

# NOOSA BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

December 2009

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year nearly over! Let's hope that we have all learned something to make this world a little happier. Congratulations to all our club winners. I look forward to presenting your awards at our Christmas party on 11 December after bridge. This year our party is being catered for, so everyone can relax and enjoy their day.

My sincere thanks to Pam and her many volunteers who helped make Cup Day such a success. I have heard many accolades from members who enjoyed this day. Our two-day congress went extremely well thanks to our co-ordinators Muriel and Bev and I would personally like to thank Colin Regan and Peter Althaus for taking over my role as I was unable to be there.

Paul Marston's visit was another great success. The players from all around Australia were impressed with the atmosphere and hospitality of our club. A President from a Perth club has rung to enquire about how we run our club as many of their members sang our praises when they returned home. Thank you Lizi for doing a great job as co-ordinator and thanks to those others who helped to keep the wheels turning - Bev, Di, Jill, Kath, Rozanne and many more. My sincere thank you. I would also like to thank my husband John who is always there to back me through every event.

To members and your families, I wish you a happy, safe and caring Christmas and a prosperous and healthy year in 2010. Remember, "Your Club is Simply the Best!"

*Lyne Collins*  
*President*

## NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to the following new members:

Valerie Sawtell	Sue Hoggard
Judy Barfield	Ray Barfield
Leslie Cobb	Cherry Barnett
Florence Grubanovich	

## GNOT FINALS - WHAT A RESULT!



Phillipa Barnett and Sandy Regan did themselves and our Club proud when they competed in the GNOT finals at Banora Point, NSW, from 27 to 30 November.

There were 92 pairs competing. Our ladies not only won the Country Pairs event but the overall GNOT event, being the first Country Pair ever to win. Congratulations! A well deserved result for two of our keenest students of the game.

## NOOSA BUTLER PAIRS

The Congress was very well supported with 26 tables. Of the 104 players, 57 were from clubs



other than Noosa - a good indication of the wide appeal of this congress.

The Congress Committee (Muriel Loveday, Bev Salter and Kath McKay) and the volunteers Beth Tolley, Phyl Moody, Jill Phillips, Peter Althaus and Alan Pringle and our invaluable kitchen manager Karen Phillips ensured the smooth running of this event. Chrissy Baynes had the unenviable task of dealing the boards - a time consuming and physically tiring job done in her usual cheery manner. Thanks Chrissy. As usual, the unflappable and ever efficient Peter Busch did a sterling job as Director. Thanks to all concerned.



*Ann Mellings (left) and Sue Mabin*

The results were:

#### Section A

- 1st Sue Mabin and Ann Mellings
- 2nd Greer Tucker and Lynette Vincent
- 3rd Dick Trollope and Tony Walford

#### Section B

- 1st Barry Midgley and Di Stagg
- 2nd Stephen Stening and Barbara Stening
- 3rd Geoff Thomas and Nikolas Moore

#### Section C

- 1st= Lizi French and John Fell
- 1st= John Scrivens and Joan Mills

Best finishing under 200 MPs  
Ed Beckett and Jan Beckett

Congratulations to all the prizewinners and we hope everyone enjoyed the Congress.

NOTE: Ann Mellings has moved to the Noosa area and will shortly be joining our Club. Welcome, Ann.

### **NOOSA BRIBIE TEAMS CHALLENGE**

The Annual challenge was held at Bribie Club on 29 November. Our Club fielded five teams with a sixth Noosa team comprising two Noosa players and two from Bribie. The Noosa teams played well but in the end, on this occasion, they had to concede defeat. Many thanks to the members who participated. This is a social event as well as an opportunity to play in a teams event which is less intimidating than an open congresses. It was wonderful to have a number of our novice players taking part.

### **PAUL MARSTON'S VISIT 8-14 NOVEMBER**

Paul Marsten and Nigel Rosendorff organise a bridge holiday in Noosa each year for players from around the country, giving participants and our own club members an opportunity to learn from the masters and enjoy some interesting games at our Club. This week of bridge does much to promote our club, which derives quite a bit of income from players visiting throughout the year. It also helps to promote Noosa as a major holiday destination. Friendships were made and a number of visitors are now planning to spend several weeks here in coming years, which will help boost employment opportunities in the area.

During the week, the Club was a hive of activity. Quite a few members from our Club participated in either the series of five lessons or the whole week of lessons, play and other activities. Close to 150 people listened attentively to Paul and Nigel's lessons hoping to be better able in future to master Slam bidding techniques including Roman Key card Blackwood (with Q ask), Squeezes and End Play techniques.



Everything ran smoothly with many thanks to club members who contributed with the dishes, cleaning up etc. Thanks also to the members who were not involved but who tolerated with good humour the mild disruption to their own bridge sessions. Supportive members are only too aware of the extent to which our club gains in having such noted teachers with us for seven days.

It certainly gives the local teachers an opportunity to catch up on the latest bidding trends and to share their concerns with the experts. It also allows club members who are keen to learn from the experts the chance to do this without having to travel to other areas.

Lizi French organized the week with her usual distinctive flair and Lyne Collins, as President, made the visitors feel very welcome.

*Bev Salter*

### **MELBOURNE CUP DAY**

A very pleasant game of bridge in the morning was followed by a lovely lunch organized by Pam Cross, Merrelyn Daly and a host of other volunteers. The meal was delicious - a smorgasborg of cold meats and salads followed by ice cream and fruit salad accompanied by the obligatory champagne with which to toast the race winners and each other.

The club is very grateful to Harvey Norman, at Noosaville, who kindly donated a big screen television so that we could watch the race.

Prizes were given for best hat etc and the sweeps were run. A great day was had by all.

Thanks to our President Lyne for helping to organize this event and liaising with Harvey Norman Ltd.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Club's Christmas Party will be held on Friday 11 December during and at the end of play. By now, those planning to attend should have registered their names for catering purposes.

Light refreshments (finger foods) and drinks will be served and it is to be hoped that a jolly good time will be had by all.

### **TOOWONG OPEN TEAMS**

Congratulations to Maureen Jakes and Rosie Green and their partners Peter Evans and Mike Forbes who won the Toowong Open Teams on Sunday 29 November.

### **THURSDAY RESERVE PLAYERS**

The club promotes Thursday play as a day when partners are not required. This means that if there is a player left without a partner after the non-partnered players have been paired up, a reserve player will be provided so that no one misses out on a game. If all players can be teamed up, the rostered player may then go home.

Our sincere thanks to all players who participated in this initiative this year. Your support has made someone's day and brought kudos to our club.

Kath McKay has agreed to try to organize for 2010 a roster of genuine volunteers prepared to turn up ready to play if required on a Thursday.

You don't need to be a top player to volunteer. Players arriving without a partner will be very grateful to have someone to play with. Please look on this scheme as an opportunity to get to know other members and possibly to get to welcome a visitor to our town.



To volunteer, please contact Kath any time between 8 am and 8pm from now on by phoning 5474 3348 (you can leave a message if she's not answering) or 0414 132 162 or email [injmckay@bigpond.com](mailto:injmckay@bigpond.com).

If you can spare a Thursday afternoon once a month or even only once a year, she would love to hear from you.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE 1 JANUARY 2010

A reminder to members that subscriptions will be due to be paid by 1 January 2010.

### TEACHING CORNER

In the last edition, Kevin Feeney provided some sound advice about the recognizing and dealing with the "dangerous" defender in a No Trump contract. If you missed it, it should still be accessible via the club web page. This is a follow-up.

### HOLD UP PLAY

#### Contract 3NT by South Opening Lead H5

	S AJ5	
	H AT2	
	D 98632	
	C 74	
S 9842		S 763
H QJ953		H K86
D JT5		D K7
C Q		C KT982
	S KQT	
	H 74	
	D AQ4	
	C AJ653	

When playing in No Trumps, we count our winners. Here we have only six certain tricks, 3 Spades, 1 Heart, 1 diamond and 1 Club. (We are in deep trouble, Lone Ranger!).

To succeed, we will have to establish some diamond winners. We know that WEST is the

"Danger Hand" and we also know that if West has the Diamond King, we are going down, but we have to try this line of play regardless.

On the lead of the heart rag, we must hold up. East wins and returns another heart. Again, we hold up on playing the Ace, as we don't want East to have a heart left to return to West who has 2 winners in that suit once our Ace is played.

Now we take a deep breath and play a small Diamond to the Queen. It holds! Play back to the Ace of Spades, leading a high card (King or Queen) so that we don't block ourselves in the South hand.

Next, we lead a small Diamond. East puts up the King and we MUST DUCK! West may have the Jack of Diamonds, which would provide an entry to his Hearts. We must hold our Ace for the third round.

Whatever East leads back, we win. Then we play the Ace of Diamonds, dropping West's Jack.

Now we can play a Spade to dummy and cash the remaining two Diamonds, the third Spade and the Ace of Clubs, making our contract.

This hand is an example of why Bridge is so challenging and so exciting. Don't you love it when you make a plan and it works?

So, why do we use "hold up" play?

1. To prevent the "Danger Hand" from winning the lead.
2. To cut communication between the two defenders.

We can use the "hold up" technique in both suit and no trump contracts. Try it some time.  
Merry Christmas.

*Kevin Feeney*

*(This play adapted from the Gaymasters club).*



