Exciting Final in the Open Playoffs



Avi Kanetkar, Robert Krochmalik, Paul Lavings, George Bilski, Terry Brown & Matthew Thomson, Open Playoff winners

Coming in next issue: article by Paul Lavings

or 2013 the Open and Women's Playoffs were moved back to December 2012, and at a new venue, Sydney's Coogee Bay Hotel.

In the 96-board final *BEAUCHAMP* began strongly against *BROWN*, taking the first 16-board set 46-18. By the time the fifth set arrived, *BEAUCHAMP* had increased their lead to 42 IMPs. But the tide turned on Board 74...

Read the full account of the match in the next Newsletter!

Roger Penny Swiss Pairs

The Australian Swiss Pairs and its lead-in, the Roger Penny Senior Pairs, are a good excuse to visit Tasmania each spring, when the grass is green and the air is sweet. The two events alternate between Hobart and Launceston. 2012 was in Launceston, in October. The Roger Penny Seniors Pairs is the "junior" event, only established in 2005. In that time, the locals have dominated, with three local wins in seven starts, two of them by Phil Beck - David Chung. Time for the mainlanders to step up?

Lots of bridge is about simple things. Take this problem. You hold ♠3, ♥K7542, ♠QJ853, ♣A9. With no one vulnerable, the bidding goes 1♠ on your right, 2♥ from you, 2♠ on your left, pass from partner, and RHO ends the bidding with 4♠. Apparently your methods

don't allow a Michaels Cuebid here. Anyway, you (South) lead •Q and see:

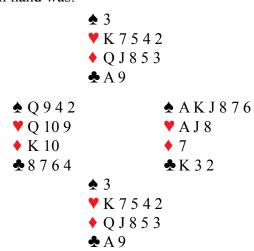
- **♠** Q 9 4 2
- ♥ Q 10 9
- **♦** K 10
- ♣ 8 7 6 4

 West

Your ♦Q holds the first trick(!). Partner produces ♦A on your next diamond lead, but declarer ruffs and draws two rounds of trumps. Then dummy leads ♣4 to partner's ♣5, declarer's ♣3 and your ♣9. How do you exit?

Clearly a heart exit is better than a diamond – partner might have $\forall J$, and declarer might misguess. In practice declarer had $\forall J$, so it didn't matter which suit you chose. What did matter though was this: did you remember to cash $\triangle A$ so you only had to find one exit, not two?

The full hand was:



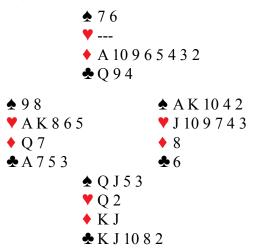
At our table, the defender didn't cash the other club before he exited. Declarer immediately ducked another club, and the defender found himself back on lead with the offending ace ... endplayed again! The first endplay didn't cost a trick, but the second one did. Making game, -420, meant 10 IMPs out instead of a flat board for one off, +50.

This hand is also an advertisement for the Michaels Cuebid. If South bids 2♠ over 1♠ to show a two-suiter, North can compete to five of a minor over 4♠. As it happens, 5♠ is cold!

Another bidding problem. In fourth seat, at favourable vulnerability, you hold ♠AK1042, ♥J109743, ♦8, ♣6. The bidding goes: 1♣ on your left, 1♥ by partner, 2♦ on your right. What do you do?

At the top table, David Chung bid a straightforward 4♥. Then when right hand opponent pressed on to 5♠, he persisted with 5♥, doubled on his right. Concealing his playing strength turned out well. 5♥ doubled made an overtrick for +750 when the full deal was:

South deals, NS vulnerable



Should South have doubled? Some partnerships play this auction as forcing, particularly when their side is vulnerable, and the other side is not. Krochmalik and I were a first time partnership, so we hadn't discussed this level of detail, but if you play that way, South is forced to double, since clearly you don't want to bid to the six-level on this limp rag of an opening. In that case, the blame lies with North (me, alas).

When the music ended, the Apple Isle had triumphed again. Beck - Chung had a third win to their credit. Daylight was second, and the mainland was third, an enormous 18 VPs behind. Well done!



Next year, make note – the dates are moving from spring to autumn to avoid clashes with things like footy finals and the New Zealand National Bridge Championships. It also includes a Restricted section on Thursday and Friday for those with less than 300 MPs. I'm told Hobart in March should be beautiful ... see you there!

Bruce Neill

Canterbury Tales

The Spring National Open Teams

by Ron Klinger

he 2012 Spring National Championships were held at Canterbury Park Racetrack, an attractive venue. First event was the Open Teams, 9 rounds of 20-board matches for 48 teams, vying for the semi-finals.

Day 1:

West deal	ls, all vulnerab	le	
West	North	East	South
2♣	Pass	2 ♦¹	Pass
$2 \checkmark 2$	Pass	$2 \clubsuit^3$	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
?			

- 1. Negative or waiting
- 2. Artificial, game-forcing
- 3. Artificial, negative

What would you do now as West with ♠---, ♥AKQJ97, ♦AK9, ♠KQ52?

To win at teams, your slam bidding needs to be accurate. Round 3 had three respectable slams:

Board 7, West deals, all vulnerable

A	♦ Q 9 7 6
♥ A K Q J 9 7	¥ 3
♦ A K 9	♦ J 10 4 2
♣ K Q 5 2	♣ J976

After the auction given, Matt Mullamphy raised to 6♣. With clubs 3-2 and hearts 3-3, there were no play problems. That was worth 1370 and 12 IMPs against 4♥ -680 at the other table. There were six pairs in 6♣, all making, once doubled. There were nine pairs in 6♥, three successful. ♦Q was offside, doubleton.

East deal.	s, EW vulnerab	le	
West	North	East	South
		2 ♥ ¹	Dbl
Pass	$2NT^2$	Pass	3♥
Pass	?		

- 1. Weak Two
- 2. Preparing to sign off in 3♦
- 3. Very strong hand

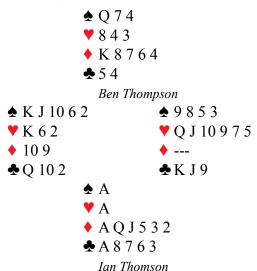


Bob Richman, Ron Klinger, Matt Mullamphy & Hugh Grosvenor



What would you do as North with \clubsuit Q74, \checkmark 843, \spadesuit K8764, \clubsuit 54?

Board 7, West deals, all vulnerable



After the auction in the last column, North felt much too strong for 4♦, and even too good for 5♦. He chose 4♥, the opposition's suit, to show respectable values. That was enough for South, who jumped to 6♦ and that made easily. That was worth 11 IMPs, since NS at the other table played in 5♦, making six.

In our match both NS pairs were in $5 \blacklozenge$, +420. *Datum*: NS 690. There were 19 pairs in $6 \blacklozenge$, once doubled, and 24 in $5 \blacklozenge$, twice doubled, all making. One failed in $7 \blacklozenge$ and one stopped in $3 \blacklozenge$.

Note East's undisciplined weak 2♥, holding four spades. Recommended for East is to pass. Three pairs sacrificed in spades, 4♠ doubled -500, 5♠ doubled -500 and 6♠ doubled -800.

Board 20, West deals, all vulnerable

♠ A K 4 3	★ 10 9
♥ 7 3	♥ A K Q J 8 6 2
♦ 10 4 2	♦ AQJ3
♣ A 4 3 2	♣

At some point East can set hearts as trumps, bid 4NT, find two aces opposite and then make an asking bid in 6♦. When West bids 6♥, no top honour in diamonds, East can pass.

Seven pairs did not have such methods and failed in 7♥ with ♦K offside. 12 stopped in game (more vitamin pills needed). One survived in 6NT when a club was not led. The others were all in 6♥. *Datum*: EW 1090.

At the end of Day 1, the leaders were *HOFFMAN*, David Hoffman, Felicity Beale, Margaret Bourke, Tim Bourke, David Smith, Rob Van Riel with 67 VPs, from #1 seed, *BROWN*, Terry Brown, Avi Kanetkar, Robert Krochmalik, Paul Lavings, Paul Wyer and *JEDRYCHOWSKI*, Richard Jedrychowski – Bruce

Neill, David Appleton – Peter Reynolds, equal second with 63 VPs.

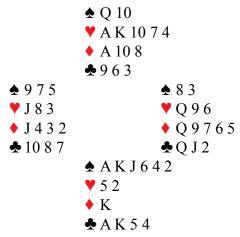
Day 2:

South dea	ıls, EW vulnerd	able	
West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	$2 \clubsuit^1$
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	$5 \spadesuit^2$	Pass	7♠
All Pass	,		

- 1. Forcing
- 2. Two Key Cards + trump queen

What would you lead as West from ♠975, ♥J83, ♦J432, ♣1087?

Round 4, Board 12, South deals, EW vulnerable



If you chose the 'safe' trump lead, as I did, 7♠ makes comfortably when hearts split 3-3. To defeat 7♠, you have to find a diamond lead. That removes the vital entry to dummy for South to enjoy the heart length. Declarer can score one discard on ♠A, but has to lose a club trick at the end.

The board was flat in our match in $7 \clubsuit$. At the other table the lead was a club. Only one other pair ventured $7 \clubsuit$, Sandra and Andrew Richman, and they suffered a sad fate when West led •2. That might happen if the bidding starts $1 \spadesuit$: $2 \heartsuit$, $3 \spadesuit$ as diamonds is the unbid suit. There were 29 pairs in game, mostly in $4 \spadesuit$, but some in 3 NT. 16 pairs made a small slam, $11 \text{ in } 6 \spadesuit$, four in 6 NT and one in $6 \heartsuit$.

After Day 2, our team of Hugh Grosvenor – Bob Richman, Matt Mullamphy – yours truly were leading with 123 VPs from *JEDRYCHOWSKI* (122), *HOFFMAN* (117) and *HANS*, Sartaj Hans – Andrew Peake, Nye Griffiths – Michael Whibley on 116 VPs.

Day 3:

North dea	ıls, nil vulnera	ble	
West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♥
2♠	Pass	4♠	5♣
Pass	6♣	?	



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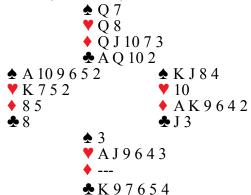
Ove travel

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Part of the Cove Leisure Group Cove Travel | Cove Cruising | Cove Magazine | Sanctuary Cove Publishing What would you do with ♠KJ84, ♥10, ♦AK9642, ♣ J3?

After Round 8, we still led with 158 VPs, from *HOFF-MAN* 153, *HINGE*, Simon Hinge – Kim Morrison, Griff Ware – Michael Wilkinson on 152 and *HANS* on 147. We won our last match 16-14 and the other three had small losses, so that the finishing order remained the same.

Round 9, Board 17, North deals, nil vulnerable



This was Board 17 from Round 9.

After the auction given, it would not be a good time to double as East. If you pass, West leads ♠A and South loses to ♥K later for one down. If you double and partner takes it as Lightner, a diamond lead will be fatal for the defence. South can set up a diamond winner, drawing trumps en route, to discard the spade loser and suddenly 6♣ doubled makes.

One North made $6\clubsuit$ on \bigstar A lead. The other six in $6\clubsuit$, doubled five times, went off after a spade lead. *Datum*: EW 150. There were 21 pairs who made $5\clubsuit$, twice doubled, and two made $4\blacktriangledown$. Nine pairs were in $5\spadesuit$, seven successful, of whom two were doubled. One pair managed to buy it in $4\spadesuit$. Incredible.

The semi-finals (56 boards):

We had the choice of semi-final opponents from *HINGE* or *HANS*. It is always risky to choose a team with young players, but here that applied to both these teams. We chose *HINGE* and so the other semi-final was *HOFFMAN* vs *HANS*.

Set 1:

East deals, all vulnerable **★** 5 4 **7** 9 6 5 4 ♦ A 10 3 **♣** K 8 7 5 **★** K Q 8 3 **Y** A 10 8 ♦ J 6 4 ♣ A J 4 West North East South 1 🗫 1♥ 3 **3** Pass **4** All Pass

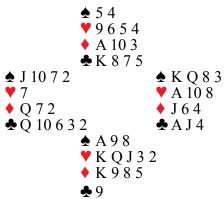
West leads $\clubsuit 3$: five – jack – nine. East switches to 6

♥8: king – seven – four. South leads ♦9: two (natural count) – three – jack.

What would you play now as East?

HINGE won the first session 32-21 to lead 32-29 (after carry-over). *HOFFMAN* won 49-20 to lead 54-20 with carry-over. Nye Griffiths brought home game neatly on Board 7 after a defensive slip:

Semi final, Board 7, East deals, all vulnerable



After ♥K won at trick 2, Griffiths took some good inferences to land his game. Spades had to be 4-4. As 1♣ could be a three-card suit, the jump to 3♣ must be based on five clubs. East therefore had a 4-3-3-3 pattern, and East's ♣A could be ruffed out.

At trick 3, South played ♦9: two – three – jack. A spade switch was now vital, but East continued with ♥A and a third heart. South won and played ♦5 to ♦10, ruffed a low club, crossed to ♦A and ruffed another low club, felling the ace. Declarer cashed ♦K, pitching a spade from dummy, played ♠A and ruffed a spade. South's third spade went away on ♠K for +620.

At the other table, Andrew Peake, East, was one down in 1NT, but +11 IMPs. In our match, both Easts opened 1NT and both NS pairs played a heart partial for +140. *HINGE* led 60-57 at halftime. Our team won the third set 46-26 to lead by 17. *HINGE* won the last set 32-17, not enough, and we scraped into the final by 2 IMPs.

In the other semi, *HANS* gradually whittled away the *HOFFMAN* lead by winning sets 2 and 3 15-10 and 29-18. They also won the third set, but 21-12 was not enough and *HOFFMAN* won by 9 IMPs.

Other ABF results

The Women's Playoffs were won by *MELBOURNE*, Margaret Bourke, Sue Lusk, Candice Ginsberg, Nevena Djurovic, Barbara Travis, Liz Havas and Howard Melbourne (npc) defeating *KALMIN* 179 - 144 over 96 boards.

The GNOT Final was won by SYDNEY 2, Terry Brown, Kim Morrison, David Beauchamp, Avi Kanetkar from SYDNEY 1 by 183 IMPs to 106.



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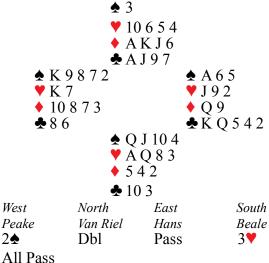






On this deal, the West players took different actions.

Semi final, Board 24, West deals, nil vulnerable



In the first auction, West's weak two (lousy shape and poor suit quality) is not for children or those with pacemakers. South made nine tricks, +140.

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	Griffiths	Bourke	Whibley
Pass	1	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♠ (♥)	3♣	All Pass

Lead: $\mathbf{\Phi}Q$ – two – three – ace

Overcalling 1♠ on a poor suit against two bidding opponents leaves me cold, too. East intended 3♠ as fit-showing. Declarer played a heart to the king and a heart back. South won and continued with ♠J, king, ruffed. North cashed ♠A, ♠K and East was three off, −150, no swing.

West	North	East	South
Grosvenor	Hinge	Richman	Morrison
Pass!	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass!	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
2♠	4♥	All Pass	

Lead: 48 – ace – nine – four

A balancing 2♠ is fine. Declarer played a spade to the queen and king, and West continued with ♠3, king. A heart went to the queen and king, and now South had to lose two hearts, a spade and a club for −50.

West	North	East	South
Wilkinson	Klinger	Ware	Mullamphy
2^{1}	Klinger 2 ♠ ²	Pass	3♥ ³
Pass	4 💙	All Pass	

- 1. Weak two in hearts or spades
- 2. Takeout of spades
- 3. 4+ hearts and some values

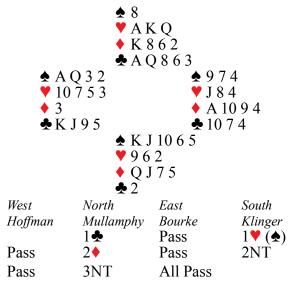
Lead: $\triangle 2$ – three – ace – four

East returned ♠6, queen, king, ♥4, and declarer led ♥10!: jack – queen – king. West returned ♠9. South won, crossed to ♦A and led ♥5: two – eight! – seven. He drew the last trump and ran ♣10 to endplay East. Very neat and +10 IMPs.

The final

Three times our side played in 3NT while the opponents played in diamonds. The first came in Session 1:

Final, Board 6, North deals, NS vulnerable



The 2NT rebid was a puppet to $3\clubsuit$, intending to sign off in $3\spadesuit$, but North was too strong to allow that.

West led ♥7. ♠8 went to the jack and queen, and West returned a heart. After ♦2, nine, queen, South played ♠10, ace. West continued with a heart and ♦K came next, won by ♦A. East returned ♠9 and now South's spades were high. The result was 10 tricks for +630.

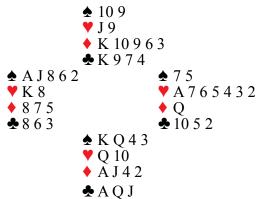
West	North	East	South
Richman	Van Riel	Grosvenor	Beale
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Lead: $\sqrt{4}$ – two – ten – king

Declarer played a spade to the ten and queen and West returned a heart. Declarer cashed the third heart and then embarked on a black suit cross-ruff. The result was two down, -200, 13 IMPs away.

After the first set our team led by 39-34. We were lucky on the second instance, from the second session:

Final, Board 23, South deals, all vulnerable



West	North	East	South
Beale	Klinger	Van Riel	Mullamphy 1 ♦
1♠ All Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT

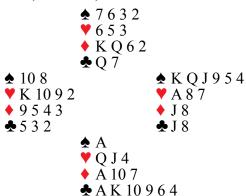
The defence could take the first eight tricks, but on the normal ♠6 lead, declarer had 10 tricks, +630.

	,		
West	North	East	South
Grosvenor	Hoffman	Richman	Bourke
			1♦
1♠	3♦	3♥	Dbl^1
Pass	4♣	Pass	4
All Pass			

1. Stopper ask in hearts

Declarer made 10 tricks, +130, but 11 IMPs out. We won the second session 58-31 to lead 97-65 after Session 2. The third 3NT vs diamonds deal came in the third session:

Final, Board 36, West deals, nil vulnerable



West	North	East	South
Smith	Klinger	Van Riel	Mullamphy
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dbl
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

South won the spade lead, and made 10 tricks, +630.

West	North	East	South
Grosvenor	Hoffman	Richman	Bourke
Pass	Pass	2♠	Dbl
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Richman's 2♠ cramped the NS auction, and North was in a terrible fix after 3♠. The result was one off, -50 and -10 IMPs.

The third session went our way by 51-15 and with the score 148-80, the opponents conceded.

Full marks to Marcia Scudder, Convener of the Spring Nationals, and her assistants, Inez Glanger and John Scudder, for an extremely well-run event. Kudos also to the directing and scoring staff, Matthew McManus, John McIlrath and Bruce Crossman.

In 2013, the Spring National Festival will be held from Wednesday 23 October - Thursday 31 October at a venue to be confirmed.



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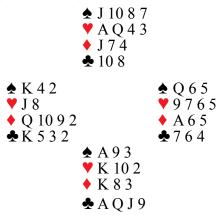
by Peter Buchen

The seniors' event fielded 18 teams. After nine qualifying rounds, the two leaders *KROCHMALIK*, Robert Krochmalik - Paul Lavings, Terry Brown, Bruce Neill, Paul Wyer on 185 VPs and *BUCHEN*, Peter Buchen - Henry Christie, Blaine Howe - Chris Hughes on 163 VPs met in the 56 (4 x 14) board final.

KROCHMALIK, by virtue of their qualifying score, were rewarded with a 14 IMP carry forward, and were at good odds to take out their third successive title in the event.

Their lead, however, lasted only three boards when *BUCHEN* picked up 22 IMPs over the first four boards. Another 11 IMPs went to *BUCHEN* on Board 7:

Board 7, South deals, all vulnerable



Both Souths (Brown and Christie) opened a 15-17 HCP 1NT.

Wyer elected to pass, which looks very conservative, given his major suit holdings. Buchen went looking for a major fit - he didn't find one, but partner announced a maximum, so they ended up in 3NT.

The Brown - Wyer contract of 1NT was never in danger, and Wyer must have felt vindicated when West led a diamond to hold the contract to eight tricks.

At the other table, however, Lavings had other ideas about the lead, particularly since Buchen's 2 enquiry did not promise a major. He tried a low spade, which Krochmalik ducked. Now Christie had time to set up clubs, and he ended up with an overtrick.

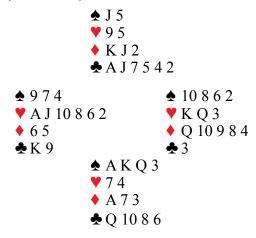
That meant 11 IMPs to *BUCHEN*, who finished the first set with a lead of 47 to 29 IMPs.

KROCHMALIK won the second set by 10 IMPs to reduce the lead to just 8 IMPs at the halfway stage of the match.

On Board 2 of the third set, *BUCHEN* had a windfall, which came about by the different actions West took 10

over a 1NT opening bid by South:

Board 2, East deals, NS vulnerable



At Table 1, Brown - Neill bid the NS cards 1NT - 3NT without interference. Howe's decision to stay quiet on the West cards worked wonders, as the heart lead doomed 3NT to two down.

At Table 2, Lavings got into the action:

West	North	East	South
Lavings	Buchen	Krochmalik	Christie
		Pass	1NT
2♥	$3NT^1$	Dbl	4♠
All Pass			

1. Lebensohl, denying a heart stopper

The magical sub-Moysian 44 contract (where the defending side hold more trumps than the declaring side) was unbeatable.

In fact, 11 tricks were taken for a 13 IMP pick-up.

Both teams missed a big opportunity on Board 8 of the set, when Neill- Brown and Buchen - Christie held the hands shown on the next page *(hands rotated for convenience)*:



There were no surprises in the opposing hands so 7♣, 7♥ and 7NT were all makeable. Since all the Key Cards were present, West could only bid the grand slam with confidence if he could somehow glean that East had a six-card heart suit.

Neill - Brown bid the hand: $2NT - 3 \spadesuit : 3 \heartsuit - 4NT$: $5 \clubsuit - 6 \heartsuit$.

While Neill could be sure that Brown did have at least six hearts, the auction did not promise all the Key Cards.

Buchen - Christie had an artificial sequence: 2♣ - 3♦: 3♥ - 3♠: 4NT - 5♠: 5NT - 6♥: 6NT.

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Christie's 3♦ showed 9+ points and a good 5+ heart suit. Buchen accepted the transfer, and Christie bid 3♠ to show extra length. Unfortunately, Buchen forgot the



David Stern, npc with Peter Buchen, the late Blaine Howe, Chris Hughes and Henry Christie

system, and interpreted $3 \triangleq$ as a cuebid. When Christie signed off in $6 \checkmark$, denying an outside king, Buchen placed the contract in 6NT and no swing, but ruing the system memory lapse.

At the end of the third set *BUCHEN* had increased the lead to 12 IMPs, 92 to 80.

With only three boards to go in the final set, *BUCHEN's* lead had been whittled down to just 4 IMPs. On the first of these, *BUCHEN* picked up 12 IMPs when the non-regular Neill - Brown partnership failed to unscramble the defence against a 4♠ contract bid in both rooms.

Then on the penultimate deal, the NS cards were:

- **♦** J 9 3
- **Y** A K 10 8 5 3
- **♦** O 6
- **♣**65
- **♠** AK865
- **9** 6 2
- ♦ KJ4
- **♣**972

South was dealer. Brown - Neill bid the cards as follows: $1 - 2 \le -2 \le -4$. This contract had chances when the defence took two clubs and a diamond early. There are basically two lines of play: (a). hope for doubleton Q and use A as an entry after setting up North's heart suit, and (b). ruff the third club and play East for Q 10 doubleton or tripleton. Brown unluckily chose the first line to go one down, when the second line would have succeeded.

Buchen - Christie play two-over-one and a forcing notrump, so North could show a three-card limit raise: 1 - 1 NT: 2 - 3: Pass. So that was 5 more IMPs to *BUCHEN* who ran out winners at the end by 120 to 99 IMPs

The bridge in the final was not perfect, with several of the players suffering inevitable 'senior moments', but the contest was close and exciting as testified by the many who watched it on BBO.



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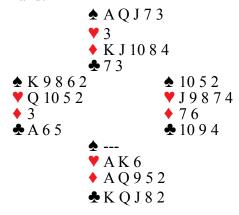
by William Jenner-O'Shea

n December, Vanessa Brown and I travelled to *The Island of the Gods*, Bali, to compete in the 34th ASEAN Cup Championships. We didn't bring teammates with us, and the congress organiser arranged two Indonesian men to play with us, Sanggam "Sam" Hutabarat and Yogiswara "Yogi" Sidharta.

Here was an exciting hand from early in the event. Vanessa opened 1♣ and my RHO overcalled 1♠. My hand was ♠AQJ73, ♥3, ♦KJ1084, ♣73

I started licking my lips, as 1♠ doubled was sure to go off at least three tricks, so I passed for now, waiting for the double from Vanessa. Instead she bid 2♠, a reverse which probably shows significant shape, since with a regular 5-4 hand she could have made a reopening double. Now things are getting interesting; I have passed throughout and I now have five-card support and an undisclosed great hand! I thought for about a minute, and decided to go straight to 4NT. Vanessa had 2 Key cards, plus ♠Q, so I bid 6♠. Making 12 tricks.

The full hand:



In addition to the main teams competition – the ASEAN cup – there was a final for all of the non-ASEAN countries. In the second to last round of qualifying the leading contenders were: *YEH* (Chinese Taipei), 151 VPs, *GURLEY* (Hong Kong) 144 VPs and our team, *SYDNEY INK* on 141 VPs. Our aim in the final round, where we drew a team from Jomtiem Bridge Club in Thailand, was to score 4 VPs more than *GURLEY*.

Here is a hand from that match: ♠K, ♥QJ1097, ♦A875432, ♣---

With a 6-5 or 7-5 hand, I usually open the longest suit, but with barely minimum points, I decided to open the major to find our fit before the opponents found theirs, and also to prevent me having to reverse when I rebid. Vanessa bid 3NT - a bid we use to show specifically 13 - 15 HCP, a 4-3-3-3 shape and three trumps.

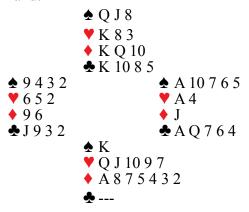
With our double red-suit fits I had visions of slam, but 14



Will, Vanessa, Sam and Yogi

then East overcalled 4♣. I bid 4♦ (first round cuebid) and Vanessa signed off in 4♥. I made a further slam try with 4NT, Key Card. East doubled Vanessa's 5♣ response, which confirmed that she had only 1 Key Card, not 4. I signed off in 5♥, but East doubled again, passed out, and I made 11 tricks.

The full hand:



On another hand in this match, it went 4♥, pass, pass to me, and I held ♠---, ♥KJ, ♦QJ103, ♣QJ98643.

At favourable vulnerability (or "Not Dangerous", as the Indonesians call it) I chose to bid 5♣, and went down by one, but our teammates did well, bidding 4♥ and making 11 tricks. Another 11 IMPs.

We won the match by 24 IMPs and scored 19 VPs; now we needed to wait to see what *GURLEY* scored. When we finally got to see the results screen, *GURLEY* had scored only 14 VPs, so we had made it into the final! *YEH* looked like being the top qualifier for the whole event - a professional team with an entourage: a manager, a non-playing captain and a coach! This would be a tough team to beat. Amazingly, however, they suffered a 25-3 VP defeat at the hands of *TAIWAN* in the final round of qualifying, to drop behind *GURLEY* and miss out on the final. We would play *GURLEY* in a 48-board final, behind screens, the following day.

During the first set of the final, I opened 2NT (20-22 HCP) with ♠K73, ♥K4, ♠AJ7, ♣AKQ107



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project with an objective - to make a film about the wonderful characters who play the game of bridge.

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Would you watch "People Who Play Bridge"? Would your bridge friends watch it? What about your non-bridge friends? Would you like to help "People Who

Play Bridge" get made? Have you ideas and stories? Are you a real character - or do you know one or two? Would you like to be in the film? Would you like your bridge club featured?

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From the webpage you can

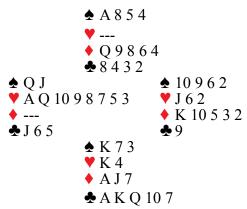
- 1. Join the mailing list for all the latest news on "People Who Play Bridge".
- 2. Send us an email if you have a comment or suggestion or would like to participate in the film.
- 3. Like the *Facebook* page for "*People Who Play Bridge*".
- 4. Place a comment on the Facebook page.

You can also visit the Facebook page here: http://www.facebook.com/PeopleWhoPlayBridge

Please get involved so that we can attract funding for the project.

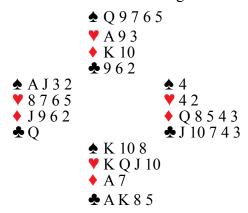
Sandra Mulcahy, ABF Marketing

After a great deal of thought, my rather sensible screenmate in the West seat overcalled 3♥. I don't remember the last time I overcalled against a strong 2NT, so she must have had a pretty serious hand! Vanessa made a takeout double and East bid 4♥ bid, so it was back to me. Assuming seven or eight hearts on my left, with some shape, I wasn't so happy defending 4♥, especially since partner would also be short in hearts. I bid 5♣ and played there:



We made 5♣, while our teammates defended and defeated 4♠, 10 IMPs in.

A few boards later we went looking for slam:



After my 2NT opening, Vanessa transferred to spades and then offered 3NT. Just in case she had a hand interested in slam once the fit was revealed, I cuebid 4♣ on the way. She co-operated with 4♥, and so I bid 4NT, Key Card. She showed 1 Key Card, so I asked about ♠Q and found out she had that card, as well as ♦K. I bid 6♠, expecting the hand that she actually had, plus maybe ♠J.

With everything under control apart from trumps, I just needed to play the spade suit for one loser. I won the heart lead in dummy with ♥A and played ♠9 to ♠K, which held the trick – East playing ♠4 and West playing ♠2.

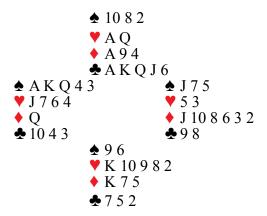
One neat tip is that if your opposition defenders routinely play their lowest card (ours were) then the person who plays the lowest spot card is likely to have more cards in the suit than their partner. A tip for defenders, holding four low trumps; don't automatically play the lowest! You should play the low spot cards at random

to fool some expert declarers!

I decided to play West for ♠ J, so I ran ♠10 which won! All I needed to do now was draw out ♠J and concede ♠A. Making 12 tricks, and a lucky 10 IMPs.

In the second session, Vanessa bid and played a hand well to gain us another 10 IMPs. Her LHO opened 1♠, I doubled and her RHO bid 2♠. She held ♠96, ♥K10982, ♦K75, ♣752.

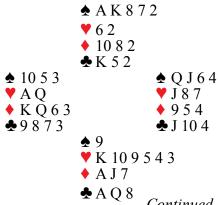
She opted to bid 3♥, deciding that defending 2♠ didn't look likely to be much fun. I raised her to 4♥ on my doubleton:



Playing in a 5-2 fit, Vanessa ruffed the third round of spades in hand. She cashed dummy's ♥A and ♥Q and crossed to her hand with ♦K to play ♥K. When trumps didn't break, she simply played on clubs until West ruffed, and she could claim. We won 10 IMPs when the opponents stopped in 4♣ in the other room.

We won the first two sessions 60-34 and 49-38, to be leading by 37 IMPs going into the final set. Sam, our teammate, said that perhaps we should lose the final set by 1 IMP so that our opponents wouldn't be too sad. Vanessa and I just looked at each other and thought about the grand slam that he had bid earlier in the competition missing an ace, or the mistaken SOS redouble, which cost -1,000.

We had a few shaky boards before Vanessa picked up ♠AK872, ♥62, ♦1082, ♣K52. I opened 1♥ and she responded 1♠. I rebid 2♥, and she had to make some call. There was still an outside chance for game, so she raised to 3♥, which I accepted.



Vale Cecile Miles - 1937 - 2012

by David Lusk

n 1967, South Australia won the third of the six interstate titles it has taken, in around 80 years of women's interstate bridge. Two notable members of this team were Margaret Choate and Cecile Miles. For the first time, this vastly talented 30-year-old showcased her considerable skills on the national stage.

Of those six successes, Cecile featured in no less than four, adding 1980, 1982 and 1983 to the list. She also won three National Women's Teams events, even though she played in very few, and at least three Women's Butler Championships.

It is well known that her partnership with Choate forged the way for international honours, and began with their successful campaign in the 1975 Far East Championships. In partnership with Choate, Claire Lester (Griggs) and Margaret's daughter-in-law, Sue Lusk, Cecile set herself amongst her contemporaries as one of the great forces in Australian women's bridge until she virtually retired from serious competition in the mid 1990s.

Always cool and collected at the table, Miles had an unshakeable temperament and could read her opponents and the cards brilliantly. Her international honours included five Far Easts (1975, 1977, 1979, 1982 and 1990), including three wins, two Olympiads (1976, 1992) and two Venice Cups (1978, 1992). In addition, she captained Australian teams on two occasions.

If anyone were to write a book on the subject of being a loyal and supportive partner and teammate, examining the attributes of Cecile Miles in these areas would be an ideal starting point, for, in this department, Miles set a brilliant standard that many of us would no doubt aspire to follow.

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16 December 2012

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PI	Players	Club	Score	Percentage	Red Pts
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2.	Stean, Heriot	Commercial Club Bridge Club Albury	5495.584	69.389	3.500
3.	Peirce, Leppard	Echuca Bridge Club	5464.224	68.993	2.500
4.	Smith, Newland	Ballarat Bridge Club	5269.205	66.530	1.667
5.	Ramshaw, Veenstra	Ballarat Bridge Club	5261.246	66.430	1.250

Next schedulings: Saturday January 5 & Sunday January 20, Saturday 2 and Sunday February 17

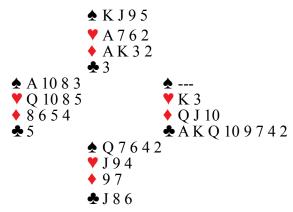
In 4♥, I won ♣7 lead in dummy and played ♥2 to ♥9, losing to ♥Q. I won the club continuation in hand, and played a spade to the ace and then ♠K, discarding one of my diamond losers. I played ♥6 from dummy and covered East's ♥7 with ♥10.

When West won \P A, I just needed to draw the last trump to make 10 tricks. At the other table, the play in trumps had been different, with declarer leading a heart to the king and ace initially, thus losing three trump tricks and a diamond.

GURLEY rallied a bit, and bid to 3NT on the following auction. 2♣ strong on my left, pass from Vanessa, 2♦ negative on my right. I held ♠KJ95, ♥A762, ♠AK32, ♣3. I didn't really know what to do. Double would be lead-directing, but do I really want partner to lead a diamond, when she might have her own perfectly good lead? I passed and the auction continued 3♣, Pass, 3NT to me.

I suspected they would make it, on the long running club suit, but maybe they weren't so sure. I didn't double, however. If I had, I suspect they would have made their way to 5♣, going down by one.

I led ◆A to have a look at dummy, and there was nothing we could do:



We lost 12 IMPs on the deal, with teammates bidding to $5 \clubsuit$ and going down one.

When the dust had settled, we had lost this session 55-60 – just to keep *GURLEY* and Sam happy – but won the match 164-132 IMPs. This was the first event Vanessa had ever played behind screens, which is daunting enough, but she had the added struggle of a bout of Bali Belly.

Thanks to the congress organisers, directors, scorers, and caddies for putting on such a great congress. Thanks to our teammates, Sam and Yogi, for playing with us at short notice. And a big thanks to Vanessa, for putting me in so many games, raising my bids, leading my suits and making the whole event fun!

The 35th Asean Bridge Club Championships will be held from Wednesday, November 27 - Sunday, 1 December at Makati, The Phillippines.

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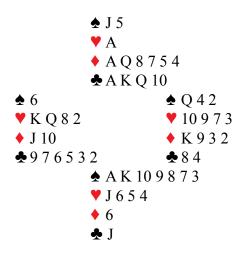
Coaching Cathy at Contract

WHAT ARE DUMMY'S TRUMPS DOING FOR YOU?

Esteemed Uncle.

Once again I seek your wisdom in commenting on a couple of hands that I played recently. One of them hurts a bit more because it was a slam. Of course that evil computer had no hesitation in pointing out that I could have made both contracts!

Hurtin' Hand #1

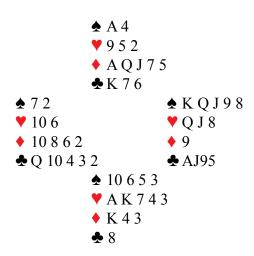


I was dealer, South, and opened $4 \triangleq$ since they were vulnerable, and we weren't. My dear partner put me into $6 \triangleq$, and West led $\forall K$.

After taking the first trick, I realised I could not trump enough hearts in dummy, so I decided to draw trumps. Since I had nine of them, I cashed ♠A and ♠K and (of course) ♠Q didn't fall. So I played on clubs, and started throwing my hearts away. East ruffed the third one. I threw another heart, but EW could still cash a heart for one down.

I no longer ask you for pity when I am unlucky (because you never give it), so did I do something wrong?

Hurtin' Hand #2



Glenda opened 1♦ with the North hand, and East overcalled 1♠. I bid 2♥, and we ended up in 4♥. West led a spade, and I won it in dummy and played another spade, planning to ruff a spade in dummy. East won and played a diamond. I took that in hand and went to ruff a spade on the table, but East ruffed in with ♥10 and led back a diamond. East ruffed, and took ♣A for one down.

Ever perplexed, Cathy

Dear Ever Perplexed,

In both cases, the shorter trump suit serves a valuable purpose, but not in the usual way. Often ruffing losers with dummy's shorter trumps is a valuable source of extra tricks in the play of a trump contract, and it is easy to become fixated by such a possibility whenever there is a side shortage on the table. There are so many valuable principles to remember in this game, and it is of great value to know which one applies in a particular situation.

On Hand #1, you applied the principle of 'eight ever, nine never'. Applying this principle will help you in many situations but on this one it misdirected you. If

you were in 7♠, this play would have been reasonable but in 6♠, you can afford to lose a trump. Unless East is void in one or the other minor (unlucky!!!), you can virtually guarantee the contract by running ♠J at trick one.

On the layout, you would have now made all the tricks, but let's assume that this finesse fails. West takes a trick, but dummy's small spade now takes on a heroic role: it controls the heart suit. It does so just long enough for you to regain the lead, draw the remaining trumps and come home on dummy's minor suit winners. Without ruffing any hearts, you are entitled to six spade tricks, four club tricks and one trick in each red suit.

Once you appreciate the value of dummy's trumps in exercising control (like a high card may in notrumps) rather than necessarily contributing *extra* tricks, you will also see that a more simple approach would have worked on the second hand.

The spade lead opens up one spade loser. You also have a club loser, so there is virtually no legitimate play if trumps don't break.

So, after winning the first spade, just play two rounds of trumps and *then* start on your diamonds. Whoever has the last trump will trump a diamond sooner or later, but one trick in each black suit will be the defenders' limit, as dummy's last trump controls the spades and allows you a late entry to dummy for any remaining diamond winners.

Had the hands looked more like this, then it would have been crucial to ruff a spade on the table:





With only nine obvious tricks, it would become important to organize a spade ruff on the table. That way you would make 10 tricks regardless of the placement of ♥K and ♣A. I offer you hours of fun working out the optimum way to manage the hand.

Cheers, David

Letters to the Editor

Bridge needs humour

Dear Editor.

I was amused by Ernie Newman's article "Bridge Etiquette - a Spoof". Goodness knows, bridge needs some occasional humour.

I would suggest though that his bibliography was a bit deficient. May I recommend the following additional books:

Taking Bridge too Far, by Richard Attenborough; Wildlife in the Bridge Jungle, by David Attenborough; To Bid or not to Bid, by William Shakespeare; The ABC of Bridge, by Samuel Johnson; The Overbidder's Tale, by Geoffrey Chaucer; Bridge - an Abridged Account; by Bill Shorten; Playing Bridge with Hugo Drax*, by James Bond; Bridge-induced Psychosis, by Sigmund Freud; Take-out in Bridge, by Domino McDonald; Never Give up in Bridge, by Winston Churchill; How to be a Perfect Dummy, by Marilyn Monroe; Down and Out in Bridge, by George Orwell.

* see "Moonraker".

Cheers, Alvin Hopper

Bridge in the Olympics

Dear Editor,

I wish to put forward a proposal that all Gold Point events that have medals for 1st and 2nd, (gold and ailver) be extended to a bronze medal for 3rd place, as in the Olympics.

Bridge is a mind sport, and is included in the Winter Olympics. If the powers that be, the ABF and BAWA, along with the WBF, expect recognition for our great sport, then the presentation of medals must include one for 3rd place.

A few years ago, I approached the ABF, asking for this proposal to be considered. I received a negative response, as the bronze medal would cost extra!

If the world recognises the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings in sport, our ruling body should, too.

Di Brooks, Capel

Spaghetti 3NT

Dear Editor,

Few people would expect to find a recipe in the ABF Newsletter, but here it is! Roberto Bertolli - a world wide producer of the finest olive oil - told me that there is a strong connection between bridge and olive

oil, because a good brain is required for bridge and it is universally known that olive oil has been considered a source of wisdom and health since the times of ancient Greeks and Ro-



mans. Here is his recipe for Spaghetti 3NT:

- 500g spaghetti
- 5 tblspns Bertolli olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic
- hot red pepper to taste very finely chopped
- 100g Parmesan cheese
- 1 tblspn finely chopped continental parsley
- salt & pepper to taste

Cook spaghetti in boiling water for 7-10 minutes or until al dente. Rinse in cold water; cover and leave to drain in colander. Meanwhile, heat oil in pan, brown the roughly chopped garlic, then add hot red pepper. Remove mixture to pan, add pepper and salt and stir gently for a minute or so. Serve immediately with grated Parmesan on top, plus a crusty roll or garlic bread, plus a good shiraz or merlot, then get on with your bridge!

Betty Boyd, Ocean Shores

European Open Teams Championships

he European Open Teams Championships will be held at the Kursaal Oostende (Sea Promenade), Ostend,



Belgium from 15 - 29 June 2013. The Championships comprise the following competitions, all of which are Transnational: Mixed Pairs, Mixed Teams, Open Women's and Seniors' Teams, Open Women's and Seniors' Pairs. For more information go to http://www. ecatsbridge.com/News/EBLnews.asp

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Bridge into the 21st Century

Borderline Opening Bids

xperts continue to open more and more 11-point hands. Try this quiz at nil vulnerable in first seat. What do you open holding?



- 1). **♦** 987, **♥** KJ7, **♦** 875, **♣** AK63
- **♠** A87, ♥ 953, **♦** K1085, **♣** A53 2).
- **♠** AQ95, **♥** J96, **♦** Q2, **♣** Q764 3).
- **♠** 753, **♥** A8, **♦** KJ86, **♣** QJ83 4).
- **★** K1052, **♥** KJ63, **♦** 872, **♣** A10 5).
- **♠** A62, **♥** 74, **♦** AQJ6, **♣** 9752 6).
- **♠** Q32, ♥ 104, ♦ K83, **♣** AQ1095 7).
- 8). **♠** 763, ♥ 98, ♦ AQ632, ♣ AJ8
- 9). **♠** Q, ♥ Q54, **♦** QJ962, **♣** KJ104
- **★** K7543, **∀** K95, **♦** J9, **♣** A109 10).
- **♠** Q9, ♥ QJ1053, ♦ A653, **♣** Q9 11).
- **♦** Q54, **♥** KQJ92, **♦** J954, **♣** Q 12).
- 1). 1♣. The bidding at bridge is called the auction, and it really is an auction, except that only two sides are bidding. And as in all auctions, there are a number of advantages in making the first bid. The second positive is that the honour cards are grouped together, and more likely to take tricks. The negatives on this hand are the 4-3-3-3 shape, and the lack of intermediates. But you should still take your chances and open.
- 2). 1♦. The negative is that you are 4-3-3-3, but you have your share of intermediates, and your hand contains three cards that are likely to make tricks. Also you have four of the suit you are opening, and it is likely to be a good lead.
- 3). Pass. Too many minor honours, all in different suits, and a lack of intermediates, make this a poor hand. If you opened and partner pressed on to game with 12 HCP, you would expect to fail, perhaps by two or three tricks.
- 4). Pass. No intermediates, and ♥A is not worth its true value when ace-doubleton. honours in long suits help create more tricks than honours in short suits. Also, you are 3-2 in the majors, indicating you are likely to be outbid, so if you open you will often simply give information to the opponents.
- 5). 1♦. The suit you are opening has zero lead value, and is only a three-card suit, both negatives. However,

- you are 4-4 in the majors, and could run away with the contract if you find a 4-4 major suit fit quickly. Because of your major suit lengths, this is a routine opening.
- 6) 1. You have a bit of shape, two aces, and concentrated values in diamonds, indicating a likely source of tricks. The small doubleton should be viewed as a positive. After all, would you rather have Kx opposite Qxxx, or xx opposite KQxx? With both minors it's my style to open the stronger, creating better lead value. Also if you find a fit in diamonds, it will most likely be a stronger fit on this hand than a 4-4 fit in the other minor.
- 7). 1♣. When you have 11 HCP with a five-card suit, you will almost always open. On this hand the two intermediates in your long suit add considerable tricktaking potential to your hand. It would be considered ulta-conservative not to open 1♣.
- 8). 1. You have no intermediates, and are weak in the majors. Yet the five-card suit, and honours grouped together make this a useful hand. A likely scenario is that by opening the bidding your side competes to 3. or 3, and either wins the bid, or pushes the opponents to the three level.
- 9). Pass. A truly horrible hand. The bare ♠Q is pulling little weight, and the rest of your hand is mostly minor honours. There are six quick tricks to be taken on each bridge hand, four aces and four kings, and this hand has only half a trick. You do not want to be in this auction.
- 10). 1♠. A normal 11 HCP, and a routine opening bid. Firstly, your five card suit is a major, secondly most of your points are well placed, and thirdly your ♣109 could prove the difference. There is a big gap between A32 opposite J54, and A109 opposite J54.
- 11). Pass. It is unusual to pass 11 HCP with a five-card major, but this lifeless hand has little going for it. ♠Q and ♣Q are in short suits, and not carrying their weight, and the hand has far too many queens and jacks.
- 12) Pass. Your strong heart suit is a plus, but too many queens and jacks. Plus the singleton extstyle Q is a negative. 11-point hands turn up with great frequency; the hands in this guiz came from three random hand records, totalling 96 hands, and there were many other 11-point hands.

Paul Lavings Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies

Paul Lavings gives a quiz type lesson from real hands for players seriously wishing to improve their game, most Friday afternoons at Double Bay Bridge Centre, 2pm - 3.45 pm. Email paul@bridgegear.com or phone 02-9388-8861 to enquire and join the mailing list.



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Australian Directors on the world stage

The excellent standard of Australian directors was acknowledged yet again – this time at the 2nd World Mind Sports Games held during August in Lille, France.

The International Mind Sports Association was constituted in 2005, following a meeting of four federations – bridge, chess, draughts and Go. It is estimated that there are over 500 million players of these combined sports worldwide, and 2000 players from over 120 countries participated in the Lille games.

Australian directors have worked internationally since the 1970s; initially in the Asia-Pacific region and then at various World Championships, starting in 1986. Richard Grenside was the first Australian director to work at a World Championship.

Sean Mullamphy was on the WBF Youth Committee from 1996 - 2002, a lecturer and WBF Appeals Committee member at the 2nd World Junior Camp Championship in Sportilia in 1997, and he has directed at various other international events since 1999.





Chris Diment, Matthew McManus and Laurie Kelso have since joined Richard and Sean on the world stage.

As an example of the high regard in which Australian directors are held, at the previous World Mind Sports Games *five* of the **24** directors present were Australian.

A World Bridge Federation (WBF) director's country of origin is considered irrelevant in regard to the performance of their duties. Most are multilingual, but since English is the official language of bridge, the only real criteria is ability, irrespective of where in the world the Championships are actually held.

WBF President (Mr Gianarrigo Rona) invited Australia's own Laurie Kelso and Sean Mullamphy to direct at the Lille tournament. Congratulations, guys!

Sandra Mulcahy ABF National Marketing Officer

Copy Deadline

for Issue 160, March 2013, the deadline is:

February 26, 2013

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 161, May 2013

Email: editor@abf.com.au

Vale Barrington (Barry) Joseph Noble

19 November 1927 – December 2012

by George Bilski

Barry was born in Haberfield, Sydney and educated at Christian Brothers, Lewisham. In 1944, he attended Sydney University, studying Engineering. He was awarded a scholarship for finishing 99th in the state in the leaving exam.



From the moment Barry started

engineering, he knew it wasn't for him. He had actually been more interested in studying law. When the time came to enroll in his third year at university, he declined and decided to take a job with firm GM Scott, the family business of Barry's girlfriend, Colleen Scott.

Barry was very serious about Colleen and was not prepared to wait another four years before he finished his studies, in order to be in a position to marry her. He left university to work at the Homebush Abbatoir with Colleen's father and brother. It was backbreaking work, and involved long working hours. He would get up every morning at 3.30am to start work at 4.45am.

Colleen and Barry married in 1949. By 1952, his expertise had grown and he was earning 7 pounds a week, which was twice the average weekly wage at that time. Although Barry was on a good income, he had a young family to support, so he applied for a bookmaker's licence, and was lucky enough to be accepted to field in the paddock reserve at Harold Park and Wentworth greyhounds. Although he was quite cautious and didn't take any major risks, he was soon able to make a reasonable profit.

One night, a very interesting thing happened. Barry had been tipped that a greyhound named "Chief Max", was likely to win his race. He kept him safe in his book and invested on him at a good price. When he won the race, Barry made a profit of 3500 pounds, with which he was able to buy a house in Five Dock for cash.

In 1980, Barry knew that the Homebush Abbatoir was going to shut down, so he decided to buy the Cootamundra Meat Works. GM Scott became the largest employer in Cootamundra, and Barry worked there to his last days.

Barry was a particularly good sportsman, and played with a very low handicap of two at the Australian Golf Club. He was also an "A" grade player in both tennis and cricket. He acquired an instrument rating as a pilot and had his own plane, a twin engine Cessna for many

years. He flew 2000 hours in command.

Barry's interest in bridge developed late in life and he had lessons with John Newman in the 1990s.

In 1998 Barry, alongside myself, Terry Brown and Phil Gue went to The Rosenblum in Lille, France to compete in the World Bridge Championship. We were the only Australian team to compete in the round of 64, and finished second in the group of 14.

Barry won the NOT in 1999, and many Australian championships after that. His biggest success was in 2001, when he won the Zone 7 Championship and became a member of the Australian Open Team. This earned him a trip to Singapore for the Far East Championship and to Paris for the Bermuda Bowl.

In 2002, Barry's team went to Montreal, Canada for the next Rosenblum and again, qualified to the round of 64. At the same time, Barry and I qualified for the final of the Seniors pairs, finishing 17th overall. In 2011, Barry was diagnosed with bowel cancer, but was strong enough to overcome the disease. However, the subsequent chemotherapy had some adverse effects on his health. He played in the October 2012 Spring Nationals, which was to be his last tournament.

After the tournament, he was admitted to hospital with a lung infection. When my wife, Ewa and I visited him in the Calvary Hospital in Wagga Wagga, he knew that he was seriously ill. However, he was in good spirits and said that he intended to play in Canberra and the Gold Coast.

Sadly, Barry passed away, albeit peacefully, six days later. Barry was survived by his wife of 65 years, his son, his four daughters, 19 grandchildren and 10 greatgrandchildren.

It was an honour to have known Barry as a friend and a pleasure to have played bridge alongside him. I know he will be greatly missed by both family and friends.



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For a full brochure on **Vietnam** simply call Gary: 0418 570 430 or email: brownbridge@ozemail.com.au

Great workers, great members, great club

Di Brooks, Capel

ockingham Bridge Club was founded in 1979, by Mrs Peg Brady. The first Life Membership was awarded to Peg in 1984, then followed five other awards, over a period of 19 years, to members who had given long and great service to the club. 33 years on, since the founding of Rockingham Bridge Club, the Life Members are still there to support the club, always attending the AGM. Each of the people in the photo below have clocked up 17 years or more, serving on the committee as Presidents. All bar Miriam Garbutt are session Directors, whilst Miriam's role has been that of Convener, doing a great job organising the annual congresses. She has organised an Annual Charity Gala Day, for more than 12 years, raising \$41,000, the proceeds being donated to the Silver Chain WA, a Nursing Association for the elderly and young disabled.



Club Founder Peg Brady, Frank Brady, Robert Garbutt, Miriam Garbutt, Ron Philpot and Diane Brooks

New centre for TBA

Garry Hills, President TBA

The Tasmanian Bridge Association's new ,purpose-built bridge centre was officially opened by ABF President Keith McDonald at a gala function in May 2012. The new facility, which serves as both the home clubrooms of the local TBA club and the headquarters of bridge in Tasmania, is located at 5 Marine Esplanade at New Town Bay on reclaimed land leased from the Hobart City Council.

A sub-committee of the TBA was responsible for the planning, design and building supervision of the new premises which features innovative foundations resting upon 50 seventeen metre long treated poles, pile-driven into the sub-terrain of the area. The cost of the project, approximately \$600,000, was met largely from the TBA's Building Fund and sale of our Newdegate St clubrooms, which had been home for the TBA since 1990. Valuable contributions came also from the ABF's James O'Sullivan Fund, the Tasmanian Community



Fund and Tasmanian State Bridge funds, along with donations from the Eastern Shore Bridge Club, the Kingborough Bridge Club and individual members of the TBA.

The centre is located at New Town Bay close to the River Derwent in a pleasant park-like setting adjacent to local rowing clubs, which are soon to be transformed into a multi-million dollar Institute of Sport Rowing Training Centre, a development which should lead to an enhancement of the area surrounding our clubrooms.

Our new centre, unlike our previous bridge building, has state-of-the art kitchen and toilet facilities, a multipurpose meeting/teaching room and a playing space able to accommodate 32+ tables. Players have been warm in their praise of the clubrooms, including the excellent heating/air-conditioning and sound systems, and we are all enjoying the spacious parking areas. We look forward to being able to develop outdoor seating and barbecue facilities in the near future.

The formal opening of the centre was followed by a fairly boisterous, impromptu bridge session from which our revered ABF President emerged victorious! Over the weekend which followed, the TBA held a most successful annual congress event, including for the first time, a number of Restricted sections. Meanwhile, the Management Group of the ABF held its reg-

ular management meeting in our newly named Vera Houdek multi-purpose room, and later hosted members of the TBA



Committee at a most congenial, high spirited dinner.

We are indebted to the ABF leadership for their strong support of our new bridge centre and their presence here on this important occasion for bridge in Tasmania. The TBA is confident that our new bridge centre will prove a positive stimulus for bridge in our island state and invite our colleagues from the bigger island to join us whenever they are lucky enough to find themselves in Tassie You can be assured of a warm welcome at one of the nation's friendliest bridge clubs.



NEW EVENTS

SWISS MATCHPOINT PAIRS

This is a new three-session event commencing Saturday 23rd February at 1pm, and finishing 4.30pm Sunday.

NO NIGHT PLAY

BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

On Monday, February 25th, we will hold a two-session Butler Pairs commencing 10 am. NO NIGHT PLAY

ROOKIES

Sunday, February 24th – a one session event commencing 1pm or/and Thursday, February 28th – a one session event commencing 10.30am

There will be help beforehand to fill in system cards and show you around. After play there will be experts to go through the boards with you and answer any queries you may have.

CHANGES

MATCHPOINT PAIRS

These will continue to be held in the same format, except we will guarantee to have 3 board qualifying rounds for all divisions except the Open.

SWISS TEAMS

These will start at 10.30am and finish by 6.45pm (with a 15 minutes longer lunch break from last year).

INTERMEDIATE MASTERPOINT RANGE

We have increased the range for our Intermediate category from 500 to 750 MP so we expect to see some familiar faces back in play!

DINNER DANCE

We are having the same band as we did for the 50th (Captain Wow). We will have the prizegiving earlier. We will have another go at getting the microphone working properly. We have spoken to the Gold Coast Convention Centre re the quality and range of the wine supplied. Please note that we are NOT allowed to take any alcohol IN or OUT of the venue. We love the dinner dance and want it to continue to be a fantastic way to finish. To ensure this, we will be charging a minimal fee of \$10.00 per head for everyone, even if you have played in all 3 events. (Naturally more, if you have played in less, as usual). We are doing this to combat the "No Shows". When an event is free it does not seem to matter to some if they turn up or not and every year this costs between \$3000.00 and \$5000.00. We always have a waiting list, so it is really sad when we have turned so many away to see empty seats that we still have to pay for (37 last year). We hope you will recognize that this will help us offset the ever rising costs and hopefully get people to decide definitely if they will be attending.

ACCOMMODATION

We recommend you book through the Hello Gold Coast site – if you can get a better rate booking direct it is always worth a call to Fred Whittaker to see if they can match it – see http://www.qldbridge.com/gcc/accom2013. php. Hello Gold Coast sponsors the Friday Teams.



For further enquiries or to register, contact: KIM ELLAWAY

Call: +61 7 3351 8602 or +61 4 1206 4903

Fax: +61 7 3103 4799

 ${f Email: manager@qldbridge.com}$

Want to know more?

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