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CLUB

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SWANBOURNE

*A very merry Christmas and
Happy Holidays to all at WABC*



Inside: your Holiday reading:

- ♪ Melbourne Cup Photos*
- ♪ Christmas Congress Report*
- ♪ Articles from Peter Smith, Richard Fox,
Maura Rhodes*



Editorial



In the last three months of 2011, much has been happening at our bridge club. After a well attended and successful AGM in October the club has a new president, Chris Bagley and a new committee. This committee has rapidly and efficiently taken charge of all the activities in our busy club. We have had an outstanding Melbourne Cup Bridge Day and Luncheon which was a lot of fun for those attending. More recently the club again hosted another successful Christmas Congress. Articles and photographs of these events are reported later in this edition.

Throughout this year and since recent changes in the management team at the club, I have had many comments from both members and non members alike, commenting on the excellence of both the bridge and social activities of our club. We are all most fortunate to be able to enjoy such great facilities in such a fantastic location.

The bridge and the social activities, however, cannot take place without a lot of work behind the scenes. Managing a club which is almost full of people 6 or 7 days a week is an onerous task. All our committee members and dozens of



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volunteer helpers work very hard to ensure that everything runs so smoothly. Our sincere thanks go out to all those willing volunteers.

The Editorial Team of Trumps Plus wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

John Rigg



President's Report



At our Annual General Meeting on the 11th October 2011 we farewelled Alison Rigg as Club President. Alison was elected President at the 2008 Annual General Meeting and has given wonderful service to the Club in the past three years. We are sad to see her go from the Presidency, and in particular I am sad to see the end of her term, but she will not be gone from the Club that she loves and we will continue to see her at the bridge tables and in the social room.

The Annual General Meeting also elected a new Committee and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the members.

The new Secretary is Gwen Wiles. Gwen was also elected Vice President by the Committee. She was appointed to the Committee in March, 2010 and was Secretary in 2010-11. She has been very active in the social area, convening a number of events and assisting with the running of others

The new Treasurer is Kitty George. She was appointed to the Committee in March 2009 and has also been very active in the social area, convening many events and assisting with the running of others. She acted as assistant Treasurer in 2010-11 and was a member of the Constitution sub-committee.

Members of the 2010 Committee re-elected this year include John Aquino,

David Burn, and Jenny Bosich. John was a member of the Tournament Committee in 2010-11 and will be Convenor of that Committee this year. He was also a member of the Constitution sub-committee. David has become involved in directing during the past year and also took over the role of Master Point Secretary for the Club. Jenny has been very active in managing the bar since she took over from Rhona Barton and will continue to carry that burden in 2011-12. She has also been a considerable contributor to our various social activities.

New members of the Committee include Alan Dundas, Jean Field, Kate Pinniger, and Jo Sklarz. We welcome them to the Committee and look forward to working with them.

A long standing member of the Committee has continued her membership, but in a new capacity. In past years Sheenagh Young has been an elected member of the Committee but as the Constitution sub-committee decided that the Executive Officer of the Club should be an ex-officio member of the Committee Sheenagh is now an ex-officio member of the Committee. We look forward to continuing to receive her forthright and well considered contributions.

In welcoming new members we also farewell old members. Rhona Barton was a member of the Committee for three years and did much of the early work in

getting the bar to run efficiently, as well as being a tireless contributor to our social events. Laurie Bonadeo was a member for two years and was always a source of wisdom at our meetings, as well as contributing to the efficient operation of our facilities.

As a final note on committee matters I would like to congratulate John Aquino on his appointment as BAWA Executive Officer. John takes over from our Friday Director and Tournament Committee member, John Beddow, who has given many, many years service to the Association.

The arrival of the new Committee foreshadows the release of the 2012 Handbook and Calendar. Details are being finalised at present but the Calendar has been slightly re-organised to spread our events more evenly across the year. Two particular events deserve mention. The first is the Western Seniors Pairs Championship, an Australian Bridge Federation event, which will be held on the weekend of the 19th and 20th of May, 2012. As a result of hosting this event the normal Club Saturday session will not be held on that weekend. The Tournament Committee regrets that members will not have their usual Saturday session available, but the financial benefits to the Club of hosting the event are significant, and the event also brings considerable prestige to the Club as well as supporting bridge in Western Australia. Hosting this event will mean that there will be three BAWA/ABF events at the Club during 2011-12; the Swan River Swiss Pairs, the HGR Memorial Congress, and the Western Seniors Championship, each of which provides significant financial benefit to the Club.

The second event in the new calendar that I would like to mention is the inaugural Anniversary Congress, which

we will hold in February. Although details are not finalised yet, we expect it will be a “graded” competition, with two or three sessions accommodating different standards of bridge expertise. Watch for details in January.

The 2011 Calendar is running to its close. As I write we have just concluded the Christmas Congress. Once again Kitty George has done an outstanding job, convening a very smoothly run event. Our thanks go to her, her team of many volunteers, and Directors Bill Kemp and Dave Parham. The next event at the Club this year, and final event for the year, is the Club’s 2011 Christmas Party. This is a popular event where we celebrate our competition winners for the year and I look forward to seeing you all there.

As I foreshadowed in my Treasurer’s report to the Annual General Meeting, the Committee has decided to establish a new Committee: the Finance Committee. The inaugural Chair of the Committee will be Kitty George, our Treasurer, and inaugural members will include Alan Dundas, Nerilyn Mack and David Woodliff. The Committee will hold its first meeting in December.

Finally, please accept my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. I believe the Club has had an excellent year and I thank all those who have contributed to our success. May 2012 be even better.

Chris Bagley



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011



Our popular retiring president Alison Rigg receiving a bouquet of appreciation and much applause at the AGM



Alison hands over the gavel to our new President: Chris Bagley.



Thanks and appreciation gifts also given to retiring committee members: Rhona Barton and Laurie Bonadeo.



TIM SERES: Australia's Master of Deception

Problem 30

This deal was published in the Sunday Mail (Adelaide) on 15th November 1958 and is yet another example of the Seres magic.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
Seres			
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2D	Pass	7NT	Pass
Pass	Double		All Pass

The contract: 7NTx played by South
The lead: D J

S. AK102
H. 1095
D KQ
C. AQ42
N

S
S. QJ4
H. AQ4
D. A862
C. KJ10

There is not much missing, but it does sound as though West has it all. How does South play to make this contract?



Hats



MELBOURNE CUP 2011

And more hats.....



This year the ladies made a particular effort with some lovely hats and outfits gracing the room. In particular, Sheila Curlewis looked superb in her Chanel suit and matching hat and Peggy Hogan was so elegant in her beautiful white picture hat and white dress with black trim. Other delightful outfits were worn by Janis Cain, Kitty George, Mira Erskine, Jemmy Bosich and Jo Dundas. And....let's not forget the men. Des Cain was very dapper in his trilby hat and Alan Dundas sparkled in his top hat reminiscent of Dr. Seuss. There was an atmosphere of anticipation when everybody arrived and the members were not disappointed. Great food, door prizes, wonderful helpers, and, of course, the Georges' famous sweep rounded out a perfect day. "Dunedan" produced a number of cheers when the race had been run and then we all made our way into the playing area for a great afternoon of bridge with interesting bidding.

Gwen Wiles



MELBOURNE CUP 2011





STATE MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONS

Toby Manford and John Ashworth have added another laurel to their already distinguished collection of trophies – a third State Mixed Pairs championship. It's a tribute to 38 years of playing together – as partners, rivals and team members – that the old magic works as ever. After just 'scraping into the final' they played their best bridge in the last three weeks to come out on top. A fitting place for one of WABC's most enduring and successful partnerships.

Hans Rosendorff arranged John and Toby's first game together in the early 1980s at his son Nigel's Bridge Club at Broadway Fair. Soon after in 1982 John captained the State Women's team which much to their surprise included Toby and Sue Clements. Both John and Toby have won many notable championships and congresses together and with other partners as a look at the WABC Honour Boards will attest. Nowadays they have the occasional club game when one of Toby's regular partner's can't play. It keeps their hand in. There is no doubt the Manford/Ashworth combination is still a force to be reckoned with in State bridge. So what do they put their successes down to? In the 2011 State Mixed Pairs final John says they were lucky to find the right lie of the cards turning a few hands that could easily have been bottoms into tops. Toby says it was because John didn't growl at her. Perhaps it was a little well-wishing from above: John won this championship with Toby's mother Dorothy Krantz in 1965! Whatever the reason their success was popular and well-earned. We congratulate them both on being the champs yet again.

Valerie Krantz

PATRON'S CUP WINNER 2011



**Mabs McCulloch Trophy winner for
2011: Bobbie Mitchell**



**Winners of the Evening Open Pairs:
Sheenagh Young & Peter
Holloway**



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR PRIZE WINNERS FOR 2011

EVENT:	WINNER(S)	RUNNER(S)-UP
Individual:	Pepe Schwegler	John Rigg
Womens Pairs:	Jan Blight & Doreen Jones	Joan Carter & Claudine Charters
Handicap Pairs	Marie Musitano & Eileen Reilly	Sue Gammon & Louise Martin
Mixed Pairs	Carol & Derek Pocock Pat King & Richard Fox	Tie for first Place
Novice Pairs	Pauline Kelly & Betty Evans	Vanessa Floyd & Corinne Onesti
Charles Pearce Cup	Kim Magann & Jan Berg	Cilla Butler & Anne Pickard
Open Pairs Daytime	Maura Rhodes & Fiske Warren	Christine Boylson & Ursula Harper
Open Pairs Evening	Sheenagh Young & Peter Holloway	Inga Hunt & Clive Hunt

Most Improved	Helen Hellsten
Thursday Aggregate WINNER	Gwen Wiles

JACKPOT WINNERS	
Fri Am Jackpot	Rhona Barton & Mal Clark
Fri Jackpot	John Aquino & Geoff Yeo
Sat Jackpot	John Ashworth & Fiske Warren
Mon Am Jackpot	Richard Basham & John Snell
Mon Pm Jackpot	Barbara Riddle & Pat Rosser
Tue Jackpot	Margarita Hughes & Fiske Warren
Wed Jackpot	Pat Martell & Joan Nunn
Wed Evening Jackpot	Chris Bagley & Lynne Milne
Thu Jackpot	Alan Dundas & Peter Sumner

WABC MEMBERS HIT THE JACKPOT



Thursday Jackpot Winners: Alan Dundas and Peter Sumner



Saturday Jackpot winners: Fiske Warren and John Ashworth.
Tuesday Jackpot winners: Fiske Warren and Margarita Hughes.



Friday AM Jackpot Winners: Mal Clark and Rhona Barton



Wednesday Evening Jackpot winners: Lynne Milne and Chris Bagley



Wednesday Jackpot Winners: Pat Martell & Joan Nunn

A winning Partnership

Monday morning partners: RICHARD BASHAM AND JOHN SNELL

A friendship that spans more than 60 years led to recent success at the bridge table.

Richard Basham and John Snell met on their first day at Scotch College in 1950, both aged 12. As young boys eagerly anticipating life at their new school, they were unaware a lasting bond would form that has endured six decades and resulted in the men becoming the winning pair for the Monday Morning Session.

Both young men would graduate from senior school and enter the world of accounting and finance respectively. Their successful business careers would see them living interstate and overseas as family men during the 70's and 80's but both found time for their passion for golf. On their return to Perth in the early 90's both returned to playing at Cottesloe Golf Club and as well as being frequent playing pairs in competition, they were also joint handicappers for the club.

This long standing friendship was further cemented through their love of bridge and a mutual determination to improve their game.

As a child John had been introduced to bridge by his maternal grandmother and in the 60's with his young wife Dianne had lessons with Mr Bromilow. However,

family and business allowed little time to master the game. Then after returning to Perth in the 90's John & Di renewed their interest through lessons with Peter Smith.

Richard encouraged by his wife, Glenis took lessons too and saw the game as a good pastime to enjoy with friends, preferably with a glass of wine on hand! Over the years John and Richard have spent many fulfilling hours playing at the Weld Club on Tuesdays and more recently as a successful partnership at



WABC.

Both men have been keen to improve their game and become more competitive and they have been rewarded for their efforts.

Richard and John also share an interest in boating and a passion for good wine, and over the past decade they have spent many a "Boy's" Weekend out of Perth indulging in a combination of -

bridge, golf, fishing and good wine! All pastimes generally involving a fair degree of competition!

Both men are very impressed with the ambiance of WABC, the smooth running organisation of the club and complimented the President and Committee on doing an excellent job.

Helen Seward



FOURTH-HIGHEST LEADS AND RELATED MATTERS



Most bridge players learn early on about leading fourth-highest from a long suit headed by at least one honour, especially against no trump contracts. Essentially, leading a low card promises an honour.

Unfortunately, after hearing this advice, many players then misapply it, when from a suit such as Q-J-10-8-2, they lead the eight instead of the queen and find themselves losing a trick unnecessarily to the nine. This is why I never mention fourth-highest to my students before emphasising leading the top card from a sequence, which takes precedence over any other consideration when leading. That aside, what is so sacred about leading fourth-highest otherwise?

The Rule of Eleven

Occasionally it can be useful as a defender to apply the Rule of Eleven. This works as follows: subtract the number of the card led from eleven; the result tells you how many cards higher than that card there will be in the remaining three hands if the lead is genuinely fourth-highest. Knowledge of this rule has spawned many of the principles which have become standard for the play by Third Hand and are second nature to experienced players.

Example 1

	Dummy	
	♥ Q 9 3	
Partner		You
♥ 5		♥ A 10 7

South has bid no trumps after hearing West bid hearts, raised by you as East. Partner leads the ♥5 against South's 3NT. Assuming the lead is fourth-highest, the Rule of Eleven tells us to subtract partner's lead, the five, from eleven, leaving six cards higher than the five in the three remaining hands (North, East and South). East can see two of those cards in dummy and three in hand, leaving just one for South, which in this case should be the king. Therefore when declarer plays the three from dummy East should contribute just the seven, not the ten. This play is critical in saving a trick; here is the full suit:

	Dummy	
	♥ Q 9 3	
Partner		You
♥ J 8 6 5 2		♥ A 10 7
	♥ K 4	

Declarer takes the seven with the ♥K but can make no more heart tricks. Had East played the ♥10 instead of the seven declarer can come to a second trick later by finessing the nine.

It's not just the defenders who can make use of the Rule of Eleven.

Example 2

North
♠ A J 10
♥ 10 9 7 4
♦ A K Q 2
♣ A J

**FOURTH-HIGHEST LEADS
AND RELATED MATTERS**

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	Lead
	1♦	Pass	1NT	♠7
Pass	3NT	//		

Before reading on consider how you would play 3NT as South on the lead of the seven of spades from West.

The best hope for declarer is to establish clubs but care is required with entries, as the suit is blocked. It may seem obvious to play low from dummy on the spade lead and accept the free finesse, but as usual, declarer should first analyse the opponent's lead by applying the Rule of Eleven.

Subtracting seven from eleven gives us four, but as we can already see **five** cards higher than the seven in both dummy and our hand, the lead does not tally with being fourth-highest. We therefore assume that West has a spade holding which lacks the queen. If we play low on the opening lead East's ♠Q will force out the king. Now it will be impossible to establish clubs, as there is no vital re-entry to South's long suit.

The winning play is to rise with dummy's ace of spades, knowing that the finesse can be taken later anyway if necessary.

Now lead the ♣A, then the ♣J, overtaking with the ♣Q to make sure of continuing the suit in case the opponents hold up the ♣K. This is the best way to make sure of three club tricks. Add to that three top diamonds (with the possibility of a fourth on a 3-3 break), and three spades if required (with the aid of the finesse), or even a long heart trick being set up by the defence when they're in and the contract will be easily made - losing just one club and three hearts along the way.

Here's the whole hand:

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

Note that West's lead of the ♠7 is the second-highest from four low ones, rather than the ♠4, which would promise an honour.

Counting Partner's Suit Length

The most practical way that fourth-highest leads are valuable to the defenders is in being able to count partner's length in a suit. For example, the opening lead of a two denies a five card suit, whereas if a

**FOURTH-HIGHEST LEADS
AND RELATED MATTERS**

two is played on the second round after a fourth-highest lead it must confirm at least five. Try your hand as East, defending 4♥ on this deal.

Example 3

♠ 10 4 3
♥ A J 2
♦ 7 6
♣ A K J 9 6

♠ A K J
♥ 8 3
♦ A 9 4
♣ 10 5 4 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	Lead
	1NT	Pass	4♥ //	♠5

Against South's 4♥ your partner, West, leads the ♠5: the three is played from dummy, you win the king, and declarer plays the six. When you continue with the ♠A, South plays the eight, partner the two, and dummy the four. Before reading on consider what you would do next.

Assuming the lead of the ♠5 to be fourth-highest, partner's play of the ♠2 on the second round of the suit confirms an original five card holding. This means that South won't have another spade, so rather than just blindly returning the ♠J, a switch is indicated. At trick three the play of the four of diamonds may give declarer a nasty guess. Here is the full deal:

♠ 10 4 3

♥ A J 2
♦ 7 6
♣ A K J 9 6

♠ Q 9 7 5 2
♥ 4
♦ Q 8 5 3 2
♣ Q 7

♠ A K J
♥ 8 3
♦ A 9 4
♣ 10 5 4 3 2

♠ 8 6
♥ K Q 10 9 7 6 5
♦ K J 10
♣ 8

Unless the defence switches to diamonds declarer will have an easy run, establishing clubs for three diamond discards. If declarer mis-guesses diamonds, playing the jack, the contract goes down.

Several further points are worth making. Firstly, this defence would be indicated particularly if playing Teams, where defeating the contract is of prime importance and conceding overtricks is of less consequence. At Duplicate, however, simply cashing the ace of diamonds is recommended to avoid the risk of handing declarer an overtrick when the ♦A doesn't cash later. This gives up on the chance of defeating the contract if partner has just the ♦Q but will still succeed if partner has the ♦K. The other main point of interest is that your chances of declarer going wrong on a low diamond return are much better as long as you didn't hesitate at all with your featureless 12 count over the 1NT opening. Any pause may allow declarer to read you too easily for the ♦A and

immediately go up with the king.

Here's another variation in defence.

Example 4

♠ Q 7
 ♥ K 4 3 2
 ♦ Q 8 7
 ♣ A Q 7 3

♠ 6 5
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ A J 9 2
 ♣ K 9 4 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	Lead
			1♠	♦3
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	
Pass	4♥	//		

Against South's 4♥ contract your partner, West, leads the ♦3. Before reading on plan your defence.

Firstly, can partner's lead be a singleton? No, as that would mean South has five diamonds, which is inconsistent with the bidding. So we know that partner has an honour, which should be the king, as most players these days don't treat the ten as an honour for the purposes of leading. So we play the ♦J on the first trick, confident that it will win. From here it's about getting the mix of tricks right to defeat the contract as you can see potential winners in three suits in your hand. We should be aware that a lead like this won't always be from a four card suit, as a three card holding in an unbid suit can also be attractive. To cater for everything the key move now is to return the ♦2, your own original fourth-highest. (With one less diamond it would be correct to continue with the ♦A, not the two, playing high-low

from two remaining cards.)

The point of returning a low diamond is for partner to win with the ♦K and then figure out what to do. With an original three card diamond holding West would realise that simply returning another diamond would be indicated, as declarer, who has shown at least 5-4 in the majors, could by then have at most one club - making it pointless to try that suit. However, with an original four card diamond holding, partner will know that another round of diamonds won't cash and a switch to clubs may be the only hope. Here is the full deal:

♠ Q 7
 ♥ K 4 3 2
 ♦ Q 8 7
 ♣ A Q 7 3

♠ 10 4 3 2
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ K 10 5 3
 ♣ J 8 5

♠ 6 5
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ A J 9 2
 ♣ K 9 4 2

♠ A K J 9 8
 ♥ A 10 9 8
 ♦ 6 4
 ♣ 10 6

Unless the defence sets up the ♣K early on declarer is able to simply cash two top trumps then run the long spades, taking three club discards from dummy, and leaving East to trump in at any time with the master trump.

The defenders aren't the only ones who should watch each other's plays carefully.

Example 5

♠ K 2
 ♥ J 7 3
 ♦ A Q J 10 4 2
 ♣ A 8

♠ Q J 10
 ♥ A 9
 ♦ K 9 7 3
 ♣ Q J 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	Lead
			1NT	♥4
Pass	3NT	//		

You are South in 3NT. On West's lead of the ♥4 you play low from dummy, and when East contributes the ♥10 you duck. East then returns the ♥K, taken by your ace and West follows with the ♥2. Before reading on plan your play.

Declarer has eight top tricks and must find a ninth. West's carding in hearts tells us the suit is breaking 5-3, so East-West can't be let in again. This rules out playing spades, so the only hope is in clubs. Even though it's tempting to run all the diamonds and hope to put the opponents under pressure, that will leave us unable to finesse in clubs later as the lead will be in dummy. Therefore only cash as many as four diamonds first if you like, finishing in hand, and then lead the ♣Q and pray that West has the king.

Here's the full deal:

♠ K 2
 ♥ J 7 3
 ♦ A Q J 10 4 2
 ♣ A 8

♠ 8 7 5 4
 ♥ Q 8 6 4 2
 ♦ 6
 ♣ K 9 5

♠ A 9 6 3
 ♥ K 10 5
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ 10 7 6 4

♠ Q J 10
 ♥ A 9
 ♦ K 9 7 3
 ♣ Q J 3 2

Had declarer tried spades instead, even leading the ♠2 from dummy, East should be ready to pounce with the ♠A and return a heart.

Note that a canny West could cause you more difficulty by following with the six of hearts on the second round rather than the ♥2, which gave a clear read-out of the 5-3 break after the opening lead of the ♥4. In that case declarer should also take account of East's unblocking carding in hearts, which is strongly suggestive of an original three card holding, and therefore should still play the same way.





Fortune Favours the Brave

at the WABC Christmas Congress by Maura Rhodes



The annual WABC Christmas Congress is the last Congress of the year and what a splendid event it was! 95 Pairs played on the Friday, perhaps attracted by the legendary feast provided by the members. The spread lived up to its reputation, with lots of lovely home-made goodies to tempt and delight.

I played in the Friday session with my regular Friday partner, Fiske Warren. We bid aggressively and it paid off. Here is one of hands where Fiske was rewarded for his excellent judgment in a competitive bidding situation:

penalty or take-out? Or asking for a stopper? Regular pairs should have agreements on matters such as these. If Fiske and I had been East/West, West would have doubled 3D, which is showing a game-going hand and asking Partner to do something sensible. East would have shown his crucial stopper in Diamonds by rebidding 3NT.

At our table, the bidding proceeded:

East	South(Maura)	West	North (Fiske)
1NT	Pass	2C	3D
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Fiske went off one off in 3D but it was a very good save, although not without risk, against their 3NT. Boards such as this helped us to win the N/S field on the day, while the E/W field was won by Jonathan Free and Ross Harper.

Kitty George convened the Congress brilliantly, with the help of Gwen Wiles and many others behind the scenes. Bill Kemp was the very popular Director-thank you, all and have a very merry Christmas.

Board 18
Dir: E
Vul: N-S

♠ 64
♥ AQJ
♦ KQ6532
♣ 84

♠ AJ52
♥ T75
♦ J
♣ AJT53

♠ T9873
♥ K98
♦ 987
♣ 62

♠ KQ
♥ 6432
♦ AT4
♣ KQ97

12
11 14
3

Pretend that you and your partner are sitting in the East/West seats and East opens an Acol 1NT. South passes and West responds 2C, which is Stayman. North now comes in with an overcall of 3D, which is passed back to West. What do you do? What are your systemic agreements? What is double? Is it



Christmas Congress

The first weekend in December saw WABC's Christmas Congress, the final congress in our bridge year. Although some of us will breathe a sigh of relief, it is a much anticipated and enjoyed event by all who attend. We had a record number of tables on Friday and I am sure they were all coming for the afternoon tea! Truly it gets better every year. Thank you Jocelyn Parry for rallying the troops and thank you to all the many contributors. It was a beautiful table of treats and we were able to enjoy the surplus on Saturday – just as delicious!

The success of events like these rely on the time given so generously by many volunteers and I would like to thank you all. Jennifer Saunders, Pip Thomson and Barbara Hughes manned the kitchen, Judith Wilson and Dave Parham ferried lunch orders and the “3 Husbands” (Chris Wiles, Terry Youngs and Ross George) did a sterling job on the barbeque. As usual, the bar service was superbly handled by Tom Wheatley, Hazel Elliott, Pat King, Mal Clark, Rhona Barton, Gwen Wiles, Lynn Milne and Anne Youngs. It was a very warm weekend and we all were very thirsty at the end of play each day. The bar was a popular place.

Although Jean Field and Jenny Bosich were unable to be at the Congress they both worked hard in the preliminary organization and left us well prepared. And to my right and left hands Sheenagh Young and Gwen Wiles for your special efforts as usual – the biggest thank you of all.

And now to the results where you will see our own Annabel Booth featuring in the prizes every day. No wonder her Supervised Sessions are going from strength to strength.

Kitty George

CONGRESS RESULTS

Friday Pairs:

North South

- 1st. Fiske Warren, Maura Rhodes
- 2nd. Leon Randolph, Alexandra Russell
- 3rd. Heather Williams, Sue Pynt
- 4th. Peter Gill, Peter Holloway

East West

- 1st. Ross Harper, Jonathan Free
- 2nd. Noeleen Law, Annabel Booth
- 3rd. Mike and Helen George
- 4th. Sheenagh Young, Gwen Wiles

Saturday Pairs

North South

- 1st. Thilak Ranasinghe, David Schokman
- 2nd. Annabel Booth, Alison Rigg
- 3rd. Helene Kolozs, Anne Youngs
- 4th. Cynthia Belonogoff, Pauline Hammond

East West

- 1st. Claudine and David Charters
- 2nd. Louis Klein, Judy Havas
- 3rd. Egmont Melton, John Beddow
- 4th. Mal Clark, Shelley Allen



Best Unplaced WABC Pair

Friday: Derek and Carol Pocock
Saturday: Vanessa Floyd,
Ewa Lipnicki

Best Under State Pair

Friday: Patrick Cooney
and Liz Kaye-Eddy
Saturday: Britt and Bruce Baird

Sunday Teams

- 1ST: C Belonogoff, D Schokman,
P Hammond, T Ranasinghe
- 2nd: H Wichmann, N Law,
S Futaesaku, V Wood
- 3rd: C Ross, J Hey, J Valentine,
W Piller
- 4th: A Booth, J Del Piccolo,
K Smith, L Shiels
- 5th: C Hood, D Jones, H Williams,
J Blight

Presidents Pairs

- 1st: Lise Bank, Mary Johnston
- 2nd: June Browne, Audrey Stokes



THIRD
NORTH SOUTH
Heather
Wil l i a m s
(Sue Pynt)



FOURTH
EAST WEST
Gwen Wil es
(Sheenagh
Young)

FRIDAY



FIRST NORTH SOUTH:
Fiske Warren, Maura Rhodes



SECOND EAST WEST:
Annabel Booth, Noel een Law,



SECOND NORTH SOUTH
Leon Randolph,
Alexandra Russell



THIRD EAST WEST:
Mike and Helen George

saturday



first
NORTH SOUTH
Thilak Ranasinghe, David Schokman



Second
NORTH SOUTH
Annabel Booth, Alison Rigg



Fourth
NORTH SOUTH
Cynthia Belonogoff, Pauline Hammond

Sunday teams



Winning team
Tilak Ranasinghe, Cynthia Belonogoff, David Schokman,
Pauline Hammond

Sunday teams



Second

Noelene Law, Suzie Futaesaku, Viv Wood, H Wichmann



third

Wilhemina Piller, Christine Ross, Joan Valentine, (Jeanne Hey)



fourth

Lauren Shiels, Kate Smith, Annabel Booth, Jill Del Piccolo,



*ALSO
SEEN
AT THE
CONGRESS*



THE WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB

THE PLATE

RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS

To be held at the
WABC CLUB ROOMS 7 ODERN CRESCENT SWANBOURNE

SUNDAY 25TH MARCH 2012

COMMENCING 10.00am
(A short explanation of the format will be given prior to play)

TOURNAMENT ORGANISER: KITTY GEORGE kitty.george@bigpond.com 9447 5303

DIRECTOR: Neville Walker 0418 944 077

ENTRIES VIA

BAWA Website www.bawa.asn.au

WABC Website www.wabridgeclub.com.au

WABC email bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au

Or telephone 9284 4144

Orders will be taken before 10am for those wishing to purchase lunches
supplied by Kirkwood Deli

PLAYERS MUST HAVE 0 – 100 MASTERPOINTS as at 1st Jan 2011

RED POINTS and PRIZES

ENTRY FEE \$25 per player

ALL PAIRS MUST HAVE 2 IDENTICAL COMPLETED SYSTEM CARDS
(arrive early and we will supply the cards and help you fill them in)

PRIZE GIVING, DRINKS & NIBBLES AT COMPLETION OF PLAY



LIBRARY NOTES



By *Valkrantz*

Sheenagh Young has come up trumps with an eye-popping poster to advertise our new magazine policy. You can now take home a single issue of *Australian Bridge* and the *Bridge Magazine* for one week. You'll find them on the racks opposite the Results Boards or in the library in pamphlet boxes at the far end of the shelves. Both have brief but excellent articles by top bridge writers. If you'd like to borrow one see Sheenagh in the Office.

While we're on that subject, the August/September copy of *Australian Bridge* is missing and has been for some months. If anyone has inadvertently taken it home I'd be really pleased to see it back. It costs us \$20 and some trouble to replace. One of our few non-bridge books Reader's Digest *How to do just about anything on a computer* was donated early this year, at David Burn's request. It lasted a few days on the computer table then has not been sighted since. Very disappointing but I hope it too will come back.

Some members may be confused by what is library and what is fiction donated for sale on the book table outside the office. The library shelves, to the left of the door, are arranged by author. All have a book number on the spine – the first three letters of the author's surname – and are stamped with the WABC stamp. They have a borrowers' card inside the front cover. To take a book out you fill in a card and leave it behind as a record of your loan, keep it for up to a month then slip it into

the Returns Box or renew it through a committee member. The Returns Box is locked: when you drop a book back we sign it off. If you have any problems ask one of the committee. There's a list of their names on the shelf doors.

One of the functions of our library is to keep records of the Club's history. *Trumps Plus* is a very important part of that history and Dorothy Cain has been organising our almost complete collection, many of the older ones going back to 1960 and donated by John Ashworth. They are now neatly filed in loose-leafed folders with issues since 2008 bound and on the shelves.

Our library is probably the best club collection in WA. We have about 650 books on bridge from old classics to the most recent publications, all available for loan. As you know it is based on trust. There's not much use having a library if it is locked away but we do have some losses. We hope members will help us to keep them to a minimum.

Thanks are due to the committee who kept the library running smoothly through 2011. Jill Mowson keeps an eagle eye on overdue, Dorothy Cain takes care of magazines, Rhona Barton represents us on the Management Committee and Jan Cain and I do bits and pieces of everything. We are more than happy to welcome Alison Rigg to our committee for 2012.

Hot summer days make for good bridging in air-conditioned comfort so enjoy and have a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Try a sea change at Noosa

By Helen Seward

In September, my bridge partner Sue Benney and I travelled to the Sunshine Coast for a break from our normal routine in Perth.

After exploring some of the natural wonders of this delightful area and many of the numerous restaurants on offer (we rated the Spirit House, Yandina our favourite!) we decided on a session at the Noosa Bridge Club.

The clubhouse is a charming Queensland style timber dwelling which in fact was originally a church hall that was moved to the present site and some necessary additions were made. It has resulted in a pleasant venue with a good ambiance. We were immediately made very welcome.

We were shown to a table and immediately felt we recognised one of our fellow players. It was in fact, Pat Wakeford who many members will remember as a keen player originally at Rosendorf's and later WABC.

Pat's transition from Perth to Noosa, reveals yet again how bridge can change your life! In 2008 Pat together with WABC members, Fay Cullen, Dymphna

Eley and Margaret Cameron participated in the Noosa Congress and of course they all had a great time.

Pat was so charmed by Noosa on her first visit that she returned many months later with her husband for a holiday and he too liked it immensely, so Noosa became a regular holiday destination for the Wakefords. After several trips to this area, Pat noticed that whilst she was plagued by respiratory problems in Perth, they were almost non-existent when she was at Noosa. So this factor plus an equally pleasant lifestyle led the Wakefords to make the decision to move there in March this year.

Whilst Pat was sad to leave Perth, she is now settled in a lovely home in Noosa, and her health has benefited greatly. Pat has become a keen member of NBC and

is enjoying the competition there, in fact she has just won the Novice Pairs Competition. Pat has also joined a tennis club and has a regular playing group.

So apart from meeting up with a familiar face, Sue & I had a very pleasant afternoon at the bridge club, we

enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea of home made cakes and we look forward to more holidays and bridge on the Sunshine Coast.

The Noosa Bridge Club has 300 members and 7 sessions a week and as Paul Marston wrote in 2010, "The NBC is one of the finest in the country. Located in a leafy park, it is run very smoothly by a talented group of volunteers." I urge any members holidaying there to visit, you will be made most welcome.



INTERMEDIATE TEAMS GRAND FINAL - WABC RED V GREEN

In a pleasing outcome for the club, both its red and green teams qualified for the 2011 intermediate teams grand final following wins by each against South Perth in the semi finals. After some good natured posturing about who was the home team and thus responsible for providing the supper, the two teams (Red - Chris Bagley & Lynne Milne/ Alison & John Rigg , and Green - John Aquino & Steven Pynt/ David Woodliff & Andrew Edwards) settled down to fight it out over 28 boards on a warm Wednesday evening.

In the end, Red team carried the day after a hard fought match and many interesting hands. Some of these will be featured in an article by Andrew in the March TP



RON KLINGER'S COLUMN (*solutions page 33*)

TRY THIS PROBLEM

South dealer : East-West vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	3C
4H	Pass	?	

What would you do as East with:
AK974
106
KQ84
Q9

www.ronklingerbridge.com





The Element of Luck

With Richard Fox



I'd just got back from England and was still a touch jet-lagged when I played with partner Cheryl in the Gold Coast Teams. The turnout was perhaps reduced due to the AFL Grand Final, a happy day for neutrals as Collingwood lost (sorry Magpie fans).

We started poorly, losing our first two rounds to pairs we should have had good chances against. Then the tide changed, and we started climbing up the league table.

A Skinny 3NT

In 3rd position I picked up **S** J 5 4 2 **H** A K 9 3 **D** K **C** 9 8 6 3, and heard 1C from partner (playing Standard American so this only promised 3 clubs), 1S from my right. I tried a negative double to show the hearts; partner might think I had something in diamonds and bid them, but I could always rescue back to clubs or NT. LHO passed and Cheryl rebid 2C. After a pass on my right, I had another try with 2NT.

I thought at the time that this was sane, although others might not. I figured partner might have bid 1NT with stuff in spades, she could have at most Qx or Qxx in hearts, and on a good day she would have 6 clubs to run, with room for say a half-stopper in diamonds and a 10 or Q of spades.

LHO now found a bid of 3D. He evidently had diamond length, but not enough high cards for a 2D change of suit over his partner's overcall. He probably also

didn't have much in spades. Even if partner's half-stopper in diamonds was only Jxx it would be working, so I dug the hole deeper and went 3NT. LHO led the 8D and sitting North this was the actual situation:

Dealer S Nil Vul	S J 5 4 2 H A K 9 3 D K C 9 8 6 3	3NT by North 8D lead
S K 10 8 7 3 H J 10 5 2 D Q 4 C Q 4		S Q H Q 6 D A J 9 8 7 5 3 2 C 7 5
	S A 9 6 H 8 7 4 D 10 6 C A K J 10 2	

I gulped a bit when I saw the diamond "stopper" I'd been banking on. When the lead ran round to my KD, I was back in with a shot. On the basis that East had longer diamonds and West longer spades, I guessed that the clubs would split evenly. No guarantees, but when my luck held I just claimed the 9 tricks: 5 clubs, a diamond and AK, A. This was worth 9 IMPs, and the only higher scores were two pairs who beat 5DX for +500.

East could have beaten the contract by a heap with the unnatural AD lead, so long as his partner unblocked the queen, otherwise the suit wouldn't run.

A Double Game Swing

We "Swissed" our way up the rankings

with several wins and faced Andy Braithwaite and Fred Whitaker at table 2. A couple of cold games and hard-fought part-scores later I was dealt the 5-point East hand.

South (Fred) passed, partner opened a Standard 1C, Andy overcalled a heart, and I bid 1S showing a 5-card suit. Fred also bid 1 heart – they generally use written bidding over here and the bidding boxes were causing some people stress. The director ruled it as an unintended bid, so Fred changed it to 2H. Cheryl was happy to raise to 2S, and Andy doubled showing a good hand for his overcall.

I'd have been delighted to play 2SX, but Fred pushed to 4H and I went 4S. Our double fit in clubs and spades and my heart void were gold, so my 5 points were looking very powerful. When the bidding returned to North he doubled, and Fred led a low heart. I ruffed and just banged out ace and another trump, since North rated to have the king.

Dealer S EW Vul	S K 4 H A K Q 9 5 D A 8 2 C 7 5 4	4Sx by North 5C lead
S A J 10 8 H 10 8 7 3 D J 9 C A Q J		S Q 9 7 6 3 H D 10 6 4 C K 9 8 3 2
	S 5 2 H J 6 4 2 D K Q 7 5 3 C 10 6	

North, on lead, didn't cash out his diamond, instead trying another heart. I was able to throw both diamonds on my clubs, although I didn't have enough trumps to ruff everything so I conceded one more trick. Doubled and plus one was a handy +990.

The lesson in teams/IMPs tactics here is how little it costs to double games. The doubled overtrick cost NS precisely one IMP, and the double itself was only one

more IMP. We'd have scored 12 IMPs for 4S making, 13 for 4SX on the nose, and -9 for letting them make 4H. What really cost was missing out on their own making game in hearts. Andy Braithwaite didn't have an option to pass 4S – he had to bid on or double, and with a flat hand and winners in 3 suits doubling looked reasonable.

A Doubled Grand Slam

After the last hand a small but quite lively crowd of kibitzers gathered round us. We don't usually attract so much attention, especially as they didn't know the last hand had been a dramatic one. We gave good value though:

Dealer E NS Vul	S K 9 7 6 4 2 H A K 10 9 7 6 2 D C	7Sx by South 5C lead
S A J H Q J 5 D 9 3 2 C 10 7 6 5 4		S 10 5 H 4 3 D J 6 4 C A K Q 9 8 2
	S Q 8 3 H 8 D A K Q 10 8 7 5 C J 3	

I opened East's hand with a 3C preempt, a pretty sound one by my standards at favourable vulnerability. Fred (South) overcalled 3H and Cheryl pushed on to 5C. Andy had a good think about how to bid his extraordinary hand, and finally smacked down a 6C bid. Once I saw his hand, I could see this was a very good bid, implying a club void and more or less insisting on playing slam in one of his suits. A double wouldn't have been such a good choice, as it might have been left in and might have been worth much less than a vulnerable slam.

Unfortunately for Andy, Fred got a bit

over-excited and gambled 7 spades. He was convinced partner would have had AK of spades but it was not to be. Cheryl doubled, and duly won her ace of trumps.

More thoughts on doubling: in West's position the double risks blowing a massive plus score. When a slam is bid constructively, doubling for one off may or may not even gain an IMP (this time it gained zero IMPs). The downside is if the opponents run and end up making. Imagine if North's hand contained the AC instead of a void, quite possible on the bidding, and he'd been able to run to 7NT. I might not have known which ace partner had and let the grand slam through. This particular situation was fairly safe as the double only made sense with the AS, but in principle it's safer to go quietly.

Strange game, here I am saying the double where we made +1 was a much better double than where we beat the contract.

Anyway, helped by our continuing luck we reached table 1 and scraped through the last round with a small win. This was just enough to win the congress by a VP, an underdogs' win as we were seeded in the Plate. If it happens to be your day, you never know what's possible...



The Rueful Rabbit

2011 Finale

The Club gardens have maintained reasonable colour as summer approaches.

Still flowering are kangaroo paws, Scaevola (white hand flower), native bluebell, several grevilleas, self-seeded everlastings, yellow Hibbertia, native rosemary and Melaleucas – both mauve and white.

A common misconception with native plants is “plant them and that’s that”. Far from true. Look at the beautiful developed gardens in King’s Park – regular water, fertilizer, pruning and additions. The Club gardens and courtyard need the same – any help with the latter would be welcomed. The Tipuana tree has shown recent good growth due to regular watering – and this means a good soak. So future helpers take note.

R. Rabbit Esq.

**NEW & REJOINING
CLUB MEMBERS
SEPTEMBER 2011 –
DECEMBER 2011**

**WE WARMLY WELCOME THE
FOLLOWING PLAYERS TO THE
MEMBERSHIP OF OUR CLUB**

OCTOBER

Kay Reed
Suzanne Atwell
Philippa Packer
Robert Heyes
Stan Wisniewski
Ian James
Ann Spiro
Terry Spiro
Shirley Bloch
Di McGregor
Penny Oldfield
Ajay Tandon
Emmett Barrett

NOVEMBER

Peter Packer
Beth Dallimore
Mary Bosman
Haydn Lowe

DECEMBER

Ravi Soin
Richard McKenna
Liz Richmond
Val Baird
Sue Palfrey
Elisa Fear

THOSE WE WILL REMEMBER

Patricia Verman



**SOLUTION TO THE
TIM SERES PROBLEM**
Play Bridge with Tim Seres

	S. AK102 H. 1095 C. AQ42 D. KQ	
S. 97 H. KJ86 D. J10943 C. 65	N W E S	S. 8653 H. 732 D. 75 C. 9873
	S. QJ4 H. AQ4 D. A862 C. KJ10	

Seres was one of many who reached 7NT on this deal. West (who had doubled) led the DJ. After dummy's queen won the first trick declarer cashed eight black winners discarding hearts, including the queen, from his hand. This was the position when the SK was led from dummy:

	S. (K) H. 1095 D. K C. ---	
S. --- H. KJ D.1094 ? C. ---	N W E S	S. (8) H. 732 D. 5 C. ---
	S. --- H. A (Q) D. A86 C. ---	

What does West play? His double was not looking good: he has been criss-cross squeezed. Declarer has overcome one blockage by creating another – the blocked heart menace. If West pitches a heart, Declarer plays to his HA picking up West's now bare HK then enters dummy with the DK to claim the last two

hearts. If West pitches a diamond, Declarer plays DK from dummy then enters the South hand with the HA to claim the last two diamonds. Contract doubled and made.



SOLUTION TO PROBLEM

FROM PAGE

This is from the 2011 Victor Champion Cup:

	652 98542 632 105	
103 AKQJ7 AJ107 K3		AK974 106 KQ84 Q9
	QJ8 3 95 AJ87642	

At our table it went:

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	3C
4H	Pass	Pass	Pass

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	3C
4H	Pass	5H	Pass
6H	Pass	Pass	Pass

A good guide for slam bidding: If partner has opened and made a jump rebid, then you are worth a try for slam if you have an opening hand.

In this case West's jump to 4H must be equivalent to an open bid + a jump rebid. Otherwise West would simply overcall 3H. East has an opening hand. Therefore East should try for slam.

Another guide: West's jump to 4H should be based on a 5-loser hand: East has 4 potential winners. That is enough to reduce West's losers to 1, so try for slam.

Or: West's 4H = 5 losers and very strong hearts. East has heart support and 7 losers (add 1 loser for having only two trumps). That is 12 losers and 24 - 12 loser = 12 potential winners.

East, Bill Jacobs of Melbourne, jumped to 5H, asking West to bid 6H with control in clubs. Ben Thompson, West, duly obliged. The play was routine for +1430 and +13 Imps.

Datum: E-W 830.

There were 6 pairs in 6NT making, 6 in 6H making and 5 in 6D making.





Diary dates 2012

GET YOUR PARTNERS ORGANISED
FOR THE NEW YEAR EVENTS

DATE	SESSION	NOTES
JANUARY		
Sunday 1		NEW YEARS DAY
Monday 2	Afternoon Duplicate only – 1:00 pm	NEW YEARS DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Monday 16	Open Red Point Monday Morning	SUMMER FESTIVAL STARTS - CANBERRA
	Open Red Point Monday	
Tuesday 17	Open Red Point Tuesday	
Wednesday 18	Open Red Point Wednesday	
	Open Red Point Wednesday Evening	
Thursday 19	Open Red Point Thursday	
Friday 20	Open Red Point Friday morning	
	Open Red Point Friday	
Saturday 21	Open Red Point Saturday	
Thursday 26	Afternoon Duplicate – 1:00 pm	AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Sunday 29		SUMMER FESTIVAL ENDS
Monday 30		
Tuesday 31		
FEBRUARY		
Sunday 5	Anniversary Congress: 10 am start	
Tuesday 7	Grand National Restricted Pairs 1 of 3	
Wednesday 8	Individual Championship 1 of 2 7:30pm	
Tuesday 14	Grand National Restricted Pairs 2 of 3	
Wednesday 15	Individual Championship 2 of 2- 7:30pm start	
Tuesday 21	Grand National Restricted Pairs 3 of 3	
Saturday 25		GOLD COAST CONGRESS STARTS - QLD
Sunday 26	New Member's Party	BY INVITATION ONLY



RED POINT EVENTS



GOLD POINT EVENTS



DUPLICATE SESSIONS

PO Box 591 Cottesloe 6911
7 Odern Cres, Swanbourne. Phone 9284 4144



MONDAY

Weekly Duplicate (no tea break) 9.15 – 12.00 (*NPH)
Weekly Duplicate 1.00 - 4.30 pm
Supervised Duplicate 12.30 – 3.15 pm
Introduction to Duplicate Bridge directed by Peter Smith. Players may come to the supervised session without a partner.

TUESDAY

Weekly Duplicate 1.00 – 4.30 pm

WEDNESDAY

Intermediate duplicate 11.30 – 3.00 pm

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Weekly Duplicate 7.30 – 11.00 pm
Supervised Duplicate 7.30 – 10.30 pm
Introduction to Duplicate Bridge. Players may come to this session without a partner.

THURSDAY

Weekly Duplicate 1.00 – 4.30 pm

FRIDAY

Weekly Duplicate 9.15 – 12.15 pm (NPH)
Supervised Duplicate 9.30 – 12.15 pm (NPH)
Introduction to Duplicate Bridge. Players may come to this session without a partner.

Weekly Duplicate 1.00 – 4.30 pm

SATURDAY

Weekly Duplicate. Duty Partner available 1.30 – 4.45 pm
Players requiring a partner must arrive 30 minutes before start of session and need to inform the Director on arrival.

**Not held on public holidays.*

CHRISTMAS DAY

NO SESSION

TABLE MONEY PER SESSION: \$6.00 Members, \$8.00 Visitors, \$3.00 Youth players

(SUPERVISED: \$7.00 Members, \$9.00 Visitors, \$3.00 Youth players)

All results posted at www.wabridgeclub.com.au. Licensed bar open after most sessions.





*THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE HELPERS AND PARTICIPANTS WHO
HAVE MADE EVERY EVENT THIS YEAR SUCH A SUCCESS.*

