

S.P.B.C. APRIL NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT - PAT HOBSON.

The Novice Congress on Saturday was a huge success and congratulations go to the winners, Kathy Wilman and Jenny Simmons from S.P.B.C. Convened by Trevor Fletcher, it was reported to be the largest Novice Congress field in South East Queensland - 26 pairs. Lunch was presented by Anna Cornell-Bray and Jan Palm with the help of a couple of volunteers, and received plaudits from across the room. Kaye Donaldson was the caddy for the day, which helped to keep things running smoothly. Thank you all so very much, your efforts ensured it was a great day!

To maintenance issues: The plumber has placed a large drain, and is to insert a grate as you enter the club to prevent the water problem in heavy rains, as we experienced earlier this year. The roof and leaks are being fixed outside the kitchen area, and new taps were fitted to the male bathroom sinks. The purchase of a new urn is underway. A very happy Easter to all.

FORTHCOMING APRIL COMPETITIONS.

Red Eclectic - Tuesday Evening - 2 weeks.	3/4 and 10/4.
GNOT Heat 1 at GCBC - Thursday Evening - Gold Points.	12/4, 19/4 and 26/4.
Graded Round Robin Friday Teams - Red Points.	13/4 and 20/4.
Simplicity Red Pairs (+ Club Chsp Final) - All Day Wednesday.	18/4.
Swiss Autumn Teams - Wednesday - Red Points.	25/4, 2/5, and 9/5.

RESULTS FROM MARCH COMPETITIONS.

Graded Round Robin Teams 14/3, 21/3: Barbara Pigdon & Bruce Jennings; Patricia Hille & Jan Varmo. (Blk)
Lynette Fraser & Renee Hoy; Felicity Wilkes & Maureen Evans (Org)

Thursday Night Red Eclectic. 15/3 & 22/3: Noriko Nishigami & Trevor Fletcher. (Black).
Lyn Jelercic & Jennifer Gasston. (Orange).

Zeppelin Travel Red Point Teams 19/3: Patricia Hille & Jan Varmo; Barbara Pigdon & Bruce Jennings.

Friday Club Champ. Pairs 16/3 & 23/3: Marlene Bernau & Gwenda Jewell (Black).
Daniel Chua & Odette Hall (Orange).

Bidet All Day Red Pairs 28/3: Erica Schweiter & Florence Alderton.

SPBC Novice Pairs Congress 31/3: Jenny Simmons & Kathy Wilman. Sponsors Roberts Law.

PROMOTIONS :CONGRATULATIONS FROM BEVERLEE TRAVERS & NOELINE ROSSITER

Graduate: Anita Boyle.

Club: Lesley Dew.

Local: Jennifer Gasston & Elizabeth Hemmings. **Local** ** Marliene Venn.

State: Ian Barker & Barbara Rydon.

Regional: Roxanne Brayshaw & Mary McIlwraith. **Regional*** Gwenyth Aiken & Naomi Ryan.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: FROM LINDSAY KUBLER (MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY).

Home Club: Ruth Armitage Young - 55331412 & Jan Dougherty - 0733492104

Other Club: Margaret James - 0432066164 & Pamela Scarr - 0414877164

Membership as at March 2012:

Home Club Members - 536 (Includes Life Members 30)

Non Affiliated Members - 160

Total Members 696 (Total Non Financial - 2)

"WHO AM I?"..... (GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BRIDGE MATES).

I was born in Warwick, Queensland, in 1929 and raised in a rural community. I entered Prep school in 1933 and completed my education with Matriculation in 1946.

In 1948 I enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy for 12 years and served in two theatres of war, namely Korea and later Malaysia.

In 1952 I married my childhood sweetheart and this month we celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary. We have three children and seven grand children, and as all our families left our homes in Sydney where we had lived for 48 years, we decided to return to Queensland, and retired to the Gold Coast in 1995.

I have been playing Bridge now for twenty years. I began in Sydney, and when we moved to the Coast I commenced playing at the Senior Citizens Club where the Conference Centre now stands. I hope to play for many years to come. (See Editor's Note).

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 70 PERCENTERS.

Danny Osmund and Jan Varmo - Green Section 23/3 - 71.3%
Patrick Wallas and Brian Borrell - Tuesday Evening 27/3 - 70.9%
Anita Brimicombe and Suzanne Dougherty - Orange Section 6/3 - 70.2%

EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA!! FROM JAN PALM (SOCIAL ORGANIZER).

Come one! Come all! Wednesday 4th April will be a special day to celebrate Easter! Felicity Wilkes has kindly donated \$200 for prizes on the day (on behalf of the Pyjama Foundation), and there will also be a lucky door prize. We are now selling tickets in the Easter Raffle, and our thanks again to Dot O'Hara and the Management Committee for the donation of chocolates. So, forget all your troubles for the afternoon and join in the happy and peaceful spirit of Easter. Last but not least, every player will get an egg or two! Jan. (Thanks to Jan for her fantastic "pink and pretty" Easter display. Well done Jan, very creative! Editor).

GENERAL NEWS.

***Noeline Rossiter** would like to thank all those who helped fill in at the Congress. It was much appreciated.

***Green Point Competitions:** Scant interest is often shown in Green Point Competitions. However John Cox gave some information the other day which many players may not know. He advised that we need to hold Green Point Competitions to be eligible to receive Red Points, as they are allocated on a pro-rata basis.

***Bridge Base Online** (www.bridgebase.com) is a free online bridge game which can be a fun (and addictive) way to fill in some spare time. **But be warned:** On occasion your designated partners may be bad losers, and if you are at fault, they can vent their frustration, ranging from mild criticism to foul language.

***Doreen Hinton's Theatre News:** *Forever Plaid* is a once upon a time story (think of the Jersey Boys), and has 33 songs from the 50s. It is showing at the Spotlight Basement Theatre at 7.30 on Thursday 26/4/12. Book your seat now: Phone Doreen on 566 88 625 or email taurus28@virginbroadband.com.au

***Attendance Analysis:** February 2012 - 3414 Attendees - February 2011 - 3512 Attendees. (Down 98).

DEFENSIVE PLAY - FROM KAYE DONALDSON (TEACHING CO-ORDINATOR).

Playing in "ruff and sluff" gives the declarer a free trick. When you look at the Bridgemate and see a contract make that should not, it is invariably because they have been given a ruff and sluff.

In a competitive auction where you are bidding hearts and the opposition bids to 4S - you are on lead and lead the Ace of Hearts (having the King!). Dummy goes down and there is only one heart card in dummy. The Ace wins. If you play the King of hearts it will no doubt be ruffed in dummy - but where is the Queen of hearts? Often in declarer's hand - a free trick.

The bad ruff and sluff play is during the defence of the hand when you **know** that neither dummy nor declarer have hearts (let's say) and a heart card is played in defence because it is the best heart left!!

Declarer should now lick their lips because they have been given the choice of which losing card to play, from which hand they play the loser, or from which hand they can win with a ruff!

If dummy is out of a suit, lead another suit or play a trump to dummy. Good bridging, Kaye.

"KATE'S RULES" - KATE MCCALLUM INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION. (3 OF 49)

Rule 3: Don't sell out at the 2 level when the opponents have an 8 card fit. However, if you think that either side may not have an 8 card fit it is correct to sell out at the 2 level. (Exceptions if weak & vulnerable).

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE. WITH YOUR INDULGENCE - A PERSONAL EASTER STORY, 2011.

Every Easter Sunday we always go to Mass at Saint Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane. It's a big deal!

There are TV cameras, Bishops in fancy hats, Priests dancing attendance, Altar Boys and Girls, and a great Choir. Just before Mass begins, late comers wander up the aisle plaintively searching for a place to sit, but it is the "little old ladies" who are the most successful in this subtle art. Last year my daughter Helen said; "I'm not giving up my seat again for these 'little old ladies' who come in late. You've driven all the way up from the Coast, and still managed to be here on time!"

"No, I'm not getting up either," I agreed.

"Well, of course you're not Mum", said Helen with a grin, "you're an old lady yourself!"

"Oh that's right," I said, "I forgot."

(And I often do forget, don't you? On behalf of "oldies" I say, we may be old but we're still young at heart!)

FROM THE EDITOR - MERLE GOLTZ.

Well, hello Sailor! Thanks to Les Somerfield for his interesting story in *Who am I?* Congratulations too, Les, on your 60th wedding anniversary. Contributions to this segment are always welcome, as are email addresses.