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CLUB

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MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

*Inside: your Christmas break
reading:*

- ♥ *Melbourne Cup Photos*
- ♥ *Christmas Congress Report*
- ♥ *Articles from Peter Smith,
Richard Fox, Jon Free, Maura
Rhodes, Clive Hunt, Ron
Klinger...*



Editorial



This edition of *Trumps Plus* marks the completion of a very successful year for the West Australian Bridge Club. It has also been a very successful year for *Trumps Plus* and I would like to thank our team of Val Krantz, Lynne Errington, Helen Seward and Sheenagh Young, and all our many contributors, for their great efforts in 2010.

Amongst the many excellent articles in this edition we have another from our popular club professional, Peter Smith. Peter writes about "Calling the Director to the Table". This is an important issue. Members, particularly new or inexperienced members can be uneasy about calling the Director and can be deterred from doing so by experienced opponents at the table. It is important to recognize that everybody makes a procedural error from time to time and that it is not a criticism of opponents to call the Director. It is simply correct procedure.

The laws of Bridge state that players should call the Director if they believe an infraction has taken place. It is against the laws for players to make a ruling at the table or to waive a possible rectification.

I would now like to turn to another matter that I believe is very important. In the past two months the Club has hosted one of its largest ever Melbourne Cup Luncheons and a very successful Christmas Congress, and this week it will host its largest ever Christmas Party. The number of participants at events and functions such as these has risen markedly as the Club's membership has risen to around 1000, and the workload of



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the Committee members and other Club members who produce them is huge. I believe it is essential that conveners for these events should be encouraged and expected to hire outside people to help with important functions such as catering and cleaning. This may lead to increased costs but the increased numbers increase revenue which should cover these costs. I think it is important that such functions are revenue-neutral, which means no function or event is subsidized by the club, or by the efforts of the few who produce them. Finally, on behalf of the editorial team I would like to wish all members a happy Christmas and a glorious new year, with many more great games of bridge to come.



President's Report



In my annual report I reviewed the objectives of the Management Committee and acknowledged the individuals and committees responsible for the all activities of the club.

Our principal objective at WABC is to foster the game of bridge .

To achieve this in 2010 we have provided a full calendar of events which included a visit from International professionals, and the use of our premises for three BAWA/ABF weekend congresses. We held our regular and very popular daily sessions, annual championship events, the Novice Congress, two weekend club congresses, five sets of Grand National Restricted Pairs and entered teams in three categories of the "Teams of 4" interclub competition.

This year an important goal was to encourage and increase involvement of members in interclub competitions and teams events. We fielded one open team, two intermediate teams, and two restricted teams in the interclub "Teams of 4". This involved approximately sixty five different players during the course of the year, offering an opportunity to compete against and meet players from other local clubs. In August we held the club inaugural "Masters in teams of 3" Congress, which proved very popular and will become an annual event, giving less experienced members a chance to gain confidence with team play.

All our Club competitions and event

results, and details, are reported in full in Trumps Plus.

During the year, the Management Committee appointed a panel of four Club Recorders, to hear and deal with complaints relating to behaviour and decorum. The procedural requirements for invoking this process are described in detail on the club notice board.

Our second objective is to provide and maintain suitable premises for club activities.

Our spacious and comfortable surroundings are a source of great pleasure to us all. We continue to improve different aspects of the club rooms, and in 2010 have added two more library cupboards, to house our developing collection of books and journals. Awnings have been installed on the east side of the courtyard and have reduced glare in the social area and provided extra shade.

A third objective is to provide amenities for the benefit and entertainment of our members.

Our bar is well stocked and proves popular for those who wish to socialize and discuss play following daily sessions. Cheese and biscuits are provided on Saturday afternoon to encourage players to stay on after bridge. The club recently purchased a barbecue. We have held a sausage sizzle Saturday night in November, with encouraging feedback from those who attended and a fish and chips evening

on another occasion. Both initiatives were popular enough for us to plan to repeat these in 2011.

It takes a variety of talents and a lot of time working together to deliver these services. I feel your committee, with help from our volunteers, have excelled in achieving our club's objectives during 2010.

Since my report at the AGM we have held our Melbourne Cup Luncheon for 110 punters, successfully convened by Gwen Wiles and assisted by her team.

Kitty George convened the Christmas Congress, her second Congress in 2010, aided by members of the Management Committee and volunteers. I was away, but received glowing reports of the resplendent Friday afternoon tea, the Saturday Buffet Campagnard and the Sausage Sizzle on Sunday evening.

We now look forward to the Annual Christmas Party and Prize Giving. At present we are catering for over 170 registered members and planning is well in hand with promise of delicious Christmas fare.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all special event champions and to encourage WABC members to participate in these occasions next year. Our Handbook 2011, is due for release and contains a very full calendar of events, to facilitate planning your bridge well in advance.



TIM SERES: Australia's Master of Deception

Michael Courtney includes this Seres hand in a chapter called 'The accumulation of advantages'. This, he explains, means to retain advantages by withholding top cards early and allowing the enemy to readily convert theirs. Your remaining top cards have grown in value though your judgement must be excellent. If you hold on too long they risk losing value.

Seres shows how it's done in this hand where declarer and partner have a combined count of 20 HCP and 16 losers: the contract is cold.

Try your hand at making 4S on the 7D lead.

NORTH

♠S J97
♥ K83
♦A9
♣J7532

SOUTH

♠ AK10532
♥ 965
♦ 4
♣A64

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♦	2♠
3♦	4♠	All pass	

Contract 4♠

Lead 7♦

At the wheel in the ambitious contract of four spades, Seres never gave the defenders a second chance after the normal diamond lead!

How do you play to make without defensive error?

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

SUSAN CLEMENTS AND TOBY MANFORD

“Outstanding, remarkable and impressive” are some of the accolades used by Club President, Alison Rigg when proposing Susan Clements and Toby Manford as Life Members of WABC.

Generous and gracious are two more descriptions that equally apply to these two ladies who have given so much of their time and energy to the club .

Susan and Toby, friends since school days at St Hilda's have played bridge together for over 35 years, Toby encouraged and taught by her mother, Dorothy Krantz and Susan learning from Ushi Hewston, an international player originally from Switzerland.

Together they evolved into a formidable partnership that they attribute to a “simple playing system that is not fancy but rather steady and consistent”. They believe their partnership has survived so long because they always put their friendship and enjoyment above all else.

Toby and Susan both cited the first time they represented WA in a State Team in Sydney in 1982, as the most memorable and exciting time in their bridge life together. In those days bridge was peppered with colourful characters and brilliant minds such as Claire Lester, Geoff Lathbury, Keith McNeil and Hans Rosendorff, bridge identities who some members may remember.



Apart from representing WA in many State teams, Toby and Susan also travelled to Miami, Florida in 1986 when they were ratified to play at the World Bridge Championships. Here they met and observed some of the World's top players , such as Zia Mahood, Omar Sharif, Bobbie Hamman and Mike Lawrence. They were particularly impressed with the etiquette displayed by these players and they are equally impressed by the fact they are still top players 25 years later! Interestingly, this was the first time Susan and Toby had come across bidding boxes - back in 1986!

At home both Susan and Toby have made considerable contributions to the development of WABC, both serving on Management and Tournament Committees and now on the Club Recorder Committee. Both ladies capably served as Presidents of the club, Susan Clements in 1986-8 and Toby Manford in 1997-8 .They were both also Vice Presidents of BAWA. They are also renowned for helping in numerous practical ways whenever an event or function requires extra effort.

Above all else both members stressed the enormous enjoyment they have had from their association with WABC.

No one would deny they are both equally deserving of the Life Memberships bestowed upon them at the AGM in October this year.

HATS AND..



MELBOURNE CUP 2010

HORSES.





Congratulations PEPE and DOMINIQUE

We all acknowledge the entertainment and intellectual value of bridge and the great source of friendship and camaraderie that comes with membership of a club such as WABC, but sometimes bridge can offer another dimension – MARRIAGE!

On Wednesday 13th October, a unique celebration for the club followed the regular Wednesday evening session, when the Club President, Alison Rigg announced the recent marriage of Dominique Rallier and Pepe Schwegler. Many of their club friends then joined them in the social area to celebrate this happy event.

Pepe met Dominique when they both attended a New Members Club Party in August 2009. Dominique had arrived in Perth in 2006 and in 2007 had refreshed her bridge game with lessons from Peter Smith. Soon after she started playing regularly at WABC and became a keen participant of the club.

Pepe originally from Switzerland and Dominique born in France had a common bond in their European heritage and language. Pepe quickly recognised many good attributes in Dominique and asked her to partner him in a BAWA Event (Pepe is currently Treasurer of BAWA). A strong bridge and life partnership soon

developed, and the couple enjoyed attending congresses in the Gold Coast and Albany together.

And so earlier this year Pepe proposed and on 8th October they were married in Perth, choosing two WABC friends, Jean

Field and Bernie West to be their witnesses. Dominique, who looked lovely in an Empire Rose dress, and Pepe looking very smart too, then celebrated with their friends at Friend's restaurant before flying off to honeymoon in Singapore.

Once back in Perth, Dominique and Pepe were delighted to share their happy news and good fortune at the clubrooms that brought them together. They were particularly grateful to Jean Field for her support, encouragement and organising assistance and her extra roles as chauffeur and photographer!

We all wish them many years of happiness together.





TRY THESE PROBLEMS

(solutions page29)

PROBLEM ONE:

East dealer : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	Pass	1D
1H	Pass	3H (1)	?
(1) Pre-emptive			

(a) What would you do as South with:

- A2
- A8
- AQJ82
- A1064

(b) What would you do if the bidding had started:

West	North	East	South
---	---	Pass	1D
1H	Dble (1)	3H (2)	?
(1) 4 spades			
(2) Pre-emptive			

PROBLEM TWO:

South dealer : East-West vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	Pass
Pass	1D	Dble	Pass
1NT	Pass	?	

What should East do with:

- KQ7
- AJ7
- 1086
- AK106

CLUB EVENING PAIRS

- 1st. Chris Bagley & Lynne Milne
- 2nd. Helene Kolozs & Ann Youngs
- 3rd. Mimi Packer & Virginia Seward
- 4th. Geoff Yeo & Jenny Fairweather
- 5th. Clive Hunt & Inga Hunt



Congratulations to winners Chris Bagley & Lynne Milne.

Everyone enjoyed the event and the last night was rounded off with a lovely supper.



PATRON'S CUP WINNER 2010

Jocelyn Parry



As the accompanying photo reveals, on the day of our interview Jocelyn Parry was positively “sparkling” in Silver!

Joc was wearing a Silver brooch - the recently awarded 50 year membership badge from Lake Karrinyup Golf

Club and for the magazine photo posed holding the Mabs McCulloch Trophy.

These two awards from both clubs **demonstrate Jocelyn’s commitment as a loyal club member and keen participant in club activities.**

The Mabs Mc Culloch Trophy (also known as **the Patron’s Trophy**) is awarded for attendance and the most number of green points accumulated in one year. Such is **Jocelyn’s passion for bridge that apart from** being a regular and keen golf and tennis player, she finds time to play at WABC several times a week. In fact she also won this trophy in 2009!

Joc first started playing bridge as a young nurse living in Perth and had her first lessons with a Mr & Mrs Bromilow, who some **members may recall travelled to people’s homes to conduct the lessons to small groups.**

Later Joc refreshed her game with Nigel Rosendorf when he was based in Broadway, Nedlands. Joc then joined WABC, encouraged by her good friend and club director, Barbara Lindsay Taylor. Babs as she was known, was a great bridge mentor for Joc and together they played at many congresses over the years. Jocelyn also served on the house committee during the Dalkeith years.

Today Joc enjoys bridge at Swanbourne with her 4 regular partners, Cynthia Matthews, Margaret King, Joan Henderson and Christine McIntosh. Jocelyn was very **positive about the club’s move from Dalkeith, especially the new bright building: “a welcome change from the dark church hall; the excellent parking facilities and the friendly atmosphere make it such a pleasure to be here”.**

We all hope Jocelyn will continue to enjoy for many more years, the stimulation and companionship from her regular bridge activities, and who knows she may be holding that trophy aloft again next year! Will she get the hat-trick? They seem to be popular at the moment





A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR PRIZE WINNERS FOR 2010

EVENT:	WINNER(S)	RUNNER(S)-UP
Individual:	Chris Bagley	Jean Field
Womens Pairs:	Cynthia Matthews & Jill Mowson	Ruth Hansen & Toby Manford
Handicap Pairs	Shirley Potter & Corinne Monteath	Faye Cullen & Margaret Shaw
Mixed Pairs	Clive & Inga Hunt	Fran & Geoff Holman
Novice Pairs	Suzanne John & Kevin Benson-Brown	Ronnie Nilant & Jenny Walkden
Charles Pearce Cup	Kim Magann & Jan Berg	Cynthia Barrett & Ron Sofield
Open Teams	Maura & Rick Rhodes, Helene Kolozs & Ann Youngs	Alison & John Rigg, Chris Bagley & Kim Magann
Open Pairs Daytime	Raymond Wood & Nerilyn Mack	Pepe Schwegler & Dominique Rallier
Open Pairs Evening	Chris Bagley & Lynne Milne	Nerilyn Mack & Robin Rose

JACKPOT WINNERS

Fri Am Jackpot	Beverley Hunt & Rick Camins
Fri Jackpot	Maura Rhodes & Fiske Warren
Sat Jackpot	John Ashworth & Toby Manford
Mon Am Jackpot	Leonie Mcnamara & Judy Meagher
Mon Pm Jackpot	John Rigg & Chris Bagley
Tue Jackpot	Maura Rhodes & Ann Youngs
Wed Jackpot	Beth Mackinnon & Sue Hovell
Wed Evening Jackpot	Chris Bagley & Lynne Milne
Thu Jackpot	Chris Bagley & Kim Magann
Most Improved	Dominique Rallier
Thursday Aggregate WINNER	Suzanne John



A FEW BRIDGE LAWS

AND HOW THEY AFFECT YOU



Whenever an infraction occurs at the table, for example, someone makes a lead out of turn, an insufficient bid, etc., always call the Director to get a ruling and have the options explained. The Laws of Bridge generally aim to restore equity at the very least, or in some instances to give the non-offending side the chance to gain an advantage.

If you don't call the Director at the time of the infraction you may forfeit any rights to possible benefits so don't miss out by failing to get a ruling. Once your options are explained it is then quite proper for you to choose one that is most advantageous for your (non-offending) side.

As it can quite often be a little bewildering when faced with a range of choices at the table, in this article we look at a few common Laws and recommended ways to deal with them – so you can be prepared in advance.

AN OPENING LEAD OUT OF TURN

If a defender makes an opening lead out of turn declarer has the following choices in either accepting or rejecting the lead:

ACCEPT THE LEAD

1. Accept the lead and become dummy, allowing partner to play the hand.
2. Accept the lead and have partner become dummy, with dummy playing last to the first trick.

REJECT THE LEAD

This means that the lead becomes a major PENALTY CARD, invoking the following options:

3. Reject the lead and have it revert to the correct hand, allowing that player to lead any suit (including the one led out of turn). The lead out of turn stays face up on the table and must be played at the first legal opportunity.

4. Reject the lead and DEMAND the lead of that suit from the offender's partner instead. The lead out of turn is picked up and replaced in the offender's hand without further penalty.

5. Reject the lead and FORBID the lead of that suit from the offender's partner. The lead out of turn is picked up and replaced in the offender's hand without further penalty. While the offender's partner holds the lead he/she may not lead the forbidden suit.

In particular many players aren't aware of options 4 and 5 so make sure you get a full ruling from the Director rather than trying to look after things yourself.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Whether you decide to accept or reject a lead out of turn you should be willing to take advantage of the opponents' infraction if at all possible.

WHEN TO ACCEPT THE LEAD

Accept the lead when you're happy enough with the suit they have chosen and your hand is very weak and partner's hand is strong.

Example 1

As South you hold:

♠ 4

♥ K J 8 6 5



A FEW BRIDGE LAWS AND HOW THEY AFFECT YOU



♦ J 9 6
♣ K 10 8 5

Over partner's 1♠ opening you respond 1NT and partner raises to 3NT, which is passed out. The player on your right, East, leads a fourth-highest two of clubs, out-of-turn. You should accept the lead and become dummy, as clubs are no great threat and it may be advantageous to have the lead coming up to partner's strong hand - as well as having that hand concealed as declarer.

Example 2

As South you hold:

♠ A Q 8 5 3

♥ 7 4

♦ 10 9 5

♣ J 9 5

Over partner's 1♦ opening you respond 1♠ and partner raises to 4♠, which is passed out. The player on your right, East, leads the three of hearts, out-of-turn. Again it's probably best to accept the lead and become dummy, as the lead of your short suit, up to possible heart honours in partner's strong hand, may be useful and again the strong hand will be declarer.

Accept the lead when you're strong in the suit led, especially in no trumps.

Example 3

As South you hold:

♠ Q J 10 3

♥ 7 4

♦ K J 9 8

♣ A Q 5

You open 1NT and partner raises to 3NT,

which is passed out. The player on your right, East, leads the two of spades, out-of-turn. It should be worthwhile to accept this lead and still be declarer (unless you've been having a bad day, in which case become dummy).

WHEN TO REJECT A LEAD OUT OF TURN

Reject the lead when you have an honour holding in that suit that needs protecting. You may even be keen to demand the lead of that suit from the other hand.

Example 1

You are South and against your 4♠ contract your right hand opponent, East, leads the queen of diamonds, out-of-turn. Your diamonds are ♦ K 4. You should reject the lead as your ♦ K may be under threat. Better still, demand a diamond lead from your left hand opponent, West. East picks up the queen of diamonds without further penalty, but with the lead coming from West you are guaranteed a trick for your king no matter who has the ace of diamonds.

Example 2

You are South and against your 3♥ contract your right hand opponent, East, leads the five of clubs, out-of-turn. Your clubs are ♣ A Q. Instead of the possibility of the losing finesse, again you should reject the lead and demand a club lead from your left hand opponent, West. East picks up the five of clubs without further penalty, but with the lead coming from



A FEW BRIDGE LAWS

AND HOW THEY AFFECT YOU



West you are guaranteed two club tricks no matter who has the king.

Reject the lead when it's clear that your side is very weak in the suit, especially in a no trump contract, or when you'd simply prefer the lead of almost any other suit. You may be keen to forbid the lead of that suit from the other hand.

Example 3

You are South and against your 3NT contract, your right hand opponent, East, who had bid spades, leads the king of spades out-of-turn. Even if you have the ace yourself you should reject this lead. Furthermore, forbid a spade lead from your left hand opponent, West, as the lead of any other suit will surely be better for you. That's mean, but it's quite proper to take advantage of an opponent's infraction.

Example 4

As South you hold:

♠ A J 5 4 2

♥ 8 6

♦ A Q 3

♣ K J 5

You open 1♠, partner raises to 3♠ and you bid game in spades. Against this, East leads the four of hearts, out-of-turn. It's probably best to reject this lead and forbid the lead of a heart by West as any other suit lead may well give you a free finesse.

OTHER LEADS OUT OF TURN BY A DEFENDER

After the opening lead, any other lead out

of turn during the play by a defender may be accepted or rejected by declarer. If rejected, the penalty card provisions mentioned above (options 3, 4 & 5) apply. Call the Director to have all options fully explained.

DECLARER'S LEAD OUT OF TURN

Again, call the Director to get a ruling if this happens. It's important to know that any lead out of turn is condoned if you play to that lead - so keep careful track of where the lead should be coming from: dummy or declarer's hand. Sometimes a slip-up can be costly; for example if you let declarer start playing winners from an entryless hand. Concentrate!

If declarer leads out of turn (e.g. from dummy instead of hand or vice versa) either defender may accept that lead simply by saying so or by playing to the trick, condoning the lead.

If the lead is rejected it reverts to the correct hand. Declarer may replace the card led in error without penalty and lead anything from the correct hand. The only "penalty" is that the defenders may have seen one of declarer's cards. (Note that this is not the case for a **defender's** lead-out-turn – the card led in error becomes a Penalty Card.)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Accept the lead from the wrong hand if you can see that it will help your side e.g. you'll get a trick that you might otherwise miss out on or declarer will never get

back to the other hand to cash a winner etc. If you can't see a way of gaining perhaps your partner can, so leave it up to him/her. Sometimes there'll be no possibility of gain and it simply won't matter.

INSUFFICIENT BID

Any insufficient bid on your right is condoned if you call over it before calling the Director - so concentrate! The Director will give you the option of either accepting or rejecting the insufficient bid. The insufficient bidder can't just correct the bid before you have your say in accepting or rejecting it. The following examples assume a natural auction (where the insufficient bid isn't artificial).

For example your partner opens 1♠ and the next player bids 1♦ (insufficient).

If you accept the bid you are accepting (condoning) the current level of bidding even though it is insufficient. For example, you could accept the 1♦ bid and now be able to bid 1♥ if you wished, despite the previous 1♠ bid (which could be repeated over 1♥ if desired).

If you reject the insufficient bid of 1♦ the bidder has these options:

The bid can be corrected to the cheapest sufficient call in the same denomination, in this case to 2♦, and there's no penalty i.e. we proceed as if nothing had ever gone wrong.

The bidder may make any other legal call instead (except double) e.g. pass, 1NT, 3♦ etc., but his/her partner *must pass for the rest of the auction*. Lead penalties may also apply if the denomination of the call was changed, for

example to something other than diamonds in this case, and the opponents end up defending, as there would be Unauthorised Information due to the diamond bid being withdrawn. Therefore as the insufficient bidder if your bid is rejected usually simply make the bid good if at all reasonable.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Accept an insufficient bid if you are keen to bid at a low level but not at the higher level.

Example 1

As South you hold:

♠ 5 4
♥ K 10 7 6 4 3
♦ 8 6
♣ K 8 5

Your partner, North, opens 1♠ and the next player, East, bids 1♦, insufficient. Normally you were never going to be able to show your hearts as you lack the strength for a 2♥ bid, and therefore would have been forced into a 1NT response without an overcall. However by accepting the insufficient bid, you can now bid 1♥, so take that opportunity, rather than rejecting the bid and being faced with a bid at a higher level. There is an inference, available to everyone at the table, that you must be fairly weak to do this of course.

Example 2

As South you hold:

♠ 5 4
♥ 10 7 5
♦ K J 8
♣ K J 9 6 2

Again your partner, North, opens 1♠ and the next player, East, bids 1♦, insufficient. Again it's in your interests to accept the bid

and this time bid 1NT. The insufficient bid has given you the opportunity for extra description of your hand (a good diamond holding), so take it.

Accept an insufficient bid if you are happy to make a penalty double at the higher level.

Example 3

As South you hold:

♠ 9
♥ K J 8 6
♦ A Q 8 6 3
♣ 10 8 5

Your partner, North, opens 3♠ and the next player, East, bids 3♥, insufficient. It would be quite marginal to make a penalty double of 3♥, so reject that bid and hope they change it to 4♥, over which you should definitely double.

Reject an insufficient bid if in any doubt, as doing so may disadvantage the opponents.

Example 4

As South you hold:

♠ 5
♥ K 7 4
♦ A 6 5 3
♣ J 10 9 6 4

Your partner, North, opens 2♠, weak, and the next player, East, bids 2♥, insufficient. There's nothing to gain here by accepting the insufficient bid as you have no desire to bid at the 2 level. Furthermore it could possibly advantage the opponents to be able to start their auction at the lower level so don't give them an easy break: reject the bid. With East now having to change the bid it could lead to disadvantage for them.

TERM 1 LESSONS 2011

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A CONVERSATION WITH JONATHAN



Jonathan Free is a particularly good analyst of bridge bidding. So much so that when a certain club member has problems it is often to our amiable and generous friend he turns for answers. The following is one such hand that occurred recently and here are Jonathan's comments. He is North.

BOARD 1, WABC CLUB TEAMS
CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND 4.

Partner: deals and opens 1S.

Jonathan: 2D on

S Q106	D AKQ5
H A96	C A109

Partner: 3D

Jonathan: 3S. This is forcing because we have a double fit and are at the 3 level. Our contract should be game in the major at the least.

Partner: 4S.

Jonathan: What do I bid next? 4NT Roman Key Card Blackwood for spades.

Partner: 5H (2 keycards without the Q of spades).

Jonathan: Time to count. Playing in diamonds I can now see 12+ tricks: 4 trump tricks, 5 spade tricks, 2 aces and at least 1 ruff. (It would be nice to know if partner has a singleton, wouldn't it?) Now that assumes good breaks, but partner may have DJ and SJ, when the spade break won't matter at least. So let's bid the 5NT ask for kings.

South: 6C – no kings. (He is feeling guilty. He probably shouldn't have counted a point for his singleton J and should have passed on his first bid.) This was his hand:

S AK752	D J1076
H J	C Q54

Jonathan: I'm disappointed partner didn't bid 7C (accepting my grand slam invitation, as I would expect if he held AKJxx/Kx/Jxxxx/x or AKJTxx(x)/JTxx/KQ(x) or

AKJxxx/x/JTxx/Kx), so,

(a) If partner's 6C = CK, then I can count 13 tricks if there's no bad split in diamonds and I just bid 7D but

(b) or if 6C = 0 Kings then I have to wonder what partner's hand can be?

I guess partner would open 1S with AKxxx/Qx/Jxxx/Qx and then 7D won't make, so I can't bid that - a pity. Almost any other hand would give 7D good play at worst.

At teams I should sign off at 6D which is a huge favourite (>90%) to make. Yes 6D is to play, because it was bid & supported.

At pairs, 6S and 6NT are both 76%, and many pairs will be in slam, I think.

Because 6NT on this occasion won't go down more than 6S, I will choose that.

Jonathan did not say in so many words that his partner should not have opened the bidding on 11 somewhat dicey points. The consequence was that he had difficulty reading his partner's cards and selecting the final contract. Slam was there but which?





WINNING TEAM

Jan Blight, Patricia McNamara
Susan Clements, Toby Manford



**WINNING SATURDAY
PAIRS—North South**

Susan Clements & Viv Goldberg,



WINNING FRIDAY PAIRS— North South

Susan Clements & Toby Manford,

**No you're not seeing double or even treble!
SUSAN CLEMENTS TAKES A HAT TRICK
at the WABC CHRISTMAS CONGRESS**

The 2010 Christmas Congress was again a great success, the highlight perhaps being Susan Clements' amazing performance in sharing 1st place in all 3 major sessions. Well done Susan.....and of course those partners who made it possible.

Once again Bill Kemp, assisted on Sunday by Dave Parham, ran a seamless event coping well with unannounced arrivals, withdrawals and double entries. He is quite unflappable and contributes so much to the general enjoyment of each session. Please come back next year, Bill.

In accepting a prize on Sunday evening John Beddow (BAWA Secretary) praised WABC for the presentation of the clubhouse, the well run events and most particularly the generous hospitality provided to the bridge community. I am sure that all of our members who had stayed for the presentations felt justifiably proud of the club.

The Congress Committee work very hard to put on these events and thanks are due to them and all the many club members who willingly assist over the

weekend. The Friday afternoon tea was outstanding as usual – thank you all for your delicious contributions. The bar was manned and stocked by a happy band headed by Rhona and Tom, Melanie, Pat K, Jenny, Dave, Hazel, Dominique, Gwen, Mal and Sheenagh. They were kept very busy by some thirsty players. Thank you all very much. Dominique (and Pepe) looked after the decoration of the club and the coordination of the catering. The room looked very festive and the food was very much enjoyed. I am reliably informed however that Dominique will never again offer to slice a giant salami! We are all so grateful for your hard work Dominique – the catering was superb. Rhona, Alison, Gwen, Kitty, Jenny, Pat L and Gillian (and “the husbands”) formed the remainder of the catering team and all worked tirelessly to ensure everything ran smoothly and I hope had some fun along the way.

Jean Field again organized a well supported raffle, the funds from which will be used to provide needed club facilities. Thanks Jean.

Kitty George

CONGRESS RESULTS

Friday Pairs:

- 1st S Clements & T Manford, F Warren & M Rhodes
- 2nd H Williams & S Pynt, R Duberal & T Newton
- 3rd D & C Pocock, C Bagley & J Beddow
- 4th V Goldberg & W Driscoll, A Booth & N Law

Saturday Pairs

- 1st S Clements & V Goldberg, V Ferreira & P Styles
- 2nd V Wood & D Jones, N Mack & R Rose
- 3rd M Brinsden & M Thunder, J Blight & P McNamara
- 4th B West & A Brogan, L Leedman & D Majteles

Best Unplaced WABC Pair

- Friday: T Wheatley & G Raad
- Saturday: R Enright & F Hashimoto

Best Under State Pair

- Friday: D Elsey & M Shaw
- Saturday : J Birnbrauer & G Routley

Sunday Teams

- 1st S Clements, T Manford, J Blight, P McNamara
- 2nd T P Ranasinghe, D Schokman, C Belongoff, P Hammond
- 3rd V Goldberg, S Futaesako, N Cantatore, W Driscoll

Presidents Pairs

- 1st C Matthews, J Mowson
- 2nd V Fleay, M King



RAFFLE WINNERS:
Jennifer and Neil Bardsley



**Friday winners: East West
Fiske Warren and Maura Rhodes**



**Saturday Winners: East-West
Penny Styles (and Val Ferreira)**



Saturday Pairs: Third East-West:
Patty McNamara and Jan Blight



Friday Pairs: Third East-West:
John Beddow & Chris Bagley



Friday Pairs: Third North South: Carol and
Derek Pocock



Saturday Pairs: Second East-West:
Robin Rose & Nerilyn Mack



Sunday Presidents Pairs: Second:
Margaret King and Val Fleay

And of course the workers
behind the scenes!





LIBRARY NOTES

By Val Krantz



I've been travelling since September and have come back to find yet another transformation in our library cum bookstore cum computer school cum meeting room. The rearranged shelves look great and it's much harder to confuse our bridge library on the left with the books for sale on the opposite wall. As well, the two desks with their computers proudly atop look very business-like. What a multi-purpose room it is.

But to be honest I'm only really concerned with the library. In a club such as ours which grows stronger and larger by the minute it is good to do everything to the best of our ability. We have a fine building, excellent playing conditions, a light and airy coffee room and outdoor patios – in all a club to be proud of. I want us to be proud of the library we provide too.

In the few years we've had to build it up it is looking like a real library and use of it grows each month. A lot of smaller clubs can't afford the luxury. It's a bit like a garden: to keep it healthy and enticing so that it meets the needs of novices and grand masters alike we have to keep tending, adding and weeding. Old books that have served their time have to go and new ones must be added from the vast array published every year in the English-speaking bridge world. That doesn't mean to say you should choose your books by their date of publication.

S.J. Simon's *Why You Lose at Bridge*, published in 1946, is still a best seller and there are many such treasures on our shelves. But for it to be a good library we do need to keep it up to date. Books are expensive but of such value to those wanting to improve their game. Ah but of course I admit I'm addicted to them!

In September we added a few beauties. There's a list of them on the library door, with comments on each. See whether there's something there that interests you. In the New Year we hope to add more and pass on to some small beginning clubs oldies that have served their time for us. Have you any suggestions for particular books or bridge subjects you'd like to see on the shelves? If so please write them in the red Suggestion Book or tell me or one of the other library helpers.

These library helpers - Jill Mowson, Dorothy Cain, Jan Cain, Rhona Barton and Suzann Long - kept things running very smoothly while I was away. Please ask any one of us for help if you need it and do go in and browse. I'm sure you'll find some great holiday reading, especially if you work on it with your favourite partner. Happy Christmas to you all from us all, good holidays and good bridge.



Bridge in Strange Places

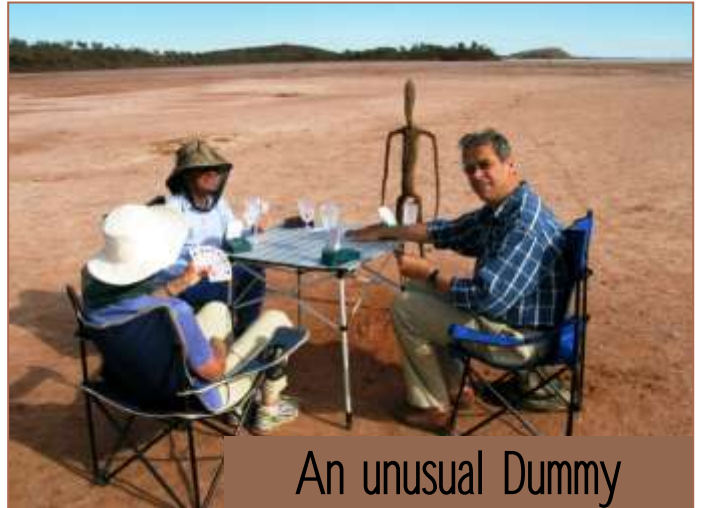


When a group of bridge players played a game on the North Pole one quipped – ‘Who’s North’? In contrast a

small group of WABC members have just returned from an extremely warm visit to the Goldfields. Travelling north from Coolgardie - and some 55km from the remote and small town of Menzies – they arrived at what must be one of the most surreal landscapes in Australia. An enormous shimmering salt lake inhabited by 51 wonderfully eerie and evocative sculptures – created and installed by internationally renowned sculptor Antony Gormley. The sculptures were the result of a visual arts project commissioned in 2003 by the Perth International Arts Festival. At the time there was some scepticism as to the value and impact the project would have. Now 7 years on the Lake Ballard ‘Gormley Sculptures’ attract a steady stream of intrepid visitors who walk around the lake to enjoy this most unusual aesthetic experience.

But bridge was also on the agenda and we were soon playing at the Lake Ballard club house on the lake – and although the

Lake Ballard BC members may not boast master points, they are nobody’s fool!



An unusual Dummy

For example: We all know a ‘Yarborough’ in bridge is a hand with no card higher than a 9. It occurs roughly in one of every 1800 hands and in the bridge world comes by many names. Some of the more common are ‘a hand like a foot’, and ‘a load of rubbish’. But look at what the players from the LBBC did with this ‘Yarborough’!

Dealer was West, with E/W vulnerable.



Fly net Fascinators

♠ K1083		
♥ 84		
♦ A965432		
♣ —		
♠ A		♠ QJ
♥ AKQ1097		♥ J6532
♦ KJ		♦ Q108
♣ KJ96		♣ AQ10
	♠ 976542	
	♥ —	
	♦ 7	
	♣ 875432	

The bidding

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♣	2 ♦	2NT	3 ♠
Dbl	4 ♦	Dbl	5 ♣
5 ♥	5 ♠	Pass	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	Pass	6 ♠
Dbl	All Pass		

West relishing the prospect of a big score led the A ♥ which was trumped by South. South played a small ♠ towards dummy, taken by West's singleton Ace. West was now in a quandary and led the K ♦ which was taken by the A ♦ in dummy. The K ♠ accounted for the Q ♠ – the last outstanding trump. A diamond was then ruffed by South. A club led and ruffed. A diamond ruffed in South's hand. Finally a club ruffed in North's hand. The rest of the diamonds in North's hand had now been established — South making his small slam on a Yarborough! Strange bridge hands such as the one above can be experienced by visiting the Lake Ballard Bridge Club.



Lake Ballard Clubhouse



Kibitzing

If You Can Meet with Triumph ..and Disaster *at the Swan River With Richard Fox*

Rudyard Kipling had a point when it comes to success at bridge. You will meet with disasters as well as triumphs, and you have to be able to put them behind you and carry on. In the Swan River Swiss Pairs this year I partnered Ann Youngs, as her usual partners were away or otherwise engaged. Ann is a very astute and technically sound player, and showed a commendable ability to move on from a few crazy results I inflicted on her.

I must also mention our visiting director Matt McManus. It was easy to forget he was there, as the event ran so quietly and smoothly, and that is due to his skill and experience.

Confusion Reigns

Playing against Bob and Joan Prince, I mastered the art of going four down in 3NT. As dealer, I picked up **S** Q 8 4 3 **H** Q J **D** A K J 9 4 3 **C** A and thought it showed promise. I opened One Diamond, and after a weak jump overcall in spades on my left I drove to 3NT, hoping to get close if the diamonds behaved, and to make if partner had a useful card. This wasn't a success; partner's only card was the king of clubs which I couldn't get to. The QD didn't fall and the diamonds split 4-1, so I ended up with a paltry five tricks. I recovered by making a cold game, and then opened up another powerful-looking hand.

S K 6 2 **H** A K Q 5 2 **D** Q **C** A J 9 5
Partner passed and RHO bid Two Diamonds, alerted. I mistakenly looked at

my own system card instead of the opponents' so I saw "weak 2 in either major". Must be spades, surely. With 19 points I felt I had to take some action – a later double would look like take-out and passing seemed too passive, so I doubled (2NT might have given a better picture, enabling Ann to transfer to spades and pass). LHO's pass probably showed diamonds, and Ann bid Two Spades. I still wasn't sure whether Ann would be playing a 4-3 spade fit facing a 6-0 split, so I thought 3NT looked the most likely game.

This was the full hand:

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

Of course this contract ended in farce when Ann showed up with only 3 jacks. I lost a large number of diamond tricks, misguessed that the AS might be on side, and the never-ending stream of heart discards from West showed that this had indeed been his suit. In fact the opening was an Optimal Two, showing either a Weak Two in hearts or 5-5 spades and a minor. Even if I'd realised that, I'd have been confused. However, four down non-vulnerable was only -200 and 5 IMPs away, not a complete catastrophe.

Redeeming Myself

The following distributional hand gave us a swing our way, after some nervous moments.

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

Bob opened One Diamond and I called One Spade. Joan leapt straight to Four Hearts, and Ann raised to Four Spades. After some thought Bob took the push to Five Hearts, a close decision at red vulnerability but he would have judged that the contract stood a good chance. With my two defensive tricks outside spades I thought I had a clear double, which Ann pulled to Five Spades. Even though we hadn't played much together, I felt as if I knew exactly what hand Ann would have to take this action, and I went out on a limb with Six Spades. By this time Ann was probably inwardly wondering what sort of nutcase she'd agreed to play with.

Joan led the singleton diamond, which I took with the ace. I followed up by ruffing a diamond, and the 5-1 split came to light. I crossed back to hand with a trump, pleased when both followed. Joan put the 10 S on the next diamond, and I overruffed with the ace. Two club ruffs and two more diamond ruffs were enough to establish the last diamond, and I just lost the small heart at the end. What a relief!



“Ain’t it Grand”

WABC Club Teams.

by Maura Rhodes



The WABC Club Teams competition was held on Saturday, September 18, with ten teams participating, including some newcomers. Teams Bridge is really fun and I would encourage anyone who hasn't tried it to have a go. All you need do is to round up another Pair to play with you and your Partner and enter the next Club Teams event. Our team-mates were Helene Kolozs and Ann Youngs, with whom we were fortunate enough to win the event. Unlike Pairs, the size of your win on every board counts in Teams matches, so, if you bid a slam which the opponents don't, you are rewarded hugely. Here are two such hands, the first from Round 3:

Our team-mates play a Strong 1NT, as do we, so when Helene opened 1NT showing 15-17 High Card Points, Ann knew there was a chance of a slam, so she transferred to Spades to set the suit, then used Roman Keycard Blackwood to find that Helene had two Keycards, excluding the Queen of trumps. With at least an 8 card Spade fit, Ann decided to bid the slam and Helene played it to perfection, making 12 tricks. That was a vulnerable slam which was neither bid nor made by the opponents so we gained 13 Imps. Well done, team-mates!

Another hand when we had a good swing was on Round 5:

Board 10 Dir: E Vul: All	♠ QT ♥ J876 ♦ T972 ♣ 642	
♠ K97643 ♥ 3 ♦ AQ ♣ QT93	 +	♠ AJ ♥ A95 ♦ K6543 ♣ KJ5
3 1 1 1 6 1 0	♠ 852 ♥ KQT42 ♦ J8 ♣ A87	

Board 17 Dir: N Vul: Nil	♠ KQ32 ♥ A ♦ A976 ♣ KQ86	
♠ 85 ♥ QT9863 ♦ K42 ♣ 32	 +	♠ ♥ 542 ♦ QJT85 ♣ JT754
1 8 5 4 1 3	♠ AJT9764 ♥ KJ7 ♦ 3 ♣ A9	

East (Helene)	South	West (Ann)	South
1NT	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	4NT	Pass
5H	Pass	6S	All pass

North (Rick)	East	South (Maura)	West
1D	Pass	1S	Pass
4S	Pass	4NT	Pass
5C	Pass	5NT	Pass
6C	Pass	7S	All Pass

When my Partner raised my 1S to four, showing a five loser hand or better, I knew we had at least a small slam and very possibly a Grand. By using Roman Keycard, my 4NT bid asked how many Keycards he had and his 5C response informed me that he had zero or three. With such a strong rebid, it clearly had to be three, so I then bid 5NT asking him to show me his cheapest King. His 6C bid showed me that he had the King of Clubs. I knew we had seven tricks in Spades, as the Queen had to drop even if my Partner didn't have it and I knew we had the Ace and King of Hearts, the Ace of Diamonds and the Ace, King of Clubs. The only possible deep loser in my hand was the seven of Hearts and I was positive my Partner would have something to discard that on in the minor suits. He did not disappoint. 13 tricks were cold and at the other table only a Small Slam was bid, so we gained 11 Imps.

The WABC Club Teams is a most enjoyable, friendly, event and I encourage all Club members to consider putting together a team for next year- the more the merrier!



With the end of the year and summer approaching it's nice to see the gardens bushy and full of shady spots for we rabbits. The spring colour has been lovely and the new plantings of tall everlastings and mulla mulla should keep this going into summer.



I was hopping through the gardens recently and came across a couple of bobtails and a dugite. The latter was somewhat miffed at being knocked back entry to the club because he couldn't hold the cards!! I really thought modern clubs catered for all disabilities.

Anyway - enough from your furry friend – I know your help with any pruning or weeding would always be appreciated by your “gardens committee” – just let them know if you can help.

R. Rabbit Esq.



Throwing Away Winners

With Richard Fox



We bridge players can be a stingy lot when it comes to parting with winning cards. There are times when it's a good investment, but you need the nerve to go through with it.

One instance came up at the Busselton Congress, which was as usual a most pleasant event with unending supplies of delicious food.

Dealer (rotated) Nil Vul	E	S A 10 7 6 3 H A J 4 D 10 6 C J 8 6	2S by South 2C lead
S Q 2 H K 9 7 D Q 9 8 5 C Q 10 4 2			S 9 8 5 4 H Q 10 8 6 D K J 7 4 C K
		S K J H 5 3 2 D A 3 2 C A 9 7 5 3	

In the teams competition, Lynne Errington and I faced country stalwarts Murray Webber and Kate Boston. I opened 1NT, Lynne transferred into spades and there it rested.

Murray, on my left, kicked off with the 2C, and the king appeared suspiciously from Kate. Looked as if someone had a singleton, but if they were being cunning I couldn't be sure who had it. Although I had a reasonable amount of high cards, I had some communication issues, and if I could manage to set up any clubs I might have trouble reaching them.

I won the ace straight away and started trumps: king first and then J-Q-A-5. Inevitably they appeared to be 4-2,

which I confirmed by cashing the 10, LHO throwing a diamond. That was four tricks in the bag, with one more trump and two aces to come. There followed some tit for tat as nobody wanted to be stuck on lead: I played the JC, Kate declining to ruff as Murray won with his queen. He exited with a diamond, attacking my entry to hand – it was too much to hope this wouldn't happen. I let Kate win the KD, and she drew another trump with her 9 before returning a diamond. I won the ace and led the 9C, won by Murray's 10. The only way I could make another club trick was if I could persuade Murray to lead his 4C to me. He sent back another diamond, forcing me to ruff in dummy, and the following end position remained with me needing two tricks.

Dealer E (rotated) Nil Vul	H A J 4	2S by South 2C lead
H K 9 C 4		H Q 10 8
	H 5 C 7 5	

I cashed the AH and at the moment of truth Murray cogitated deeply. He had already seen enough points for my opening bid: K-J of spades and two aces, so there was a fair chance I didn't have the QH as well. He calculated that if he hung on to the KH I would make my contract with that last club, so he made the right decision to pitch his king under my ace. This allowed Kate to wrap up the

last two tricks for one down for a well-earned 4 IMPs when the other table made 2S.

Another such occasion arose in a club game at WABC. I played West, partnering Dominique Rallier against Ann Youngs (South) and Maura Rhodes. Ann opened 1H (5 card suit) and Maura replied 1S. Dominique came in with a take-out double, and Ann made a support redouble showing 3-card spades and a minimum hand. I couldn't pass and possibly leave Dominique wondering what to do with 1S redoubled, so I bid 2D. Maura went 2S, confirming 5 spades but no extra values, and Dominique took the push to 3 Diamonds.

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

South (Ann)	West (Richard)	North (Maura)	East (Dominique)
1H	Pass	1S	X
XX	2D	2S	3D
All Pass			

Here is the situation Ann faced on the 8H lead. Where was the 4H?

Dealer E (rotated) Nil Vul	H A J 4	2S by South 2C lead
H K 9 C 4		H Q 10 8
	H 5 C 7 5	

If Maura had it, the last thing Ann wanted to do was grab the ace and try for a ruff, setting up my king and queen. Instead she finessed against dummy with the ten, and my queen won. I played a low spade, Maura played low and Ann had to win with the 10. Trying to cut down ruffs looked a good idea, so next came a diamond, won in dummy and followed by another spade. Ann sent through another diamond, and I finished drawing trumps with the king, then ruffed a spade with dummy's last trump.

Dummy was reduced to K75 of hearts and AK8 of clubs, and I cashed the top two clubs. Ann still had Qxx of clubs and AJx of hearts, and she could see what I was trying to do: make her win the QC and lead up to my KH. She neatly thwarted this plan by discarding the offending queen under the KC. This tactic was successful, as Maura was able to win the club jack, and force me to use my last trump with her KS. This left me endplayed instead, forced to lead up to K-7 with Ann's A-Q poised to take me one off.

This still turned out to be a good score for E-W, as a lot of tables were allowed to play in 2S. For this I give credit to Dominique's determined bidding – it's often worth taking some chances at pairs rather than leaving the opponents to play at the two-level. Well done all round, an enjoyable hand to play!

Deep Finesse has an unfair advantage over us mortals. The computer knows South can win the AH, give a ruff, spade return and another ruff, another spade and a fourth heart ruffed high by West, and a club winner eventually results in two off. I still think at the table Ann's defence was perfectly reasonable.



SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

FROM PAGE 9

www.ronklingerbridge.com

PROBLEM ONE

(a) This was Board 2 of the final of the 2009

World Teams:

North
QJ84
102
1053
Q987

West	East
K107	9653
KQJ93	7654
K6	974
J53	K2

South
A2
A8
AQJ82
A1064

You can see how tough a problem South has after East's jump to 3H. After a lesser bid (pass or 2H) South could simply rebid in clubs.

At the three tables where the bidding started this way, one South passed and 3H went one down (SQ lead). One South bid 3NT, one off on the HK lead and one South, Versace for Italy, doubled 3H. North bid 3S and South removed to 4C, passed out. West led a top heart and 4C went two down: HK, ducked; heart taken by the ace; CA; C4: five – queen – king; spade return, ducked to the king; CJ cashed and South still had to lose a diamond.

(b) South has it slightly easier here since North has shown some values. Note that three North's passed over 1H, while two doubled to show spades. Where North doubled, one South bid 3NT over 3H, two off on the HK lead. The other bid 4C, passed out and making +130 on the HK lead: South took the HA, much better than ducking, and returned a heart. West won and switched to the S7. The SQ won and declarer then led the CQ from dummy: king – ace – three. South now lost only one heart, one diamond and one club.

PROBLEM TWO:

. This was Board 3 of the final of the 2009

World Teams:

North
9632
652
KQ9
Q87

West
108
Q109
AJ75
9542

East
KQ7
AJ7
1086
AK106

South
AJ54
K843
432
J3

At four tables the bidding was a mundane Pass : Pass : Pass : 1NT, All pass. Three declarers were +120, one made 90.

At the other two tables the bidding was more exciting. In the Open final:

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	Pass
Pass	1D	Dble	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT?	All pass

2NT by East to invite game was ample. To jump to 3NT was punishing partner. West would have passed 2NT, of course, but that might not have been a delight anyway.

Against 3NT North led the H2, ducked to the king. South switched to the D4, ducked to the queen, North shifted to the S6, king, ducked; the HJ went to the queen and West played a club to the ten and jack; South returned the D3, ducked to the king and North reverted to spades, ducked in dummy. South won with the SJ and the defence collected three spades, a heart, two diamonds and a club for three down, N-S +300.

Women's final:

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	Pass
Pass	1S	1NT	2H (1)
Dble	2S	2NT	3S
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

(1) Transfer to 2S, good raise
Had West doubled 3S, the result would probably have been two down for +300. Against 3NT South led the S4 and dummy's S10 won. Declarer now came to eight tricks, one down, for –100 and –6 Imps.



“TO BID OR NOT TO BID; THAT IS THE QUESTION”

Asked by Clive Hunt

Event: State Mixed Pairs, Round 2 of final, 1 Nov 2010
Board: 27

Dealer: S **Vul:** None

	S: K H: J 7 6 3 2 D: 5 4 C: A T 8 6 4	
S: T 9 2 H: A K Q 8 4 D: T C: Q 7 5 3		S: J 8 7 6 H: T D: Q J 9 7 3 C: K J 2
	S: A Q 5 4 3 H: 9 5 D: A K 8 6 2 C: 9	

North	East	South	West
		1S	2H (a)
- (b)	-	3D (c)	-
- (d)	All pass		

Issue #1: the 2H overcall

According to our system, I would pass with the West hand and not make the 2H overcall, system requiring a suit length minimum of 6. Briefly restated, this is because the potential for loss exceeds the potential for gain.

I contend that if a game in hearts is on, E-W will probably find it, even starting with a pass by W. In such a case, the bidding would probably go 1S - pass - pass - and then some action by West in the fourth seat. In our system, West could easily produce a take-out double with 10 points and 3 hearts in that situation.

After South opens with a bid of 1S, most Wests will make bid 2H. North and East

pass. What do you bid as South?

Board 27 happens to be a case where the 2H overcall might meet its due punishment.

Even if N-S played in 2H undoubled, it would still be a bottom at minus 150 or even minus 100.

I hold to my minority opinion that this 2H overcall is not a good idea. Its only redeeming feature is a bit of shape, there being a second suit (4 card clubs). But this feature is little use; how is partner supposed to know whether to leave a doubled hearts contract or to start scrambling into other suits? In our system we can rely on that overcall (at the level of 2) being a 6-carder and a much sounder basis for making the right choice.

Debating these opinions is not straightforward because it calls into question the full bidding understandings of the partnership - both paths can be correct within their own contexts. For example, we would find a re-opening action by East on most 10 point hands if the bidding had been passed around to East in a sequence 1S-pass-pass-? This means that we are correspondingly more comfortable to pass instead of overcall 2H with the West hand. If your system is different, the conclusion may be different.

Note that North should pass in tempo.

In general, holding a pile of the opponent's suit is a bad signal that immediately suggests defending is the best option. North is hoping for a re-opening double.

The following commentary is based on our partnership understandings, which naturally may not be fully relevant to other partnerships.

Issue #2 : South's Rebid

My first question is what about a pass? In our system the opening 1S is 95% likely to be a 5-card suit, so North's failure to contribute a 2S bid is ominous - like the dog that didn't bark in the night. It means North hasn't got at least 3 spades and 5 points. This means that South isn't really offering a choice of two suits by bidding 3D. The indications are already out there that partner doesn't like spades. South ought to feel at least a little bit uneasy about coming up with a new suit at the 3 level. On the other hand, not vulnerable, two 5 card suits, plus good shape: it's a resilient holding and partner only needs a doubleton support plus a few points.

Moving on, the central question is why not re-open with a double? Unfortunately a double is not suitable because it implies tolerance for both other suits (diamonds and clubs). Furthermore, and crucially, the sequence of double by South, 3C by North, 3D by South promises substantial additional values in our understandings - say about 18 points. So, our partnership understanding did not allow South to re-open with a double.

At the table, my partner therefore had a choice between pass, or 3D, and chose the latter, which looks good.

Now it is prudent for North to pass. Sure, S has bid twice, to the 3 level; but there's a different dog that didn't bark in the night, namely that S didn't re-open with a double. Hence North should infer that South isn't sitting with anything like 18 points. Also the hand is clearly not

shaping up as a good fit for anyone at the table. Even 26 points wouldn't land 3NT if the hands don't fit well. Even if a long heart could be set up in the North hand, there probably wouldn't be enough entries.

An early exit is clearly indicated and North should pass 3D.

Certainly a deal to pose a few probing questions for bidding in contested auctions.

2011

Bridge Holidays
with Suzie and Ron Klinger

KANGAROO ISLAND (off Adelaide)
Tuesday, May 3- Tuesday May 10

LORD HOWE ISLAND:
Saturday, 28th May - Saturday, 4th
June

MURRAY RIVER CRUISE
(From Adelaide):
Sunday July 3 to Friday July 8

TANGALOOMA WILD DOLPHIN
RESORT (OFF BRISBANE)
Wednesday, 10th to 17th August

BARRIER REEF CRUISE ON THE
CORAL PRINCESS II, TOWNSVILLE
TO CAIRNS
Tuesday, 6th September - Monday,
12th September

Check the notice board for details
of these trips.



NEW & REJOINING CLUB MEMBERS

SEPTEMBER 2010 – DECEMBER 2010

Home Club Members 930 Alternate Members 112 Total 1042

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

SEPTEMBER

Diana Wellby
Glenys McAuliffe

OCTOBER

Joan Taylor
Anthony Taylor
Diane Pope
Marie Michelmore
Frans Fikke
Eve Clarkson
Anne Salter
Richard Collis
John Ryding
Shelley James

NOVEMBER

Maxine Litwin
Keith Cramond

DECEMBER

Ursula Harper
Ronald Wiseman
Mary Wiseman
Cheryl Wong
Peter Scales
Deborah Carmody
Robyn Ellis



EI Presidente on the left and Sue Broad's sister, Gae on the right.

THOSE WE WILL REMEMBER

Betty Challen
Nigel Philip
Janice Viner



SOLUTION TO THE TIM SERES PROBLEM

Play Bridge with Tim Seres
by Michael Courtney

This deal was played at the Spring National Teams 1989 (Round Five, Board 13, Dealer North, All Vulnerable)

THE FULL HAND

	SJ97 H K83 D A9 C J7532	
S Q6 H 742 D K10876 C Q98		S 84 H AQJ10 D QJ532 C K10
	S AK10532 H 965 D 4 C A64	

club three. On East's 10 he played low. West would not overtake as that would surrender the body of the club suit. East exited with a trump. Seres won the top two trumps and led...another low club! East won perforce and the defence had two club tricks, but they could not take more than one top heart before the run of the clubs. Making four, North-South +620

If on winning the club ten, East had shifted to the queen of hearts the defence would have established two heart tricks before their second club stopper was extracted. But the contract would *still* make.

Seres would win the heart king; then ruff a diamond, cash the top two trumps, cash the ace of clubs (exhausting East) and then exit with a heart. East would have to give declarer a red suit ruff and sluff after taking his winners – declarer's third club would evaporate.

Seres won the diamond ace and led the





Diary dates 2011

GET YOUR PARTNERS ORGANISED
FOR THE NEW YEAR EVENTS

RED POINT MONDAY MORNING	Monday, 17 January 2011	9:15 AM	
RED POINT MONDAY	Monday, 17 January 2011	1:00 PM	
RED POINT TUESDAY	Tuesday, 18 January 2011	1:00 PM	
RED POINT WEDNESDAY	Wednesday, 19 January 2011	11:30 AM	
RED POINT WEDNESDAY EVE	Wednesday, 19 January 2011	7:30 PM	
RED POINT THURSDAY	Thursday, 20 January 2011	1:00 PM	
RED POINT FRIDAY	Thursday, 20 January 2011	1:00 PM	
RED POINT FRIDAY MORNING	Friday, 21 January 2011	9:15 AM	
RED POINT SATURDAY	Saturday, 22 January 2011	1:30 PM	
GNOT HEAT	Saturday, 5 February 2011	10:00 AM	
NEW MEMBERS PARTY (BY INVITATION ONLY)	Sunday, 6 February 2011	1:30 PM	
TUESDAY GGRP HEAT	Tuesday, 8 February 2011	1:00 PM	
INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP	Wednesday, 9 February 2011	7:30 PM	
WOMEN'S PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP	Tuesday, 8 March 2011	1:00 PM	
RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS	Sunday, 13 March 2011	10:00 AM	



RED POINT EVENTS



GOLD POINT EVENTS

THE SEVEN BRIDGE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



And a partner who understands me.



Two fine finesses



Three setting tricks



Four skinny slams



FIVE GRAND SLAMS



Six trump coups



Seven killing leads



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.





A HUGE CHRISTMAS BOUQUET TO ALL THOSE DIRECTORS, CONVENERS, KITCHEN HELPERS, BAR HELPERS, OFFICE STAFF, **DECORATORS, COOKS , MONEY COUNTERS,IN FACT...ANYONE** WHO MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO PLAY UNINTERRUPTED, ENJOYABLE, ABSORBING BRIDGE ANY TIME WE WANT.

