



Peninsula News and Views

Newsletter of the Peninsula Bridge Club

Volume 7, Number 3

September 2011

Upcoming Events

- Spring Pairs
- Jean Stebbins Trophy

Check your 2011 Diary for details!

Please welcome our latest new members:

Betty Bevins
 Bill Brideau
 Cathy Clarke
 Robert Dummett
 Valerie Duncan
 Sally Fox
 Jim Rothwell
 Lyn Smith

2011 Committee

President

Colin Chase

Vice-President

Sue Riley

Treasurer

Nora Bird

Secretary

Mike Pengelly

Comm. Members

Martin Beech

Alan Davies

Vivien Eldridge

Michael Harvey

Tina Hewes

Rosemary Murray

Cath Whiddon

The President's Hand

With great sadness we again mourn the passing of one of our long-time members. Ruth Jackson, who had been in declining health for some time, died quite suddenly early in August. Ruth was a good player and always thoroughly enjoyed her bridge. She had a wonderful sense of humour and could always be relied upon to see the funny side of any situation. Ruth's many partners and friends at Peninsula will miss her enormously.

Congratulations to Lyn Smith and Cath Whiddon for taking out the *Manly Daily* Northern Beaches Pairs held in late July (see photo, courtesy David Farmer). This is the first time that the event has been won by a pair representing Peninsula Bridge Club, so very well done to Cath and Lyn.

Well known teacher, Derrick Browne from Trumps, will be presenting a workshop at our club from 9.30 to 11.30 am on Monday, September 26th. His topic is 4th Suit Forcing – what it is and when to use it. Derrick is a very talented instructor and the workshop promises to be both informative and entertaining. I am sure players will benefit by attending. The cost to members is only \$10 (payable in advance).

You will see a set of protocols displayed on the notice-board for using the Bridgemates. These were developed by the Committee and are based on a similar set of guidelines used at Trumps Bridge Club. The reason for having these is to limit the number of entry errors, speed up the play of the hands and avoid disputes. Members are encouraged to read and follow these protocols.



2011 Northern Beaches Pairs Winners
 Lyn Smith and Cath Whiddon

I will not be standing for a position on the Committee next year so this will be the last *President's Hand* from me. Although there have been challenges over the past four years, the Club has seen significant progress in a number of areas, thanks largely to the hard work of other PBC Committee members. Improvements include an ambitious program of bridge education at the Club through ongoing classes and workshops, an effort to provide more timely scoring results on our website, the introduction of wireless Bridgemate devices and new chairs to improve members' comfort. I've greatly enjoyed my stint as President and hope that I've made a useful contribution to the Club and not trodden on too many toes. I must sincerely thank all members for their support and wish the new Committee every success.

Happy bridging

Colin Chase
President

Recent Promotions

To Graduate Master:

Pamela Burge, Anne Burrows

To Club Master:

Elizabeth Bacon, Jeanne Gardner,
Robin Hicks

To Local Master:

Vickie Busteed, Esther Lee,
Ian Newson

To *Local Master:

Nora Bird, Jim Coutelas, David Grout,
Timothy Mussared

To **Local Master:

Margaret Bird, John Cregan

To Regional Master:

Chris Dixon, Barbara Jones,
John Tobin

To State Master:

Robert Saville

To *State Master:

Leslie Treasure, Alan Holten

Recent Winners

Grand National Pairs (Qualifying)

Margaret Partridge and John Rogers

Manly Daily Northern Beaches Pairs

Lyn Smith and Catherine Whiddon

Charles Mitchell Shield

Pauline Haynes and Joan Murdoch

State Open Teams (Qualifying)

Lynn Baker & Vona Hadfield &
Vivien Eldridge & Alan Davies

Winter Pairs

Joy Hill and Frank Matthews

Grand National Open Teams (Qualifying)

Alan Davies & Vivien Eldridge &
Pauline Haynes & Cassandra Mitchell



Margaret Partridge and John Rogers



Lynn Baker & Vona Hadfield; Vivien Eldridge & Alan Davies

And in Outside Competition.....

Please put your hands together for the following players:

- Cath Whiddon, who finished 4th in the NSW State Individual Championship held at the NSWBA in Sydney on August 6th. Hats off to Cath!
- Leslie Treasure, who with partner Loraine Neville, competed in the Orange Bridge Club Congress held on July 23rd. Not only did Leslie and Loraine make it to the A Final in an open field but they finished 6th. Not too shoddy for two players with around 100 Masterpoints apiece!

Cath's Class

Many of my beginner bridge players were left somewhat bewildered by a bridge column that appeared in the Manly Daily on August 6th – not because they didn't already know about the need for overcalls to show a **GOOD 5 card suit** (i.e., two of the top three honours or three out of five (A,K,Q,J,10) , but because the paper got the calls mixed up. So, with the kind permission of the Manly Daily, we have reproduced the hand here with the corrected bidding to clear up any confusion.

I suggest that readers of bridge columns look at the hand first and decide how their partnership would bid it, what they would lead and how many tricks they can see – and only then read what the expert suggests. Whilst the bidding might go differently, if you end up in the same contract, you must be doing it right! It's always fun to see what the experts do – and even more fun when you beat them! Michael Hanvey and I certainly enjoyed our bag of chocolates for beating the professionals at Trumps' weekly Wednesday night Swiss Pairs event. PBC has trialled a similar night this month. Hopefully, we can report on a hand from that session next newsletter.

– Cath Whiddon

When overcalling can be a bit risky

BRIDGE John Newman

THE following hand from the weekly Wednesday night walk-in Swiss pairs session at Trumps was one of many that the panellists found worthy of mention.

East-West Vulnerable, Dealer South

WEST	NORTH	EAST
♠ KJ8	♠ A4	♠ 652
♥ QJ643	♥ 1087	♥ 92
♦ 854	♦ KJ72	♦ Q963
♣ AK	♣ Q863	♣ 10975
SOUTH	NORTH	EAST
WEST	NORTH	SOUTH
1S	Pass	2C
2NT	Pass	Pass

Notice that on this unfavourable vulnerability West passed with 14HCP and a reasonable five-card heart suit.

With 11 of the balanced hands 14HCP concentrated in the short suits overcalling in teams is too risky and this hand has good defensive capabilities.

Most Wests overcalled and escaped this time.

On this layout the contract can go three down.

Exchange North's diamond king for partner's heart king and two hearts will be doubled and proceed to go four down for -1100.

West led the H4 against 2NT.

Cath Whiddon, of Peninsular Bridge Club, was declarer.

After considerable thought she rose with dummy's 10!

Had she played the H7 on this layout she would have lost at least three heart tricks, two spade tricks and two club tricks for down two.

By playing the H10, as well as gaining a third heart trick she was able to give up two spade tricks and regain the lead each time to make the contract.

Most declarers found the task of inserting the H10 easier when their opponents had overcalled two hearts.

Travelling North - Margaret Partridge and John Rogers

Being bridge tragics and having recently acquired a caravan, John and I set off in mid-July for a trip up north with a view to playing at as many regional bridge clubs as we could.

We started in Orange and made our way up through Dubbo, Gunnedah, Goondiwindi, Toowoomba, Dalby and Roma and then across to Townsville and Cairns. We then came down the coast and played at Bowen, Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Noosa and Brunswick Heads.

There were a couple of common threads in many of the clubs. The first was the overwhelming friendliness of the members. It was as if we'd walked into their home. Their welcome was very humbling. Country hospitality is as famous as the food and at many of the clubs afternoon tea was a wonderful spread of cakes and sandwiches, whilst at Goondiwindi, the evening session involved full dinner food (all covered by the normal table money).

The second thing was that many of the country clubs are in decline because of an elderly membership and no new players coming in. At Roma, for example, they have to ring around prior to each Saturday session to make sure they have two tables. We felt guilty because we made 2 ½ tables and we said we felt we should go. But they begged us to stay and said how nice it was to have new people there. The larger clubs that are able to teach beginners are the lucky ones, because the others will struggle to remain viable.

We also were amazed at the distances that some of the regular players covered to have a game. Many of them came from rural communities and 50 kilometres each way was nothing. One woman we met drove two hours each way!

Our road trip was great fun but our sessions at the country bridge clubs certainly enhanced our enjoyment. I recommend it to anyone.

To find out session times at the various towns, the NSW Bridge Association and the Queensland Bridge Association have excellent websites.



Editor's Note: Please consider sharing your own bridge experiences with other PBC members by contributing to the newsletter. All bridge-related submissions are welcome and will be considered for our features section. You might want to write about a 'road trip' to other Australian bridge clubs, a recent workshop, an overseas bridge holiday or simply discuss a particularly interesting hand that you played. Thanks to Margaret and John for an engaging and perceptive article.