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UNDERCROFT BRIDGE CLUB (INC)
NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2012



**Undercroft Bridge Club's Annual Congress Pairs
Winners
Dominic Rocchiccioli & Kay Johnson**

Percy Doyle Reserve
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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Tony Martin has kindly agreed to publish the newsletter with Pauline Coulter and myself supplying the information. As you will see some other members have provided entertaining accounts of their holidays – enjoy! Please give me any photos, news, articles and recipes that we can include in the next edition. This is the final edition for 2012 with quarterly publications planned for 2013.

The AGM in August elected the following Committee:

President: Ann Hopfmueller

Vice President: David Cowell

Secretary: Julia Corr

Treasurer: Lorraine Rea

Committee Members: Jennifer Bandy, Connie Coltrona, Pauline Coulter, Graham Milward, Alan Tolley and Armanda Torre.

We thank Chris Price who continues to be the Master Point Secretary, Des Warner the Director's Secretary, Vina Maia our Librarian, Frank Hingston who organises the board dealers, Ian Rowlands our computer expert, Beata Bieganski the Web mistress, Gloria James and Maria Pirajno who assist the Treasurer, the teachers Allan Doig, Jim Pinington, Leslie and Ray Routledge and Tony Martin the "Go to man". Everyone at UBC is very grateful for your efforts.

In the past two months a sanitary disposal unit has been placed in the ladies toilets, a new urn was purchased, the bidding box inserts have been replaced and the Web site has been updated. Hopefully, by the time this newsletter has been published, the new storage units in the coffee area and meeting room will be completed.

A special mention must be made of Kath Shepley and Sheila Parker. Kath has retired from the librarian's position after many years of faithful service to our club and Sheila is having a break from the various positions she has held for a long time. Both ladies are to be congratulated on their untiring efforts for Undercroft. A sincere THANK YOU from all of us!

The Congress was a great success, with all reports being favourable. The conveners, Connie Coltrona and David Cowell, did a fabulous job with the help of the Committee and many members. **WE THANK YOU ALL!!!**
The full Congress Report appears in this publication.

The Mayor of Joondalup, Troy Pickard, who came to present the congress prizes, informed us that the plans for the redevelopment of the Percy Doyle Reserve will be available in early 2013. This will be an interesting time for the Undercroft as we negotiate the best deal we can for our club's needs. Members will be kept informed during the process.

I would like to thank members for their continued support in what has become a huge job as the President of the Undercroft Bridge Club. All of the Committee are working very hard to make our club a happy and vibrant place, where you can enjoy the game you love. Please feel free to speak with any of us, at any time about your needs or concerns.

My very best wishes for a happy, blessed and peaceful Christmas season.

ANN HOPFMUELLER

UNDERCROFT AT KALGOORLIE CONGRESS





CONGRESS REPORT

The 2012 Undercroft Bridge Club Congress was an outstanding success.

The Congress Committee – Connie Coltrona, David Cowell, Armanda Torre, Jeny Bandy & Alan Tolley are to be congratulated for their organization and catering of the event.

Many thanks for the assistance given by Committee members Ann Hopfmueller, Julia Corr, Lorraine Rea & Pauline Coulter. And a note of thanks to Tony Martin for the very professional Personal Scorers.

The generosity of Club Members in supplying scrumptious food for the morning and afternoon teas was fantastic, many thanks – your culinary skills were well noted by all attendees of the Congress.

The amazing gardeners Jenny Dawson, Terry Farrell & Morrie Colling provided a mass of floral displays making the club look beautiful, many thanks to you all.

The assistance of the volunteers on both days was invaluable. Your continual efforts in keeping the premises clean, preparing the lunch table and having a smile on your faces whenever a request was made certainly allowed the days to run smoothly.

Many thanks to director Bill Kemp, always efficient and calm.

Congratulations to all the winners on both days and congratulations to Undercroft for another wonderful event.

**Connie Coltrona
CONVENOR**

THE JOURNEY

By Doris Keeble 2012

The London Borough of Greenwich, my London home until January 1990. Every year, since 1997 I have returned visiting my high school friends and extensive family in the UK.'

The Queen made Greenwich a royal borough to mark her Diamond Jubilee, one of only four in the country. Greenwich's buildings with royal links include Greenwich Palace, Eltham Palace and the Royal Military Barracks. The Greenwich Palace remained one of Henry VIII favourite residences throughout his life, allowing him to combine both his royal duties and his personal pleasures. As a king, the palace gave him a home within easy reach of the new shipbuilding yards he had built in Deptford and Woolwich. An avid sportsman, it offered him the vast expanse of Greenwich Park in which he could hunt deer. Greenwich hosted three Olympic venues for the London 2012 Olympic and Para Olympic Games. It was the site that London Transport chose to erect the first ever cable car. It opened in June 2012 and spans the river Thames linking Greenwich Peninsula with the Royal Docks.

Greenwich, a place steeped in history with an abundance of parks and open spaces. The park is always full of tourists. The Royal Observatory Greenwich is the home of Greenwich Mean Time and the Prime Meridian of the World. It is also home to London's only planetarium, the Harrison timekeepers and the UK's largest refracting telescope. The beautiful Painted Hall of the Naval College which in 1806, three months after the Battle of Trafalgar the previous October, the body of Horatio Nelson was brought to lie in state. A plaque marks the spot where his coffin was placed before it was taken for burial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral. The National Maritime Museum and Cutty Sark are also full of history. The Queens house the home of Charles I's queen, Henrietta Maria, showcases the Museum's outstanding fine arts collection. Over 500 years of history can be explored through a fascinating permanent exhibition Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site. Built at Greenwich, the Thames Barrier, the second largest moveable flood barrier became operational in 1982. The world's biggest dome, the famous millennium dome built on the Meridian Line to mark the dawn of the new century. Previously affectionately know as the O2, it has now been renamed the North Greenwich Arena.

Woolwich once again a garrison town, the Army have returned to the Royal Army Barracks. The largest parade ground in Europe dominating Woolwich common. The soldiers can be seen twice a day riding around the local streets exercising their horses. New stables for 128 horses were built along side the barracks. Closed roads and changed bus routes were signs that the Olympic shooting venue was almost complete. The heritage of The Royal Artillery Barracks with its beautiful 18th century architecture dates back to 1716.

Since the fourteenth century a ferry operated across the Thames at Woolwich, in 1844 it was proclaimed free ferry and officially opened in 1889. The ferry a stones throw from the Royal Arsenal which used to be a thriving hub of engineering and explosive excellence before and after the great wars. An ordnance depot in 1671 and in 1805 proclaimed the Royal Arsenal at the suggestion of King George III. Today it is home to a museum of its past, commercial units, residential properties, a couple of pubs and the vast estate called Thamesmead. The army pier in the grounds of the old Arsenal now loads and off loads passengers travelling on the river boats for work and pleasure. A fine way to travel to London to view the sites along the Thames. Now a waterway that gives much pleasure to visitor and residents alike.

In 2009 The Docklands Light railway terminated at Woolwich Arsenal and since 1999 the underground Jubilee Line has operated from North Greenwich. One of the largest stations on the Jubilee Line, it is capable of handling around 20,000 passengers an hour. Due to open in 2018 work has already started on Crossrail. It will link Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, via Greater London, to Essex and Kent. The link will enable travel from Heathrow Central to Abbey Wood in 51 minutes

My journey started around 2pm Sunday 15th July, the day before I was due to return home. I wanted to fly across the Thames in the new cable car and take a trip in the river boat. The day was mild, overcast and rain free when my friend and I left the part of Abbey Wood that is in the County of Kent. A walk of 100 metres and we crossed into Greenwich and walked down to the station to catch a South Eastern train to Charlton, the home of Charlton Athletic football team. Everywhere there were signs suggesting you allow time to walk to your Olympic venue because the volume of spectators was going to cause possible delays. Right outside the station we boarded a typical red London bus to travel to North Greenwich.

The bus route took us through what used to be a light industrial area and the site of Greenwich gas works. Replaced by an enormous retail centre, residential blocks, entertainment complex, the North Greenwich underground tube station and the Millennium Dome.

Lots of people thronged the area as we got off the bus and walked from the bus terminus through North Greenwich tube station and pass the Dome. A poster pointed out a new attraction, there was now the facility to walk over the roof of the Dome. My comment, a minor scale Sydney Bridge experience. In sunshine we walked to the entrance of the cable car past cafes where people were enjoying the company of their friends. One could only imagine what the atmosphere would be like in a couple of weeks when spectators would be heading to the Arena for basketball, gymnastics or trampolining or Greenwich Park to watch the equestrian events.

We were so surprised to see so many people standing inline, snaking their way to the cable car entrance. An attendant told us that it was about a 30 minute wait to buy your ticket and then we would have to join the queue to get on the cable car. We got through in about 10 minutes because we found out that the oyster card entry was the same as any other mode of transport in London. Open seven days a week it can carry up to 2,500 people an hour in each direction. The gondolas reach a height of 50 metres and they are accessible for wheelchair users, pushchairs & cyclists (two bicycles per gondola). The spectacular journey in the pod flying high above the Thames was over in few minutes. It was a beautiful clear day and the views of London were magnificent. We had views of Olympic Park, major Olympic venues and many of London's iconic buildings. Much better than the trip on the Wheel at Waterloo that I had taken ten years previously.

We alighted at the other side where the queue were much smaller and walked to Victoria Dock light rail station for the short trip to Canary Wharf. Canary Wharf station is at the entrance of the shopping complex, residential and leisure areas, established in its present form in early 1980's on the banks of the river.

Walking through the shopping centre activated the desire for a coffee and food. We found a nice French bar overlooking one of the many lock areas with views of the water and of the bridge carrying the trains of the DLR.

Hunger and thirst satisfied we walked to Canary Wharf pier and bought our ticket for the river boat journey to Woolwich Arsenal. Ten minutes later we were on the river and heading home. The boat was nearly empty so it was a grandstand view through the bow window of the river and her banks all the way to Woolwich. The camera ran hot as this was the first time I had really travelled the river as a passenger. It was river views of the Dome with people traversing the roof top, cable car, Greenwich Park, the magnificent Queens house, the Naval Museum, Greenwich pier, the Royal Observatory, the Cutty Sark and the Naval college. On past the Thames Barrier which had been raised for the Queens Jubilee celebrations. Past Tate and Lyles sugar factory at North Woolwich and a Ferry off loading its cargo of cars at Woolwich. A journey of ten minutes that avoids travelling through the Blackwall Tunnel and all its congestion.

Alighting at the terminus, Woolwich Pier, a short walk through the Arsenal took me down memory lane. This was my old stomping ground when I worked in the gated wall enclosure manned by MOD police and a pass was needed to gain entry. We walked past the Main Gate of the Arsenal which now stands as a monument in the Square where market traders ply their wares Monday through Saturday. A few more paces past the DLR station entrance standing beside the Woolwich main line station. Here we boarded a train for Abbey Wood. The weather had been kind and we walked back into Kent arriving home around 6pm.

What a day to remember where else in the world in the space of four hours could you travel by public transport on main line trains, computer controlled trains, buses, river buses and a cable car, soaking up the atmosphere and the history of the location. We just could not manage the underground, though we did walk through a station. Airplanes, well again we passed London City airport which is an airport just across the water from Woolwich and a station the DLR system.

BASIC ACOL

Basic Acol using Benjamin Twos is the most natural of systems and players relatively new to the game would be wise to master the basics of this system first.

The following examples have been taken from a website of basic Acol. I have added some further explanations at the side.

Example hands

A. Your partner opens 1♥. What do you respond with these hands?

♠ AK32 1♠ – 6+ HCP and 4+ spades.

♥ 53 This is an open ended bid.

♦ 765

♣ K954

♠ K74 1NT – 6-9 HCP and a balanced hand.

♥ J53 By bidding 1NT in this and the next example you

♦ T963 are showing a point count and not having 4♥ or 4♠

♣ QJ4

♠ K74 1NT – 6-9 HCP and a balanced hand again.

♥ J53 Even though you have 5♦ you should not bid at the

♦ QJT96 2 level unless you have 10 or more HCPs.

♣ Q4

♠ K74 2♦ – 10+ HCP and 4+ diamonds. You could
♥ A53 bid 3NT directly, but in fact 4♥ may be the
♦ KQJ63 better contract (if opener has 5 hearts) so bid 2♦ and
♣ Q5 see what opener does next. There is no need to jump.

♠ K74 3♥ – limit raise, 10-12 HCP, 4-card support.
♥ K953 You could bid 2♦ and then support hearts
♦ QJT96 next time, but that would suggest only 3-
♣ 4 card heart support.

♠ K743 2♦ – 10+ HCP and 4+ diamonds. You should
♥ KJ3 probably prefer to bid diamonds (your longest
♦ QJT96 suit), although 1♠ would be all right. It depends
♣ 3 on your partnership arrangement but bidding 1♠ makes a
 second response of 2♦ seem like you have 5 spades.

B. You open 1♥ and your partner responds 2♣. What do you rebid with these hands?

♠ K53 2♦ – Prefer to show your second suit rather
♥ AJ852 than just rebidding your hearts. Bidding 2♦ is more
♦ KQT7 descriptive and indicates the shape of your hand.
♣ 4

♠ 53
♥ AKJ32
♦ 76
♣ K954

3♣ – Support your partner with 4-card support
– who will realise you must have 5 hearts too.
This opening bid utilises the rule of 20.

♠ AK97
♥ KQJ53
♦ A3
♣ 87

2♠ – Again you want to show your second
suit. This shows a reversal which is a strong hand.

♠ K74
♥ KJ53
♦ AK6
♣ Q94

2NT – 15-16 HCP and a balanced hand.

♠ AQ4
♥ KJ53
♦ AK6
♣ Q94

3NT – 17-18 HCP and a balanced hand.

♠ K43
♥ AKJ973
♦ JT6
♣ A

3♥ - 16+ HCP and 5+ hearts. You want
to jump here since your hand is so strong.
Bidding just 2♥ would show a weaker hand,
but you can't be sure 4♥ is the best contract
(so you just bid 3♥).

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to all the following who have been recently promoted.

May Knight, Robyn Lang and Christine Riley to Graduate Master
Matthew Quinn, John Ruane, Lorraine Beckett and Ky Khan to Club Master
De'arn Alexander, Wendy Baillie, Valerie Hildebrand and Bruce Mason to
Local Master
Elizabeth Davis, Patricia Graham and Maria Ikier to Local Master*
Hilde Audas and Jenny Dawson to Local Master**
Metka Agrez and Moira Pirrit to Regional Master
John Reid to State Master
Graeme Esson to National Master
Carol Fensome to Grand Master

Also well done to the winners of our red point events

The Individual John Beyfus runner up Allan Doig.



THE SPRING PAIRS - Winners David Cowell & Ann Hopfmueller
Runners Up Bety Thompson & Ken Smith



THE CONGRESS - UNDERCROFT MEMBERS

The pairs Winners - Domenico Rocchiccioli & Kay Johnson (see cover)
Third place - Jan Szymakowski & Margaret Britten

Plate - First - Christine Ross & May Schonwolf
Second - Vina Maia & Claire Quesnel
Third - Marie Sheridan & Christine Jenkins

Consolation - N/S - First - Satish Bedekar & Tony Eardley
Second - Tony Martin & Joanna Tennyson
E/W - First - Peter Stephenson & Ziggy Tuleja
Second - Julia Corr & Joan Schneider

And let's not forget the qualifying

First Tad & Beata Bieganski
Second Ann Ohlsen & Diane Tilvern
Third Tuya Cooke & Brian Fensome

Teams - Third - Ann Ohlsen/Diane Tilvern/Satish Bedekar/Tony Eardley

CHRISTMAS CAKE RECIPE

This Cake has all the rich, moist qualities of a traditional Christmas Cake but is much easier to make because there is no creaming of the butter and sugar. The texture is very moist and pudding-like for those who love this type of cake.

Ingredients

375 grams sultanas
110 grams currants
220 grams raisins
110 grams walnuts, chopped
250 grams unsalted butter
1/2 cup water
110 grams dates
440 grams assorted glace fruit—cherries/figs/pineapple/apricots
1 1/2 level tsp each cinnamon and nutmeg
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1 1/2 level tsp each grated lemon & orange zest
1/2 cup brandy or sherry or brown rum

Soak all fruits for two to three days before doing the next step.

Combine all the above in a heavy based big saucepan and stir over a low heat until the butter is melted. Bring to the boil and boil for 3 minutes. Remove from heat and allow to become completely cold. I do this step at night and leave to cool covered until the morning.

Second step

2 tbsp orange marmalade
2 cups plain flour OR 1 1/2 cups plain flour & 1/2 cup self raising flour for lighter cake
4 medium eggs
Extra brandy or sherry of brown rum
About 125 grams blanched almonds if desired to decorate

Add eggs one at a time to cooked fruit mixture mixing well. Add marmalade mixing well, then sifted flour mixing well. Line a 20cm square or 23cm round deep cake tin with three thicknesses of lightly greased baking paper. Place mixture in tin and pack firmly, tap tin on bench top to settle mixture and spread top evenly.

RECIPE (CONTINUED)

Arrange almonds over top of cake in a pattern, if using. Bake in a slow oven at 140C for 2 1/2 to three hours. Test after 2 hours by inserting the blade of a sharply pointed knife into the centre of the cake. If the blade comes out clean, the cake is cooked.. Remove from oven and immediately drizzle over extra brandy, sherry or rum. Cover with baking paper, foil immediately then wrap in about six layers of newspaper or a big towel. This traps the steam, keeps the cake very moist and creates a soft top.

When the cake is completely cold remove from tin, wrap again in foil and store in a cool place. The cake will now keep for months. If storing for more than three weeks, wrap in paper first the a layer of foil.

Note: If the cake seems to brown too quickly on top, cover the top of tin with brown paper making sure the paper does not touch the cake mixture. When placing the cake on the table on Christmas Day, place a red ribbon around the outside and tie with a bow. A sprig of holly looks festive on top.

UNDERCROFT AT BUSSELTON

Undercroft Bridge Club was well-represented by participants at the Busselton Congress which was held from the 19th-21st October in the Dunsborough Naturaliste Community Centre in Quindalup. The sessions were well-organised and the excellent food was prepared by members of the Red Cross. Historically Margaret River and Busselton alternate their Congresses, however next year Margaret River will not be holding a congress so it will be at Busselton again. Why not go along next year to support them?



FRANK HINGSTON was the worthy recipient of a LIFE MEMBERSHIP award at the 2012 AGM.

Over many years Frank has rendered valuable service in furthering the objects of the club. He has worked tirelessly, in a variety of positions, including Committee Member, Treasurer and Manager of Board Dealing. Frank spends countless hours at the club, contributing significantly to its success.

Frank is also a talented artist and Undercroft is fortunate to have several of his pieces displayed on the club walls.

Thank you Frank for all your endeavors.

EDITORIAL

Where has the last couple of months gone!! I ask you why does time go faster as you get older (or at least seem to).

Nest weekend (17-18 Nov) is the Gold Point Golden West tournament in Mandurah—Good luck to all Undercroft members taking part.

My grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue—please keep contributions coming they will always be gratefully received as will any letters to the editor that are received. This is your forum so feel free to raise any issues that you wish..

Once again Undercroft had a highly successful Congress with no vacancies very early on. Very well done to all concerned and in particular I must mention the “helpers” who were highly efficient and yet virtually invisible—a very hard feat to manage.

TONY MARTIN

A TOUCH OF HUMOUR

A lawyer defending a man in New York accused of burglary tried this creative defence: "My client merely inserted his arm into the window and removed a few trifling articles. His arm is not himself, and I fail to see how you can punish the whole individual for an offence committed by his limb." "Well put," the judge replied. "Using your logic, I sentence the defendant's arm to 5 year's imprisonment. He can accompany it or not, as he chooses." The defendant smiled. With his lawyer's assistance he detached his artificial limb, laid it on the bench, and walked out. ...Don't mess with Lawyers.....manipulation is their game !!



OUR SOUTH AFRICAN HOLIDAY

by Pauline and David Coulter



In September we took off for our long awaited holiday to South Africa. Our visit took us to the lowveld area of Eastern Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces, close to the Mozambique border. After picking up our hire car in Johannesburg, we drove to Sabie, a small town on the lowveld escarpment. Here we spent a few days in a delightful B&B called **P o r c u p i n e** Ridge which was perched halfway up a mountain side. The gardens surrounding the house were a mass of flowering shrubs and trees that were just coming into spring colour. We also had beautiful views down the valley below. The patio and gardens were excellent for bird watching which, in addition to bridge, we both share a passion for. We visited the dramatically scenic Blyde River Canyon (the second largest in Africa after the Fish River Canyon in Namibia), God's Window with panoramic views down the escarpment to the lowveld, many spectacular waterfalls and the Long Tom Pass near Lydenburg. Long Toms were large French field guns that were used by the Boers to guard the mountain passes during the Boer War (1899-1902).

From Sabie we moved on to Wit River, not too far away. We stayed in a very pleasant, privately run hotel which was reminiscent of the Colonial era. A notice there read that after 6.00pm, 'gentlemen are requested to wear a collared shirt and long trousers'. It's good to see some dress standards still apply today. We visited the town of Nelspruit and the well-maintained Botanical Gardens where we were entertained by a large troupe of vervet monkeys.



The following day we set off for what was to be the highlight of our holiday, the Kruger National Park. We slept in NP rondavels (small circular buildings with conical thatched roofs) at four different rest camps, Skukuza, Satara, Oliphants and Letaba as we travelled northwards through the Park. Each morning at 6.00am, the camps gates opened and usually, soon after that, we were out in our car for an hour or so before breakfast eagerly looking for wildlife. After breakfast we were soon out on the road again as driving around in expectation of what one might see next is so exciting! In the six days we spent in the park we saw lots of game, including large herds of water buffalo and elephant. We also had a glimpse of a leopard and good views of a lioness with three cubs. Some other animals we saw included many giraffes, hippopotami, crocodiles, three rhinoceros, including a mother and baby, and of course the ubiquitous impala. The birdlife in the KNP is prolific and varied. We identified a total of 120 species during our visit to South Africa, a large proportion of these in the Kruger Park.

After leaving the Park we headed for Tzaneen and the nearby Magoebas Kloof hotel which is situated atop a mountain. It is named after King Makgoba (slightly different spelling) who was slain by the Boers in 1896 when he objected to being evicted from his tribal homeland. We met one of his descendants, a very proud and handsome African man who works at the hotel. Being high up, the climate is cooler and from our balcony we could observe the rare Samango monkeys feeding on the leaves of the trees around the hotel. We visited a nearby forestry plantation where in 1906 the "the 'tallest planted trees in the world' were planted. Imagine our surprise when we discovered that they were in fact Karri eucalypts and whilst walking through the small forest it felt as if we were back in the south west of W.A.!

After these few halcyon days we headed back to Johannesburg for our onward flight to England for family reunions, including a wedding and a week's walking holiday in Devonshire but that's another



CLUB HISTORY (CONTINUED)

In the late 1990, while two of our members, Kath Brosnan and John Lees, were looking at possibilities in the Stirling area, John Bereford suggested to Syd Noakes that they should take a look at the Percy Doyle Reserve, Duncraig. There they saw several buildings large enough to suit our needs so they proceeded to make inquiries with the City of Wanneroo about leasing a Council building. They were told that it might be possible, on this reserve or another and a solution to our problem was perceived.

They reported their observations to the club committee. Although it would have been easier to find an existing facility on one of the Wanneroo Council's reserves and share it with other groups it was decided that we needed our own building. This would give us the advantage of not having to pack up all our chairs, and store tables and equipment at the end of every session. The disadvantage would be that it was going to cost us a lot of money and some very energetic lobbying was going to be needed to raise grants or loans as the club could not possibly fund such a facility by itself.

So, a New Premises Sub-Committee was formed, composed of John Bereford, Kath Brosnan and Syd Noakes. This sub-committee would, it was hoped, over the next few years, guide the club to the new club-rooms of its own on the Percy Doyle Reserve. The group immediately began to contact the Lotteries Commission, Wanneroo Council and the State and Federal Government members to see what assistance could be obtained.

In September 1991 the three members of this sub-committee became club President, Vice-President and Secretary respectively, and the drive for the new premises moved into top gear.

To say that the way was not easy would be something of an understatement. At first the task seemed insurmountable. Negotiations for grants or loans resulted in very few offers, at best only a few thousand dollars, whereas the amount needed was estimated at \$170,000. (This later blew out to well over \$200,000 when the site the Council had allocated us was changed). The first request for a loan from the Lotteries Commission was rejected, and we were advised in May 1992 that our first application to the Federal Government had also been rejected. A small ray of hope was an invitation to apply again next year.

So our stalwarts did not give up. Perhaps inspired by the news that an application to the State Government had brought the promises of a loan of \$35,000 a Fund-Raising Committee was formed, headed by Kath Brosnan. It held its first function on August 15th 1992, and was attended with some success, several hundred dollars being raised.

At the Annual General Meeting in August 1992 John Beresford, in view of an intended move to the Mandurah area, vacated the position of the Club President and was succeeded by John Lees. In fact John's move south did not eventuate for some time and while he was no longer as closely involved in the planning for the new premises he continued to take an active part in associated activities.

The club moved into fund-raising mode. Some members contributed fairly substantial amounts of money via a debenture scheme, some "bought bricks" for \$5.00 each. Regular fund raising nights were held at which members took part in quizzes and Dutch auctions and paid to enter games and competitions of many kinds. Each one of these functions swelled club funds by several hundred dollars. Individual members made foods or commodities, sold them to members and donated the proceeds to the Building Fund.

Syd and Kath, now joined by Don Fraser who had replaced John Beresford on the New Premises Sub-Committee did not let up for a moment. They made copious phone calls, arranged numerous interviews and wrote dozens of letters seeking support from politicians, councillors and practically anyone else that held any position of authority and seemed prepared to listen, and at last a few hopeful signs began to appear.

The club had about \$30,000 in reserve. With the State Government contribution, the debenture money and the fund-raising the club was looking at nearly \$90,000. Wanneroo Council, a little luke-warm at first, set a site on the Percy Doyle Reserve and promised they would draw up plans and supervise the construction of the building, if and when full funding was available.

That there could be no "full funding" without a substantial Federal grant was obvious. With a feeling that the next effort would be the last throw of the dice the Sub-Committee composed an application which was duly forwarded.

TOBE CONTINUED....

Amsterdam to Budapest in 15 short but wonderful days

By Margaret Melsom

As we enter the wonderful years of retirement, most of us have established an enormous 'bucket list' of hoped for pleasures that we previously couldn't afford, didn't have the time, looking after the family - and the realities of life go on.

At last – our time! I have always loved travel and for me Europe has been the big draw card.

AND SO....

July 2012 was my time to travel through five previously unvisited countries – Holland, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary.

My friend Jenny and I set off on our planned trip, full of excitement, dreams and expectations. We chose to travel on an Avalon Magnificent Europe River cruise. This was quite different from my previous travels with a small group of 140 passengers and a new town or city to visit every day. Cosy!



The crew couldn't have been more friendly and attentive, the evening entertainment unique and entertaining and the food was 'to die for' – including magnificent breakfasts and lunches and five star a la carte meals every evening. An incredible EAT-A-THON!

When asked the question "What was the highlight for you?", I find it difficult to answer. I loved the beautiful cities of Vienna and Salzburg but how can you compare these and other famous cities with the beautiful small historic towns through which we travelled – Amsterdam, Cologne, Rudesheim, Miltenberg, Wurzburg, Bamberg, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Passau, Linz, Durnstein (gorgeous), Wachau, Melk, Bratislava - capital of Slovakia and our final destination Budapest.

These were the cities and towns visited, each with its own 'very unique' personality but equally as delightful was the river travel on the Rhine, the Middle Rhine, Romantic Rhine Valley, the Main Danube Canal and the amazing 'not-so-blue' Danube. The scenery was utterly beautiful from the ship and for us the excitement, dreams and expectations were all fulfilled

Pictures below: Typical views from the Tranquility, including Lorelei (centre)



 Undercroft Bridge Club
Christmas Parties 2012

Wednesday 5th December - 11.00am to 4.00pm

Saturday 8th December - 11.00am to 4.00pm

*NOTE: You may attend only one party



Nibbles and drinks

Two course meal

Bridge

Afternoon tea and biscuits

ENTERTAINMENT!!!

This year's entertainment will be provided by our very own
Tony Eardley and Kaylene Harris, a jazz singer.

\$15.00 per person, to be paid when your name goes on the list.

Attendance for both parties closes on **FRIDAY 30TH NOVEMBER**



CONTACTS

Ann Hopfmueller (President)	94472828
David Cowell (Vice President)	94035552
Julia Corr (Secretary)	92436935
Lorraine Rea (Treasurer)	94094895
Jennifer Bandy	94471019
Connie Coltrona	92451723
Pauline Coulter	94472444
Graham Milward	92036362
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Vina Maia (Librarian)	92717342
Allan Doig (Saturday morning lessons)	94488520
Leslie Routledge (Saturday morning lessons)	92461817
Jenny Bandy (Partners coordinator)	94471019