discard a heart (now you can cash four hearts) or discard his ♠K (in which case you cash your ♠10 and three hearts). In either case, you have made 13 tricks. You have successfully squeezed East i.e. you have forced him to discard a winner or a potential winner.

You may ask 'How do you know that East must guard both hearts and spades?' The answer is that you often don't. If West can guard the hearts, then you are going off. Just as you don't

know that a finesse is going to work, but you just have to hope that it does as it is

your only chance. On this hand, you know for sure that the only way you can make this contract is via a squeeze.

There is a lot more to know about preparing for a squeeze, but, unless you apply the basic rules quoted above, you will never succeed with a squeeze.

May I finish with just a few relevant tips for both declarers and defenders. As declarer: play out all your idle trumps to force defenders to find discards. They may make errors. For defenders: when finding discards in these situations, discard first the suit you can't stop. Partner then knows to hold this suit.

Secondly, as a defender, keep 'parity' with dummy. When dummy holds a four card suit and you also hold 4 cards in that suit, hold all these cards so that you keep the same number (parity) as dummy. Only when dummy discards from that suit may you also discard.

#### **WHEN IS A CARD PLAYED?**

**Laurie Kelso**

*(Laurie has been Chief Tournament Director at the Gold Coast Congress for the past several years. This article appeared in the GCC Bulletin 2014 #7, and is reproduced with kind permission of the author).*

This can be very confusing, as it is different depending on whether you are a defender, a declarer playing your own cards, or a declarer calling for a card from dummy (this last category will be covered in a later article).

If, as a defender, you detach a card from your hand and hold it in a way that it is "possible" for your partner to see the face of the card, then you are deemed to have played it! This does not mean that your partner did actually see it, only that your partner could have seen it! (Law 45C1)

Sometimes the director will ask you to repeat the movement that you made with the card in your hand. What the director is trying to determine is whether, in their opinion, the card was held in such a position that your partner could have seen it. When these re-enactments take place, the opposition can be asked to comment on whether the movement of the card has been accurately reproduced.

Now if you are declarer and playing from your own hand, then you must play any card that you have "held face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played." (Law 45C2) This is fairly straight-forward but does lead to a number of director calls, usually when there are many individual ways of holding and playing cards from hand.

Players have a variety of habits in regard to how they actually manipulate their cards. Some just pull a card from their hand and place it directly on the table, while others hold the card upright on the edge of the table before letting it fall over to be revealed. Still others pull out a card and hold it in mid-air, sometimes waving it around. Some will even do this several times until they have made up

their mind about which card to contribute. We are sure you have seen a variety of other methods yourself. Directors need to keep these variations in mind when deciding how to rule over a disputed play of a card by declarer.

If you find yourself in a position at the table where you see an opponent's card, you are fully entitled to use the information, however it is not a good idea to tell everyone at the table what the card is. If you think it might qualify as a 'played card', the best approach is simply to call the director.

Being allowed to see one of declarer's unplayed cards is an advantage anyway, but if you name that card and the director ultimately rules it as 'not played', then all you have done is severely disadvantage your partner (there are now unauthorised information restrictions).

Similarly, just because a defender's card was visible to declarer does not necessarily mean that it was also visible to the other defender. Prematurely broadcasting the identity of a defender's card when you are the declarer can only ever help the opposition since it legitimately informs an opponent as to what his partner holds (and now there are no unauthorized information restrictions).

Finally, if you are dummy in any of these situations, all you need to remember is to remain silent throughout the play of the hand!

### **NEW MEMBERS**

A very warm welcome to all our new members.

Coolum: Kim Anderson, Bruce Cresswell, Suzanne Sabados

Caloundra: Louise Beckinsale, Rhonda Blain, Serena Lee Cave, Judy Davis, Lesley Doyle, Claire Mochrie, Elizabeth Smith, Jackie Taylor

Sunshine Coast: Penny Cooper, Mona Comerford, Heather Finlayson, Bill Mole, Brian Molloy, Ailsa Perse, Martie Pettifer, Suzanne Sabados.

We wish you all many years of happy bridging on the Sunshine Coast

### **MORE WINNERS**

Caloundra Restricted Pairs Championship: Kate Balmanno, Judy Leathley

Coolum Teams Congress: Tony Jackman, Tony Hutton, Malcolm Carter, Ron Clark

Caloundra Tuesday Night Competition: Lex Bourke, Judy Leathley

Caloundra Teams Congress: Geoff Hart, Tim Ridley, Richard & Ryan Touton

Sunshine Coast Pro-Am: N/S Cherith Suddens, Rosemary Crowley. E/W John Kenny, Vilma Laws

Congratulations to everyone.

## INCANTATIONS

Pauline Clayton

My 12 year old granddaughter who could recite all 40 lines of a Roald Dahl poem ('*There's a person in my tummy*') at aged nine, said "You are so silly Nana, it's easy. You just have to remember all the numbers."

She has an eidetic memory, and at 12 is getting A+ for Japanese, written and spoken.

Some people are just born that way.

Not me evidently, and the old school word 'dunce' comes to mind.

In my world, gaining knowledge just takes time, access to a library and a quiet corner in which to read.

And so, I figured, the solution to mastering the most basic of bridge could be found in a book.

But which one?

A book with all the answers, I was told, was titled *Card Play Technique (The Art of being Lucky)* by Nico Gardener and Victor Mollo.\*

No sign of it anywhere. Out of print was the message.

Go hunting the second-hand market the obvious answer.

My Texan, USA, sister-in-law (a champion bridge player, who learned at her mother's knee) hit her iPad and found several second hand copies, in various states of use and bouncing around at prices up to \$US 300!!

She dug deeper and longer and found a copy for \$29.09 (including shipping) at Seattle Goodwill Industries, ([onlinebooks@seattlegoodwill.org](mailto:onlinebooks@seattlegoodwill.org)).

I have it before me and the introduction answers all my questions. "*Persuade the cards to work harder for you than they do for your opponents. Therein lies the formula of success.*"

Of course.

And so, it's back to classes. (Have you noticed, our teachers regularly score over 60%?).

Here it all makes sense, and you meet some marvellous fellow travellers.

Supervised Play isn't easy, but I did manage to learn my times tables by rote, and so I have taken more advice from Gardener and Mollo: "Cards have their magic. We pass on the incantations and ask you to weave the spells."

I am hoping incantations work.

\*available in the Sunshine Coast and Caloundra club libraries

## **BRIDGING THE GAP**

### **WITH FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**OLIVE JAMES CCBC**

Well the weather is starting to cool down, so what better than a full-bodied soup to warm the cockles of your heart. Comfort food personified.

### **MULLIGATAWNY SOUP**

#### **Ingredients**

3 rashers streaky bacon  
550 grams chicken portions  
600 ml chicken stock  
1 carrot, peeled & sliced  
1 stick celery, washed & chopped  
1 apple, chopped  
2 teaspoons curry powder  
4 peppercorns, crushed  
1 clove garlic, crushed but whole  
1 bay leaf  
1 tablespoon plain flour  
150 ml coconut milk  
salt & pepper to taste  
50 grams long grain rice to serve (cooked)

#### **Method**

- 1) Remove rind from bacon and chop into small pieces. Fry in a large pan until crisp but not too brown. Remove from pan.
- 2) Add the chicken and brown well. Drain on kitchen paper and pour off excess fat.
- 3) Return the bacon and chicken to pan, then add the chicken stock and the next 7 ingredients.
- 4) Cover the pan and simmer for about 30 - 40 minutes, or until the chicken is tender. Remove chicken and allow to cool slightly.
- 5) Cut off the meat and return it to the soup. Add salt and pepper to taste. Discard bay leaf and garlic clove. Heat gently.
- 6) Mix the flour with a little tap water and add to soup with coconut milk. Reheat without boiling.
- 7) Ladle the soup into wide bowls, spoon a mound of rice into each bowl (but do not mix) and serve immediately.

## 2015 GOLD COAST CONGRESS

You may have come to the conclusion that this edition of *Bridge Matters* is largely about the Gold Coast Congress. Well, that's because it is. If you haven't dared yet, give it a try next year. February 21 to February 28, 2015. You don't have to play all of it.

## SPORTING THE GREEN ON MARCH 17



- Well Mick, why don't we try to bring something new into our system on this glorious day ?

- Ah Paddy, that would be great, to be sure, to be sure. Let's try that "Alert" bid everyone is talking about?

- Ah Paddy, that would indeed be wonderful, to be sure, to be sure, but, faith and begorrah, every time I ask what it means I get a different explanation!



## FOR SALE BY OWNER

*Encyclopaedia of Bridge*. Mint condition. \$50. No longer needed. Partner knows everything!

## BRIDGE QUIZ

Q: Name one exciting innovation to the game of bridge in the last 20 years.

A: Me.

## OVERHEARD

- Tell me, do you ever say a little prayer before playing bridge?

- No, I don't have to. My partner is a good player.

## MORE ABOUT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS 2014

Did you know, the number of boards dealt for the entire congress was 31,674? Of course our intrepid dealers could knock that off in an afternoon.

## PARTNERSHIP UNDERSTANDING

- Did you and your partner sort out that ambiguous double from the other day?

- Yes, we came to an understanding, even if only one person understands and the other does not.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the master calls a butterfly.*