

# ABF NEWSLETTER

## AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.



Editor: editor@abf.com.au

Approved for Print Post S65001/00163

No. 184 March 2017

ABN 70 053 651 666

### COVER GIRL: MARY MURRAY

There is only one reserved seat in the Sunshine Coast Bridge Club and that is kept for Life Member, Mary Murray – and it is well used: she plays most days of the week.

Mary has been described by some members as 'formidable', but, for those who know her well, a more apt description would be 'remarkable'.

Two years ago, coiffed and elegant, she became a media darling for the over-70s when the Government toyed with the idea of setting an age limit for drivers. Pointing out she had been driving since she was 27, which meant she gained her licence in 1945 at the end of World War II, Mary's close-to-unblemished driving record (one speeding fine) impressed. She won that hand, and regulations introduced by Queensland Transport allowed Mary, and anyone over 75 years, to drive with an annual medical certificate and eye test.

In January this year, she passed the medical and the eye test and turned 99 years old with a renewed licence. She had expected, as you would, to be rejected, but instead the Queensland Department of Transport officer asked Mary how many years she wanted on her licence. Mary, in her laconic style, said, "I'll take two, thank you." It's not surprising when you consider Mary is a former champion rally driver and founder of a Nambour Driving School for Women.

At a time when few women held a driver's licence and even fewer raced, Mary and her husband, Fred, were keen members of a Nambour car club, and entered local car rallies. Mary regularly won the lady drivers' competition. In fact, during the 1950s, Mary Murray was the Queensland Champion Rally Driver three years in succession. She also took a shot at stock car racing, driving her brother's vehicle. She won at her first attempt.

In 1958 Mary and Fred entered the famous Ampol Round Australia Rally. Driving about 12,000km through four States in 14 days, was a herculean effort. Roads back then were mostly muddy and dusty and light on signage. That year Mary took out the lady drivers' prize and they also won the married couples' prize.

So one would expect that playing bridge would be a pushover for Mary, particularly considering she played her first hand of Auction Bridge as an 8-year-old. But bridge was put aside for marriage, raising a family and, for many years, as wife of a local government elected representative when Fred became a councillor and later, Mayor of Maroochy Shire.

Mary was awarded an OAM for her charity work, which included forming a welfare committee which she chaired for nine years, raising \$400,000 on the way.

More than 50 years ago, Mary, a mother of six, was asked by a friend to attend a bridge lesson. "Our first lesson scared the living daylight out of me. I didn't go back," she said. "But my friend was insistent so I started socially, taking lessons at her place."

Mary, never short on courage, went back to the club "quaking and quivering". And the records show that she put her fears of the game aside and did what she has always done best: set out to make it better for everyone.

And so we have the Buderim Club House, thanks to Mary who joined the committee, as well as her club colleagues of the day, who raised the funds for our present building. Long-time members still talk about Mary and her team making more than 500 dozen lamingtons (that's 6000), sold at street stalls.

She is a lesson for us all, as Mary, still driving herself to the club, is indeed a formidable presence as she plays with skill and alacrity. One remarkable woman.

*Pauline Clayton (Buderim)*



### COUNTRY BUTLER AT THE ANC

More than 15,000 Australian bridge players belong to country clubs. In recognition of this and the location of the 2017 ANC in Australia's "Bush Capital", Canberra, a Country Butler Championship is being introduced as an additional once-off category at the 2017 ANC.

The Country Butler Championship will be held on Monday-Tuesday, 24-25 July 2017. Each player must live in the country and be a HOME CLUB member of a country club listed on the ANC website. (For more information about the ANC, see the advertisement on page 16.)

### Feature Stories

National Open Teams	6
National Seniors' Teams	8
National Women's Teams	9
Australian Youth Championships	13

### Regular Articles

President's Report (Bruce Neill)	4
Teacher's Corner (Joan Butts)	5
Major Event Results	10
ABF News	15
Basic Bridge 201 (Chris Hughes)	17
Improve Your Defence (Ron Klinger)	18
Coup of the Month (Brian Senior)	19
My Favourite Hand	19
Book Reviews	23
Coaching Cathy at Contract (David Lusk)	24
Common Mistakes (Barbara Travis)	28
Letters to the Editor	29
Player Profile	30
Bridge into the 21st Century (Paul Lavings)	31

Editor: Barbara Travis

COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY EDITION: 24TH APRIL 2017

ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR MAY EDITION: 20TH APRIL 2017

Advertising Enquiries to: [editor@abf.com.au](mailto:editor@abf.com.au)

Letters to the Editor and feedback: [editor@abf.com.au](mailto:editor@abf.com.au)

## EDITORIAL

With this edition of the Newsletter, I have introduced several new regular articles, which I hope the general bridge population will enjoy. Coaching Cathy at Contract, with its charming educational approach, returns.

I am happy to receive your feedback about what you enjoy and what you do not like in terms of the Newsletter. This Newsletter is for the readers, so it is important to me that I provide you with educational articles that you appreciate.

I would love to receive articles of human interest, or articles of interest about local bridge clubs around Australia.

I'm pleased that the ABF have made this announcement: *There have been occasions recently where Australian resident players originally from overseas have not transferred their overseas masterpoints to Australia and they have played in ABF Restricted events for which those masterpoints would make them ineligible. We will be altering regulations to prohibit this practice because it is unfair to other novice players. Penalties may be introduced including instant disqualification from the event and possible suspension from playing national events.*

Another hugely-successful Gold Coast Congress is concluding as we go to press. It will be covered in the May edition.

*Barbara Travis*

I grew up in Sydney in a bridge-playing family, having had our parents teach us three children to play bridge, which tended to mean we always had a "Bridge 4" available. My brothers, John and Peter Gill, discovered bridge clubs and competition bridge in 1973 when on holiday in the Blue Mountains and, shortly after, I took Mum to Lindfield Bridge Club and Peter took Dad along as his partner. We finished 1st and 2nd (the boys won) and we were hooked! Lindfield Bridge Club was my alma mater; we played on Tuesday nights, and I was constantly asked whether I'd be tired at school the next day.

My first national tournament was the 1976 Youth Week in Canberra, although I didn't get more serious about my bridge until 1979. In 1976 I also had the opportunity to play against Omar Sharif and his Lancia Team (Forquet, Belladonna and Garozzo) when David Stern arranged for them to tour the country. That had my school-mates more interested than usual in my bridge-playing weekend!

In February 1979 I headed to the Gold Coast and won the Pairs, having turned 20 on the day the event started. I didn't win the Pairs again until 2013, a mere 34 years later. In 1979 I had a very enthusiastic bridge partner who entered us into almost every congress near Sydney; so many that I won the McCutcheon Trophy that year for earning the most Masterpoints. That made me the youngest winner of that title and the first woman to do so.

In those days Masterpoints were issued as little (mostly) green certificates which one had to submit to the National Masterpoint Secretary. [Gold points didn't even appear until the 1980s.]

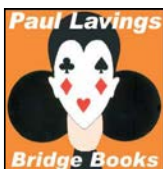
In 1980 I moved to Adelaide and have lived there since, apart from three years in Wollongong in the 1990s. I've represented Australia on and off since 1981. I'm particularly proud of qualifying for the Australian Open Team in 1998 with Elizabeth Havas, my cousin, because we are the only women's pair to have done so.

I have two children, of whom my daughter Lauren is also a bridge player. She has represented Australia, playing in international Youth competitions. My regular partner is Candice Ginsberg, but I play at the Gold Coast with my husband Howard Melbourne. He has been responsible for our last two wins in the Gold Coast Pairs (2013 and 2016).

Since 2005 I have been working as a bridge teacher, bridge coach and bridge director, so now my life is dominated by this game that I love so much. I enjoy teaching and coaching newer players, and can be seen at the SA Bridge Association having a game with friends when I occasionally have a free day. My friends often then read about the session in articles I write for SABA's newsletter. I'm passionate about teaching and was delighted to be awarded an ABF Honorary Teaching Fellowship.

My brother Peter is in the Australian Open Team this year, and I'm in the Australian Women's Team. We've managed that feat once before – in 1984! Interestingly, Sue Lusk who is also in the Women's Team has her brother Bruce Neill joining her, but in the Seniors' Team this year.

I've played most, but not all, national tournaments with some degree of success in the various events. If you see a woman knitting brightly-coloured socks in her free time, that will be me, so come along and say 'Hi', especially if you want to provide me with an interesting hand. I will be more than happy to write up a hand if you provide the details.



# PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS & SUPPLIES

Email: [paul@bridgegear.com](mailto:paul@bridgegear.com) Tel: (02) 9388 8861 Website: [www.bridgegear.com](http://www.bridgegear.com)  
or visit (phone first) UPSTAIRS, 68 New South Head Rd, VAUCLUSE 2030.

Books, software, club & home supplies. 2nd hand books, vintage & antique bridge & whist items.

## ONLY THE BEST

### BRIDGEMATES

Sole Australian agents for the table scoring system that has revolutionised bridge events around the world



### AUSTRALIAN DEALING MACHINE

### The New Dealer 4+



- \* Faster, lighter, far longer life
- \* Fully electronic, no barcodes

Dealer 4 \$4495 plus delivery  
Dealer 4\* \$4850 plus delivery

### COMPSCORE 2

Great with Bridgemates and manages all your Masterpoint requirements

\$250



Compscore2

CONTACT US  
FOR ENQUIRIES OR QUOTES  
Paul or Helen Lavings  
[paul@bridgegear.com](mailto:paul@bridgegear.com)  
02-9388-8861

## SOFTWARE

Jack 6  
CD, PC, \$84.50  
DOWNLOAD \$79.50



Upgrade \$49.50 from Jack 5 (must have Jack 5)  
World Computer Champ 2001, 02, 03, 04, 06, 09, 10, 12, 13, 15

BRIDGE BARON 27  
PC or Mac, \$79.50  
UPGRADE \$49.50



(upgrade requires previous rego number)  
Colourful and user-friendly, hints, double dummy analyser. Creates practise hands for many conventions

BRIDGEMASTER 2000  
CD, PC, \$79.50



Extra deals \$19.95  
180 declarer play problems, five skill levels. Best program to improve your declarer play.

Audrey Grant Bridgemaster  
\$59.50, CD, PC

147 declarer play problems for novices.

## NEW BOOKS

Battling the Best  
by Sartaj Hans

Exciting and instructive with hands from the top US events

\$32.95 postfree



The Abbot, The Parrot and the Bermuda Bowl  
by David Bird

Monks and others at the 2015 Bermuda Bowl, great hands, 2016 Bridge Book of the Year

\$29.95 postfree



Defending at Bridge:  
A first course

by Bill Treble  
The basics of defence in 8 short lessons, with lots of practical examples

\$29.95 postfree



VISIT  
OUR  
WEBSITE  
[www.bridgegear.com](http://www.bridgegear.com)

## PLAYING CARDS

### CHOICE OF SIX

### 100% PLASTIC

#### SUPER CARDS

High anti-static, non-slip, extra-long life  
1 year warranty, \$3.85 per pack

#### SUNSHINE CARDS

##### LARGE INDEX

20% LARGER PIPS

High anti-static, non-slip, extra long life, 1 year warranty

\$2.95 per pack



### PLASTIC-COATED

#### SYMMETRICAL

Highest quality, attractive design - comparable to Queens Slipper and \$1.25 cheaper per pack.

\$2.50 per pack

#### LARGE INDEX

20% larger pips

\$2.50 per pack

#### SUPREME

Colourful cards from India, good quality.

\$1.95 per pack

#### QUEENS SLIPPER

Traditional Aussie cards

The Queens Slipper cards we sell are guaranteed new.

\$3.75 per pack



#### EBA PLASTIC DUPLICATE BOARDS

8 colours - \$3.30 each

#### WALLETS

Flexible plastic, modern design - \$2.00 each

#### BIDDING SLIPS

40 pads \$5.50 ea. 80 pads \$5.20 ea.

#### TRAVELLERS

50+ pads \$3.30 ea.

#### SUPER BRIDGE BIDDING BOX

Best ever design with 100% plastic bid cards for both RH & LH players, RED, GREEN, BLACK \$59.95 set of 4

#### TABLE CLOTHS FOR BRIDGE CLUBS

Best quality, non-iron \$20 each

#### BIROS FOR CLUB USE

Pack of 70 for \$10.00

#### INSTANT SCORERS

Laminated - purse size, large print - \$1.00 ea.

#### AUSSIE TEACHING BOOKS

35% discount to clubs and teachers

WE CHARGE POSTAGE ON  
SUPPLIES BUT NOT HANDLING

NON-DISCOUNTED BOOKS AND SOFTWARE ARE POSTFREE

I am delighted to announce that the ABF has a new **Newsletter Editor**, Barbara Travis.



Barbara is one of Australia's leading players and is one of the ABF's new Honorary Teaching Fellows. Her strong interests are in teaching, supporting clubs and promoting the sport of bridge through the Newsletter, where she has been a major contributor for many years.

In conjunction with the new Editor, we will be aiming to continually improve the Newsletter by introducing more articles for club and intermediate players, more variety and some new features.

I would also personally like to thank Kim Frazer for stepping in as Editor pro-tem and again thank Stephen Lester for the wonderful work he has done, as Editor, over the past 9 years.

As mentioned in the January issue of this newsletter, Director development is a key priority for 2017. For this reason, I am pleased to announce the appointment of John McIlrath to the newly created role of **National Director Development Officer (NDDO)**.

In his NDDO role John will help to define ways to identify and encourage aspiring Directors to develop their skills and knowledge to be accredited as Tournament Directors. He will design, develop and promote a series of education videos for the Directors' section on the ABF Website and work with States/Territories on apprenticeship programs, mentorship programs and director workshops.

John is based in Sydney and has been a National Director for 17 years. For the last 30 years, he has been heavily involved in the administration of bridge clubs, including as a Director and a teacher.

John has regularly directed at three ABF Licenced events (Summer Festival, Gold Coast and Spring Nationals) and is Chief Director at the newly licenced Canberra in Bloom Festival. During his time in bridge administration, he has served on the council of ABDA (Australian Bridge Directors Association) and on the NSWBA Council.



One of the great things about bridge is that it is a community activity. People come together to play, and very often stay together after the session to discuss the hands and perhaps share a drink. I hope that for the rest of 2017 we will all be focused on the things that will help make bridge a continuing success. Consistent with our ABF values, this includes things like:

- **making bridge attractive and accessible to new players.**
- **encouraging friendly and welcoming behaviour at the table, everywhere from social club play to fiercely competitive top level competition.**

**Bruce Neill**  
**ABF President**



*Ray Hurst & Heidi Colenbrander,  
winners of the Rising Stars Pairs in Canberra*



*Chris Fader & Richard Bodell,  
winners of the Penline 500 Swiss Pairs*



*James Ward (Pianola), Michael Goh,  
Bruce Minchinton, Gordon Coss, John Green,  
winners of the Pianola Non-Life Masters Teams*

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY AT KIAMA

Did you know that bridge has been played in the south coastal NSW town of Kiama since 1940? It's moved from rubber to duplicate bridge, and been held in various hotels and other venues, and not only has it survived, but it's now booming!

The club has easily paid off the loan for its own premises, and when I visited in February, it had just installed the most comfortable black leather chairs I've seen in ages. You'd want to be there just to sit in them, let alone play bridge!

All modern technology has been brought in, and the Club Librarian takes on the responsibility of ensuring the library's content reflects modern bridge theory.

Kiama's accredited teacher, Ann Blue, utilises my services as ABF National Teaching Co-ordinator to provide annual training. This provides professional development for members, teachers and would be teachers.

Ann's modern approach to teaching and her ability to really look after new players has meant a big increase in members, now around 220. She takes the classes and then moves them over to Nerelle Kelly who continues with structured Help with Play sessions.

I was very pleasantly surprised that more than 30 teachers and would be educators turned up in February for the first Continuing Professional Development Day for 2017, on the brand new topic of Two over One Game Forcing. They represented a number of clubs, Peninsula (Sydney), Illawarra, Charlestown, Toronto, Bowral, Brisbane Water, Nowra, Parramatta, Southern Highlands and, of course, Kiama.

I wasn't sure how this would be received, as there is often a natural reluctance to taking something new onboard, but the very opposite happened. I was surrounded by some of the most enthusiastic teachers you could imagine, and they embraced the ideas contained in the course. When teachers present 2/1 as NOT having to learn a whole new system, but simply as a way to fix the weaker parts of Standard, then students will understand, and not panic!

The hardest concept is what used to be called the Forcing 1NT, which has been around for many years, and existed well before the 2/1 concept. These days, though, it's easier to explain to students that the 1NT response is expanded to contain some 10, 11, or even bad 12 point hands (so it's explained as 6 – 12), and is not 100% forcing at all.

I always thought it was a pity when playing the FORCING 1NT that you could never play in 1NT (as an unpassed hand), because sometimes (especially in pairs) that's a great spot and scores well! So as always, opener should try to show their shape after responder bids 1NT, but if they have opened on a weak 5332 hand, and partner responds 1NT, then they MAY pass.

It's always made sense that an opening hand with two suits opposite a 1NT response will probably play better in a suit contract, either one of opener's, or responder's if they have a single suited hand.

I'm planning to offer a number of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Days for teachers in 2017, and Two over One Game Forcing is the latest of the topics. There are now three from which to choose – for teachers after completing a Teacher Training Programme (TTP).

- (1) Modern Competitive Bidding
- (2) Defence
- (3) Two over One Game Force

See the ABF website for details  
<http://www.abf.com.au/education>  
 and/or contact me at  
[teaching@abf.com.au](mailto:teaching@abf.com.au)

*Joan Butts*



*Ann Blue, Wayne Courtney (Club President) and Nerelle Kelly*



*Participants in Kiama's Professional Development Day with Joan Butts*

# SHOWDOWN OF CHAMPIONS AT THE 2017 NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

From 10-22 January, Canberra again hosted Australia's most important national tournament, the Summer Festival of Bridge, which consists of 21 events. The major Open event, the South-West Pacific Teams (SWPT), was contested by 126 teams over four days in the second week.

At the end of 12 qualifying matches, the top eight teams from the SWPT are then invited to contest the National Open Teams over the final three days of the Festival. By the end of the event, the winners have battled through at least seven days of bridge. This year promised to be particularly exciting given that two superstar sponsored teams had returned to Canberra: MILNER from the USA (including three Polish world champions), and LAVAZZA from "Italy" (with Madala-Bianchedi from Argentina and Bilde from Denmark).

One of the beautiful things about this game is that no matter how long you play, you can always learn something new. I was shown an interesting, perhaps even bizarre, bidding problem from Round 2 of the SWPT. In fourth seat, you hold:

♠ A  
♥ A K  
♦ K Q 6 5 4 3  
♣ 9 7 6 4

LHO opens 1♣, followed by two passes to you. Your opponents are vulnerable, and you are not. What would you say?

The normal bid is probably 1♦. Other possible value bids are 2♦ and 3♦. Because we are in the pass-out set, these jumps shouldn't show weak hands (we would pass out the contract with weakness) and suggest intermediate values: 13-16 or so. We might also consider doubling and rebidding our diamonds next to show strength.

Michael Whibley of New Zealand faced this problem. At this vulnerability, he and his partner overcall at the one-level freely; if his partner held a five-card suit, he must be very weak not to have bid it. This suggested that if anyone had a major-suit fit, it was the opponents. Looking at just three tricks/cards in the majors, the opponents could likely make a part-score in hearts or spades, and possibly even a game. Meanwhile, there was no guarantee that 1♣ was a good fit for East-West.

Putting all the clues together, and demonstrating why he was selected to compete for NZ in the World Championships last year, Whibley bravely passed out 1♣! At the table, 1♣ by East made eight tricks: NS -90. At the other table, Whibley's teammates finished in 4♣, making 10 for +620 and 11 IMPs. The full hand:

♠ A	
♥ A K	
♦ K Q 6 5 4 3	
♣ 9 7 6 4	
♠ 9 7 6 5 2	♠ K Q J 8
♥ J 10 9 6 2	♥ Q
♦ J 9	♦ A 2
♣ Q	♣ A 10 8 5 3 2
♠ 10 4 3	
♥ 8 7 5 4 3	
♦ 10 8 7	
♣ K J	

Around the playing room, East-West were frequently helped by a 'balancing' bid by North, after which they made their way to game or part-score in spades. Of 126 tables, only Whibley and one other North passed out 1♣. This is a position I have never seen before, so if you got it right, give yourself a pat on the back!

By the end of the SWPT qualifying rounds, the top eight teams were MILNER, LAVAZZA, MILNE, COURTNEY, BARDA, LAZER, CORNELL and THOMSON, which included six of the top eight seeded teams. Just missing out by 0.56 VPs were 28th-seeded WATTS. [Full team listings are under Results.]

In the quarter-finals, MILNER and CORNELL won comfortably, defeating COURTNEY and LAZER by 70 and 56 IMPs respectively. LAVAZZA beat THOMSON by 31, and MILNE defeated BARDA (with multiple NOT champion Ishmael Del'Monte) by 16 IMPs in a nail-biter.

The semi-finals pitted MILNER against MILNE, with LAVAZZA left to play CORNELL. Playing for MILNE against two reigning Bermuda Bowl champions, Andy Hung had a triumph on the following board (*rotated for convenience*).

	♠ 8 7 4 2	
	♥ J 10 8 6 3	
	♦ 4 2	
	♣ A 5	
♠ K 10		♠ Q 9 5 3
♥ A 9 7		♥ 5 4 2
♦ J 9 8 6 3		♦ 5
♣ Q 3 2		♣ K 10 7 6 4
	♠ A J 6	
	♥ K Q	
	♦ A K Q 10 7	
	♣ J 9 8	

After a transfer sequence, Andy declared 3NT (South) on the ♦3 lead. After winning the first trick with the beer card (♦7), Andy could see six top tricks (1 spade, 4 diamonds, 1 club) and decided the best plan was to try to sneak through two rounds of hearts to get his trick count to eight. Where the ninth trick was going to come from was still unclear.

At trick 2, Andy played the ♥Q. Why the Queen rather than the King? In general, with equal honours hidden in declarer's hand, it works best to play your highest if you want the opponents to take it, and lowest if you prefer they duck.

After West ducked the first heart, he was forced to duck the second heart, otherwise the suit was established. At this point, despite appearances, the contract was cold.

At the table, after the diamond lead and two rounds of hearts, Andy played a low spade from hand. West won and played a club, which was ducked to Andy for the ninth trick. Every line leads to nine tricks: for example, if East wins the ♠K and returns a club to dummy's Ace, declarer can return to hand with the ♠A and exit a club to endplay West.

Note that if Andy had played the ♥K at trick 2, West would have had a much higher chance of playing the ♥A to block the hearts and then switching to clubs (to knock out dummy's ♣A entry to the long hearts). This would ensure that 3NT was defeated. This tip of playing the lowest of touching honours to tempt the duck is worth remembering.

Sadly for the local teams, neither semi-final match ended up being close, with the foreign teams MILNER and LAVAZZA both winning by around 70 IMPs (LAVAZZA won their match in three sets after their opponents conceded). Thus, the NOT Final would be a repeat of 2016, with multiple world champions playing for either side.

One of the most spectacular hands from the final was the sixth board of the match. Which game would you like to play as North-South on the following deal?

<p>♠ Q 4 ♥ Q 7 ♦ A J 6 5 2 ♣ A Q J 3</p> <p>♠ K J 8 7 3 2 ♥ J 6 ♦ 10 8 7 3 ♣ K</p>	<p>♠ A 6 ♥ 10 8 5 4 2 ♦ 9 4 ♣ 7 5 4 2</p>
<p>♠ 10 9 5 ♥ A K 9 3 ♦ K Q ♣ 10 9 8 6</p>	

Without a spade stopper, 5♣ looks best. Although three rounds of spades will require a ruff with a club honour, declarer can return to the South hand and take a trump finesse to succeed.

At the LAVAZZA table, Madala-Bianchedi bid as follows:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>H Lall</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Milner</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>
		Pass	1♣ (2+)
1♠	2♣*	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♣**	DBL	Pass
Pass	RDBL	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

\*2♣ artificial, game forcing

\*\*asking for spade control

The nature of the Argentinians' nebulous 1♣ opening and the 3♦ bid led to some confusion about which suit should be trumps. Bianchedi's 4♥ may have been an offer to play, but Madala went back to what he thought was a reasonable fit. West led a spade, and three rounds of spades promoted a trump trick; one down and -50.

At the other table:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Nowasadzki</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♠	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♣**	DBL	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥

All Pass

\*2♣ artificial, game forcing

\*\*asking for spade control

It was apparent to both North and South that they were looking for a safe landing spot. Kalita offered 4♥ with four strong trumps, and Nowasadzki, fully aware that this was

a 4-2 fit, decided to heroically go for it rather than risk the 5-level off two likely spade tricks.

The defence started with three rounds of spades (best), and Kalita found the only winning play, ruffing with dummy's ♥7, over-ruffed by the ♥8. A trump was returned to the Queen, followed by a diamond to declarer's hand and the ♥A, West following with the ♥J.

Now declarer was at the cross-roads. Had West started with ♥J6, ♥J106, or ♥J62? Kalita made no mistake. Abandoning trumps, he unblocked his second top diamond, then played a club to the King and Ace. Now he could run winning diamonds through East, and Bocchi's ♥10-2 was caught in a stunning trump coup! If East ruffed at any point, he would be over-ruffed and his trumps drawn, while if he discarded until trick 12, declarer's ♥K-9 would take the last two tricks; +420 and 10 IMPs to MILNER.

The 2017 NOT final went down to the wire. The match was all square at half-time, but MILNER had a break-through in the third set, turning a brief 16 IMP deficit into a 22 IMP lead with sixteen boards to play.

In the final set of the match, it appeared that LAVAZZA had staged a comeback but had fallen just short. On Board 27, Lall-Pszczola had bid uncontested to a making 7♠, Lall being dealer as South. At the other table, when they got to board 27, Kalita as West had made a 3♣ opening as dealer – because the board had him down as dealer, and was marked as board 28! With the pre-empt, LAVAZZA (Bocchi-Sementa) bid to only 6♠, so 11 imps went to MILNER, putting MILNER into the lead with only a few boards to play.

Clearly something had gone wrong, however, given that the dealer and vulnerability were different at each table. At this point, it was discovered that the Closed Room (where Bocchi played 6♠) had received board 27's cards in board 28, and vice versa. The hands had been misdealt, with no suggestion of any player error. The Director ordered the two results scrapped, and Boards 27 and 28 to be redealt and replayed at the end of play, with LAVAZZA now leading by 5 IMPs instead of trailing by 6, with the 11 IMP swing having been cancelled.

With thousands following on BBO, both hands ended up being inconsequential flat boards, and LAVAZZA ultimately ran out the winners. Congratulations to the LAVAZZA team (Norberto Bocchi-Antonio Sementa, Giorgio Duboin-Dennis Bilde, Agustin Madala-Alejandro Bianchedi) for triumphing in Australia's premier teams event, 120-115 IMPs. This victory defends the title for the Italian-Argentinian team, having likewise beaten MILNER in the 2016 NOT final.

The misdealt board situation was obviously bad luck for MILNER. Lall-Pszczola had two of their best results on the original boards 27 and 28, but it could have easily gone the other way; it was just as likely that two of their bad scores were scrubbed. Always stoic, Justin Lall said after the match: "Well, yes, they threw out the board where they missed grand, but they could have just as easily thrown out [the hand where we mis-defended 5♦ doubled]. It's random." That's how the cookie crumbles sometimes.

It is highly flattering for Australia that international teams continue to travel across the world to compete in our finest events. In addition, with otherwise limited exposure to top international competition, the general level of Australian players will no doubt increase with each opportunity to play against such heavyweights. With any luck, MILNER, LAVAZZA, and others will continue to make the trip down under.

*Liam Milne*

# NATIONAL SENIORS' TEAMS

34 teams lined up for the 2017 National Seniors' Teams in Canberra and three of the top four seeds – NEILL (1), LAZER (2) and KROCHMALIK (4) – made it through to the knock-out stage, with the other qualifying team being BEAUCHAMP (11). KROCHMALIK, who finished top of the qualifying chose BEAUCHAMP as their semi-final opponent and defeated them 115 – 56 IMPs, while NEILL took care of business over LAZER 158 – 81 IMPs. It would be KROCHMALIK (Robert Krochmalik – Paul Lavings, Ron Klinger – Neil Ewart) and NEILL (Bruce Neill – Avi Kanetkar, Terry Brown – Peter Buchen, Simon Hinge – Bill Haughie) to fight out the final.

Board 1

Dealer N	♠ 6 3
NIL Vul	♥ 5 4 3
	♦ A K Q
	♣ K Q J 10 3
♠ A Q 8 5 4 2	♠ J 10 7
♥ Q 8 6	♥ K J 10 9 2
♦ 10 8	♦ 9 6 3
♣ 6 2	♣ 9 4
	♠ K 9
	♥ A 7
	♦ J 7 5 4 2
	♣ A 8 7 5

The first board presented a technical bidding problem for North-South. Lavings, sitting North, opened the bidding with 1NT and Krochmalik, South, raised to 3NT. After this auction, the objective is to find partner's long Major or lead your own. For Neill, on the occasion, the ♠J was only the second choice; so after the natural heart lead KROCHMALIK escaped. At the other table, Buchen was sufficiently worried about the Majors to open the bidding with 1♣, despite playing a 15-17 1NT opening:

<i>West</i> <i>Klinger</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Buchen</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Ewart</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Brown</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
1♠	DBL *	2♣	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

\*showing 3 card diamond support

This auction ensured that 3NT was right-sided, with no risk from any Major lead, however it earned only the smallest of swings – 1 IMP.

At the end of the first 16 board set, with only small swings traded, KROCHMALIK had a lead of just 6 IMPs.

The first deal of the second set was the big momentum changer. East-West had to decide which suit to bid to a small slam. East had a strong spade suit, but West had an even stronger diamond suit. The old adage, "Play slam in your stronger suit" has a lot of merit as this deal demonstrated.

Dealer N	♠ 10 8 5 4
Nil Vul	♥ Q 8 4 3
	♦ 8 5 2
	♣ 5 3
♠ 7	♠ K Q J 6 3 2
♥ K J 6	♥ A 9
♦ A K Q 10 9 6 4	♦ 7 3
♣ A 2	♣ K 7 6
	♠ A 9
	♥ 10 7 5 2
	♦ J
	♣ Q 10 9 8 4 2

At the first table:

<i>West</i> <i>Lavings</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Krochmalik</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Neill</i>
	Pass	1♠	3♣
3♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠ *	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

\*2 key cards + ♠Q

This was not a success when there were two unavoidable trump losers. With a balanced hand, East might have chosen to bid 3NT after the 3♦ bid and West might have chosen 6NT, the best slam, for his final bid as a bit of insurance. Perhaps the aggressive 3♣ pre-empt did its work and contributed to the debacle.

<i>West</i> <i>Hinge</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Ewart</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Haughie</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Klinger</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣ *	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

\*establishing a game force

Hinge knew what suit he wanted as trumps and, without any interference bidding, sailed into 6♦ for a 14 IMP swing and a change of lead which NEILL held to the end.

The final deal, from the fourth (last) set, illustrates two important aspects of the game: (1) get into the auction whenever and as often as you can, and (2) with a 7-4 shape try to play in your 7-card suit. Naturally both of these 'rules' can backfire, but the first one stops the opponents having a free run in the bidding, while the second gives declarer greater trump control.

Dealer S	♠ A 7 6 2
All Vul	♥ K Q
	♦ K Q J 10 6 4 3
	♣ void
♠ 10 4 3	♠ Q J 9
♥ A 7 5 4	♥ 8 6
♦ 7 5 2	♦ A 9
♣ A 8 4	♣ Q J 10 7 6 3
	♠ K 8 5
	♥ J 10 9 3 2
	♦ 8
	♣ K 9 5 2

Kanetkar (North) bought the deal in 5♦ against silent opponents:

<i>West</i> <i>Lavings</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Krochmalik</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Neill</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

That auction was simple and effective. East led a club. Kanetkar was able to draw trumps and, when the opponents failed to switch to spades in time, he was able to establish the heart suit for two spade discards, for +600.

In the other room, East-West's interference caused North-South some problems:



West Brown	North Ewart	East Buchen	South Klinger
Pass	1♦	2♣	Pass
3♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The ♣Q was ruffed by declarer and, while he could have made 9 tricks, the contract eventually went three down in a desperate attempt to make. That 14 IMPs was an expensive loss for KROCHMALIK and completely took away any thoughts of recovery. The final score was NEILL 118, KROCHMALIK 85.

*Peter Buchen*



*National Seniors' Teams winners:  
Terry Brown, Peter Buchen, Bruce Neill, Bill Haughie,  
Avi Kanetkar, Simon Hinge*



*National Women's Teams winners:  
Paula McLeish, Judy Osie, Diana Smart, Rena Kaplan,  
Nevena Djurovic, Pauline Evans*

Disclaimer: It is ABF policy not to accept advertising from persons or organisations believed to be unreliable or financially irresponsible. We are not responsible for the performance of advertisers, the delivery or quality of the merchandise or services, or the legality of any particular program. The ABF reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to refuse any advertisement.

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS

The winners of the National Women's Teams were the KAPLAN team: Rena Kaplan – Nevena Djurovic, Diana Smart – Paula McLeish, Judy Osie – Pauline Evans. They won the final against the MUNDELL team: Giselle Mundell – Avril Zets, Rita Nailand – Judy Mott, 159 IMPs to 113.1.

Paula McLeish provided a couple of hands of interest.

♠ Q 5 2	♠ A 8 7 6
♥ Q J 8	♥ 10 7 6
♦ A 9 8 2	♦ 10 7 6
♣ 7 5 3	♣ A Q 9
♠ K 9 4	♠ J 10 3
♥ A 4	♥ K 9 5 3 2
♦ K Q 5	♦ J 4 3
♣ K J 10 4 2	♣ 8 6

Paula was North, on lead against 3NT. She led a passive ♦2, fourth-highest of her longest suit. There are reasons why the ♥Q lead, found at the other table, is superior. Firstly, if an auction goes 1NT – 3NT there is less likelihood of the dummy having a four-card major (unless balanced). Secondly, leading from four card suits headed by the Ace is a losing defensive tactic. It often gives declarer an extra trick. (Note, it is different if you have a five+ card suit.) So all the signs were there to lead a heart, with the two touching honours. The result was 13 IMPs to MUNDELL, with 3NT making 11 tricks, versus 8 tricks.

The next hand, from the third session of the final, was flat (although both Seniors' finalists only bid to 6♥).

Board 12	♠ A Q 7 3 2	♠ J 4
	♥ K J 5 2	♥ 7 4
	♦ K 10 9 5	♦ Q 7 3
	♣ void	♣ A K 9 7 6 2
	♠ 10 6 5	♠ K 9 8
	♥ 9 8	♥ A Q 10 6 3
	♦ J 8 6 4 2	♦ A
	♣ Q 8 4	♣ J 10 5 3

West	North Djurovic	East	South Kaplan
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♥ (GF)
Pass	4♣ (splinter)	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♣*	Pass	7♥

The 6♣ bid showed an even number of key cards and a void in clubs (the bid suit). With an odd number of key cards and a void, one responds 5NT instead (with the void being unspecified). [Ed: Some people play this 'structure' the other way around, although I play it this way because I can remember '6 is even, 5 is odd'.] Paula's comment on her team-mates' bidding is as follows, "I like this so much that I have added it to our system." Usually bidding a grand slam on 27 HCP leads to a gain, but it was a well-bid flat board in the Women's Final.

Having had a 'negative' start to the final, the KAPLAN team worked their way back to the lead, winning by a comfortable margin.

# SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE RESULTS

## PENLINE ONE-DAY SWISS PAIRS

1st	David Weston – Julian Foster
2nd	GeO Tislevoll – Joan Butts
3rd	Ed Roggeveen – Jena Robinson

## NATIONAL SUPER NOVICE PAIRS

1st	Fiona Ferwerda – Penny Robertson
2nd	Christine Yates – Erica Gray
3rd	Jacque Hargreaves – John Bellingham

## RISING STAR PAIRS

1st	Ray Hurst – Heidi Colenbrander
2nd	Michael & Louise Brassil
3rd	Carolyn Githens – Marie Pickering

## NATIONAL RED PLUM LIFE MASTERS TEAMS

1st	BOLT: Bastian Bolt – John Kelly, Bijan Assaee – Alexis Ngan	129.14
2nd	BARNES: Denise Barnes – Janak Shah, Barry Dalsto – Bina Kassam	109.69
3rd	CHEN: Feitong Chen – Matthew Hughes, Jacob Kalma – Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin, Brad Johnston – Nicholas Mitchell	107.95

## NATIONAL PIANOLA PLUS NON-LIFE MASTERS TEAMS

1st	MINCHINTON: Bruce Minchinton – Michael Goh, Gordon Coss – John Green	107.07
2nd	ROBERTS: Wing Roberts – John Rogers, Mitch Dowling – Austin Driscoll	99.98
3rd	COUSINS: Warren Cousins – Dell Macneil, Jennie & David McKenzie	94.40

## NATIONAL NOVICE TEAMS

1st	FITZPATRICK: Carolyn & Drew Fitzpatrick, Rosalind & Philip Dey	134.92
2nd	BOWEN-THOMAS: Lesley & Charles Bowen-Thomas, Bruce King, Alan Hemingway	103.37
3rd	BUSTANY: Alan Bustany – Bernard Davidson, Rowan Bergin – Judy Macklow	90.10

## NATIONAL SUPER NOVICE & RISING STARS TEAMS

1st	SNOWDEN: Kay Snowden – Jeanette Marvel, Carolyn Githens – Marie Pickering	89.50
2nd	BYWATER: Cathy Bywater – Claire Hughes, Colleen Hassall – Myra Hyland	67.62
3rd	FERWERDA: Fiona Ferwerda – Penny Robertson, Janice Meldrum – Julie More	60.53

## CHRIS DIMENT MATCHPOINT SWISS PAIRS

1st	Helen Horwitz – Justin Howard
2nd	Julian Foster – David Weston
3rd	Marlene Watts – Michael Prescott

## TBIB NATIONAL OPEN SWISS PAIRS

1st	Elli Urbach – Les Varadi
2nd	Shane Harrison – Michael Whibley
3rd	David Beauchamp – Tony Leibowitz

## PENLINE 500 SWISS PAIRS

1st	Richard Bodell – Chris Fader
2nd	Cassandra Mitchell – Clare Filmer Ramsay
3rd	Gabrielle Elich – Denise Hartwig

## NOVICE SWISS PAIRS

1st	Jan & Don Plumb
2nd	Lisa Yoffa – James Thomas
3rd	Alan Hemmingway – Bruce King

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS

### SEMI FINALS

MUNDELL:	128.1
Giselle Mundell – Avril Zets, Judy Mott – Rita Nailand	<i>defeated</i>
SMYTH:	90
Felicity Smyth – Judith Tobin, Karen Creet – Sheila Bird	

KAPLAN:	150
Rena Kaplan – Nevena Djurovic, Diana Smart – Paula McLeish, Pauline Evans – Judy Osie	<i>defeated</i>

RICHARDSON:	125.1
Carol Richardson – Andi Boughey, Jenna & Christine Gibbons	

### FINAL

KAPLAN	159	<i>defeated</i>	MUNDELL	113.1
--------	-----	-----------------	---------	-------

## NATIONAL SENIORS' TEAMS

### SEMI FINALS

KROCHMALIK:	115.1
Robert Krochmalik – Paul Lavings, Ron Klinger – Neil Ewart	<i>defeated</i>

BEAUCHAMP:	56
David Beauchamp – Tony Leibowitz, David Stern – Robert Grynberg, Tom Moss – Dennis Zines	

NEILL:	158.1
Bruce Neill – Avi Kanetkar, Bill Haughie – Simon Hinge, Terry Brown – Peter Buchen	<i>defeated</i>

LAZER:	81
Warren Lazer – Pauline Gumby, Ian Robinson – George Kozakos, Michael & Vivien Cornell	

### FINAL

NEILL	118	<i>defeated</i>	KROCHMALIK	85.1
-------	-----	-----------------	------------	------

## NOVICES LOVE CANBERRA TOO

### SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC TEAMS

#### QUALIFIERS TO NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

1st	MILNER: Reese Milner – Hemant Lall, Jacek Pszczola – Justin Lall, Jacek Kalita – Michal Nowasadzki	186.70
2nd	LAVAZZA: Norberto Bocchi – Alejandro Bianchedi, Dennis Bilde – Giorgio Duboin, Antonio Sementa – Augustin Madala	177.74
3rd	MILNE: Liam Milne – Shane Harrison – Andy Hung – Sartaj Hans – Sophie Ashton – Nathan van Jole	163.29
4th	COURTNEY: Michael Courtney – Paul Wyer, Norman Selway – Kay Preddy	157.61
5th	BARDA: Joe Barda – Ishmael Del'Monte, Anthony Burke – GeO Tislevoll	157.41
6th	LAZER: Warren Lazer – Pauline Gumby, Ian Thomson – Arjuna Delivera, Ian Robinson – Andy Braithwaite	156.07
7th	CORNELL: Michael Cornell – Ashley Bach, Michael Whibley – Matthew Brown, David Beauchamp – Tony Leibowitz	154.41
8th	THOMSON: Ben Thompson – Phil Markey, Justin Williams – George Smolanko, Matthew Thomson – Peter Newman	152.00

### NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

#### QUARTER FINALS

MILNER	186.1	defeated	COURTNEY	116
LAVAZZA	134.1	defeated	THOMSON	103
MILNE	163.1	defeated	BARDA	146
CORNELL	162	defeated	LAZER	106.1

#### SEMI FINALS

MILNER	162.1	defeated	MILNE	91
LAVAZZA	117.1	defeated	CORNELL	41

#### FINAL

## YOUTH WEEK RESULTS

#### YOUTH TEAMS FINAL

MITCHELL:	113
Andi Boughey – Matthew Brown, NiK Mitchell – Brad Johnston	
<i>defeated</i>	
HARRISON:	111,5
Shane Harrison – Jessica Brake, Stephen Williams – Nick Jacob	

#### YOUTH PAIRS

1st	Andi Boughey – Matthew Brown
2nd	Brad Johnston – Nicholas Mitchell
3rd	Ailsa Peacock – Erin Tewes

#### NATIONAL JUNIOR TEAM SELECTION

(for the Australian Under 25 Team)

1st	Charles & John McMahon
2nd	Francesca McGrath – Ella Pattison
3rd	Jamie Thompson – Matt Smith
4th	Christophe Rhodes – Nico Ransom
5th	David Gue – George Bartley

Five years ago Julie Cowling and Faye Franklin set off on an adventure to the Summer Festival of Bridge (SFoB) and laid the pathway that saw them joined each year by more and more Super Novice and Rising Stars from the Illawarra Bridge Club. This year there were 14 of us, Julie and Faye, Aileen O'Brien, Cheryl Waters, Liz Cusack, Ngaire Meehan, Chris Yates, Erica Gray, Jacquie Collins, Jenny Muscio, Jeanette Marvell, Kay Snowden, Carolyn Githens and Marie Pickering.

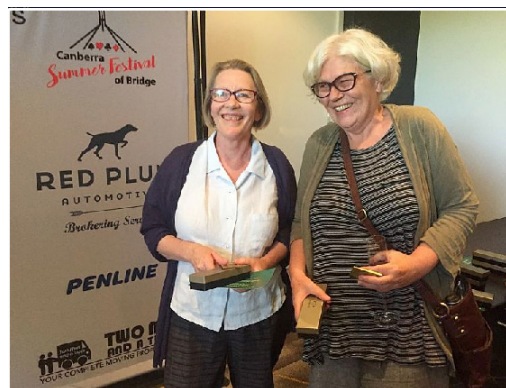
12 of us were lucky enough to stay at the same apartment block. We all arrived on Tuesday to start our adventure on Wednesday. Much to our surprise we were upstairs in the QT building and met the director, a fantastic young lady called Laura Ginnan, who made us all feel at ease, dealt with everything calmly and made the whole experience enjoyable. On the Thursday and Friday mornings, most of us went to get advice from Joan Butts' talks. They hit the right chord and were a great help during the day's play.

Each day the enigmatic bus driver Mel collected us, dropped us off, and then at the end of the day picked us up and dropped us off again. At night we all enjoyed a meal together and got to try out a variety of very nice restaurants.

On the last night we were joined by Carol Jeffs (Illawarra President) and Jeanette (from Tumbarumba) to celebrate the great time we had in Canberra. We hope that others will come and join with us in future years.

[Ed: From the results, there were some very successful players from Illawarra Bridge Club enjoying the SFoB this year!]

*Marie Pickering*



*Fiona Ferwerda & Penny Robertson, winners of the Super Novice Pairs*



*Rosalind & Philip Dey, Drew & Carolyn Fitzpatrick, winners of the Novice Teams*



# RED PLUM

AUTOMOTIVE

## A Better Way to Buy a Car

**WE OPERATE AROUND AUSTRALIA. CALL US TO DISCUSS YOUR NEXT CAR.**



Personal Cars

Business Cars

Trade-in valuation

Aftermarket

Finance and Insurance

Car Servicing

Car Detailing

e: [enquiries@redplumautomotive.com.au](mailto:enquiries@redplumautomotive.com.au)

ph: (07) 3252 8865

w: [redplumautomotive.com.au](http://redplumautomotive.com.au)

## WHAT WE DO



Red Plum Automotive is a national car buying service that can source you a new or used car, at no extra cost, saving you thousands.



### Simply tell us what you're after

Once we understand your needs we submit multiple requests to dealers to achieve the best price and terms of sale.

### Sit back, pay less, get more

At no direct cost to you we negotiate the best price and take care of all the details, including your trade, delivery and aftermarket needs.

### A better way to buy a car

Our car buying knowledge and experience are on your side, delivering a personalised service and a superior purchasing experience.



**“When my one year old BMW X5 got submerged after a recent flood, I wanted a replacement just like the previous one. Red Plum was able to locate an almost identical car with better specs.**

**John SA**

*This report is written by Matt Brown, a young New Zealander. He won both the Youth Teams and Pairs during Youth Week.*

2017 started off with a bang for youth players as many travelled from all over Australia and New Zealand to participate in the Australian Youth Week, held at the Canberra Bridge Club. This year New Zealand had a large contingent of players, with four established partnerships crossing the Tasman to compete with and against Australia's finest young players. From New Zealand we had Andi Boughey-Matthew Brown, Feitong Chen-Matthew Hughes, Jacob Kalma-Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin & Nik Mitchell-Brad Johnston.

The week started off with the Youth Teams, where 10 teams played a full round robin over two days, with the top two teams qualifying for a 48 board final. With many strong teams in the field, it would be a race to the finish line to qualify for the final.

At the end of the round robin the HARRISON team (Shane Harrison-Nick Jacob, Jessica Brake-Stephen Williams) were 14 VPs clear of the field, sitting on 148.22 VPs after 9 matches whilst our team MITCHELL (Nik Mitchell-Brad Johnston, Matthew Brown-Andi Boughey) was runner up on 134.22 VPs. This meant that the final would start with HARRISON having a 6.5 IMP carry-over.

MITCHELL jumped out to a large lead in the first two stanzas, with the score at halfway being 72-36.5. In the third set however, HARRISON clawed back, winning 33-5 to reduce their deficit to only 7.5 IMPs. The pressure was well and truly on for the last stanza.

At all vulnerable, you hold this hand and have to decide what to do after your LHO opens 1♠ and your RHO raises to 2♠.

♠ K 5  
♥ A 8 4 3  
♦ K 9 6 3  
♣ A J 3

Nik Mitchell decided to double, which worked particularly well on the hand. His partner Brad made the leap to 4♥, and Nick Jacob, who held 7 spades, felt obliged to sacrifice over this in 4♣ (doubled). This contract went down 3 for -800. Jessica Brake, at our table, somewhat conservatively passed, and so we managed to buy the contract in 2♠ which just made for +110, a 14 IMP gain. On most of the other boards, the HARRISON team played and bid extremely well, and the final score for the stanza was 36-42. This meant our MITCHELL team had held on by the smallest of margins, winning the final 113 to 111.5 IMPs.

The Youth Pairs was the next event to take place, with all teams' finalists qualifying directly to the final. Here is a problem that Andi Boughey faced, with no one vulnerable and a weak 2♦ opening on her right:

♠ A 7 5  
♥ A 8  
♦ 10 9 7 4  
♣ A Q 6 5

Andi figured it was unlikely that the opponents held all the diamond honours and that her 10974 was a stopper and worth a point or two. So she overcalled 2NT (not for the fainthearted)!

This worked spectacularly when I raised her to 3NT with:

♠ 8 6 3 2  
♥ Q 5 4  
♦ A  
♣ K J 10 8 2

On the lead of the ♦Q, and with the ♥K onside, Andi could not be stopped on her way to 9 tricks and a top board. This proved important, as we eventually went on to win the Youth Pairs by less than a board, ahead of our ex-teammates, Nik Mitchell & Brad Johnston.

Finally, the Australians and New Zealanders were to contest the Stern-Cornell trophy in a test match. Andi had qualified to the knockouts of the Women's Teams with her mother Carol Richardson, so the New Zealand youth team comprised Nik Mitchell & Brad Johnston playing throughout, and Feitong Chen playing with both Matthew Hughes & Matthew Brown.

Feitong showed marvellous judgment on this board.

♠ Q 8 3  
♥ A K 9 6  
♦ K Q 8 4 3 2  
♣ void

West	North	East	South
Brown	J McMahon	Chen	C McMahon
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3♣	Pass	?	

\* Fourth suit forcing

If I held a singleton diamond, or if the Ace was offside we would be extremely hard pressed to take enough tricks in 3NT. Therefore Feitong bid 3♣. I duly raised to 4♣ and we played in the Moysian 4-3 fit, which could not be defeated as the spades broke 3-3 and the diamonds could be established by ruffing. 3NT at the other table failed by 3 tricks, and so we picked up 12 imps for Feitong's good judgment, and we eventually won the test match 101-87.



*Australia and New Zealand Youth Test teams*

We are extremely thankful to Elaine Leach and Bruce Crossman, who organised and directed Youth Week so efficiently and made the experience so enjoyable. We also want to especially thank Tracey Lewis, New Zealand's new Youth Co-ordinator who put so much time and effort into securing subsidies from New Zealand Bridge and the New Zealand Bridge Foundation to help us all make the journey over. This was the first time participating for Jeremy & Jacob, and hopefully not the last!

*Matthew Brown*

## ANDREW REINER TROPHY:

### ELLA PATTISON AND RENEE COOPER

This award is granted to the best-performed pair in international competition taking account of performance in the events themselves, commitment to preparation and contribution to team success.

The unanimous choice of the two non-playing captains at the World Youth Team Championships in Salsomaggiore, Renee and Ella anchored the Australian Girls' Team to their outstanding silver medal performance.

## HELMAN-KLINGER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

### JAMIE THOMPSON

This award, worth \$400 annually and supplemented with a further \$200 from the Friends of Youth Bridge Fund, is presented each year to the Australian Youth Bridge Player whose ability, achievements, sportsmanship, attitude, contribution and commitment during the calendar year are most deserving.

Jamie has been on the Australian Under 25 Team for three straight years, although he is still eligible to play Under-20s.

In 2016 Jamie played every single national teams event, together with the Open Team Play-Offs. Jamie has also taken over the running of the Victorian Kiddies' Night at Waverley Bridge Club and plays regularly with up-and-coming Under 16 year olds. Finally, he anchored an inexperienced Victorian Youth Team at the ANC.

## HELMAN-KLINGER MASTERPOINT AWARD:

### MATTHEW SMITH

This award, worth \$200 annually and supplemented with a further \$100 from the Friends of Youth Bridge Fund, is awarded to the Australian Youth Player who earns the most masterpoints in the calendar year.

This year Matt won with 216.79 masterpoints (actually Jamie Thompson won with 221.07 but you can only win this award once). Matt's move across the Nullabor to pursue a bridge career in Sydney is certainly paying off well in terms of masterpoints!

## HILLS-HURLEY TROPHY:

### JOHN AND CHARLES MCMAHON

This trophy, donated by Richard Hills and Steve Hurley, is to encourage talented young bridge players in forming long-standing partnerships and to reward successful pairs which have developed a well-organised partnership to harness their full potential.

Following their first-time appearance at Youth Week in 2016, the McMahon brothers made an immediate impression with their thoughtful and skilled play and were given the opportunity to represent Australia at the New Zealand National Congress where they won the Intermediate Teams and defeated the New Zealand Youth Team 184 – 83 to take out the Stern-Cornell Trans-Tasman Trophy.

*[Ed: John and Charles won the Youth Team Selection at this year's Youth Week, their second appearance, so will be representing Australia on its Under 25 team this year.]*

Andy Hung provides Daily Bulletins for Youth Week, and I particularly enjoyed this offering from Matt Smith:

♠ A Q J 7 5	♠ 9 4 3	♠ K 10 8 2
♥ 10 7	♥ 9 5 4 3	♥ A K Q 6 2
♦ 8 7 6 2	♦ void	♦ K 4
♣ K 6	♣ A J 10 4 3 2	♣ 7 5
	♠ 6	
	♥ J 8	
	♦ A Q J 10 9 5 3	
	♣ Q 9 8	

West (Matt)	North	East	South
2♠	Pass	4NT	2♦
5♣	Pass	5♠	All Pass

Looking at the East-West hands alone, 5♠ looks like a terrible contract, until North led the ♣A. Not only did this set up the ♣K, but when North did not switch to a diamond it suggested that South had started with a seven-card diamond suit.

Matt's problem wasn't over yet, as he still had to ensure he lost only one diamond trick, so after North continued with a club at trick 2, he won the ♣K, drew trumps in three rounds and cashed the ♥AKQ discarding a diamond from hand and noting the 4-2 break. Now he continued with the fourth heart and, instead of ruffing, he discarded a second diamond. This loser-on-loser play directed the play back to the North hand, and assumed safety (from a diamond lead).

North had nothing but clubs left to lead, so the forced club continuation gave Matt a ruff-and-discard. He trumped in dummy and discarded his third diamond from hand, and then cashed the ♥2 so he could discard his last diamond!

This was an excellent piece of card-reading based on deductions he could draw from the auction, and then the opening lead and continuation.

Matt noted that a trump lead or a small heart lead are the only leads to defeat the contract. On those leads he can draw trumps and play on hearts, but North can safely exit with the ♣A and another club, which still leaves declarer with a diamond loser.



Jamie Thompson with Bruce Neill



Matt Smith

**ANC SURVEY**

The Australian National Championship (ANC) has been running since 1933, and has a long proud history. The ABF is conducting a review of the ANC, focussed on the timing, duration, format and location of the current PQP events – the Interstate Teams Championships and the Australian Butler Pairs Championships. There are no preconceived notions about what, if anything, should happen; it is simply time for a review.

We invite all ABF members to respond to a survey (by March 31 please). The survey should take you about 5-10 minutes. We even have a small prize on offer!

The short link to the survey form is:

<https://goo.gl/forms/XxcyzMIwGbwceala2>

Please help us ensure the future of this great event.

*[Ed: I've done the survey and it won't tax you time-wise.]*

**ABF HONORARY TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS**

Four additional teachers have been recognised:

TONY JACKMAN

WILLIAM JENNER-O'SHEA

MATTHEW MULLAMPHY

NIGEL ROSENDORFF

**NEW VENUE FOR SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE**

From 2018, the Summer Festival of Bridge will be held at the Rex Hotel Canberra, 150 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon.

**GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS**

The MC has previously announced a possible reduction in the number of teams contesting the GNOT finals. We have now agreed to reduce the number of teams qualifying for the 2017 final from 64 to 60.

*(See Letters to the Editor for at least one view on this topic.)*

**AUSTRALIAN YOUTH TEAMS FOR 2017**

Congratulations to the following players who have qualified for our international youth teams.

**UNDER 25 TEAM:**

Charles McMahon, John McMahon, Jamie Thompson, Matt Smith, Nico Ranson, Christopher Rhodes.  
NPC: Johnno Newman.

**GIRLS TEAM:**

Renee Cooper, Francesca McGrath, Kirsty Fuller, Lakshmi Sunderasan, Ailsa Peacock.  
NPC: Christy Geromboux.

**SECOND SENIORS' TEAM FOR APBF**

A second Seniors' Team from Australia has been accepted for the APBF Championships to be held in Seoul from May 28 – June 7, 2017.

The team is Andy Braithwaite, Arjuna Delivera, Simon Hinge, George Smolanko, Jonathan Free and Robbie van Riel.

News for current International Team Players and Aspirants

**NEW LOGO**

Thanks to John McIlrath for sending us this team logo which now features on our 'Team Australia' web page.



**TEAM AUSTRALIA WEBSITE LINK**

The ABF website's international player page can be found at [www.abfevents.com.au/itm](http://www.abfevents.com.au/itm). This page has some general training information and articles for players. There is also a password protected area with some training materials for team members. If you are an aspiring state or international team player and interested in getting involved with some of our group sessions, you can email Kim Frazer at: [kim.frazer@bigpond.com](mailto:kim.frazer@bigpond.com).

**USING NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRAINING**

With the diverse localities of some of our players, and the cost of trying to get everyone together to do team briefings and information sessions, the IPTF has decided to try using webinar technology. A webinar is a virtual seminar which allows interactivity between the participants and the lecturer.

**TEAM CAMP – Sydney, May 12th – 14th**

Johnno Newman, our Youth Team NPC, has been instrumental in organising a team training camp for our youth, women and some senior international players. With departure for Korea only a couple of weeks later, this training camp will provide an important part of the teams' preparations. We thank the ABF for their support in funding the training weekend..

*Kim Frazer*

**Want to improve your bridge?**  
Go to [www.ronklingerbridge.com](http://www.ronklingerbridge.com)  
for new material each day  
2017 Bridge Holidays  
With Ron & Suzie Klinger

	
Silversea Alaska Cruise May 18-25	Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort July 9-16
	
Norfolk Island Oct 30 – Nov 6	Silver Shadow Sydney to Singapore Cruise Jan 3-21 2018

Brochures available for any of these on request:  
Holiday Bridge  
PO Box 140  
Northbridge NSW 1560  
Tel: (02) 9958-5589  
email: [suzie@ronklingerbridge.com](mailto:suzie@ronklingerbridge.com)



# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

CANBERRA 2017

SATURDAY 15 JULY to THURSDAY 27 JULY 2017



Interstate Teams Championship (16-21 July)  
Australian Butler Pairs Championship (22-27 July)  
(Open, Women's, Seniors, Restricted, Country)

ANC Swiss Pairs

Congress Events

Cash Prizes for Butler & Congress Events

Tournament Organiser:

**Elainne Leach** Mobile: 0402 081 506 Email: [elainne57@gmail.com](mailto:elainne57@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.abf.com.au/event/2017-australian-national-championships/>

Online Entries: <https://www.entries.bridgeaustralia.org/onlineentries.php?id=31>



**Thoroughbred Park Function & Convention Centre**  
Randwick Road LYNEHAM ACT





## BASIC BRIDGE 201

During the regular social drink and a quick discussion after the Thursday night bridge session at our local club, Sarah asked me, "Did you bid the unlucky grand slam on board 16?" I said, "No, I did not and, fortunately for us, the club finesse lost." This was the hand in question:

♠ 9 8	
♥ 9 8 5 4	
♦ Q J 10 5	
♣ 6 3 2	
♠ J 10 6 5 4	♠ A K Q 3 2
♥ Q J 10	♥ A K 6
♦ A K	♦ 4
♣ 9 8 7	♣ A Q J 10
♠ 7	
♥ 7 3 2	
♦ 9 8 7 6 3 2	
♣ K 5 4	

Sarah said that she was wondering how the auction might go after she opened 2♣ on her East hand when she noticed that her husband, Derek, had opened 1♠ as West.

Sarah said that she thought about bidding 7♠ but that would have been rash and not like the disciplined player that she was trying to be. Therefore, she bid 2NT, the Jacoby Convention, showing a game forcing spade raise. Derek, as West, bid 3♣, which showed a minimum with no shortage as per their system (3♣, 3♦ and 3♥ would show shortage in the bid suit, and 3NT would show a good opening bid without a shortage).

Sarah asked if this was a good way to play Jacoby. My comment was that a lot of different bidding systems can work but the most important thing is that you and your partner are playing the same thing.

Sarah said that she now naturally bid 4NT and partner showed her 1 ace (5♣ in their system). Then 5NT and Derek showed 1 king and now 7♠. When the club finessed failed that was 1 off.

Sarah said that watching Sesame Street had not helped here (after the previous Thursday). I replied perhaps not but there is an old proverb 'haste makes waste'.

I then asked Sarah what two cards do you need to find out about? She replied, the ♦A and the ♣K should be enough. I said 'good old Blackwood' will find out about the ♦A but what about the ♣K? "Well," Sarah said, "I did ask for kings with 5NT and, if he had 2 kings, 7♠ would be easy but, with only 1 king, I hoped it would be clubs. My Irish luck deserted me again."

Having good luck is a blessing but sometimes we need to give luck a helping hand. I said that there are a few ways of doing this but whatever you do you must get partner to cue bid the ♣K if he has that card. I guess the simplest way, for the time being (as this system will not always work), is rather than make 5NT a general king enquiry, make it a specific king ask (that is "show me the lowest king you have"). Derek now would bid 6♦ over 5NT and you would know the ♣K is missing.

"That makes perfect simplistic sense," said Sarah, "so no more Sesame Street for the time being."

*Chris Hughes*

## THE SPECIFIC KING ASK

Chris's article mentions that, instead of playing 5NT as asking partner how many Kings your partner has, it is better to ask partner which King/s they have.

Firstly, you should only take this convention on-board if you are already playing Roman Key Card Blackwood, including the trump Queen ask. Secondly, you should remember that the 5NT bid always promises all the key cards (the four Aces, the trump King and the trump Queen). [Even when playing Blackwood, 5NT promises all four Aces.]

The Specific King Ask means that when partner bids 5NT, promising all the key cards, you bid the King that you have. Here's an example:

♠ A K J	♠ 3 2
♥ Q 5 4	♥ A K J 10 8 6
♦ A Q J 10 9 2	♦ K 3
♣ 4	♣ A J 2

YOU	PARTNER
	1♥
2♦	3♥
4NT	5♦
5NT	6♦
7NT	

Playing RKCB 1430, 5♦ shows 3 key cards, so you know you have all the key cards. Now you can use the 5NT bid (mentioned in Bridge Basics 201). If partner shows the ♣K you will not be bidding the grand slam on a finesse, but if partner shows the ♦K you can freely bid 7NT (7♥ is good, but 7NT is better because it is safe from ruffs, and also scores more).

Similarly, you can use specific kings with the trump Queen ask. My partner and I use a bid of 5 of the agreed trump suit to deny the trump Queen, and other bids show the trump Queen plus that specific King. One hand came up in the recent National Women's Teams, with only a few tables bidding the grand slam:

♠ A K 9 8 2	♠ Q J 5 4
♥ A Q 9 8	♥ K J 3
♦ K 3	♦ A 6 5 4 2
♣ A 2	♣ 8

YOU	PARTNER
1♠	4♣*
4NT	5♣
5♦	5♥
7♠	

4♣ was a splinter bid showing 4+ card spade support and 10-13 HCP, with a club shortage. Our 5♣ response confirms 1 key card (the ♦A). 5♦ now checked for the trump Queen, so (with 5♠ denying the ♠Q) 5♥ confirmed the trump Queen and showed the ♥K, so the grand slam was easy to bid.

*Barbara Travis*

## IMPROVE YOUR DEFENCE

*This is a new series of articles by Ron Klinger, aimed at improving your defence.*

### TECHNIQUE IN DEFENCE

Dealer North : Both vulnerable

North  
 ♠ K J 7  
 ♥ 10 9 3  
 ♦ A K Q 10 2  
 ♣ 10 8

East  
 ♠ A 6 3 2  
 ♥ 8 7 6 2  
 ♦ 6 3  
 ♣ A Q 4

West	North	East	South
---	1D	Pass	2NT *
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

\*11-12 balanced, no 4+ card major

West leads the ♣6, ♣10 from dummy. What should East play? (If relevant, East-West lead fourth-highest from long suits.)

Answer:  
 If West's lead is from three or four rags, the position is hopeless. You need to hope that West has led from club length.

Now, without looking back at the problem, how many High Card Points are in dummy?  
 If you are to become a strong defender (if you are not already one), one basic requirement is to count the HCP in dummy as soon as it appears, add your own and work out where the missing points are. Dummy has 13 HCP, you have 10 and South has shown 11-12, that leaves 5-6 points for West.

Next, consider the card led. The Rule of 11 can be helpful if West has led fourth-highest. Deduct the card led (♣6) from 11. The answer (here, five) is the number of cards higher than the one led held by the other three players. Dummy has two clubs higher than the ♣6 and you also have two. Therefore, South has only one club higher than the ♣6.

Although third-hand-high is a good rule, East should play the ♠Q here, not the ♠A. If West has the ♣K, it is irrelevant. More likely, South will have the ♣K and it can be important to dislodge it early.



*John and Charles McMahon, winners of the Junior Team Selection Trials, with Bruce Neill*

Here is the complete deal:

♠ K J 7 ♥ 10 9 3 ♦ A K Q 10 2 ♣ 10 8	♠ Q 5 4 ♥ Q 5 4 ♦ 9 5 ♣ J 9 7 6 2	♠ A 6 3 2 ♥ 8 7 6 2 ♦ 6 3 ♣ A Q 4
♠ 10 9 8 ♥ A K J ♦ J 8 7 4 ♣ K 5 3		

If East plays the ♣A at trick 1 and continues with the ♠Q, South will duck. South wins the third club and, sooner or later, South can finesse West for the ♠Q and make ten tricks.

If East plays the ♠Q at trick 1, in theory, South could duck, but in reality, South will take the ♣K in case West began with A-J-7-6-2.

South will then run the diamonds. Should East play ♦6 then ♦3, or ♦3 then ♦6? A good method here is Reverse Smith Peters. In the first suit led by declarer, playing low-high says 'I like the suit led'. West should play ♦5 then ♦9 ('I have a real club suit') and East plays ♦3 then ♦6 ('I like clubs'). On the third diamond, East should signal 'I like spades'. That allows West to discard the spades and hold on to the clubs. As long as West does that, 3NT can be defeated.

It might be tempting for East to discard the ♠A, as East knows West's clubs are all good, but that could be fatal for the defence. If East discards the ♠A and West discards three spades, South can exit with a club after cashing the diamonds and thus endplay West into giving South the third heart trick. South might not do that, of course, but why take the risk?

*Ron Klinger*

## BRIDGE HACK

Just when I thought I was on the right track  
 And when I believed I had picked up the slack,  
 The gods and the gremlins of tricks paid me back  
 And I sit here despondent – another Bridge hack!

I've read all the books, I've gone to the classes  
 I've played with them all, the lads and the lasses,  
 I've made the bold bids and many green passes  
 Yet it took Bridge to show me just what a farce is.

I must line up again, I must not surrender,  
 I'll find a new guru to be my game mender,  
 I'll bristle with confidence I'll be a contender  
 And won't let them tell me - you're just a pretender.

So open the doors and let in the hordes,  
 Get ready the tables, deliver the boards  
 To both masters and hopefuls, all of one accord -  
 And I'll be there too – at least I'm not bored!

*Robert Martin (Adelaide)*

## COUP 1: THE COUP EN PASSANT

This series of "Coups" was written by Brian Senior (from England) and published in the Bulletins at the Asia-Pacific Bridge Championships in Bangkok in 2015.

A fairly common play technique is the *Coup en Passant*. The fancy French name hides a pretty simple technique. Declarer attempts to make her small trumps by leading a side suit through an opponent who has a bigger trump than the one with which declarer hopes to ruff. Take a look at this example:

<p>♠ 8 6 2 ♥ 9 5 ♦ A Q 8 5 ♣ 9 7 5 3</p> <p>♠ A K Q 4 ♥ J 2 ♦ J 9 6 3 ♣ Q 8 4</p> <p>♠ 10 3 ♥ A K Q 6 3 ♦ K 7 ♣ A K 6 2</p>	<p>♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ 10 8 7 4 ♦ 10 4 2 ♣ J 10</p>
---	---

South plays in 4♥ and West leads out the three top spades. Declarer ruffs and cashes the Ace, King and Queen of trumps. An even break would have provided ten tricks but the 4-2 break creates a small problem.

No matter, declarer continues by cashing two top clubs then the three diamond winners. He follows up by leading dummy's fourth diamond.

Though East has the high trump, there is nothing she can do to prevent declarer from making her small trump en passant. If East ruffs high, declarer discards and makes his small heart later, while if East discards declarer ruffs the diamond.

Do you see the importance of cashing the top clubs before playing out the diamonds? If declarer fails to do this, East can throw a club on the fourth diamond and is now in a position to ruff the second club winner, leaving declarer a trick short.

Was there anything the defence could have done to prevent declarer from making the contract? Yes, but it was tough to see. West has to cash the two spade winners immediately or declarer pitches a loser on the third diamond then plays three rounds of clubs to establish a long card in the suit for her tenth trick. However, the winning defence is to switch at trick three. Declarer cannot afford to overtake the King of diamonds so has only one dummy entry and needs two, to take two ruffs. In the fullness of time, she will lose both a club and a heart.

*Brian Senior*



*Kay Snowden, Jeanette Marvel, Carolyn Githens, Marie Pickering winners of the Super Novice & Rising Stars Teams in Canberra*

## MY FAVOURITE HAND

This is a new series which will feature a favourite educational hand from different players. I thought I'd start with one of my favourite hands.

### BARBARA TRAVIS

#### NEVER GIVE UP

This hand is from the Youth Championships in 1980. To make it even more memorable, I played it against my brother, Peter Gill.

*John Roberts*

♠ 10 8 6 5 4  
♥ K 10 5 4 2  
♦ 6 3  
♣ 2

*Ross Davis*

♠ Q J  
♥ A 9 3  
♦ Q J 10  
♣ J 10 7 6 5

*Peter Gill*

♠ 9 2  
♥ Q J  
♦ A 9 8 7 5 4  
♣ A 9 8

*Barbara Travis*

♠ A K 7 3  
♥ 8 7 6  
♦ K 2  
♣ K Q 4 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥ (!)	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

I've never quite understood why my partner forced to game with his 3♥ bid, but I had to try my best to make this rather ridiculous contract.

Ross Davis led the ♦Q to the ♦A. Peter Gill cashed his ♣A and then exited with a diamond.

There appeared to be at least four losers: both the minor aces and two hearts. I'm not sure that I had ever played an elimination before, but I suddenly realised that I had a chance if spades broke and if the hearts lay specifically as they did.

I trumped a club in dummy, ensuring I was in the right hand at the right time, then I drew trumps in two rounds. Finally, I cashed the ♣K and ♣Q, discarding two hearts from dummy. At this stage I had removed the opposition's trumps and our minor cards. Now I led a heart towards dummy's ♥K. West had to duck because otherwise the ♥K would drop East's heart honours. I flew with the ♥K since it was my only hope, and was delighted to see a heart honour from Peter. A small heart from dummy left Peter on lead with his ♥Q, having to lead a diamond for a ruff and discard; I could ruff in either hand and discard my heart 'loser' from the other hand.

This hand proves that one should never give up. Look for a plausible line and play accordingly.

PENANG - PEARL of the ORIENT  
EASTERN & ORIENTAL - 8 days June 12-19

**\$ 1395**

**ALL SUITE LUXURY ACCOMMODATION**



Georgetown is full of history and is the food capital of the east. The E & O has classic & luxurious accommodation, suitable for those who crave nostalgia, traditional designs & influences of colonial Malaysia. This all-suite 1<sup>st</sup> Raffles hotel boasts magnificent views from every room. Built in 1861, it has been completely restored to its former glory. Included in this holiday is free flowing cocktails and finger food every evening with 5 dinners, 1 tour day, all bridge sessions B4Red and lessons.

**THAILAND – CHANG MAI 4\* – CHONBURI 5\*– BANGKOK 5\***  
**13 Nights June 06 – 19 : \$ 2950 pp + Airfare Singles Add \$ 980**



**Includes:**

- 13 nights Absolute 5\* Accommodation.
- Extra nights in Kata available as option. (in a Luxury Small Hotel of the World)
- All Breakfasts, 11 dinners & 4 lunches.
- All bridge fees & Workshops.
- All group transfers with both internal flights.
- 2 light private tours.
- Pre-Dinner Cocktails on 11 evenings.

**TERRIGAL – NOVEMBER 06 - 10 STAR of the SEA Apts \$ 825 pp Twin Share**



Absolutely 5\* Luxury. Included in this price is 4 nights accommodation in exquisite luxury apartments, 4 dinners at local restaurants & in-house, and all lunches. Bridge includes a 4 session B4Red pairs event, a 2 session B5Red teams event, 1 walk-in pairs, 3 tutorials & champagne reception. All drinks are included with Gaye's Melbourne Cup Luncheon.

**FINESSE HOLIDAYS [www.finessebridge.com](http://www.finessebridge.com) [director@finessebridge.com.au](mailto:director@finessebridge.com.au) 0415 816 919**

# GOLD COAST CONGRESS RESULTS

## OPEN PAIRS

### FINAL A

- 1st Justin Howard – Tony Nunn
- 2nd Ron Klinger – Matthew Mullamphy
- 3rd David Lilley – Zolly Nagy

### FINAL B

- 1st Brad Coles – Fraser Rew
- 2nd Watson Zhou – Shaolin Sun
- 3rd Nick Jacob – Michael Ware

### FINAL C

- 1st Julian Foster – David Weston
- 2nd Eileen Li – Yumin Li
- 3rd Dave Debbage – Viv Wood

### FINAL D

- 1st Bill Hirst – Tony Hutton
- 2nd Johnno Newman – Jamie Thompson
- 3rd Nye Griffiths – Liam Milne

### FINAL E

- 1st Jane & John Skipper
- 2nd Nicoleta Giura – Nick Hughes
- 3rd Ken Berry – Normand Maclaurin

### FINAL F

- 1st Chris & Shirley Watson
- 2nd Barry Rawicki – Simon Rose
- 3rd Tim O'Loughlin – Lori Smith

### FINAL G

- 1st Nik Moore – Abigail Wanigaratne
- 2nd Lorraine Stachurski – Alister Stuck
- 3rd Les Ajzner – Paul Kron

## SENIORS PAIRS

### FINAL A

- 1st Robert Krochmalik – Paul Lavings
- 2nd Theo Antoff – Michael McAuliffe
- 3rd Linda & Paul Lewis

### FINAL B

- 1st John Gough – Larry Moses
- 2nd Malcolm Allen – Cristel Philp
- 3rd Judith Roose-Driver – Johan Roose

## INTERMEDIATE PAIRS

### FINAL A

- 1st Jan & Peter Randell
- 2nd Gregory Gosney – Margaret Plunkett
- 3rd Paul Roberts – Bruce Carroll

### FINAL B

- 1st Diana Ellis – Chris Hannan
- 2nd Jean Barbour – Greg Nicholson
- 3rd Susie Stevens – Peter Gordon

### FINAL C

- 1st Jessica & Paul Brake
- 2nd Ashok & Veena Chotai
- 3rd Margaret Pisko – Trish Anagnostou

### FINAL D

- 1st George Campbell – Sandor Varga
- 2nd Norma Browne – Allison Simon
- 3rd Joan Campbell – Joy Trigg

## RESTRICTED PAIRS

### FINAL A

- 1st Jessica Chew – Rez Karim
- 2nd Francey Rolls – Yvonne Whittle
- 3rd Rose Currin – Tilley Thillainathan

### FINAL B

- 1st Marlise Jones – Kerry Watson
- 2nd Nebojsa Djorovic – Donna Upchurch
- 3rd Christine & Turei Haronga

### FINAL C

- 1st Julia & Peter Watson
- 2nd Margaret Meakin – Toni Pfafflin
- 3rd Suzanne Cole – Delores Graves

### FINAL D

- 1st Jenny Simmons – Kathleen Wilman
- 2nd Antoinette Dippenaar – Jennette Rosetta
- 3rd Bill & Jackie Rossiter-Nuttall

### FINAL E

- 1st Jan Borren – Brad Tattersfield
- 2nd Dianne Hillman – Odette Hall
- 3rd Alex & Roslyn Hunyor

## NOVICE PAIRS

### FINAL A

- 1st Derek Poulton – Nick Walsh
- 2nd Allan Byrnes – Unis Suliman
- 3rd Anita Delorenzo – Robyn Stanhope

### FINAL B

- 1st Rachel Langdon – Ryan Stevens
- 2nd Graham Devrell – Glenn Davis
- 3rd Janet Jeffries – Kim Reeder

### FINAL C

- 1st Jane Ackman – Narelle Jackman
- 2nd Christine & Kerry Bartlett
- 3rd Mick King – Lin Kendall

## WEEKEND MATCHPOINT SWISS PAIRS

### OPEN

- 1st Peter Buchen – Chris Hughes
- 2nd Ann & Colin Baker
- 3rd Pam & Ross Crichton

### 0-500 MPs

- 1st Wendy Gibson – Linda Norman
- 2nd Eric Baker – Brian Glover
- 3rd Helen Chamberlin – Winny Chan

## MONDAY BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

### OPEN

- 1st Maha Hoenig – Nadya Tuxworth
- 2nd Annette & Stephen Henry
- 3rd George Finikiotis – Margaret Klassen

### 0-500 MPs

- 1st Kevin Wang – Hannah Zhang
- 2nd Rod Binstead – Judy Scholfield
- 3rd Tom Graham – Patrick Redlich

## OPEN TEAMS

### QUALIFIERS

1st	HUNG: Andy Hung – Kornel Lazar, Michael Whibley – Roger Lee, Liam Milne – Nye Griffiths		
2nd	KONIG: Siggie Konig – Jim Wallis, Tony Nunn – Justin Howard		
3rd	VAINIKONIS: Vytautas Vainikonis – Wojtek Olanski, Erikas Vainikonis – Mikhail Krasenoselskiy		
4th	KANETKAR: Avi Kanetkar – Bruce Neill, Pauline Gumby – Warren Lazer		
5th	BROWN: Fiona Brown – David Beauchamp, Hugh McGann – Matthew Thomson, Michael Ware – GeO Tislevoll		
6th	HAUGHIE: Bill Haughie – Simon Hinge, Matthew Mullamphy – Ron Klinger		

### ROUND OF 4 (3rd to 6th playoff)

VAINIKONIS	63.1	<i>defeated</i>	HAUGHIE	31
BROWN	60	<i>defeated</i>	KANETKAR	26.1

### SEMI FINALS

HUNG	79.1	<i>defeated</i>	BROWN	63
VAINIKONIS	86	<i>defeated</i>	KONIG	54.1

### FINAL

HUNG	145.1	<i>defeated</i>	VAINIKONIS	27
------	-------	-----------------	------------	----

## SENIORS' TEAMS

WALSH: 110

Alan Walsh – Barbara McDonald,  
Arjuna DeLivera – Elizabeth Havas  
*defeated*

CHAN: 78.1

Peter Chan – Bob Sebesfi,  
Roger Januszke – John Zollo

## INTERMEDIATE TEAMS

ROGERS: 100.1

Margaret & John Rogers,  
Sue & Ken Moffitt  
*defeated*

JOHNSON: 73

Mandy & David Johnson,  
Ian Doland – John Watson

## RESTRICTED TEAMS

CHEW: 114

Jessica Chew – Rez Karim,  
Yuning Zheng – Zhongjie Ziao  
*defeated*

HAJMASI: 76.1

King Hajmasi – Andrew Michi,  
Jody & Barry Whale

## NOVICE TEAMS

BYRNES: 137.1

Allan Byrnes – Unis Suliman,  
Steven Parkes – Peter Taylor  
*defeated*

KOSTER: 57

Barry Koster – Kiku Mikai,  
Loretta Lovett – Peter Heard

## IVY DAHLER BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

### OPEN

#### NORTH-SOUTH

1st	Danny & Joann Sprung
2nd	William Jenner-O'Shea – Joe Haffer
3rd	Brian Callaghan – Christine Duckworth

#### EAST-WEST

1st	Jessica Brake – Matthew Brown
2nd	Rex Hanson – Judy Herring
3rd	Geoff Martin – Nik Moore

### WINNER OF IVY DAHLER TROPHY:

Danny & Joann Sprung

### INTERMEDIATE

1st	Linda Norman – Wendy Gibson
2nd	Mardi Svensson – Deepak Pradhan
3rd	Alan Tsang – Timothy Shum

### RESTRICTED

1st	Andrew Gosney – Jack Luke-Paredi
2nd	Hans van Weeren – Peter Clarke
3rd	Kathy & John Hamilton

## SERES-McMAHON MATCHPOINT SWISS PAIRS

1st	John Brockwell – Kevin Tant
2nd	Eric Kuo – Ho-Yee So
3rd	Peter Grant – Tony Marinos

## OTHER NOVICE PAIRS EVENTS

### SUNDAY ROOKIE PAIRS

NS	1st	Arvind & Geeta Bhasin
	2nd	Tania & Jan Papalia
EW	1st	John Kelly – Keith Cohen
	2nd	Brian Thomson – Jane Whelan

### THURSDAY ROOKIE PAIRS

NS	1st	Devi Thillainathan – Ian Sobey
	2nd	Daphne & Peter Leggo
EW	1st	Arvind & Geeta Bhasin
	2nd	Dennis Watkinson – Peter Uldrich

### 0-50 MP PAIRS TUESDAY

NS	1st	Jennifer Finnigan – Mary Simon
	2nd	Bruce Gough – Liz Milner
EW	1st	Stephen Miller – Jonathan Silberberg
	2nd	Peter Wilce – Fay Wells

### 0-50 MP PAIRS WEDNESDAY

1st	Rick Webster – Robert Olander
2nd	Gordon Plant – Chris Williams
3rd	Jenny Musgrave – Vanessa Mylne

### FRIDAY NOVICE PAIRS

1st	Paul Elkington – Trevor Rayfield
2nd	David & Kathryn Kerr
3rd	Maree Huxley – Karen Hansen

# BRIDGE STARS!

Join Roberta and Arnold Salob on a six-star Crystal Bridge Cruise



*A complete bridge program — Daily duplicates and Roberta's bridge lectures exclusively for Bridge Holidays' guests, at no extra charge, on the #1-rated six-star Crystal Symphony!*

## HAWAII

Los Angeles Roundtrip  
**May 24 – June 9, 2017**  
*on the Crystal Serenity*



- Los Angeles
- Oahu (overnight)
- Maui
- Hilo
- Kailua-Kona
- Ensenada
- Los Angeles

## NORTHERN EUROPE

Antwerp to Honfleur  
**August 3 – 15, 2017**  
*on the Crystal Symphony*



**2 Days post-cruise Land Program in Paris, included!**

- Antwerp
- Edinburgh (Tattoo Festival!)
- Amsterdam
- London
- Guernsey
- Honfleur

Fun to do  
 Back-to-Back!

## BRITISH ISLES

Honfleur to London  
**August 11 – 25, 2017**  
*on the Crystal Symphony*



**2 Days pre-cruise Land Program in Paris, included!**

- Honfleur
- Guernsey
- Waterford
- Dublin
- Liverpool
- Belfast
- Oban
- Invergordon
- London

See our special deals at [www.bridgeholidays.com](http://www.bridgeholidays.com)

Contact us:  
[cruises@bridgeholidays.com](mailto:cruises@bridgeholidays.com)



*Participation in these fun-filled bridge groups is available only by booking direct with Bridge Holidays, LLC*



The Northern Territory Bridge Association  
will be hosting the...

## Territory Gold Bridge Festival

**When:** 6-10 September 2017

**Where:** Alice Springs Convention Centre

**What:** Matchpoint Pairs - Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 9.30am and 2.15 pm and Sept 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30am  
Swiss Teams - Sept 7<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 9.30am and 2.15pm  
Swiss Pairs (with PQP's) - Sept 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am and 2.15 pm

### ALL WITH GOLD MASTERPOINTS and CASH PRIZES

\*\*\*\*\*

Make it part of a great "Red Centre" holiday.

Alice Springs and the surrounding area offers so much to see in this unique part of Australia.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lasseters Hotel Casino and Convention Centre is an excellent venue, and offers great accommodation packages:

**Lasseters Hotel exclusive event rates:**

**20% off Best Available Rates**

**Breakfast \$20 pp, per day when booked with accommodation**

**Email:** [reservations.lhc@lasseters.com.au](mailto:reservations.lhc@lasseters.com.au) or **PH:** (08) 89507777

Mention the Bridge Festival when making the booking because rooms are limited.

**Book online** – <http://www.hotel.lhc.com.au/index.site.bookings.html>

Username: BRIDGE and Password: BRIDGE 2017

**BOOK EARLY TO ENSURE A GOOD PRICE!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Director: Matthew McManus**

**Enquiries to the Tournament Organiser: Eileen Boocock**

**Ph: (08) 89524061 Mob: 0409 677 356 [tgbf@abf.com.au](mailto:tgbf@abf.com.au)**



**The Abbot, The Parrot and The Bermuda Bowl**

by David Bird  
 (Master Bridge Series, London, 2016, soft cover, 144 pages)  
 \$29.95

It came as a surprise to me that a twelfth book of a series featuring the famous Abbot would win the prestigious International Bridge Press Association’s award for the 2016 Book of the Year. I thought perhaps it was a reward for over 60 excellent bridge books from David Bird over a long period of time. But no, the book really is great fun and a rewarding read.

Less than half the book is devoted to the Abbot “sponsoring” a team of African players, including the Parrot, to the Bermuda Bowl in Chennai. In the round robin qualifying rounds the Abbot plans to get his name in the Daily Bulletin for a brilliantly played hand but when that seems unlikely he simply hopes to get his name in as an opponent when a brilliant play occurs.

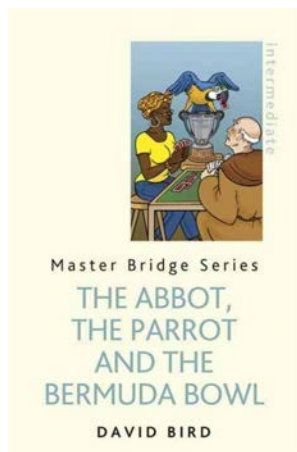
The author has a wonderful gift for humour, leaving the reader with a permanent smile. The Parrot played this hand well against Monaco:

♠ K 10	
♥ K 8 7 5 2	
♦ Q J 10 5	
♣ 7 3	
♠ J 9 6 5 3	♠ A 8 7 4 2
♥ 4	♥ A 10
♦ 9 6 2	♦ K 8 4
♣ A K J 4	♣ Q 9 5
♠ Q	
♥ Q J 9 6 3	
♦ A 7 3	
♣ 10 8 6 2	

West	North	East	South
Abbot	Tor Helness	Parrot	Geir Helgemo
Pass	Pass	1S	Pass
4S	All pass		

The Parrot won the ♥Q lead and ruffed his remaining heart in dummy. “Low trump” squawked the Parrot and when Helness played the ♠10 the Parrot flicked the ♠2 onto the table with his beak. When ♠Q won the trick, the safe hand was on lead and ♦K was protected. Helgemo switched to ♦3 in case his partner held ♦KJ10x and the Parrot ended with an overtrick.

Helgemo smiled at the Abbot. Not a bad play for a parrot!



Paul Lavings

**Bid More, Play More, Enjoy More, Win More**

Expanded and Updated Edition  
 by Matthew Thomson  
 \$26.95 as a paperback or \$23.49 as a PDF

I’d like to start this review with some sound advice I was given over 25 years ago – when Matthew Thomson talks bridge, it’s a good idea to listen. This revised edition of his popular 2013 Bid More book reflects Matthew’s philosophy of a simple approach to bidding and play.

Matthew begins by stressing that hand evaluation is much more than the inelastic 4-3-2-1 point count measure. You should also look at your hand’s shape, honour location and intermediate pip cards (10s and 9s). This is the basis to much of the discussion in his book.

This philosophy is carried forward in sections on responding (why you need to respond with weak hands), sections on competing (why and when you should compete), as well as why pre-empts work when used effectively (again only with the right hand shapes and strength).

Here are a few example of what Matthew is suggesting. If partner opens 1♣ what would you do with these three hands:

Hand 1	Hand 2	Hand 3
♠ 10 9 8 6	♠ Q 9 8 6 5 4	♠ 7 6
♥ K 9 7 4 2	♥ 4	♥ A 10 8 3 2
♦ 9 8 4	♦ 4 2	♦ 9 5
♣ 8	♣ 9 8 7 2	♣ 8 6 4 3

Hand 1:

You should respond 1♥, not because you hate clubs but because you will do better if you find a major suit fit.

Hand 2:

Respond 1♠, just in case you have a fit and shutting out the hearts as well.

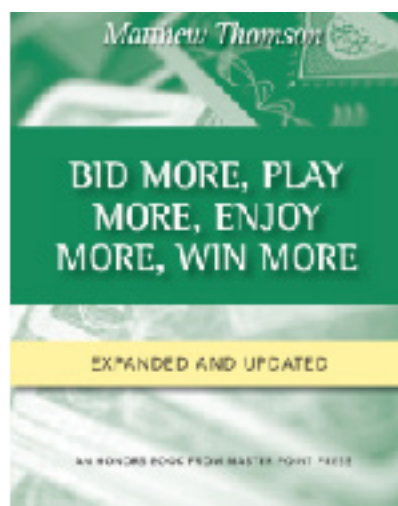
Hand 3:

Respond 1♥ – it’s usually not right to pass with an Ace in a long suit.

This updated edition also introduces a discussion on Two-Over-One Game Force as an effective system and Matthew’s favourite convention, Aspro Twos.

If you would to read a sample of this book, here’s a link to the first two sections: <http://bit.ly/TBS-Matt>

Nick Fahrer



David and Sue Lusk have kindly agreed to allow a return of Coaching Cathy at Contract. I hope you enjoy David's enlightening articles.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

*My dear uncle,*

I had a couple of awkward hands to play. One of them I actually made, but I'm still not sure that I played it well. Perhaps you might care to comment:

Awkward #1     ♠ Q J 6  
                      ♥ A 7  
                      ♦ K 6 5  
                      ♣ 10 9 7 6 4

♠ A 10 7	♠ 9 8 3 2
♥ Q 8 3	♥ J 5 4 2
♦ Q 10 7 4 2	♦ J 9
♣ J 2	♣ Q 8 3

♠ K 5 4  
 ♥ K 10 9 6  
 ♦ A 8 3  
 ♣ A K 5

I opened 1NT (15-17) and Glenda raised to 3NT immediately. West led ♦4 and when West played the jack, I won with the ace. Next I went after my long suit and East took the third round with ♣Q. He played ♦9 and I ducked. West overtook with ♦10 and played another diamond. When I ran off my clubs, West kept ♠A, ♥Qx and all of his diamonds. Since I only had eight tricks, I had to play a spade, which West won and took enough tricks to beat me.

Could I have timed this hand better?

Awkward #2     ♠ A Q J 6  
                      ♥ 7 5 4 2  
                      ♦ K 6  
                      ♣ J 6 3

♠ K 5 4	♠ 8 3 2
♥ J 10 9 8 3	♥ K 6
♦ Q 10 2	♦ J 9 5 4
♣ 9 8	♣ A 7 5 2

♠ 10 9 7  
 ♥ A Q  
 ♦ A 8 7 3  
 ♣ K Q 10 4

Once again, I opened 1NT and got to play in 3NT. West led ♥J and I took East's King and ran ♠10. When that worked, I forced out ♣A and made 11 tricks. Then I got to thinking: "What if East had turned up with ♠K?"

What do you think?

*Your loving niece,  
 Cathy xx*

*Beloved Niece,*

You are right about these hands having the same flavour, because they are both about giving up your tricks in the correct order. With no opposition bidding, it is reasonable to assume that the player who has made the opening lead has the length in that suit. All subsequent thinking is based firmly on that notion.

In the first example, you would have been wise to duck the first diamond. The ♦4 could be fourth highest from five diamonds, and it is often advantageous to rid one opponent of the suit early in the play. In this case, East wins with ♦J and plays his other diamond, which you win in hand. Unless West has three clubs headed by the Queen and the ♠A, you are now home.

You are also better to lead a low spade on gaining the lead, in case West ducks the Ace. If you win this in dummy, you can abandon spades for the time being and play on clubs, four more tricks now being enough to make the contract. If West flies with ♠A and leads a diamond, win in dummy and lead a low club. If East does not produce the Queen, win and enter dummy with a spade. Lead another club and, again, unless East produces the Queen, win and hope that he must win the third trick. As long as that is the case, you will be safe from the diamond assault and will have 10 tricks.

As you can see, it's all about tackling your losers in the right order. Note that even after you win the first trick, you would still have succeeded if you had played on spades first. Given that the player with short diamonds may well have longer clubs, it is still reasonable to make the play in spades first.

On the second example, you have apparently not thought about the layout of the heart suit. If the spade finesse is working, you can take it later. If it is not, it is far better to take it when East is out of hearts. Since it is only a 5-2 break which is of concern, once the ♣A is dislodged, East will have no more hearts to play, even if the spade finesse fails. Once again, it's about giving up your tricks in the right order, only this time the cards were more forgiving than they often are.

*Your dotting Uncle,  
 David*



*The Illawarra Bridge Club's contingent in Canberra at the Summer Festival of Bridge*

# BYRON BAY BRIDGE HOLIDAY

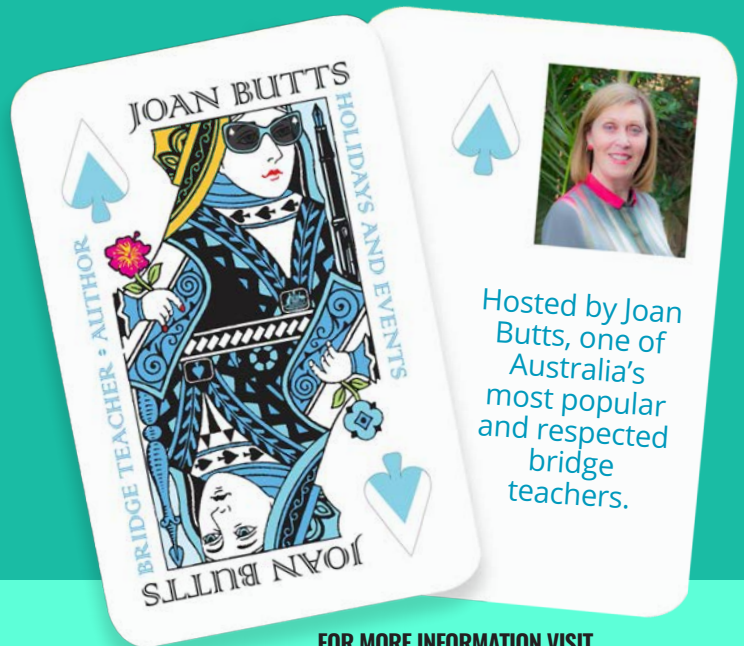
BYRON @ BYRON  
77-97 BROKEN HEAD ROAD, BYRON BAY  
MAY 26 - 29, 2017

**\$1400**  
single

**\$990**  
twin, per person

**\$90**  
day rate for locals

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[joanbuttsbridge.com/holidays](http://joanbuttsbridge.com/holidays)



Relax and rejuvenate between bridge lessons and masterpointed games in beautiful Byron Bay.

Joan Butts Bridge Holidays provides lessons and games for all players from beginner to advanced. Meet new people or catch up with friends in between bridge lessons and games at an intimate resort set amongst a 45 acre subtropical rainforest.

## BOOK MULTIPLE HOLIDAYS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SPECIAL OFFER

Pay in full before February 15 to receive a \$300 discount on three holidays, or a \$400 discount on four holidays.

Call 02 9326 1166 or email [bridge@travelphase.com.au](mailto:bridge@travelphase.com.au)

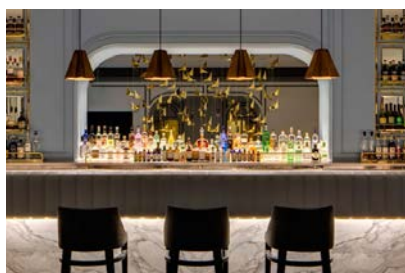


### MELBOURNE

THE LANGHAM, MELBOURNE  
March 9-12, 2017

Enjoy the very best in bridge lessons and masterpointed games while staying in luxury at The Langham, Melbourne.

\$1490 single  
\$1090 twin per person  
\$90 day rate for locals



### SYDNEY

INTERCONTINENTAL DOUBLE BAY  
July 6 - 9, 2017

Located in the leafy Eastern Suburbs village of Double Bay, this bridge holiday is a definite highlight of the year.

\$1460 single  
\$990 twin per person  
\$90 day rate for locals



### FIJI

INTERCONTINENTAL FIJI  
September 15 - 21, 2017

Enjoy a six-night tropical break. Offering world class dining and authentic Fijian hospitality, this is a beautiful bridge holiday.

\$3150 single  
\$2000 twin per person

## NOT USING NEGATIVE DOUBLES CORRECTLY

Negative doubles apply after an overcall for both responder AND declarer.

Responder's negative doubles are generally well-understood, although some people over-use negative doubles, when they could make a natural and forcing bid, and a few bid on weak hands when they should use a negative double in order to limit their hand.

However, opener's negative double (or re-opening double) is far less understood. Here's an example from a recent game:

♠ 7  
♥ A K Q 10  
♦ 10 8 5  
♣ A Q J 8 2

What would you do having opened 1♣, your LHO overcalls ♠ and the bidding is passed back to you? Opener knew she wanted to keep the bidding going, but found the following contorted auction:

1♣	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♣	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥ !!	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	4♣	All Pass

The correct bid after the 1♠ overcall is to double. This double is a negative (take-out) double and works in two ways: firstly if partner happens to have a penalty double of spades, they can pass 1♠ X, or secondly if partner is weak they will bid their longest suit and you will find your best fit – at a far more convenient level than the auction that occurred at the table. This re-opening double is really important to the whole negative double structure, allowing your partner to penalise the opponent's overcall, but is under-used. It should be used on most hands where you are short in the overcalled suit, except for hands with really wild distribution. Hands with 5-4-3-1 shapes are 'normal', but hands with 6-5 shapes or 7-card suits are not.

For example, holding this hand:

♠ A Q 8 6 3  
♥ K Q 10 8  
♦ K 6 4  
♣ 2

1♠	2♣	Pass	Pass
?			

Mostly people just bid 2♥ here but that is wrong if partner has the penalty double (pass) of 2♣. Given you are extremely short in the overcaller's suit and the bidding has 'stopped' (i.e. their partner has not raised) it is possible that partner's pass was based on a wish to defend 2♣ X. If you bid, you spoil partner's intention to gain a juicy penalty. You have a perfect hand for a double. Once you double, it is now up to partner. They will pass if they wish to penalise 2♣ X, for example if holding this hand:

♠ 7 2  
♥ A 2  
♦ 10 8 5 2  
♣ A J 9 7 5

or they will bid if they have a weak hand such as:

♠ 7 2  
♥ J 7 3  
♦ Q 10 8 5 2  
♣ Q 8 6

On the above hand, they would bid 2♦ which shows a weak hand, and you have reached your best fit.

If you've already bid 2♥, neither of these options can occur.

On the other hand, you might hold this hand:

♠  
♥ A Q J 9 7 6 2  
♦ 10 8  
♣ A J 10 2

1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
??			

It seems clear that your partner has a penalty double of 1♠ but are you willing to defend 1♠ on such a distributional hand? When the answer is No, then you should not double, but make your normal rebid, which in this case was 2♥. If partner has the hand that would have penalised 1♠, they will raise you to game, knowing you have an extremely distributional hand.

## MORE NEGATIVE DOUBLES

You hold:

♠ A Q 8  
♥ A K 10 9 7 2  
♦ void  
♣ 10 9 7 2

1♥	2♦	Pass	Pass
??			

At the table, my opponent rebid 2♥ and played there.

You should be asking yourself where the diamonds have gone, given the auction has been passed around to you. This is a classic situation for re-opening with a double, in case partner has the penalty Pass.

Partner held:

♠ K 10 6 5  
♥ Q 8  
♦ A J 9 8 7  
♣ 6 4

Obviously 2♦ X would be a bloodbath. (Note, he should also bid after opener's 2♥ rebid, to indicate that he held a penalty double of 2♦.)

*Barbara Travis*



Tony Bemrose  
Insurance Brokers

For all your professional and personal insurance needs – including travel insurance. Check out their website at [www.tbib.com.au](http://www.tbib.com.au)

**ONE TRACK MIND**

At a recent club session, I arranged my cards to reveal a flat hand 17 points - ah 1NT. I looked across the table to see my partner, the dealer, bid 1♠. Without thinking I said 16 to 18 - whoops. The table erupted in laughter and I suppose the opposition looked at their poor hands and worked out I had the 1NT. With a nice spade fit we bid and made a slam in spades. The opponents didn't seem bothered by the slip but in a more serious event it could be said that I had traded information. Had a director been called, what would he have done?

It proves the old adage "make sure brain is engaged before putting mouth into gear"

*Dave Bright*

*I sought an expert opinion to give Dave and all the readers advice in similar situations:*

Whoops ... is right, but

If I had come to your table, I may have ...

1. Looked at the bidding pad, was it 1S, or 15, that your partner had written ...
2. You made a mistake and thought they had written 1NT ... and as per current Alerting Regulations you correctly announced the range of your NoTrump. Hence the amusement at your expense.
3. I may ask you questions, away from the table, so that I can understand why I had been called to the table.

Now what do you really think that your partner gleaned from your "announcement". The worst that can happen is that partner is in receipt of unauthorised information (UI) which they should not use. So now, Dave, did they use it? I am suggesting NO, as I can envisage you being in control of the auction. With no opposition bidding, I guess the auction went something like:-

1♠: 2NT (Jacoby with 4 card support and 13 + points)  
Partner now showed shortage or point range or second suit, depending on your agreements.  
You now went Ace asking via Blackwood or RKCB or showing Controls with Cue bidding.  
As you can see from this auction analysis, your partner would not have, and could not have, used any UI as you were in control of all the "questions".

Dave, no real harm has been done but a good question under active ethics.

*John McIlrath  
Director*

*Ed: Here's an interesting Letter from Neil Perry, 25 years ago:*

Some years ago, while playing in the NOT, I opened the bidding by writing "16" on the bidding pad. The Director was called, and he asked me what I had intended to write. "1NT," I said, and he told me just to change the bid. As he was walking away from the table he asked, "What range NT do you play?" To the great amusement of the other players at the table, and to my great embarrassment I had to reply "14-17"!

Dear Sir/Madam,

Recently various sports have been revamped to create more interest. Cricket introduced Big Bash and athletics initiated Nitro Athletics. Should bridge administrators try to attract more card players, especially among the younger generation, by reviving different aspects of the game?

*Judy Williams (Geelong)*

*Thanks for your letter. I'm hoping to have an interesting reply/discussion on this topic starting with the May edition.*

I am a country player and the GNOT is my favourite tournament. I have represented the (Blue) Mountains region several times, and these days I'm trying to qualify on behalf of the Widebay zone. In both zones, there's always been a fierce competition and great willingness to participate in the GNOT.

From an article in the ABF Newsletter (no. 123, Jan. 2017) I learnt that the ABF intends to reduce the number of teams in the GNOT Final from 64 to 56 by 2017, because of "player concerns about the capacity of the present venue for the National Final...."

In my book, 64 teams is a better number for a knockout event than 56 teams, as there will be a first round in which 8 teams are going to have a bye. Also, I've noticed, that there has been a reduction between 2015 and 2016 in the number of boards. The rounds consisted of 14-board matches until 2015, now the 1st round is a 16-board match and each subsequent round consists of 12-board matches. In total, there used to be played 8960 boards in the GNOT final 'Old Style' (64 teams playing 140 boards each, excluding the 'finals' of the final), whilst now it is 56 teams playing 124 boards each, which adds up to 6944 boards in total. Therefore the scope of the GNOT Final will be reduced by 22.5% in just two years. That doesn't sound like the "continuing commitment", it sounds more like a preparation to dismantle the tournament altogether.

Tweed Ultima is not my favourite bridge place either, but I doubt that 8 tables fewer in the rooms will address the player concerns about the capacity of the present venue. Firm commitment of the ABF to this tournament could be shown by looking for a more agreeable venue (the location, Tweed Heads/Coolangatta is great), rather than by diminishing the number of participating teams.

Also it is mentioned that "some GNOT regions may also be struggling to maintain the number of teams that they have been allocated in the National Final". This wording suggests that the ABF is not sure whether this is the case or not. If a proposal is fielded to reduce the number of teams in this event, then certainty about this fact is of the utmost importance. What I do know is that this "struggling to maintain the number of teams" certainly isn't true for the Mountains zone and the Widebay zone.

Finally, I have noticed that there is a survey on the ABF website regarding the make-up of the Australian National Championship. It might be an idea to do a similar thing for the GNOT Final.

I think that the GNOT is a wonderful concept, that the qualifying structure is challenging and that the GNOT Final presents an unequalled opportunity to meet and play against players from far and wide across Australia.

*Marcel Hoevenaars*

**What is your first memory of playing bridge?**

My parents started to learn to play when I was about 13, so the house was full of bridge books. They were much more interesting than school books so I read them all! Mollo & Gardner, the Hideous Hog, and the Reese books are still worth a read today. My first memory of actually playing was with my parents around the kitchen table during the summer holidays. I was hooked from then on!

**Tell us about your family and bridge?**

My uncle, Donald Neill, was a leading player in Brisbane and later Sydney. He interested the rest of my family in the game. We are very much a bridge playing family with both my mother, Barbara, and my sister, Sue Lusk, representing Australia on International Women's teams.

**Tell us about Youth Week when you first played in it?**

I first played Youth Week over 40 years ago. I stayed at the University in basically a wooden hut, travelled to the venue by bicycle, and played under a corrugated iron roof. When it was 40 degrees C outside, it was even hotter inside. Things are softer today. But, the bridge was fun!!

**Tell us your favourite international bridge experience.**

In the early 1980s I took part in some Test Matches against New Zealand. Both teams had pairs playing Forcing Pass systems that you rarely see today (but that's another story). So, we kept encountering bidding situations that I'd never seen before and having to solve them from first principles. I felt it was like going back to the beginnings of Contract Bridge in the 1930s!

**You are currently President of the ABF. Where do you see the ABF heading?**

Bridge – like one of my other loves, tennis - spans a great range from a highly competitive national and international sport, to a casual recreation that lets people come together to enjoy social interaction and keep mind and body active.

Over the next few years I would like the ABF to achieve three things:

- improve international team performance
- build on the work already done to further develop our national events
- increase support for our clubs and players.



Two of the ABF's highly recognised bridge teachers Derrick Browne and John Newman will be your hosts

# Bridge Travel's 2017 Bridge Holidays

**Unbeatable value, comfortable accommodation, great food, delightful company. Learn the latest bridge techniques.**

### Apollo Resort Wamberal

**Tuesday March 28 to Friday March 31**



**Twin share \$550. Single supplement \$150**

### Dormie House Moss Vale

**Sunday June 18 to Friday June 23**



**Twin Share \$995. Single supplement \$250**

### Norfolk Island

**July 31 to August 7**



**\$1999 inc airfares**

### Cuba

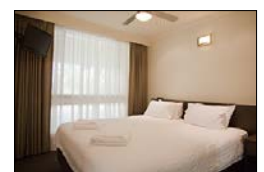
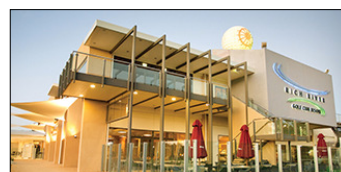
**November 13-28**



**Contact Derrick**

### Rich River Golf Club Resort Moama

**Sunday August 27 to Friday September 1**



**Twin share \$755. Single Supplement \$180**

**Want more details?** Comprehensive programs are available on the Trumps website [www.trumps.net.au](http://www.trumps.net.au)

or phone Derrick **(02) 9969 5959** or John **(0412 062 957)**

or email us at [trumps@trumps.net.au](mailto:trumps@trumps.net.au) or [bridgetravel@bigpond.com](mailto:bridgetravel@bigpond.com)

## SPLINTERS...AND MORE SPLINTERS

Conventions come and go, some fade into obscurity and some prosper. Splinters have flourished.

Dorothy Hayden is credited with inventing Splinters and wrote an 8 page chapter entitled The Splinter Bid in "Expert Bridge" by Milton L. Stern published in 1978. This was her first example of a splinter:

♠ K Q x x x x	♠ A x x x
♥ x	♥ A x x x
♦ A x x	♦ x
♣ K Q x	♣ A x x x

A grand slam on 26 HCP and relatively easy to bid with splinters:

1♠	4♦
4NT	5♠ (in those days: 3 aces)
7♣	

Note nowadays the responding hand is too strong for a splinter which is about 9-12 HCP (with probably three useful cards), but the 12 HCP shouldn't be three aces - that's too good a hand.

Hayden also discusses splinters by the opening bidder:

1♣	1♥
4♦	

and also

1♣	3♠	as a splinter.
----	----	----------------

Hayden doesn't mention my favourite, mini-maxi splinters:

1♣	1♦	1♣	1♥
2♥/2♠		2♠/3♦	
		or	
1♣	1♠	1♦	1♥
3♦/3♥		2♠/3♣	
		or	
1♦	1♠	1♥	1♠
3♣/3♥		3♣/3♦	

See March 2014 Newsletter-  
<http://www.abf.com.au/newsletter/Mar2014.pdf> Page 22

I had been thinking recently of trying a splinter in response to an overcall however Hayden reported that BJ Becker, and probably many others, beat me to it. This deal is from a major US event in the 1960s:

		♠ 10 x x x	
		♥ x	
		♦ A J 10 x	
		♣ A x x x	
♠ J 9 x x			♠ K Q x
♥ Q x x x			♥ A K J x
♦ 8 x x			♦ x
♣ 9 x			♣ Q J 10 x x
		♠ A x	
		♥ 10 x x x	
		♦ K Q 9 x x	
		♣ K x	

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♣	1♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Hayden held the South hand and reasoned that her partner must hold a good hand with 4-card diamond support and a singleton heart and bid and made the excellent 5♦ game. In the other room their opponents played 3NT but a ninth trick was no more than a distant hope.

A reply of 2NT to the 1♦ overcall would be 4+ diamond support and 6-10 with no shortage while a response of 3♦ would be 0-6 with 4+ diamond support.

I had also been thinking of trying 1♥ - 3♣/3♦ as an invitational splinter and mentioned this to Matt Smith. This idea has also been around for a while and Matt showed me this 24 HCP slam from the 2016 NSW Youth Team Selection:

<i>Matt Smith</i>	<i>Ailsa Peacock</i>
♠ A K J	♠ 9 8 4 3 2
♥ A Q J 9 5	♥ K 8 7 4
♦ 10 5 4	♦ 9
♣ K 10	♣ A 8 3

1♥	3♦ (7-9 HCP, 4+ hearts, mini-splinter)
3♠	4♣ (cue bid)
4NT	5♥ (2 key cards)
6♥	Pass

Using this method a response of 2NT would cover all the flat 4-card raises or you could just bid 1♥-2♥ and 1♠-2♠ with 4-card support as well as 3-card support a la Matthew Thomson.

## SELF-SPLINTERS

How would you get to the good 6♥ slam on these two hands:

♠ K 6 3	♠ A 7 5
♥ A K Q J 7 6 3	♥ 10 4
♦ A 4	♦ K J 8 7 6 2
♣ 4	♣ 8 7

A double jump by opener can be played as a self-splinter so:

1♥	1NT
4♣	
	would be a self-splinter and responder can now visualise the good fit with no wasted values. The bidding might continue:
1♥	1NT
4♣	4♦
4NT	5♣ (14/30)
6♥	

Bids such as these would also be self-splinters:

1♥	1NT	or	1♦	1NT
3♠			3♥	

*Paul Lavings*

Thinking of buying a new or pre-loved car? Get the experts at Red Plum to do all the hard work for you and save \$\$\$\$. There is no direct cost to you. Check out their website at [www.redplumautomotive.com.au](http://www.redplumautomotive.com.au)

# Autumn Nationals - Adelaide 2017

## Gold Master Points and PQPs

Thursday 4th May and Friday 5th May -  
*Swiss Pairs (Open, Senior, Women, Under Life Master)*

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th May -  
*Teams (Open, Under Life Master)*

Monday 8th May -  
*Consolation Pairs and Teams, and Open Teams Final*



*Chief Tournament Director: David Anderson*

*Organiser: Jimmy Fuss - 04 740 740 05  
- ANOT.Organiser@gmail.com*

*Adelaide at sunset. Photo courtesy South Australian Tourism Commission*



## 2017 VICTOR CHAMPION CUP FESTIVAL of BRIDGE



THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016  
Bayview Eden Hotel: 6 Queens Road, Melbourne Victoria

SWISS PAIRS EVENTS - 10.30AM START

WOMENS, SENIORS, OPEN, RESTRICTED, AND <200 MP 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

SWISS TEAMS - 10AM START

(OPEN, MIXED, WOMEN, SENIOR, RESTRICTED, LIFE MASTER) 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE –  
12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

COME AND JOIN US. STAY WHERE YOU PLAY.  
PRESENTATIONS AND HOSPITALITY ON FRIDAY AND MONDAY.

For more details visit the website at  
[www.abfevents.com.au/events/vcc/2017](http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/vcc/2017)