

X Mas Puzzles answers

- 1) Declarer [de(c)l arer dearer "about" one hundred (C) pounds (L)]
- 2) Rule of 11
- 3) Final contract of 7 Hearts. Yes. The 5C response to 4NT shows 0 or 4 Aces
North decided it was four
- 4) Contract Bridge (Come together = contract part of ship = Bridge)
- 5) Skip (S J) Simon. Also author of Why you lose at Bridge
- 6) South had failed to recognise the conventional 2NT call. NB 2NT after a takeout double agrees opener's suit and shows 10+ pts. N/S could make 4Sp on the lie of the cards . Is 2NT a rare call ? Not really and has been part of the basic Acol system from the start. These days it seems to have acquired the name Truscott
- 7) According to Hoyle.
- 8) Brew British =Br bridge players = E W
- 9) 1)Win Ace Hrts 2) Q hrts discard a diamond 3) J Hrts discard a diamond 4)Q diamonds discards a spade 5) J diamonds discard a spade
6) 10 diamonds disard a spade 7) 9 diamonds 8) 8 diamonds
9) J sp 10) 10 sp 11) 9 sp 12) 8 sp 13) Ace clubs
- 9) Groucho Marx ((The Marx Bros were a great bridge playing family btw)
- 10) Why did Bill take the (anti percentage play) finesse rather than playing for the drop ? It turned out that the player on Bills left had doubled 7H.
Although the doubler was known for an *eccentric* approach to the game (and that's being generous) Bill decided that to double, the doubler must hold Qxx hearts. And so finessed him."Wow that was lucky ! If he hadn't been doubled Bill wouldn't have played that way would he ?" "No " .1770 is the score for a doubled grand slam. Minus 50 would have been the score if the contract hadn't been doubled.
- 11) Hercule Poirot 12) Warren Buffett
- 14) On the Ace diamonds throw a club. As soon as you can , draw trumps leaving the J in dummy. Play Ace clubs then lead the Q clubs intending to throw a spade if it is not covered by the King. 10 tricks are certain like this.
- 15) The conventions were :

Blackwood MuD Gerber Lightner Stayman Drury Dopi Splinter
Benjamin FSF Jacoby

Remove those conventions and you are left with these letters forming a well known greeting at this time of the year.

NADOLIG LLAWEN (well known in Wales anyway)