

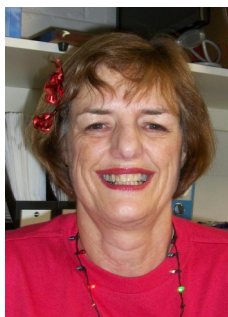


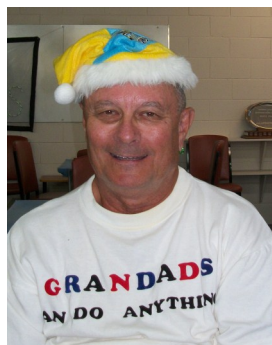
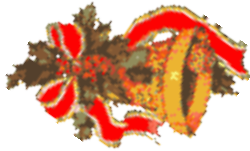
# BRIDGE MATTERS



Newsletter of the Caloundra, Coolum and Sunshine Coast Bridge Clubs March 2013

## CHRISTMAS BELLES AND BEAUX





## BRIDGE FOR THE IMPROVER

Ron Klinger

*This is the sixth of a series of articles which appeared in the Gold Coast Bulletins for 2011 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](http://ronklingerbridge.com). You will be amazed at the variety of helpful suggestions, articles and bridge problems you will find.*

|               |              |          |       |      |       |
|---------------|--------------|----------|-------|------|-------|
| Dealer: South | NORTH        | West     | North | East | South |
| Vul: E/W      | ♠ J 10 7 6 4 | Pass     | 1 ♠   | Pass | 1 ♦   |
|               | ♥ Q 9 6 2    | Pass     | 3 ♥   | Pass | 1NT   |
|               | ♦ A K 3      | All Pass |       |      | 3NT   |
|               | ♣ K          |          |       |      |       |
|               | SOUTH        |          |       |      |       |
|               | ♠ K Q        |          |       |      |       |
|               | ♥ A 8 3      |          |       |      |       |
|               | ♦ Q 9 6 4 2  |          |       |      |       |
|               | ♣ Q 10 7     |          |       |      |       |

West leads the ♣5 and dummy's king wins. What do you play next?

Answer: There is a natural temptation to play your long suit, diamonds, but this is short-sighted. Count your tricks. If the diamonds behave you have five diamond tricks, a club and a heart. You still need two tricks and they need to come from the spades. If you play the diamonds first and then the ♠ K, suppose they take it with the ace. How do you reach dummy later to play the other spade winners?

You should play a spade at trick 2. If they do not take this, play your second spade. If East plays the ♠ A and then plays a club, you must hope that East has the ♣J and so you play the ♣10. If they still do not take the ♠ A on the second round, play a diamond to the ace. If you judge the ♠ A is with West, play the ♠ J. If you think East has the ♠ A, or you cannot tell which opponent has it, you will have to decide whether to continue with the ♠ J (that is my choice) or continue with the ♦K and hope they are 3-2.

## THE HOG ON GLOATING

Mollo, V. *Bridge in the Fourth Dimension* p89

*What is gloating but a natural urge to savour fully a well-earned success, giving it added emphasis, perhaps, so as to share it with friends? Maybe, that as they say, I gloat more than others do, but isn't that simply because I win more and am reluctant, being sociable by nature, to keep my little triumphs to myself? Is that a sin? When all is said and done, the occasional jeer, the odd whoop or two, are only intended to bring out the finer points of the play, which might otherwise escape attention. No, I see no virtue in false modesty. When I bring off a coup, I admit it fearlessly and frankly, and I do not care if the whole world knows about it.*

## THE STRIPE-TAILED APE

Stephen Brookes

A stripe-tailed ape double is a strategic double of an opposing game contract. The doubler actually expects that the opponents can make a slam, but hopes they'll settle for the smaller score of the doubled game contract.

Should the opponents redouble the contract, conventional wisdom recommends running like a "stripe-tailed ape" to a sacrificial contract.

Recently, this hand appeared. I was North:

|              |           |           |                 |      |                 |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| Dealer: East | NORTH     | West      | North           | East | South           |
| Vul: E/W     | ♠ KJ10853 | 3♥        | 4♣ <sup>1</sup> | 2♥   | 3♦              |
|              | ♥ AK      | pass      | 5♣ <sup>3</sup> | X    | 4♦ <sup>2</sup> |
|              | ♦ Q10432  | X         | All pass        | pass | 5♦ <sup>4</sup> |
| WEST         | ♣ ———     | EAST      |                 |      |                 |
| ♠ AQ972      |           | ♠ 4       |                 |      |                 |
| ♥ 542        |           | ♥ QJ8763  |                 |      |                 |
| ♦ J8         |           | ♦ ———     |                 |      |                 |
| ♣ QJ9        |           | ♣ K106532 |                 |      |                 |
|              | SOUTH     |           |                 |      |                 |
|              | ♠ 6       |           |                 |      |                 |
|              | ♥ 109     |           |                 |      |                 |
|              | ♦ AK9765  |           |                 |      |                 |
|              | ♣ A874    |           |                 |      |                 |

<sup>1</sup> Gerber Cro ace ask

<sup>2</sup> 2 aces (ROPI)

<sup>3</sup> Gerber king ask

<sup>4</sup> 1 king

Of course 6 ♦ is cold. The score for 5♦ X not vul, making 12 tricks is 650.

The score for 6♦ making is 920.

Alas, another bottom!

I looked closely at the person who doubled (no names, but she is the editor of this magazine), and said, "You have obviously heard of the stripe-tailed ape." She smiled sweetly, and innocently replied, "I didn't know apes had striped tails."

If I had redoubled the opponents could run to 5♥ which would have been doubled and still we wouldn't have scored 920. Definitely, all the requirements for making a stripe-tailed ape double.

Do you believe our editor had never heard of the stripe-tailed ape? I've got my doubts.

*Well, it's my word against his!!!*

## UPCOMING FUND RAISER

To celebrate the Winter Solstice, the three clubs will combine to host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment and gracious hostility.

## KEN'S KONUNDRUM KORNER Number 4

Ken Dawson



How will you play these suits in order to make a trick?

Dummy  
♠Q2  
♠J43

If you have to play the suit, you will need a lot of luck. Your best chance is to lead towards one of the hands and hope that AK is onside. Say you lead towards the queen. You hope West has AK. You have one more chance, particularly if this is a side suit against a trump suit contract. West may have king only. Thinking you may be leading away from the ace, West may pop the king to make sure of a trick in the suit.

Dummy  
♠QT2  
♠543

Here your best chance is to lead towards the ten, hoping that LHO has the jack. If LHO plays low, insert the ten.

Putting up the queen will only work when LHO has AK and not the jack.

This will happen half as often as LHO holding the jack, with or without a top honour.

## DELICIOUS

In a recent article in the Courier Mail, Tony Jackman referred to an all red 8-5 holding as a "raspberry sundae".

## HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

It is believed some very good no trump hands were lost as The Titanic went down.

## MORE WISDOM FROM THE HOG

Mollo, V. *Bridge in the Fourth Dimension* p105

*The cost of good bidding can be prohibitive if it leads to a killing defence.*

*Conversely, no bid is truly bad if it provokes a defence that is even worse.*

## OTHER ANIMALS IN BRIDGE

To "duck" is to refuse to take a trick for whatever reason but a "quack" is a hand with lots of QUEens and jACKs and therefore probably not as good as the point count may tend to indicate.... A "moose" is a hand with lots of high cards in all the suits, but a "dog" is just the opposite....thus few points. However, "walking the dog" has nothing to do with a "dog" of a hand. Instead it refers to bidding timidly with a good hand in the hopes of eventually getting doubled..... A "turkey" and a "fish" are both bad bridge players..... A "pig's eye" is the Ace of diamonds..... Seafood terms include "salmon" to refer to a seven spot card and "crab" to refer to a three spot card. A "cat" is another term for the dummy and a "rattlesnake" is a 4-4-4-1 problem hand. A "hippopotamus" is everyone's favourite contract....5NT.

From Marilyn Hemenway *Bridge Slang* 2006 Omaha Bridge.

## THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY

Adrian Mayers

We all get hands from time to time that stick in our memory.

Playing for Queensland in the ANC we got this deal:

|       |           |       |             |
|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|
| North | ♠ x x x x | South | ♠ A K J x x |
|       | ♥ A Q     |       | ♥ K x x     |
|       | ♦ K x x   |       | ♦ A x       |
|       | ♣ A x x x |       | ♣ K Q x     |

The bidding is irrelevant, but playing Precision we got to 7 ♠, after a 3 ♥ interference. I was South, the declarer.

After winning the opening lead of a H, I led a small S to the Ace (standard safety play in case the bare Queen drops). It didn't so I decided to return to dummy with a D, to play another S.

The D promptly got ruffed for 1 down. East, with 8 diamonds, had never made a bid.

Worst of all, the spades were 2/2 all the time, so just playing the 2 top spades would have won the day.

Had I got this right we would have won the match, and despite my team-mates' assurances that they would have followed the same line, this hand still hurts.

This hand still puts a smile on my face.

|       |              |       |              |
|-------|--------------|-------|--------------|
| North | ♠ K x        | South | ♠ A Q J 10 x |
|       | ♥ Q J 10 9 x |       | ♥ x          |
|       | ♦ x x x      |       | ♦ A K Q J    |
|       | ♣ A Q 10     |       | ♣ K J 9      |

This happened in our club a few years ago. The bidding will remain secret to protect the guilty, but playing Precision we managed to finish up in 6♣ by South (me) after a 2♥ interference from West.

The lead was H Ace, followed by the King, leaving me with no option but to ruff.

Time to reassess. 3/3 club fit, so somebody has at least 4. Likely to be East, from the bidding. So if East has exactly 4 clubs and can be enticed to ruff, you're home.

If you are in a bad contract visualise the layout and place the cards where you need them to be to make the contract.

In this case I ruffed the second H, played a small S to dummy's King and



played the H Queen. East ruffed, I overruffed then drew 3 rounds of clubs (making sure to overtake my last club in dummy).

Sometimes the bridge gods smile on you. East started out with 4 clubs but after her ruff was left with 3, so the next 3 rounds of clubs took care of that.

Happy bridging.

Adrian

#### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*I think we consider too much the good luck of the early bird and not enough the bad luck of the early worm.*

Franklin D Roosevelt

#### **THE BIRTH AND SUBSEQUENT LIFE OF COOLUM BRIDGE CLUB** Roy Clarke

After serving in Australia's Military Forces during World War 2 and taking up life as a civilian again I met my wonderful and devoted wife Dorothy whom I married in 1948. We were blessed with two wonderful sons.

After many years of hard work in various parts of Queensland we began our retirement in Springfield Avenue, Coolum Beach. We spent many hours establishing the house and garden. Dorothy soon found outside social interests and was convinced I needed to do the same.

I had enjoyed playing cards in my youth and had a passing acquaintance with Bridge. I signed up for Bridge lessons in Noosa and started playing at the Noosa Bridge Club. There I met others who played in Noosa but also in Nambour and Maroochydore. We started travelling together to different venues. Dorothy was delighted to see my interest grow and suggested that maybe we should see if there were enough locals in Coolum interested in Bridge and forming a club.

Ann Nichols, one of our group, put an ad in the local paper. About ten people responded to the ad and we had our first meeting at Ann's home on 28th April, 1993. Those present were myself and Dorothy, Ann Nichols, Bert and Betty Pillings, Noel and Val Longden, Rubina Condon, Keith Styles and Essie Gunton - enough for 2 1/2 tables. The Pillings invited everyone to their house for a game the following week. The initial sessions were also held at the Pillings' house. As news spread of the new Bridge group more people became interested in playing in Coolum. At that time a steering committee was established. I was Secretary/Treasurer and Rubina was director when available.

To accommodate the increasing numbers of players I offered to search for a convenient venue. Dorothy came to the rescue again and suggested they should see if the sessions could be held at the Guide Hut on Russell Street. On inspection it proved to be large enough for the growing club and there were time slots available for a Monday morning session and a Friday evening session. The first sessions in the new venue started immediately with enough members to fill five tables. One of the new members was Ken Dawson who offered his help, if needed, in organising the new club.

Ken called the first General Meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1993. A committee was set up and the following were elected:

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| President: Rubina Condon | Vice President: Ann Nichols |
| Treasurer: Roy Clarke    | Secretary: Betty Pilling    |

Bert and Betty Pilling volunteered to do the Partnerships arranging. Rubina was Director at the start but left shortly thereafter to travel for a time. Ken Dawson directed at the night sessions. Before leaving Rubina gave me a crash course in directing and gave me the Directors Handbook. I coped as best I could but was uncertain about setting the movements. Fortunately Des O'Reilly had recently joined the club and was able to help me in that regard.

There was a great deal of camaraderie from the onset with everyone helping in any way he or she could. From the very beginning the newly formed club was considered "The Friendly Club".

During the ensuing years the Coolum Bridge Club changed venues several times – playing at the Coolum Beach Hotel, The Peregrine Bowls Club, the Uniting Church Hall and finally the Coolum Waters Retirement Village Community Hall where it plays today.

I continued on as Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer year after year. I have been a constant at the club, collecting the table fees, depositing the money in the bank, and until recently keeping the books and paying the bills. I take particular pride in watching the bank balance grow and to finally reach a level where the club, someday, may be able to have its own home. I have a great affection for the club and I hope my dedication is my legacy to the club membership. Since the death of my darling wife some years ago I admit the Coolum Club has been my life.

#### **SATURDAY AFTERNOON LESSONS AT COOLUM**

This year Coolum will conduct introductory bridge lessons to be held on Saturday afternoons at our clubhouse beginning at 1.00pm on April 6th, under the care of teachers Di Jones and Ken Dawson. The cost to learners will be \$50, which covers 10 lessons plus 5 supervised plays, plus comprehensive lesson notes. The program will mirror that conducted by the Caloundra and Sunshine Coast clubs. If you know anyone who would like to learn on Saturday afternoons, they should contact our secretary, Marilyn McKay # 5445 3921 or email [marilynjmckay@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynjmckay@hotmail.com).

Learners can enjoy the first lesson free - no pay, no obligation.

#### **NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS**

Would the person who took the stepladder yesterday please bring it back, or further steps will be taken !!!



### **SUNSHINE COAST CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB LIBRARY**

We have quite an extensive library of bridge books at the club, currently around 250 titles. These have been acquired over the years as purchases or as donations from the personal libraries of former members. The librarian adds titles throughout the year, selecting from well reviewed books or items requested by our members. Suggestions for new titles or extra copies of popular ones are always welcome.

There are two card catalogues, one for authors and the other for titles. Both are arranged alphabetically with the author catalogue including publication date. The cards also include a number on the top right hand corner of the card. This is the number which is on the label on the spine of the book.

The books are arranged on the shelves in running number order. Each book also has a book pocket containing a borrowing card, usually on the inside back cover, but in older titles on the inside front cover. There is a small box kept beneath the book shelves containing the borrowing cards of books on loan. When a book is borrowed the borrower must remove the card from the book pocket and fill in their name and the date of borrowing, including the year. The card should then be filed in the loan box in running number order. This enables other users to readily check if a title is out, when it was borrowed and by whom. There is a 4 week loan period allowed for books. An extension can be made for titles not in demand. When a book is returned the borrowing card is removed from the loan box, the date of return entered in the appropriate column, the card replaced in the book pocket and the book replaced in running number order on the shelf.

The collection is weeded periodically and those books removed are made available to members.

Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Katherine Tucker (Librarian)

### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

**Coolum:** Geoff Hart, Barry Midgley, Greg Murray, Penny Sykes

**Caloundra:** Phillip Andrews, Robyn Brabham, Barbara Descovich, Marilyn Griffin, Adrienne Kelly, Trevor Locket, Heather Nelson, John & Shirley Reddin, Wesley Shailes, Chrissy Wassell, Kay Webber, Shirley Woodhead.

**Sunshine Coast:** James & Shirley Asher, Daphne Britchford, Estelle England, Clive Ford, Jillian Gloster, Di Jones, Sydney Leach, Judith Leathley, Sisi Macfarlane, Elaine & Allen Pattison, Anne Thorpe, Richard Walsh

A warm welcome to everybody and we wish you many years of happy bridging. Hope you visit all three clubs from time to time.



## FALSE-CARDING

Reg Busch

This term is used to describe a deceptive play of a card by a defender in order to deceive declarer. A defender, in following suit, would normally play his lowest card. Or, when winning a trick, would normally win with the lowest of equals. A different play with the intention of deceiving declarer is called 'false-carding'. A high/low pique is not a false card but a normal signal to partner. Other plays to give info to partner e.g. showing count are not false cards.

A classic example of a false card:

|     |      |     |
|-----|------|-----|
| #1  | AQJ7 |     |
| K93 |      | 105 |
|     | 8642 |     |

This is the spade trump suit. You are West. South wins the opening lead, and plays the ♠2 to your ♠3 and ♠Q, which holds. He comes back to hand, then repeats the finesse, then drops your ♠K under the ♠A. He makes all four tricks. But let's think again. You know your ♠K is doomed with standard play. But let's give declarer a little problem. On the first spade lead, play

not the ♠3, but the ♠9. The ♠J wins. Now you have given declarer a choice. He can follow standard play and return to hand to repeat the finesse. If he does that, you are no worse off. But what if he has no quick return to hand, or he has to expose himself in a side suit to return? Your play suggests that you started with ♠K9 doubleton, in which case the Ace will now drop your King, and declarer does not need to return to hand to win four spade tricks. Declarer might opt to play thus and receive a nasty shock when the king doesn't fall. By your false card you have engineered a trick you would never make with normal play. Your aim is to give declarer a losing option.

This sort of false card might be described as 'obligatory'. It will rarely cost and may sometimes gain.

Notice that this play works most of the time only against more experienced players. The novice rarely notes what cards you play, let alone thinks about them. Here is a similar situation, not quite so clear. This time East has his chance.

|    |      |      |
|----|------|------|
| #2 | AJ83 |      |
| K2 |      | 1096 |
|    | Q754 |      |

Declarer plays the 4 to the Jack and the six. Now his only chance to make four tricks in the suit is to play the Ace, hoping that the King is doubleton. But look what happens if, on the first trick, East plays the 9 instead of the 6. Declarer may see the distribution as:

|     |      |     |
|-----|------|-----|
|     | AJ83 |     |
| K62 |      | 109 |
|     | Q754 |     |

In this case, in order to make all four tricks in the suit, he would need to come back to hand and lead the ♠Q (pinning the 10) to make all four tricks. If he chooses this option, your ten becomes a defensive trick. Again you have given declarer a losing option with your false card.

**Play the card you are known to hold.** Take this situation:

|      |      |     |
|------|------|-----|
|      | AJ5  |     |
| Q103 |      | 862 |
|      | K974 |     |

You are West. Declarer South leads the 4 and finesses the Jack. Then he plays the Ace. You must play the Queen. Declarer knows you have the Queen but he doesn't know that you have the 10. If you idly follow with the 10, declarer knows

that you still hold the Queen and will play the King for trick 3 and make all four tricks. If you had played the Queen at trick 2, declarer may try finessing with the 9 at trick 3.

So: in defence, *play the card you are known to hold provided it doesn't cost.*

Further examples:

|  |      |      |  |       |  |      |  |   |  |  |
|--|------|------|--|-------|--|------|--|---|--|--|
| <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>AQ75</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>KJ103</td> <td></td> <td>8642</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>9</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> |      | AQ75 |  | KJ103 |  | 8642 |  | 9 |  | <p>South, in a spade contract and playing a cross-ruff, finesses the ♣Q, then plays the ♣A. Declarer knows that he can safely ruff low in hand until the ♣K appears on his left. Drop the King at trick 2.</p> |
|  | AQ75 |      |  |       |  |      |  |   |  |  |
| KJ103  |      | 8642 |  |       |  |      |  |   |  |  |
|  | 9    |      |  |       |  |      |  |   |  |  |

|  |      |       |  |     |  |       |  |    |  |   |
|--|------|-------|--|-----|--|-------|--|----|--|---|
| <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>AKJ6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q54</td> <td></td> <td>10832</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>97</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> |      | AKJ6  |  | Q54 |  | 10832 |  | 97 |  | <p>In a spade contract, this is the heart suit. Declarer South finesses the ♥J, then plays the Ace. You should drop the Queen. Otherwise declarer knows that he can ruff low with impunity.</p> |
|  | AKJ6 |       |  |     |  |       |  |    |  |   |
| Q54  |      | 10832 |  |     |  |       |  |    |  |   |
|  | 97   |       |  |     |  |       |  |    |  |   |

An important rule: in false-carding, don't think too long. Be prepared, and play smoothly. Taking time to think will make declarer suspicious.

### False signals

You are defending a game or higher level contract with a useless hand. Your only hope is that partner may have defensive tricks. Dummy contains a side suit such as ♥AQ42, but you have useless cards left.. As your first discard, signal for a heart lead from partner. You know that, if declarer needs the heart finesse, it is working. Dissuade him from taking this finesse, and perhaps trying a different unsuccessful finesse into partner's hand .

For declarer, there is no 'true' way of carding, for he has no partner to consider and can play cards as he likes. But there are situations where declarer can attempt to deceive opponents, but this is more accurately described as 'deceptive play'. For example:

|  |      |      |  |      |  |      |  |      |  |  |
|--|------|------|--|------|--|------|--|------|--|--|
| <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>75</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>KQ98</td> <td></td> <td>1043</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>AJ62</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> |      | 75   |  | KQ98 |  | 1043 |  | AJ62 |  | <p>You are declarer in NT and the opening lead is the ♥K (promising the ♥Q).</p> <p>You want West to continue with hearts to give you two tricks. So smoothly duck, playing the ♥6 from hand. EW are playing high encourage.. West sees East's ♥3, which doesn't look encouraging, but where is the ♥2? Perhaps East holds the ♥J32 and the ♥3 is the highest he can afford without sacrificing the ♥J. Your deceptive card may well persuade West to continue the suit.</p> |
|  | 75   |      |  |      |  |      |  |      |  |  |
| KQ98   |      | 1043 |  |      |  |      |  |      |  |  |
|  | AJ62 |      |  |      |  |      |  |      |  |  |

A good rule of thumb if you want defender to continue his suit is to *play an encouraging card as if you were his partner.* This doesn't always work, depending on their signalling system.

*See p15 for a canny example of Reg in action.*

**ATTENTION ALL TEA LADIES:** After the tea break, staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

## OOPS !

Susanna Gross

The choice of opening lead in bridge is, of course, crucially important - that single card can spell defeat or victory for the opponents. But it's not always clear what to lead, especially if it's a choice between your partner's suit and your own. When in doubt, however, most players follow the old bridge adage that if you lead your partner's suit you can't lose the post-mortem.

It's good advice - the dangers of flouting it are dramatically illustrated in the following hand, described in Andrew Ward's new book *Bridge's Strangest Hands* (Robson Books). The hand was first reported in the American magazine *Barclay's Bridge News* in 1951; I wish I had been around for the post-mortem.

|           |           |            |       |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-------|
| Dir: E    | ♠ 843     |            |       |
| Vul: All  | ♥ 62      |            |       |
|           | ♦ AKJ1065 |            |       |
|           | ♣ 75      |            |       |
| ♠ AQJ1095 |           | ♠ 76       |       |
| ♥ 73      |           | ♥ AKQJ1054 |       |
| ♦ 97      |           | ♦ Q4       |       |
| ♣ 932     |           | ♣ 86       |       |
|           | ♠ K2      |            |       |
|           | ♥ 98      |            |       |
|           | ♦ 832     |            |       |
|           | ♣ AKQJ104 |            |       |
| West      | North     | East       | South |
| —         | —         | 1♥         | 1NT   |
| X         | XX        | All pass   |       |

West had a difficult choice of lead; his partner had bid hearts but South's overcall of 1NT surely meant he had a stopper in hearts, and his own spade suit looked like an extremely attractive alternative. After a moment's thought he led the ♠ Q.

As you can see, declarer won with the ♠ K and took all 13 tricks for a score of 3160. A heart lead, followed by a spade return, would have netted all 13 tricks for the defence - and earned them plus 4000.

Oops. The result, as the *Barclay News* correspondent noted, 'caused turmoil, pandemonium, and an exchange of words that cannot be printed here or anywhere.' I'm quite sure that West - who insisted on remaining anonymous - never failed to lead his partner's suit again. If he ever found another partner, that is.

*This little gem was published in The Spectator, 5 April, 2003. Steve Hughes dug it out for us.*

## A LEADING EDGE

- Partner, that lead of the 6 ♣ was absolutely brilliant. It was the only possible lead to sink the contract. But how on earth did you come up with it?

- Oh well. When I haven't the faintest idea what to do I always lead seventh from the left.

## FOSTERING FRIENDLY RELATIONS IN THE BRIDGE CLUB

Say "Hell" to someone you don't normally speak to.

## **BRIDGE, BRIDGE, BRIDGE**

In November 1942, the invasion of North Africa was all in readiness but some 800 Allied ships were fogbound off the African coast. "What'll we do now?" the other ranking officers asked. "Let's have a game of bridge," Eisenhower replied. So they did.

Mahatma Ghandi not only played bridge but used the game to illustrate the relationship between *kharma* (fate) and *dharma* (the action of man).

Why do people play bridge?

**Adventure:** *"Every hand is an adventure".* Bob Lipsitz

**Challenge:** *"Those who seek the highest level of mental stimulation move on to activities such as bridge."* Mike Lawrence

**Entertainment:** *"Bridge is the most entertaining and intelligent game that the wit of man has so far devised."* Somerset Maugham

**Fascination:** *"If I'm playing bridge and a naked woman walks by, I don't even see her."* Warren Buffet

**Inexhaustibility:** *"I'm still learning. I will never get it all."* Al Lochli

**Longevity:** *"Because every hand is different, the intellectual challenge of bridge never ceases."* Rudy Boschwitz

**Universality:** *"No matter where I go, I can always make new friends at the bridge table."* Martina Navratilova

### **And here on the Sunshine Coast?**

*"To keep the grey matter alive and kicking. Being in a friendly club makes all the difference."* Barb Barrett

*"I love it. I just love playing cards."* Carole Masters

*"I love the competition."* Dana Tanahill

*"I enjoy the social aspect of it."* Heather Walford

*"Because I didn't want to do lead-lighting or basket weaving, I took up bridge. I was hooked after the 5th lesson."* Ruth Mackinlay

*"It keeps my mind active."* Helen Killiner

*"I enjoy the challenge and the company."* Anette Wigan

*"I couldn't help it. Both my parents played bridge. The game provides good mental stimulation for an ageing brain, in the company of people who have become good friends. Why would I not?"* Frank Harbison

*"I just love cards."* Dell Wilson

*"To exercise my brain and to socialisse. I love it."* Mary Haddon

*"Keeps me off the streets."* Judith Leathley

*"I like the challenge."* Pat Mitchell

*"I enjoy it. It's a very social game."* Merle Muller

*"It's the only game I enjoy playing where I can sit down."* Tony Timmer

*"Even after you've played for years there's always something new, something you didn't know."* Vivienne Maddigan

*"I play bridge for the company and to keep my brain alert."* Pat Rolph

*"I'm a masochist and enjoy getting beaten up every time."* Dorothy Ferris.

*"Because I love the game."* Beryl Keys

*"Just for the fun of it."* Alan Sinclair

*"It keeps me off the streets and keeps me honest."* Noeleen Stewart

*"For the mental stimulation."* Frank Coard

*"It's a way to get out and meet people. With our team, we take little trips all over the place and I love that."* Muriel Saddler

### **How I feel about bridge**

**Steve Jesienowski**

*Bridge is the ultimate card game. It is exciting, challenging, addictive and fun. It helps improve the skills of logic and deduction, contributes to exercising the brain and improves memory.*

Words like these have often been used to describe a game that I believe was devised to torture individuals who espouse satisfaction with their intellectual and deductive powers. I have discovered that experience and commitment have not translated into success in this demonic game. I find learning is difficult and putting what one has learnt into practice during a game defies me. I have yet to play a game without committing major mistakes.

Despite my many frustrations, the fascination that holds me to those 52 cards constantly eludes rational thought. I resubmit myself each week to the sublime mental ordeal that proves a reasonable level of competence is still eluding me. I continue pursuing my impossible goal with a card memory that has not been improved despite many years of playing bridge.

I may be a masochist but I do enjoy an occasional success which brings me back to the table.

### **IN THE INTERESTS OF HYGIENE**

Toilet out of order. Please use the floor below.



### QBA SENIOR TEAMS February 9-10

A sell-out crowd of 38 tables attended this event, which owed its great success to the organisational skills of convenor Marion Bucens, excellent directing from Peter Busch and his assistant Steve Murray, a superb effort in the kitchen by Ann Kibble and her team of Chrissy Wassell, Shann Sage, Nancy Cook, Jilly Green, Anne Brooksmith, and our drinks-are-on-us barmen, Ross Maher, John Kenny, Paul Mannion

Congratulations to the winning team: Mike Pemberon, John Gough, Eva & Tony Berger. The Lamont team (Maurine Lamont, Jo Drake, Vilma Laws, Jilliana Bell), came a very commendable 3rd, having led most of the way.

As last year, the Sunshine Coast took out the B Grade in style. 1st: Anne Young, Bob McArthur, Therese Matthews, Trish Norris; 2nd: Gail & Harry Walsh, Barbara & Warren Holmes; 3rd: Gaye McAuliffe, Patricia Mitchell, Yvonne Hawthorne, Dana Tannahill.

Best finishing team under 250 MPs average: Cherie Butler, Helen Killiner, Wendy Mansfield, Mary de Wet. Well done everybody !!

### REG IN ACTION

(from p 11)

An amusing hand from the distant past. I was playing South for Qld in the Interstate Championships.

Dir W        ♠QJ43  
Vul NS      ♥J43  
              ♦AK63  
              ♣K2

♠2  
♥AK10962  
♦872  
♣654

♠876  
♥7  
♦QJ954  
♣A987

♠AK1095  
♥Q85  
♦10  
♣QJ103

West opened 2♥, North doubled and I bid 4S. West led the ♥K. Immediately I saw my fate – ♥K, ♥A ♥ ruff, ♠A for one off. So smoothly I dropped the ♥Q at trick 1, West shifted and I soon wrapped up 10 tricks. East made his displeasure clear. West's explanation: 'I didn't believe that he could make such a stupid play!' (Tactful fellow, West). In fact, it was a no lose play. West should have realised this. Further, if my ♥Q was a true card, then East would have been playing the ♥7 from 875, an unlikely play.

### COMPETITION !!! COMPETITION !!! COMPETITION !!!

Imagine a deck of 65 cards divided into 5 suits. We still have spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs, but what would you call the 5th suit? An amazing prize of one free game in one of our clubs for the most creative answer. Enter as many times as you like. Rush your entries to [wendy\\_ob@hotmail.com](mailto:wendy_ob@hotmail.com) or hand them to somebody. Entries close May 10.

### GOTTA RAISE THE MONEY SOMEHOW

The farmer allows walkers to cross the field for free, but the bull charges.



**OVERHEARD:**

- At our club we cut our bridge drop-outs in half.
- Really? That's taking things a bit far isn't it?

**THERE REALLY IS NO LIFE AFTER BRIDGE**

At the end of play on Saturday, at the QBA Senior Teams, one of the players made it to the bar and requested, "Two Spades, please."

At the Gold Coast Congress last year, following a gruelling 2 rounds, a husband and wife were having dinner at a local restaurant. The wife said, "See that man over there, the one sitting North ...."

**WHO CARES?**

- You're a good bridge player. How many masterpoints have you got?
- Masterpoints? Masterpoints? It's not about masterpoints! Who cares about masterpoints? Who counts? 723.

**ODDS AND EVENS**

The odds against 4 players each holding all 13 cards in a suit are 2, 235, 197, 406, 895, 366, 368, 301, 599, 999 to 1. Maybe winning Gold Lotto isn't so difficult after all.

*On the other hand, we wouldn't put anything past our demonic dealers.*

**WHAT CHEER?**

*Inspired by A.J. Mackinnon: The Unlikely Voyage of Jack de Crow.*

I went off in a cold 3NT. Everybody else made 10 tricks. I vigorously defended my line of play to my partner, who listened with *the lugubrious air of a bloodhound discussing philosophy with Eeyore.*

**OVERHEARD**

*It was such a wonderful cruise. I had a Grand Slam in Napoli, then 6NT in Corfu.*

**OPENING LEAD**

The first to start talking about the grandchildren.

**ON STEPPING OUT FROM SUPERVISED PLAY TO JOIN THE BIG KIDS**

..... *Farewell happy fields,  
Where joy forever dwells; hail, horrors!*

John Milton *Paradise Lost*

**OVERHEARD**

My partner has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe.