



BRIDGE MATTERS



Newsletter of the Caloundra, Coolum and Sunshine Coast Bridge Clubs June 2015

AROUND THE CLUBS



COOLUM

Coolum has again conducted a set of 10 introductory lessons this year. From this, we have gained 20 new members who will now move into supervised play and play in our regular sessions. Our lessons are conducted on Saturday afternoons with a regular play session being conducted at the same time. Supervised play is conducted continuously through the year. Coolum's lessons are conducted by Alan Sinclair and other volunteers. Because they are identical to the lessons conducted by Wendy O'Brien at Caloundra and Sunshine Coast, a welcome exchange of learners takes place between the clubs. Coolum's final formal lesson was on May 23rd.



Coolum Invitation Day 2015 will be conducted on Wednesday 2nd September at our usual home in Wembley Road, Coolum Beach. If you have never played in an invitation day, grab a partner and come along. It is a largely recreational day with a superb leisurely lunch. If you have never played in a day long event, this is a great start. Entry forms will appear on club noticeboards, or contact us directly at info@coolumbridgeclub.com.

CALOUNDRA

Like most other clubs, at Caloundra we have found that attendance at our congresses has been falling over recent times. We decided to reduce our program from 4 one-day events to one two-day event. Much publicity was undertaken, members visited clubs in our area to promote the event. Our own members were encouraged to enter, and we also had a really impressive response to appeals for food, kitchen workers and for billeting visitors. It was decided also that we would plan to do no more than break even financially, with a major increase in prize money. We got a lot of positive feedback from all who participated, and we propose to run the 2016 event in the same way. To all who are reading this - please consider coming to the Caloundra Congress next year.



SUNSHINE COAST

At the end of April, club members were introduced to Pianola, a service to bridge clubs that provides players with a personal history of their results, analysis of their performance, the ability to replay hands and a partner finder. Peter Busch visited 4 separate sessions to further explain the program. Following considerable positive feedback, the committee has agreed to subscribe to the Pianola software for one year and to review the continuation of our subscription after one year's experience, the review to be based on usage by members. We have still to decide on whether the club should subscribe to Pianola Plus, or leave that to individual members.



INAUGURAL INTER-CLUB TEAMS



On April 26, the Sunshine Coast club hosted a new event on the coast, the inter-club teams. Almost 100 players from the Caloundra, Cooloom, Noosa and Sunshine Coast clubs competed in this event which covered three separate levels and was won by Noosa. Here we see SCCBC president John Gosney presenting the trophy to Noosa's president, Gerald Schaaf.

ZONE TEAMS OF 3

This year the annual Sunshine Coast Zone Teams of 3 was hosted by Cooloom, with Sunshine Coast providing the venue. Once again, Noosa took out all the honours. Congratulations to the winning team: Geoff Hart, Peter McNamee, Margaret Robertson & Margaret Murray.

Come on the rest of us! As your editor once overheard a US baseball coach saying to his losing side: *"There's gotta be a way!"*

LESSONS AT CALOUNDRA AND SUNSHINE COAST

These will finish as *Bridge Matters* goes to press. Most newcomers seem to have survived the absurdities of alerting, announcing, North pointing directly into the sea, passing out in the pass out seat and opening 2 ♠ with a hand that is nowhere near strong enough to open 1 ♠. But they do look at us oddly.



Last edition we looked at some of the strange bridge jargon. This time, I'm going to run through some of the more common bridge conventions with a very simple description of each.

There are hundreds of conventions around – some used almost universally like Stayman, and some that are home-grown and only used by the partnership that invented them. This list is definitely not exhaustive, nor does it describe the convention in sufficient detail to use it.

If you like the sound of one of them, do some research and be sure you understand all aspects of it before you add it to your system. Your Club library is a good starting point and the Coolum Bridge Club's web site (www.coolumbridge.com) has a useful document on its Bridge page called Micro Bridge Lessons consisting of a series of one-pagers with each discussing a specific convention.

CONVENTIONS FOR OPENER AND RESPONDER

Stayman – the one we all learnt in beginners' lessons. After a 1NT opening bid, partner bids 2C to ask about opener's holding in the majors. Simple Stayman asks for 4-card majors, but there are many variations like Extended Stayman (with the ability to show both 4 card majors and also show the HCPs more precisely), Puppet Stayman (enquiring about 5 or 4 card majors) and Garbage Stayman (whatever the opener answers will be dropped) and numerous other variations. Baron is a similar convention, but asks opener to bid all 4-card suits up the line (including diamonds) and is sometimes used after a strong 2NT opening.

Transfers – after partner opens 1NT, responder bids the suit below the one they hold, and opener will bid the actual suit. This allows the stronger hand to be declarer, and also means that the opening lead is coming around to the NT hand, both of which can be beneficial.

Gerber and Blackwood – ace-asking methods include Gerber (4C asking bid) and Blackwood (4NT asking bid) and the answers may show the actual number of aces, or one of two possibilities e.g. 1 or 3 aces, and the asker should be able to work out which it is. There are also variations called Roman Key Card Blackwood (RKCB) where the king of the agreed trump suit becomes the 5th key card along with the 4 aces, and the answer can also show whether the queen of the agreed suit is held. There's also a Mini-Ace ask when you have a minor suit fit (asking bid is lower), and Exclusion Blackwood (asking about aces or key cards excluding a specified suit, presumably because the asker has a void in that suit and doesn't care about that ace).

Jacoby and Bergen – these provide specific responses to show a fit after

partner has opened 1 of a major. There can be various bids to show the HCP range and/or number of trumps held, and sometimes they can also show whether the responder's hand is balanced or distributional.

Lebensohl – a convention used when the opponents overcall after we open 1NT. There are specific sequences to show a minimum hand, an invitational hand and a game forcing hand. There's also a variation on this called Rubensohl.

Fourth suit forcing – during the auction, when your side has bid 3 suits naturally, a bid of the 4th suit means something different if you use 4th suit forcing. Usually it tells partner we're going to game, and typically asks them to bid NT if they have that suit stopped.

DOPI / ROPI – a method of answering partner's ace ask when the opponents come in with a lead directing double or other interfering bid.

Trial bids – this is a bid of a new suit after you reach agreement on a trump suit at a low level (e.g. 1H – 2H). There are long suit trials (showing a second suit that contains potential losers) and short suit trials (showing shortages), and partner will assess that information and set the contract at the appropriate level.

Truscott – after a takeout double of opener's bid, responder with a fit will elevate their normal response in order to take up more bidding space and make it hard for LHO to bid. Further, as a redouble by responder would show values, any other suit bid by responder without a fit can be pre-emptive.

Benjamin 2's – a series of 2-level opening bids where 2C and 2D are strong and artificial and 2H and 2S are weak 6 card suits.

Multi-2's – an alternative to Benjamin 2's where 2C is strong and artificial, 2D can be a weak major or strong balanced hand, and 2-suited hands can also be shown.

Flannery – another method of showing specific hand shapes by a 2-level opening bid.

Splinters – these are double jumps after partner opens a major (e.g. 1S – 4D) that usually show a fit and also highlight a shortage in the bid suit.

Checkback Stayman – after opener has rebid 1NT having opened a minor, responder can ask for more details with a 2C bid. With their response, opener can show their partial support for responder's major and/or the other major, as well as provide a more precise HCP range. This is similar to New Minor Forcing.

Texas transfers – a modification to transfers following a 1NT opening bid. Rather than bidding the suit below your suit at the 2 level, you bid it at the 4 level. This can keep the opponents out of the auction.

Namyats – this convention says that to make a pre-emptive opening at the 4 level in a major, you bid a minor and this tells partner to bid the major, so opening 4C asks partner to bid 4H which you will pass. (This is "Stayman" spelt backwards for some reason!)

Kabel – a 3NT opening bid that asks partner which aces they hold, where the

answer tells opener exactly which ace or aces they hold. It is only useful for very distributional opening hands.

Gambling 3NT – an opening bid from a hand that has a 7+ card solid minor to the AKQ and few or no points outside that suit. It will be obvious to partner which minor it is, and partner will pass if they feel they have the other suits controlled as 3NT will probably make on the strength of those 7 sure tricks, otherwise partner will bid the minor.

Cue bidding to show controls – once a suit is agreed, bids of a new suit can show control in that suit. It can mean first round control (Ace or void) or it can show first or second round control (perhaps Kx or singleton).

2-over-1 – this is more of a whole system rather than a convention but the key element is that once responder bids at the 2 level after a 1-level opening bid by partner, they are in a game-force. This also means that a response of 1NT is forcing for one round.

BIDS BY OVERCALLERS

Michaels Cue Bid – an overcall of the same suit as the opener, showing a hand that contains 2 suits, usually 5/5. Overcalling a minor i.e. (1D) – 2D shows both majors and overcalling a major e.g. (1H) – 2H shows the other major and a minor.

Ghestem – think of this as Michaels Cue Bid on steroids. Whereas Michaels can only show specific shapes depending on what suit the opponents have opened, Ghestem has bids that show all two-suited combinations.

DONT, Pottage, Cappelletti, Modified Pottage, Landy, Suction, CRASH, Hamilton and more – these are all methods played after your opponent opens 1NT, and are used to show single-suited or 2-suited hands. Some of these are the same convention, but just with different names.

Unassuming cue bid – overcalls can be less than an opening hand and the unassuming cue bid (i.e. bidding the opponent's suit) is made by the overcaller's partner to ask about strength. A simple rebid of the suit says it's less than an opening hand, anything else says it's better.

Mathé – a method of showing single or 2-suited hands after your RHO opens a strong (e.g. Precision) 1C.

IN CONCLUSION....

A word of warning to newer players – having too many conventions is not a good idea when you're starting out, as even the basic game of bridge can be very complicated till you get used to it. Once you've played for a while you will be able to identify scope for these "gadgets", and may like to adopt some of them. When you do, be cautious – make sure you and your partner fully understand them, including when they apply and don't apply, and make sure you agree on all the subsequent actions, especially if the opponents enter the auction at an

A final word about home-grown conventions. You might invent some interesting new meanings for bids that you think will land you in the right contract more often, but remember that bridge has been around for a long time and has been played by people much smarter than you and me. It's likely that if your way was better, it would have been adopted by the experts a long time ago. In my experience, it is newer players who try and develop home grown systems, and I have never seen a home grown system developed by anyone less than an expert that I would class as better than the traditional ones. The only benefit that accrues seems to be confusing the opponents, but it's often your partner who gets more confused, leading to predictable disaster.

Barry Vassella

Q1. Why do North/South always get all the points and East /West get only the crumbs?

Q2. Why are you always going on about keeping our hands clean? I don't mind playing with dirty cards.

A2. The Dealer's main concern is for his precious dealing machine. Dealing machines do NOT like chocolate, coffee, lipstick, water and other substances on the cards while they are working. It gums up the works, so please be considerate and keep your hands and the cards clean. *The Dealers*

Congratulations to Ken Rogers for his winning entry: **NT 15 18.**

Highly commended awards also to Ken, for his foresight, in 2002, in purchasing **03 OFF** for himself, and to Bob McArthur's wife Lyn, who presented him with **O6NTX** for his 65th birthday.

KEN'S KONUNDRUM KORNER #11

Ken Dawson



These are your trumps:-

Dummy

♠Axx

♠QJ9xxx

West has made a takeout double of your spades as a passed hand.

The opponents are unaware of the 6th trump in your hand.

You need to bring in the suit without loss.

Plan your play.

You obviously need to find West holding the king.

Without the nine, you would simply lead the queen, hope it would be covered and that the suit breaks 2-2. The suit needs to break Kx /xx

The light takeout double makes you think that the suit may break K /Txx.

Now, if you play for the 2-2 break you will lose the 3rd trick to the ten.

Is there any way that you might pick the 3-1 break?

One psychological suggestion is that you lead the *Jack*. If the King appears without a heartbeat, then finesse the nine on the way back. Leading the queen will not give you any clue. It will certainly be covered as West hopes his partner has T9x.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to all our new members.

Coolum: Michael Barra, Janice Clough, Ian Cochrane, Nancy Cook, Barb Emery, Penny Goodwin, Narelle Kearney, Adrienne Kelly, Jo Keylar, Robin King-Cullen, Djuana McIntosh, Anne Oswald, Jennie Perry Smith, Renate Pettit, Gaye Poll, Brian Smith, Margaret Want & Shirley Williamson.

Caloundra: Ann Anderson, Mary Bray, Brian Cordiner, Yvonne Houbolt & Bernice Ross.

Sunshine Coast: Kate Balmanno, Terence Boyd, Harold Sherret, Andrea Smith & Kay Webber.

We wish you all many happy years of bridging on the Sunshine Coast and hope you will visit all three clubs from time to time.

RITA ZEICHNER'S NEW LAW OF BRIDGE

If you do it, you're wrong. If you don't do it, you're wrong too.

BRIDGE FOR THE IMPROVER**Ron Klinger**

This is the 4th of a series of articles which appeared in the Gold Coast Bulletins for 2012 and is reproduced with kind permission of the author. If you have not already done so, we urge you to visit Ron's website ronklingerbridge.com. You will be amazed at the variety of helpful suggestions, articles and bridge problems you will find.

Dealer: North	West	North	East	South
Vul: E-W		1♠	3♠ ^[1]	Double
West	Pass	Pass	4♦	4♥
♠10 8 7 6 4 2	Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass
♥5				
♦4 2				
♣10 5 4 3				

^[1] Asking Partner to bid 3NT
with a spade stopper

What should West lead?

Lead Balloon.

	♠A K J 5 3	
	♥Q 3 2	
	♦8 3	
	♣Q 9 7	
♠10 8 7 6 4 2		♠---
♥5		♥A 9 4
♦4 2		♦A K Q J 10 9 5
♣10 5 4 3		♣J 8 6
	♠Q 9	
	♥K J 10 8 7 6	
	♦7 6	
	♣A K 2	

This situation arose on this deal from a national selection event. The jump to three of opener's major is commonly played as asking for a stopper for 3NT. The 3♠ bidder here is expected to have a long, solid minor and eight or more playing tricks. Partner should bid 3NT with a stopper in opener's suit. With no stopper, bid 4♣ if you cannot tell which minor partner has. Partner will correct to diamonds if that is the long suit.

West had no problem recognizing East's double as a lead-directing request for a spade. East ruffed, cashed two diamonds and the ♥A for one down. That was E-W +100 and 10 Imps as the datum was N-S 370.

THE WOW FACTOR

Bev Northey



Back: Di Thatcher, Drew Campion, Moira Smith, John Burt, Joan Cade, Gaye Poll. Front: Bev Northey, Chris McLardy, Janice Little

There were seventeen Bridge Novices from the Sunshine Coast Contract Bridge Club who attended this year's Annual Gold Coast Bridge Congress held at The Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre in late February.

Of those who attended, at least one of the members was still eligible for the Rookie Division which caters for players with fewer than 10 masterpoints, but chose to play in the Novice

Division (under 100 masterpoints) so that she could share the experience with her friends. Having heard from some of the group who had attended in the previous two years what a fantastic experience it was to sit in a room of some 1500 bridge players, those attending for the first time were keen to see the WOW factor they had heard about. They were not disappointed.

When you sit in a room with so many players from around Australia and overseas playing in the Rookies, Novices, Restricted, Senior or Open Divisions, and you know that no matter whether you are a Rookie or a Grand Master, a twelve year old (as one of the Novices was) or a 90 year old, knowing that you all share the love of the game and the challenge to do your best even when the cards in your hand are not what you were hoping for, it makes you feel part of the larger group.

To look up from your table and see all those players quietly concentrating on the cards you begin to understand why players return year after year to catch up with friends and enjoy the challenge.

Of those from the SCCBC Novice group eight members played for 6 days straight, playing the first two days in the pairs division; the next three days in the teams and on the final day it was back to the one day pairs competition. Others chose to only attend on the Friday for the one day session. Each of these players walked away with a feeling of great satisfaction having improved their position on the ranking list with a few gold masterpoints to boot.

Apart from the experience of the competition, those in the group who stayed the week enjoyed a great week of social interaction and are already planning to return in 2016.

It is certainly an experience I would recommend to any player. It doesn't matter if you are a relatively new player or not, if you enjoy your bridge then you should experience the Gold Coast Congress and decide for yourself if it has a WOW factor or not.

I USED TO LIKE THE NAME MARCIA.....NOW I DON'T KNOW Jan Randall

This article appeared in the Gold Coast Bulletin Wednesday 25th February, 2015. The Randalls are from Rockhampton. We have included the article, with Jan's permission, as we feel it truly reinforces everything Bev had to say about the WOW factor.



Finally after months of waiting it had come to 'this time tomorrow'. As we packed, the weather reports sparked alarm, nay fear! We were scheduled to fly out just as the Tropical Cyclone Marcia was due to hit our area.

Our flight was cancelled but undaunted we rebooked so that we would just miss the pairs. I was unprepared for the wind strength and the house shook but mercifully stood firm, although the window locks could not withstand her fury.



We surveyed the damage - tree branches everywhere with fencing crushed under the weight of the branches. Roof tiles were scattered amongst the foliage and we soon realised we would be going nowhere.

Our goal of gaining 10 gold points vanished in an instant.

But it is not just the bridge game. It is the joy of sorting through the books and other interesting offerings on Paul Lavings' stand – I'd already flagged Michael Lawrence's book as this year's present to myself. Having managed a lifetime of diminished vision the chance to check out the low vision cards and other bridge supplies for the visually impaired was also exciting – anything to reduce the penalty cards when I see it as a spade only to discover it was a club.

The opportunity to gather gems of information from the experts creates a "must attend". I have never forgotten that 'the five level belongs to the opponents' or Paul Lavings' talk on count, and although it was something I could not totally grasp, it was a 'light bulb' moment and sparked my love of upside down count.

For months I've stored the little things which I wanted to discuss at the directors' forum. When do you get the opportunity to be in a room with so much knowledge and experience?

I just love dress up*. It is a bit of a joke the constant enquiries of 'Have you got your outfit ready?' It is so much fun, and as you can see my gear has been ready since November.

So you see Tropical Cyclone Marcia you did not just damage my home and property you destroyed my fairy tale week.

**Dressing for the theme day is not obligatory. This year the theme was dots and dashes.*

DON'T SHOOT YOUR PARTNER!

Mike Phillips

As well as actually playing the game, Mike has been a director, bridge writer, occasional teacher, and secretary/treasurer of the Australian Bridge Directors' Association. We are delighted to welcome Mike and Shirley as regular visitors to the Sunshine Coast. This article first appeared in the Lindfield Bridge Club Bulletin, and is reproduced with the author's kind permission.

	<u>Mrs Bennett</u>	
Dir: South	AT63	
Vul: Both	T85	
	4	
	A9842	
♠ Q72	N	♠ 4
♥ KJ2	W E	♥ Q94
♦ AQT92	S	♦ KJ763
♣ J6		♣ Q753
	<u>Mr Bennett</u>	
	KJ985	
	A763	
	85	
	KT	

S W N E
1 ♠ 2 ♦ 4 ♠ All pass

Have you ever felt like killing your partner? You are not alone! Many of us tend to take our bridge far too seriously: "it's not just a game, it's a way of life."

One of the most notorious hands of bridge ever played occurred in 1929 when a Mr and Mrs Bennett, of Kansas, USA, sat South and North, respectively, during a friendly rubber at home. After the auction shown above, West led the ace of diamonds, and switched to the jack of clubs. South took his king and led the jack of spades and, when West ducked, Dummy's ace was called for. Declarer then had to lose two heart tricks plus the diamond and the spade queen: one down.

According to a report in the local newspaper, "Mrs Bennett complained about South's failure to take the spade finesse. Mr Bennett answered back. Mrs Bennett went to her room, got an automatic pistol and shot him dead."

Another reporter commented "One can truthfully say that if South had played Dummy's three of spades instead of the ace, it would have saved his life."

Yet another, who evidently kidded himself that he knew a bit about the game, thought that Mrs Bennett was to blame for jumping to 4 spades "on a hand worth only a single raise." No-one thought that South may have been a little light for his vulnerable opening bid in first seat.

The jury acquitted Mrs Bennett.

Mr Bennett certainly deserved to be shot, but the real tragedy in this tale is that he was shot for the wrong reason. (*I'm not sure that any bridge misdemeanour should result in summary execution! Ed*)

Writing about the case many years later Maurice Harrison-Gray, the eminent British bridge player, commented as follows. "I find myself trying to reconstruct the scene. Bickering probably started at trick 4 when East showed out on the second trump lead. 'What a player!' Dummy has been known to say on such occasions. 'First he intends to finesse, then he changes his mind in the middle. Isn't West marked with the queen after his vulnerable overcall?' And a smug West piles on the agony: 'Did you think I was such a mug as to cover your jack?' And South, like many another husband, was unable to give the right answer.

"Any good player would have started as South did, intending to play for the drop or to play *East* for the guarded queen of spades; the only division he would not bargain for, on the bidding, is Qxx with West and a singleton with East. But in spite of this unfortunate view, any good player would still have made his ten tricks for game, rubber and a further lease of life.

"The way South played, he was bound to go down. His tragic fate may serve as a warning to those who are prone, when Dummy, to nattering during the play. Something must have put him off his stroke, for he made no attempt to do anything with Dummy's clubs. The contract cannot fail if South leads his ten of clubs to the ace and continues with the nine, throwing a heart if East plays low. Should it turn out that West has led a cunning false card at trick 2 (the jack from QJ6), he is welcome to make the queen of clubs and to cash his queen of spades; South can get back to Dummy by ruffing his second diamond, and his remaining small hearts go away on the clubs. The effect is the same if East covers the club lead from Dummy."

Unfortunately this case was not unique. Other games of bridge have been marred by violence. A Mrs Henderson of Detroit shot and killed her partner (a woman) for pulling the wrong card twice in a row. It was not just a question of two ill-considered plays; "pulling the wrong card" means, for example, that when your right-hand opponent plays the king of a suit in which you have the ace-queen you find yourself playing the queen instead of the ace. This can be due to a momentary lapse of concentration or, as in the actual incident, to unbearable nervous tension. Had the poor victim already been warned "If you do that again I'll shoot you"? Did she know that her partner had a gun in her handbag? Anyone might pull the wrong card in those circumstances.

Another news report contains perhaps the most poignant tale of all. "Willie Meacham, of Wilkesboro, North Carolina, swore he would kill the next person who dealt him a bad hand. He dealt himself a Yarborough. He committed suicide." I'm sure we all know what he felt like.

We've all seen a lot of passion and aggressive behaviour at the bridge table over the years. It's unfortunate, disruptive and completely unnecessary, and my advice is "Lighten up, it is only a game."

AN EXTRAORDINARY RESULT

Rosemary Crowley

THE HAND

DEALER: E	♠ QJ102	
VUL: ALL	♥ 83	
	♦ Q8	
	♣ J10963	
♠ A873		♠ —
♥ QJ97		♥ 10652
♦ A62		♦ K10943
♣ A5		♣ KQ84
	♠ K9654	
	♥ AK4	
	♦ J75	
	♣ 72	

THE BIDDING

E	S	W	N
/	1♠	1NT ¹	2♣
X ²	/	/	/

¹15-18

²Meant for takeout

So South is in 2♣x

THE LEAD: ♣A followed by ♣5.

THE PLAY: East knows the ace is from a doubleton club and South also suspects that. East leads back the ♣4 for West to trump.

Now between the two hands, South has KQJ109 of trumps, only missing the ace, and West must have the ♠A, since NS have 17 points between them and West has 15 points at least. East has maximum 8 points and has already shown up with 5 points (♠K,Q) so cannot have the ♠A. So South must play the ♠K or 9 to avoid a cheap overruff by West. South plays the ♠9. West does not want to play her ♠A on the paltry 9 so she discards a heart. Now South plays the ♥A & K and the ♥4 and ruffs with the ♠2 in dummy. Now South plays the ♣J from dummy, dropping East's last club and ruffs with the ♠K, taken by West with the ♠A. West now only has:

♠ 873
♥ —
♦ A62
♣ —

She probably doesn't like the look of the ♠ QJ10 in dummy so leads a small diamond to partner's king and partner leads back to the ♦A in West's hand and West now leads her third diamond. South discards the thirteenth club from

dummy and wins with the ♦ J. The last three tricks belong to the ♠ Q, J, 10 in dummy. 2 ♠ x making 8 tricks = 670. Deep finesse is the square box in the bottom right hand corner of each bridge hand on the hand record. It is a computer generated analysis of the possible contracts makeable by each hand in each denomination with optimum declarer play and optimum defence. I have been advised by a most successful player that deep finesse is always right. On the above hand deep finesse showed:

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	1	-	-	-	-
S	1	-	-	-	-
E	-	5	4	1	1
W	-	5	4	1	1

So South should not make this contract and, in fact, East-West should score 200 when they defeat it - a much better result - not the best possible result but the second best possible result.

How then can it be defeated?

The answer lies in the all important opening lead. West's reasoning was not bad and on some hands would be correct. She has long trumps and so led her short suit. But there is a better lead. She knows South has at least 5 spades and North has at least 3 spades and she has at least 3 certain entries to her hand. So she can rid North of her trumps and take at least 3 of South's trumps. So the best lead, a lead sure to defeat this contract, is ♠3. Then, when she gets in again, she must lead ♠A and another spade. Secondly, East-West must refrain from leading diamonds and if diamonds are led from the South hand West must duck. South cannot make a diamond trick if she has to lead diamonds.

ENLIGHTENMENT DAY – AKA SCCBC TEAMS OF 3

Pauline Clayton



May prepares for battle

It was a first.

And what an event it was.

As players in the inaugural SCCBC Teams of 3 hunted for their tables and their personal captains, May Johnston, sitting West, was nonchalantly applying scarlet polish to her nails. The event was a heady mix with 20 senior players (generously giving of their time) leading novice and on-the-way-up players through 27 boards.

The event was the brainchild of Adrienne Kelly, following the model of the Zone Teams of 3, played annually. Appointed to the committee as our first Strategic Directions officer, Adrienne has embraced her

role with vigour, coming up with plots and programs to engage all members by broadening club activities.

Jenny Turner, from Mountain Creek, was one who was pleased with the result of Teams of 3, saying at the end of the marathon four hour morning, that: "It is always nice to have something different."

Not often do members, particularly the newer ones (mostly Joan McPheat's Wednesday crowd) see 20 of our 70% percenters in the room at one sitting.

While some novice players admitted to being nervous, the atmosphere generated by the champions, was: 'We are here to help you enjoy your game.'

Their goal was essentially one of advice and feedback.

Just watching them manage the scoring was an eye opener and learning experience for many newer players.

Two-year member Elizabeth Schroder said: "Best thing they've ever done here."

Another player summed the inaugural Teams of 3 event as "Scary, but great fun."

Congratulations to the winners: Stephen Brookes, Ursula Sheldon, Glenn McGuire, Tricia Merefield.

MEMBER PROFILE

PAT TERRACE

Jenny Vickers



What a fortunate club Cooloom is to have a member like Pat. Pat has been a member since the club was formed. She has been a tireless member, taking over many duties. Originally from Sydney, after leaving Sydney Girls College, she qualified as a P. E. instructor. During this time she attended the Olympic Games, where she met an Olympic gymnastic champion, who passed on her skills to Pat. Pat then went on to win the NSW State Championship.

After 5 years of teaching the travel bug struck and Pat set off to Canada. Before landing a teaching position she got a job with the Banff Springs Hotel, where she worked in one of their restaurants. Hence her wonderful cooking skills, which many of us have enjoyed. Whilst teaching in Canada she met an old man in baggy pants! Her own words! He turned out to be her beloved Jim. They married and spent 20 years in Canada, before returning to Australia and settling in Cooloom.

Many thanks go to Ken Dawson for introducing our Pat to the game of bridge. The rest, as they say, is history. From secretary, fund raiser and general dogsbody, Pat has always filled the gap. She also finds time to be *A Lady Who Lunches*, as well as swimming, reading and looking after grandchildren. She certainly trumps a lot of us.

HOW SWEET IT IS

- I just wanted to tell you how much I admire how sweet and loving you always are to your husband, no matter how badly he treats you at the bridge table. As, alas, he too frequently does. Yet, I have never heard you call him anything but *darling, sweetie pie, dearest* or *lovey dovey*. After all these years of marriage I think that is absolutely wonderful.

- Ah yes. Well, you see, about 10 years ago I forgot his name and he is such a cranky old bugger I simply haven't plucked up the nerve to ask him.

TRUST PARTNER TO DEFEND WELL

Alfred Sheinwold

If you saw the president of your bank walking down the street on his hands, you might think he had suddenly gone crazy. If you are of the material that good partners are made of, your reaction would be different. You would say to yourself: *"There must be a good reason for this, and it's up to me to work out that reason."*

CIRCLE OF LIFE

- *Bridge players are NOT out of shape! I'm in shape. Look! Round is a shape!*

NOT TOO DIFFICULT TO PLEASE

- *My idea of an agreeable bridge partner is someone who agrees with me.*

TOO MUCH UNAUTHORISED INFORMATION?

During a recent bridge lesson at SCCBC, one of our helpers discreetly approached one of the learners: *"I hope you don't mind me mentioning this, but do you realise your shirt is inside out?"*

Quick as a flash came the reply: *"I knew my boyfriend shouldn't have stayed so long".*

MORE WINNERS CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYBODY!

Caloundra Restricted Pairs: Patricia James, Janice Jackson.

Caloundra Teams: Malcolm Carter, Tony Hutton, Neville Francis, Patrick Bugler.

Caloundra Tuesday Night Competition: Randall Rusk, Andrew Dunlop.

Hervey Bay Teams: Ann Smith, Pam Horton, Anne Gulley, Kate Balmanno.

Sunshine Coast Graded Teams: A Grade - Philippa Barnett, Timothy Ridley, Geoffrey Hart, David Harris. **B Grade** - Sue Ramsay, Barbara Parkinson, Margaret Clark, Janice Waddell.

Sunshine Coast Club Pairs Championship: Rosemary Crowley, Richard Perry.

NO DEAL BARRY!!

Our gallant proofreader says he's pretty sure he played deal number 52900000000000000000000000000000 just the other day and still no points!