

Queensland Contract Bridge Club

**NEWSLETTER** 

**June 2005** 



### NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Several of our members will be winging their way to sunny Cairns for the Barrier Reef Congress over the Queen's Birthday weekend. I wish them a most enjoyable time. The rest of us will have to keep the home fires burning as our own June Pairs and June Teams Congresses are that weekend too. Please make a special effort to support your club. Toni is happy to help you find a partner or team mates.

Thank you to those who turned up on Mothers Day for the working bee. A lot was achieved in a short time. Thanks also to Carolyn Woolley for organizing a most successful trip to Mt. Tamborine and to Dianne Kerr for decorating and donating a commemorative plate to present to the Tamborine Mountain Bridge Club.

Jon Peach

Chairman 3352 6929 jpgss@uq.net.au 42 Tait Street, Kelvin Grove, 4059

Summer/Winter Cups A 2 Session Pairs Event Saturdays 18th & 25th June.

Margery Schalkoort Trophy Tuesday 28 June



## CPR FOR LIFE 8.45 to 10.15 WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE Please tell Toni if you will be attending.

76% of cardiac arrests occur at home. The most likely witness is a spouse or family member.

In an emergency every second counts. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is easy to learn and can help save lives. CPR for Life is a Queensland Ambulance Service health promotion program that aims to provide the community with the skills and confidence necessary to respond to a sudden out of hospital cardiac arrest.

The *CPR for Life* program trains community members in the life saving skill of single operator adult *CPR*. *CPR for Life* has the potential to help save lives by initiating the first two links in the Chain of Survival.

(Extract from Queensland Ambulance Service brochure.)



### MAY ECLECTIC RESULTS

#### MONDAY AM

- 1= Malcolm Littler
- 1= Keith Bishop
- 3= Marion Cooke
- 3= Judith Perl

### MONDAY PM

- 1= Lorraine Eaves
- 1= Barbara Ryan
- 3= Marcia Hobbs
- 3= Lola McNeill
- TUESDAY AM
- 1= Nick Horner
- 1= Barbara Ryan
- 3 Reno Fioriti

### TUESDAY PM

- 1= Steve Stening
- 1= Barbara Stening
- 3= Julian Barry
- 3= Tom McEwan
- WEDNESDAY AM
- 1 Lola McNeill
- 2 Pam Waldrum
- 3 Delma Purcell

- WEDNESDAY PM
- 1= Sue O'Brien
- 1= Keith Bishop
- 3= Rod Shelbourn
- 3= Paul Maddigan THURSDAY AM
- 1 Julian Barry
- 2 Olive Thacker
  - Onve macker
- 3 Margery Sullivan FRIDAY AM
- 1 Margaret Jones
- 2= Lorraine Eaves
- 2= Dene Smith
- FRIDAY PM
- 1= Dianne Brinkworth
- 1= Andrew Pryde
- 3= Malcolm Littler 3= Keith Bishop
- SATURDAY
- 1 Keith Bishop
- 2= Heather England
- 2= Valerie Ferguson <u>SUNDAY</u>
- 1 Marion Cooke
- 2= Olive Wakefield
- 2= Allan Wakefield

### KO TEAMS AM

1 I Afflick P Collings H & R Milward 2 B & A Kempthorne K Bishop C Hyne 3 G Tucker Millar J Broad C Martin

### ANZAC TEAMS

Sect A; P Gosney N Francis P Hainsworth R Parker Sect B: J Leung M Pemberton G Lee S Dean Sect C: M Stoneman, K Hewings, C Adamson, C Bloomfield

### VERNA GRAHAM TROPHY

Gross : M Millar

Net: W Healy



Tom McEwan looking pleased now that he does not do the newsletter.

## A Lovely Day Out

I would like to say a few words about the bus trip to Tamborine on Thursday 12 May. The long awaited rain decided to arrive over night. The traffic on all roads was heavy and when the bus arrived outside QCBC we who were in the club were grateful for not having to brave the weather and cross to Balaclava St but some did and when we finally reached them they were huddled together under an umbrella and cold. They soon settled and we set off. There were 28 of us and we soon ran out of rain along the highway. The road up the mountain has never changed in as many years as I can remember and the rainforest and trees all put on their usual wonderful display and the air was so lovely and fresh away from the city and traffic.

At the top we stopped for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour where we enjoyed a delicious cup of coffee at the "Spice of Life". We popped back on the bus to continue and soon reached our destination which was set in trees and quaint little buildings including a craft hall where craft was being done. We were greeted warmly by our hosts and invited to have lovely home-made sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee and the little passionfruit tarts melted in your mouth. We also had time to browse around the lovely craft items for sale. We soon settled down to play bridge in a delightful room with fresh mountain air through the windows. We broke for a quick afternoon tea then carried on until 4pm when Jan thanked our hosts and presented them with a plate, beautifully decorated and donated by Di Kerr. We set off down the mountain on an easy trip back to Brisbane and I will always agree with the young at heart that the longest way home is the sweetest and as I add my voice to all who have said thank you to all those who helped make this a special day, I would like to say I look forward to the next one.

Thank you. Pat Thomson



WANTED 3 MEN AND A TRUCK to collect a fridge please.

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## NEXT ADVANCED LESSON

# JOAN BUTTS on LEBENSOHL

- $\diamond$  over the opponents' 1NT
- ☆ over opponents' double of Weak 2, Multi 2 openings
- $\diamond$  over our reverse sequences

# and NEW MINOR FORCING

10 am - 12 noon

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June \$12 per person includes a free game in the 1 pm Sunday Session



Armstrong Holden has offered to donate \$200 to QCBC for every new car purchased by a QCBC member or associate.

Please introduce yourself to Warwick Morrison (New Vehicle Sales Manager) or ask Toni for a copy of the offer.

Hopefully many new holdens will soon be found in the QCBC carpark.

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Joan Butts with the Gold group

The Edibles Only Bring & Buy continues.....

Thank you for your support to date.

### MARJ GODBOLD TROPHY

Gross: B Crowd S King Net: J Abbott T Smith



Shirley King & Brian Crowd with the Marj Godbold Trophy

#### NORMA WILLIAMS TROPHY

GROSS: 1 M Millar NET: 1 P Nattrass

- 2 V Matheson
- 3 M Corner

### SUMMARY OF RANK PROMOTIONS

Harry Giesen	**Local Master
Wendy Harvey	**Local Master

### BRIDGE WIT AND WISDOM

It's not enough to win the tricks that belong to you Try also for some that belong to the opponents....

One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts.

A player who can't defend accurately should try to be declarer.

Women play the game of Bridge as they play any game, they don't realise it's a war.

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Some Nice Ladies Playing Bridge

### 25 YEARS

Michelle Pothecary - one of our ever accommodating kitchen staff - has actually been with QCBC for 25 years this year. Found on the Internet – Tula is somewhere in Russia. This article has been translated from Russian.

# History of Bridge Club in Tula

It is unknown whether people play Bridge in Tula at Tsars' time. Nobody knows were in Tula Bridge players in communists regime or not. But today we are certain: Yes, there is Bridge Club in Tula now.

Bridge club was founded by gradute students of <u>Tula</u> <u>Polytechnical Institute (now Tula State University</u>). They were caught by this hard and new for them card game. They don't know exact rules, they teach each other, they skip their lessons, but they made basement for developing of Bridge in Tula.

Officially Bridge Club of Tula was registered April 26, 1989. Great support and first club room was provided by Committee of Young Communist League. From '89 Bridge Club changed it's location several times. But we stand firm and **continue to play Bridge**.

### I LOVE STATISTICS

**Truscott's paradox:** In the September 1988 edition of Bridge World, noted bridge writer Alan Truscott put forward a simple 3-trick end-game in bridge. Each player has 3 cards, all being diamonds. North, who is dummy, holds A53 in that suit, having discarded the 2 earlier. East has QJ4 and is on lead. Which card should he lead? Truscott suggests that a beginner might play the Q, a better player the 4 and an expert a random choice between the Q and J. Finally he has no conclusion, leaving it as a paradox. Anyone familiar with game theory would take a randomised view, assuming that East plays the Q, J or 4 with probabilities p, q and 1 - p - q.

The problem is not well posed. In order to start thinking about it mathematically, let us suppose there is no information gleaned from the bidding and early play which allows any of the 3 active players to deviate from an assumption that "the 6 cards I do not see are distributed totally randomly amongst the other two players". This would often be an unrealistic assumption in a real bridge game, since the actions of the players to that stage can make some holdings more or less likely.

Put ourselves in East's shoes first, as Truscott does. East reasons that if West holds either the K or the 10, it does not matter what East leads. So East restricts his thinking to the cases where South holds K10x (x = 9, 8, 7 or 6). We must now put ourselves in South's shoes in each of these 4 cases.

Holding K109, South wins 3 tricks if East leads the 4 from QJ4 (because he will clearly play the 10 or 9 on the 4 lead, even though he doesn't know East's other cards) but has two choices of play if East leads the Q or J:

- win with the K and finesse West for the other honour;
- win with the A and finesse East for the other honour.

Holding K108, only the second of these ploys is rational for South on an honour lead, but he has choices should East lead a low card (such as the 4).

 play the 10 hoping to make 3 tricks (if East led low from QJx, x<9);</li> • play the 8 hoping to make 3 tricks (if East led low from Q9x, x=7 or 6).

Holding K10x, x=7 or 6, South's only play with a low lead is the 10, hoping that East led from QJx (instead of the other holdings Qxx, Jxx or xxx).

We see that when East starts to consider South's strategic reasoning, he is forced to think how an East with Q9x, or one of the Qxx, Jxx or xxx holdings, would play, even though he **knows** that he does not have such a holding. An East with Q9x (say) would start to consider all the South holdings which are relevant to Q9x-strategies, and these contain holdings other than K10x -- a wider set than on East's initial line of thinking! Likewise for an East with Qxx, Jxx or xxx!

The situation snowballs and we soon find ourselves considering a complete matrix of possibilities -- all 84 possible East holdings each with 3 options of card to play <u>and</u> all 84 possible South holdings each with 3 cards -- in a "block" matrix similar to that in the Odds & Evens problem.

So now we get an 84 x 84 matrix of "3 x 3 payoff blocks" which, if written in "normal form" would result in a  $3^{84}$  x  $18^{84}$  matrix.

Why 18, you may ask, as if 3<sup>84</sup> is not big enough? Because South plays after seeing East's card! So for each of the possible leads from East (6 are feasible from South's viewpoint due to his knowledge of dummy and his own hand), South has a potentially different randomisation over his 3 choices of play at trick 11. (His later options seem to be an issue also, but his play on trick 12 is automatic given decisions and outcomes for trick 11.)

Even allowing some grouping of cases and the fact that many cases will be trivially simple, the mind boggles at the combination of detail and tedium involved! And the explosive size of the numbers involved!

And this is a trivial problem, compared to most bridge problems! To my knowledge, nobody has found p and q for the Truscott problem. This is understandable given that in order to get p and q one must actually find 588 pairs of (p,q) values -- 84 pairs to describe East's strategic behaviour and 84 x 6 pairs for South's (albeit with some obvious cases reducing the number of unknowns a little.) (from Professor Richard Cowan's internet maths page)



Zoe trying to work out Michael's bidding against the Woolley's

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