



Peninsula News and Views

Newsletter of the Peninsula Bridge Club



Volume 6, Number 2

June 2010

Upcoming Events

- Winter Pairs
- Charity Pairs
- State Open Teams
- Northern Beaches Pairs

Check your 2010 Diary for dates!

Announcing.....

PBC Workshops!

Teacher:
John Roberts

Workshop 1:
'Third & Fourth
Seat Opening Bids'

Wed. 14 July
9-11:30 am

Workshop 2:
'Attacking and
Passive Defence'

Wed. 21 July
9-11:30 am

Cost per workshop
is \$20 per person.
Members and non-
members welcome.

Book by phone or
fax: 9970 6527 or
by e-mail:
bridgeinc@
optusnet.au

*Hope to see you
there!*

The President's Hand

It is always sad to hear of the passing of friends. Recently, we have lost two long-standing and highly respected Club members, Ted Coyle and Joyce Smith. Ted served on the Committee as Treasurer for a number of years. His knowledge of accounting procedures was legendary and few were prepared to challenge him when it came to matters financial. Even after retiring from Committee work, Ted kept a close watch on the Club's finances and succeeding Treasurers often sought his advice and help. He had what one might call a headmasterly manner but on closer acquaintance one discovered that underneath this stern exterior there lay a big, lovable teddy bear. Joyce Smith was also a much-loved member of Peninsula Bridge Club. She was a very gracious lady who always displayed cheerfulness and had a great sense of humour. Both Joyce and Ted will be greatly missed by all who knew them.

Several of our members have been in hospital recently with various injuries and illnesses. We wish them all a very speedy recovery and hope to see them back at the Club soon.

A number of our members attended the Gold Coast Bridge Congress this year and achieved excellent results (*see photo above right and coverage on page 3*). Our sincere congratulations to them and to all our members who have achieved success in Club, State and National events in 2010.

Happy bridging to all.

Colin Chase
President



Some of the PBC Gang at the Gold Coast Congress

Editor's Note

Thanks to the efforts of Vivien Eldridge and Colin Chase, readers can now access a printable electronic archive of published newsletter issues. This can be found on the Northern Beaches Bridge website.

The website address is:
<http://northernbeachesbridge.info/>

Navigate to the Menu on the left and click on the 'Peninsula Club' link to reach the newsletter archive. Then just click on the relevant link for particular newsletter issues.

I would also like to take a moment to thank readers for the wonderful feedback that I have received in response to the newsletter. With your cooperation, I hope to continue offering short profiles of PBC members in future issues. These might focus on a member's favourite hobby, sport, charity or other activity. So step up with suggestions because the newsletter depends on you!

New Members

Please make welcome: Peter Cox, Maris Taylor, Lisa Dunphy, June Donald, Lorraine McCaffrey, Robin Newman, Norman Bacon, Elizabeth Bacon

Recent Club Competition

Congratulations to these winners:



State Mixed Pairs (Qualifying)

Grace Eisdén and Frank Matthews



Grand National Open Teams (Qualifying)

Maureen Cooksley & Sue Crawford & George Biro & Kitty Biro

Summer Pairs

Lynn Baker and Yong White

Michael Marks Shield

Trish Giles and Anita Kite

Swiss Teams Congress

Joint Winners: Carolyn Dowling & Bev Menzies & Linda Abbenbroek & Jan McLennan; Henk Sluyter & Neville Nott & Wayne Zhu & Les Marks

State Open Pairs (Qualifying)

North-South Field:
Vona Hadfield and Michael Hanvey
East-West Field: Terry Matthews and Val Miller

Recent Promotions

To Graduate Master: Esther Lee, Jane Mussared

To Club Master: Jean Bennett, Ann Giles, Anna Tiller

To Local Master: Timothy Mussared

To *Local Master: Gwen Bristow, Pat Little

To **Local Master: Chris Dixon, Peggy Lange, Sandra Mower

To Regional Master: Dorothy Anstey, Edna Fairley, Robert Saville

To *Regional Master: Mary Farrell

To State Master: Iris Collins, Jeanette Weaver

To National Master: Audrey Coyle, Alan Davies, Vivien Eldridge

Just for Laughs

Researchers have discovered the heaviest element yet known to science.

The new element, Governmentium (Gv), has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons, and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312.

These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons.

Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A tiny amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second to take from four days to four years to complete.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of 2-6 years; it does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganisation in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places.

In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganisation will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes.

This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as critical morass.

When catalysed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium, an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons.

Gold Coast Bridge Congress

A sizeable contingent of Club members travelled north earlier this year to compete in the annual Gold Coast Bridge Congress. Some outstanding results were achieved. Among the highlights: Leslie Treasure and Yvonne Perkins won the Novice Graded Pairs event, Margaret and Michael Draper won Section D of the Seniors Pairs, Alan Davies and Vivien Eldridge placed second in Section B of the Restricted Pairs and Martin Beech and Mary Farrell were part of a team that won the B section of the Novice Teams.

This report from Vivien Eldridge:

In March, I had my second visit to the Gold Coast Bridge Congress. Alan Davies and I played in the Restricted Pairs, the Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs and in the teams with Margaret Partridge and Lynn Baker.

Despite the shocking weather, it was a most enjoyable week. But it is also true that eight straight days of bridge – usually with two sessions a day – can be demanding. After about Day 5 you become a bit of a zombie and start seeing everything in terms of vulnerability. I realised that things had gone too far when I found myself worrying about what to have on my toast in the morning!

The hand that I have chosen to write about - Board 2 in Round 5 of the Ivy Dahler Pairs - was coincidentally covered by Ron Klinger in his SMH column. I was sitting North and opened 2C (Game Force). After inquiring and finding partner with no kings, I settled in 5S, making 5. Most others seemed to be in 6S, making 6. According to the computer, 6S is possible. But on a club lead and if West keeps ducking your queens I don't see how you can make more than 5. There will be a good bottle of wine for anyone who can prove otherwise.

	North	
	♠ AKQ942	
	♥ AQ4	
	♦ AQ9	
	♣ A	
West		East
♠		♠ JT5
♥ K9532		♥ T86
♦ KT763		♦ 5
♣ T76		♣ KQJ842
	South	
	♠ 8763	
	♥ J7	
	♦ J842	
	♣ 953	

In the teams, Board 2, Match 3 was a lot of fun for me if not for North. I decided on picking up my hand that I was going to be in 6H or 6S and found a perfect, if perplexed, dummy.

I was sitting East as dealer (NS Vulnerable) and the bidding went:

N	E	S	W
	2C	pass	2D
pass	2S	pass	4S
pass	6H	pass	pass
X	6S	pass	pass
X	pass	pass	pass

South led a small club and thirteen tricks were there off the top for a score of 1370.

	North	
	♠ T32	
	♥ 74	
	♦ AQJ7	
	♣ AQJ9	
West		East
♠ 9654		♠ AKQJ87
♥ K63		♥ AQT952
♦ 982		♦ 3
♣ 653		♣
	South	
	♠	
	♥ J8	
	♦ KT654	
	♣ KT8742	



PBC People: A High Note for Marcelle

Marcelle Keller can hardly recall a time when music was not a powerful force in her life. The youngest of five sisters, her talent revealed itself at an early age. "I started learning the piano when I was four," she says. "My sisters were having music lessons from a teacher who came to the home. I used to sit in the doorway listening. I didn't go to school until I was seven and I pestered my mother to let me learn. My teacher took me on before I could read or write. And by the time I was about eight, I was playing my sisters' pieces."

Despite her promise as a pianist, Marcelle's early performing career had at least one rough patch. When she was about six, she was entered with about 70 other children to play a little piece at the Palings Concert Hall in Sydney. "In our home, we had a long duet stool at the piano," she recalls. "I was used to climbing over it. So when I walked onto the stage, instead of just walking around the small stool at the piano, I went to the centre of it and climbed right over the top. Everybody went into fits of laughter. That rather put me off the playing."

On completing high school, Marcelle won a scholarship to the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. Many famous musicians have passed through its doors, including Joan Sutherland in the early stages of her career. "My sister was having singing lessons at the 'Con'," says Marcelle. "But she was put off singing when she heard Joan in the room next door!"

In 1949, after four years of intense study, Marcelle received her diploma. It was the highest degree that one could then attain in New South Wales for performing or

teaching. But her plans for a musical career were not to be realised. By the time of her graduation, Marcelle was travelling with her parents in England, Europe and the United States. Her diploma was mailed to her.

"My father wanted me to travel around and be a companion for my mother. And so, being a very dutiful daughter, I travelled with them for a year. Naturally, we went to many concerts and for family reasons I wouldn't leave them. When I returned, I married an extremely busy surgeon (former Australian Wallaby Doug Keller), acted as his secretary in his home practice and had five babies in seven years. There was no way that I could go on with my studies."



Some 60 years later, in February 2010, the University of Sydney, which is now allied with the Conservatorium of Music - decided to honour former Conservatorium students who had put so much effort into an arduous degree-type course. Marcelle was among those chosen to receive a Certificate of Recognition, thereby becoming an alumnus of the University. The award was presented by Chancellor and NSW

Governor Marie Bashir, who coincidentally is also a family friend of Marcelle and her late husband.

Marcelle still plays the piano brilliantly and gets immense satisfaction from classical music, although she also admits to enjoying a little jazz. Recently, she was asked to play the organ for early morning church services at Newport. "I hadn't played an organ in 60 years," she says. "Mastering the foot-pedals has been a challenge but on the whole it has gone pretty well."