

ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

Approved for Print Post S65001/00163

NO. 131 MAY 2008

ABN 70 053 651 666

Playoffs, 2008

Playoffs to select 2008 Australian Open and Women's Teams were held after Easter at Rydges Lakeside Hotel in Canberra, while the Seniors' Teams playoffs were held in early April. Holding playoffs in Canberra was a new initiative on the part of the ABF, and seemed to be well-accepted by the players.

The Open was a fascinating field, composed of a number of unfamiliar partnerships. At stake this year are two events: the World Mind Sports Games in Beijing during October for the top three finishing pairs, and the Australian-based PABF Championships to be held in Brisbane from August - September 7 for the next three finishers.

After Stage I, in form favourites were Peter Gill – Bob Richman, a pairing of huge individual talent but not too much experience of play together. Peter and Bob won the first round robin in comfort. Would they be able to face the pressure with the field narrowed down to 12? (four of the original 16 pairs were eliminated after Stage I):

First round Open Results:

Place	Team	Name	Score	IMPs
1	9	P Gill, B Richman	265	158
2	6	A Kanetkar, T Brown	252	96
3	12	J Ebery, N Rosendorff	246	80
4	4	P Gumby, W Lazer	239	39
5	11	M Mullamphy, R Klinger	237	47
6	1	T Nunn, S Hans	231	18
7	7	E Chadwick, D Beauchamp	227	11
8	10	A De Livera, I Robinson	226	12
9	16	R Brightling, I Thomson	224	-4
10	5	S Hinge, C Chua	217	-24
11	2	B Neill, R Jedrychowski	217	-25
12	8	A Wilsmore, M Courtney	215	-39
13	13	N Ewart, B Howe	211	-45
14	3	A Peake, M Green	205	-63
15	14	B Noble, G Bilski	205	-74
16	15	T Hutton, H Hutton	173	-187

In Session 11 of Stage II, two of the top three finishing pairs met once more. In Stage I, Richman – Gill had defeated Brightling – Thomson 16-12 IMPs. In Stage II, Brightling - Thomson defeated Richman - Gill by 13 IMPs. Their win put could have been greater, had Brightling realised just what trouble Richman had walked into on the following deal:

Board 12, West deals, NS vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
Gill	Brightling	Richman	Thomson
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Dbl	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	All Pass

After Thomson's 2♦ bid, takeout for the majors, Brightling's 2♥ bid was conservative, but *Deep Finesse* shows that NS can take only nine tricks in hearts. At the vulnerability, South was likely to hold a reasonable hand, so Richman's action in trying to play in spades or diamonds was perhaps foolhardy. As can be seen in the table below, 3♦ drifted three down, giving Brightling - Thomson a 1 IMP swing, which could have been 10 IMPs had Brightling applied the axe.

Board 12 results:

Brightling	Gill	3♦E	6	150	1.0	-1.0
S Hinge	Ebery	2♥N	9	140	1.0	-1.0
Kanetkar	Wilsmore	1NTW	5	100	0.0	0.0
Nunn	Neill	2♠W	6	100	0.0	0.0
De Livera	Gumby	2♦WX	7	100	0.0	0.0
Mullamphy	Chadwick	2♠E	8	-110	-6.0	6.0

Final Open Results:

Place	Team	Name	Score	Imps
1	5	M Mullamphy, R Klinger	198	66
2	1	P Gill, B Richman	198	19
3	8	R Brightling, I Thomson	193	85
4	3	J Ebery, N Rosendorff	189	19
5	12	T Nunn, S Hans	185	27
6	2	A Kanetkar, T Brown	185	-2
7	6	E Chadwick, D Beauchamp	180	30
8	4	P Gumby, W Lazer	180	-8
9	7	A De Livera, I Robinson	157	-64
10	9	S Hinge, C Chua	156	-42
11	10	B Neill, R Jedrychowski	153	-54
12	11	A Wilsmore, M Courtney	130	-76

The following teams have been ratified by the Australian Bridge Federation to represent Australia in representative events in 3008:

Open Team for China:

Ron Klinger - Matthew Mullamphy
Peter Gill - Bobby Richman
Richard Brightling - Ian Thomson

Open Team for the PABFC:

Jamie Ebery - Nigel Rosendorff
Tony Nunn - Sartaj Hans
Avi Kanetkar - Terry Brown

Women's Team for China:

Sue Lusk - Therese Tully
Sally Murray-White - Helen Snashall
Felicity Beale - Di Smart

Women's Team for the PABFC:

Kim Neale - Linda King
Kate Smith- Jill Del Piccolo
Alida Clark - Leonie Fuller

Seniors' Team for China:

Robert Krochmalik - Paul Lavings
David Lilley - Zoli Nagy
Terry Brown - Avi Kanetkar

INDEX	
<i>Articles Of Interest & Information</i>	
Death of a legend	3
Letters to the Editor	4, 6
The new Laws are coming (at last)	12
Youth Coordinator: Richard Touton	15
Open game with 7-4 shape	19
Peter Gill - Oz bridge great	20
McCutcheon Trophy Leaders	23
<i>Tournament Reports</i>	
Playoffs, 2008	1
<i>Regular Features</i>	
Coaching Cathy at Contract	10
Bridge into the 21st Century	14
Book Review	16
What Should I Bid?	18
Congresses and Results	23

Seniors' Team for the PABFC:

Peter Buchen - Henry Christie
Bob Richman - George Gaspar
Margaret Bourke - David Hoffman

**The
Pacific Asia
Bridge Federation
presents**

The 6th PABF Congress

**including the 1st Asian Cup
Gold Coast International Hotel
Surfers Paradise, Australia**

Friday August 29 - Sunday September 7, 2008

Congress Convener: Charles Page

Phone +61 7 3630 4424

Email pabf@qldbridge.com



**Many of the events at the congress,
including the Asian Cup, can be entered
by non-delegate teams or pairs. This is
your chance to play alongside some
of the top players in the world.
Places are limited, so enter now!**



Death of a legend

Labelled Mr Huge by Tony Wilson in the December 2005 online *The Monthly*, Australia's legendary racing genius Alan Woods died late last year when complications following the discovery of cancer ended a remarkable life.



Australian Bridge, February 2008 carries a tribute to Alan by Paul Marston. I too was lucky enough to have known Alan, having first met when he and his first wife Meredith spent some time in Auckland in the late 1970s. The arrival of a couple of attractive and talented players on the scene at Akarana Bridge Club, a Kiwi club pledged to youth bridge, was greeted with great enthusiasm. Alan, in particular, forged a number of lifelong friendships which emanated from this initial exposure to New Zealand – notably the late Malcolm Sims, a fine bridge player and sensitive human being, and the ubiquitous Jan Cormack, grande dame of bridge in New Zealand (she inherited that title from the late great Eileen Taylor, from whom she honed many of her skills during the early part of her representative bridge career).

Alan and Meredith soon returned to Australia, but in the early 1980s, Alan returned alone to resume his love affair with New Zealand. It was in this phase of Alan's life that I played a small role, which was to benefit me later, once his amazing fortune was made. Alan happened to be down on his luck and without accommodation, having just lost the flat he was renting. An offer to move into the flat I shared with my partner was accepted, and I had the chance to get to know Alan a little better – even though our sleep/work schedules rarely aligned (Alan was normally asleep when I was at work, and at work when I was asleep).

Nonetheless, Alan never forgot what he considered an act of kindness in offering him shelter, and just a few years ago, with the help of Jan Cormack, I was given the wonderful opportunity of being made a benefitting member of Alan's syndicate. My debt of gratitude to Alan and Jan is immense, and I will never forget their act of kindness.

I was also welcomed into Alan's home in Hong Kong on a number of memorable occasions, and was flown

to Bali and accommodated in great style during Alan's lavish 60th birthday bash in 2005.

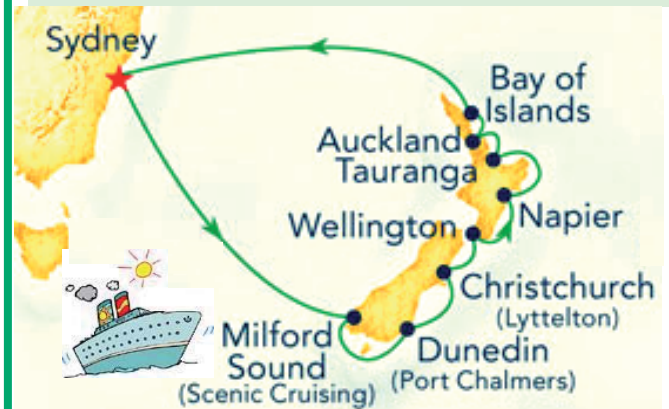
In Sydney, in mid-March, I listened to the verbal tributes made to Alan at the memorial service which celebrated his life, but the lump in my throat at that time made me decide to wait to voice my own tribute in the Newsletter.

Alan never forgot his friends and family, and a large part of his life was devoted to achieving something which would financially reward them. As well, his generous donation set up the *OzOne* bridge program, which benefitted many of the top bridge players, and now assists with the youth bridge program. The PABF Championships, to be held in Brisbane in 2008 also benefitted to the tune of \$250,000, under the terms of Alan's will, unheard of sponsorship for bridge.

For an interesting insight into Alan's life, read *Alan Woods and his amazing computer*, by Tony Wilson. <http://www.tonywilson.com.au/writing/alanwoods.php>

Stephen Lester

Bridge Breakaways **New Zealand** Bridge Cruise aboard the fabulous *Dawn Princess*



5-18 Dec 08 ♥ 13 days from \$2990*

*Twin share (depends on cabin grade - subject to change)



For more information contact: [Seniors Holiday Travel](#)

Phone: 1800 300 999

Email: tina@seniorsholidaytravel.com.au

It's Broke: Fix It

Years ago the Australian Bridge Federation appointed the Victorian Bridge Association (VBA), then Victoria's dominant club, its constituent in Victoria, with sole responsibility for administering Victorian bridge. Since then, Victoria's suburban and country clubs have blossomed, leaving the VBA with only 9% of the state's players. Nevertheless, it appears to me that the VBA jealously preserves its exclusive right to govern bridge in the state. There would be few complaints from me if I thought its management was competent and fair.

I would argue as follows:

Victoria's Performance

Victoria is worse at recruiting bridge players than any other state. New South Wales (population 6.8 million) and Victoria (4.9 million) have 13,820 and 4,370 registered players respectively. Victoria has 959 bridge players per million; half that of the rest of Australia (1880). Victoria's performance in interstate competition and trials has been poor; bridge's centre of gravity has moved to Brisbane and Sydney.

Governance

The VBA Council (the state's governing body) is elected by and from VBA members only. The other 91% of players are disenfranchised; they can neither vote for nor stand for Council. Should the skills and energy of most of the state's players be overlooked?

The VBA runs its own club (competing for custom and timeslots with other clubs) as well as administering the state. The VBA council is currently preoccupied by local councils restricting use of the VBA's premises.

Administration and Leadership

A major problem is that, although individual VBA council members are hard-working and dedicated, their efforts are negated by an inward-looking, defensive, and insular culture. Outsiders' suggestions are interpreted as challenges to the VBA's authority, always to be "looked at" in the indefinite future, but rarely acted on. The VBA Council's glacial processes tend to be based on shifting alliances of personalities and groups; not on rational management of the state's affairs. Symptomatic is the VBA having no strategic plan or vision for growing bridge in the state.

In 2007, the VBA sent a survey to the clubs and returned a summary of the results to them. It held a special meeting to discuss the survey - but no action ensued. Characteristically and revealingly, clubs were excluded from this meeting, because "the survey is the property of the VBA".

Communication has recently worsened. Clubs have not been advised of who was elected to the VBA Council (and are thus responsible for state affairs) at the VBA's 2007 AGM. Council minutes no longer appear on the VBA's website and the much appreciated financial statements once sent to clubs have been discontinued.

I believe the VBA is passive. In the last two years, two Victorian clubs have found ways of obtaining grants from governments. An energetic administration, in touch with clubs, would have found out how this was done, and advised other clubs how to exploit these opportunities. The Federation of Affiliated Bridge Clubs of Victoria (FABCV) stepped into the breach.

Bridge demographics are changing; although clubs' clienteles vary, an increasing number of our players are "vigorous retirees" who want to play by day, are not interested in becoming champions, want better facilities, and hate rudeness. The VBA has not appreciated this change, still giving disproportionate attention to competitive, rather than social players. Clubs look in vain to the VBA for support such as quality tournament directors, teaching materials, and teachers. Commercial clubs, despite attracting lots of people to bridge, are still regarded with vestigial suspicion.

Finance

A couple playing at a club once or twice a week and in an occasional congress pays serious money through subscriptions, table fees, and congress fees. This money is shared amongst clubs, state bodies and the ABF, but few players know where the money goes. It is timely to examine the bridge industry's finances as a whole and see if it possible to give average players more value per dollar.

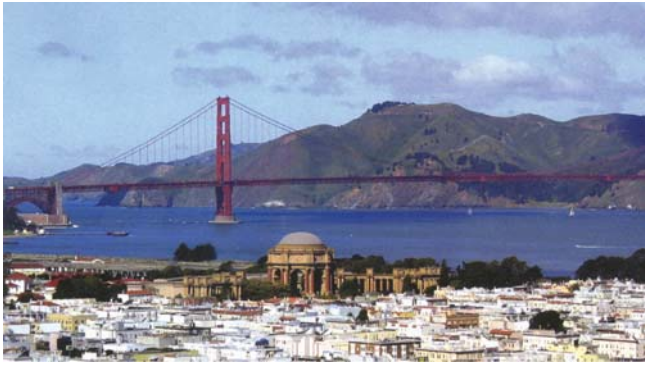
What Is to Be Done?

For years the FABCV has fruitlessly tried to persuade the VBA to enter negotiations on establishing democratic and efficient governance of Victorian Bridge. The FABCV will now petition the ABF asking it to make a body elected by and from all clubs (not the FABCV) as its constituent in Victoria. A draft constitution has been prepared.

The FABCV wants a body that will grow bridge numbers in Victoria; promote bridge; support clubs; give players and clubs things they want (not what administrators think they ought to want); strive for government subsidies like those physical sports routinely obtain; and, in the long run, help clubs obtain permanent premises.

The FABCV's website <http://groups.google.com.au/group/vicbridgeforum> gives more information about

**GRAND TOUR of CALIFORNIA / NEVADA + MEXICAN CRUISE SEPT 5 25 2008:
With The Finesse Bridge Club - 20 DAY TOUR & CRUISE: From \$ 4480 pp + Airfare**



The Grand Tour, will include 7 nights on Vision of the Seas Round trip Mexican Cruise (3-ports). Other destinations include Las Vegas, 4 nights LA, 3 nights, beautiful Mammoth Springs and finally spending 3 nights in San Francisco. Includes all dinners. US\$100 discount when doing Grand Canyon Tour.

**TERRIGAL 5 STAR STAR OF THE SEA APTS March 27 31 2008
5 Star Luxury at Terrigal (5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS) From \$ 595 Twin Share or Double**

Included in this price is 4 nights accommodation,
ALL dinners, all lunches.



Includes 7 sessions of bridge (Director;
Greg Eustace) 3 workshops, and a champagne reception.

For further information: <http://users.bigpond.net.au/FinesseBridgeClub/> gayeallen@optusnet.com.au Ph: 9596 1423 or 0410 127 326

our goals and plans. Clubs and individuals are welcome to lodge comments.

*Nick Beaumont,
FABCV President*

Editor: The publication of this letter does not mean that the Newsletter either agrees with the points made, nor confirms that statements made by the author are correct.

The Victorian Bridge Association's response:

Dear Editor,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity of making a response to the views expressed by Nick Beaumont in his letter to the ABF Newsletter.

I am disappointed that Nick has failed to acknowledge any initiatives of the VBA council. It is difficult for me to reply at such short notice to all the matters raised, but I would like to address the 2007 survey of Victorian bridge clubs.

No mandate for change in governance was apparent. Clubs seemed to be more interested in help from the

VBA in regards to improving the standard of club bridge by teaching tours, directors' courses, etc.

Because of this, the marketing grant received from the ABF was used in these directions.

A new event, the Restricted Pairs, was held for the first time this year in response to feedback from the survey, and also as a result, the VCC has been extended to accommodate not only a restricted pairs event, but also a restricted teams event.

The VBA will continue to concentrate on positive and constructive directions for bridge in Victoria.

*Jeannette Collins
VBA President*

Under one roof in 2009

It has been announced that all events at the next Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra, scheduled from January 14 - 26, 2009, will be held at the National Convention Centre. More information in forthcoming Newsletters.

Letter to the Editor

Nintendo, eat your heart out, or how to beat the tyranny of distance

Thank you for the very much needed factual article on marketing bridge in the January Newsletter, with which I wholeheartedly agree. There is only one surprise in it, and it is quite inconsequential to me as an atheist, but for the fun of it, I will allude to it. In my youth, a Catholic bishop was visiting our family to play cards (a form of whist) and as far as I know, in Europe, Catholics are allowed to play cards. Was it by any chance one of the more strict sects or denominations?

Some suggestions:

I believe the fact that James Bond played bridge helped us tremendously, as did Omar Sharif, who was the most prominent ambassador for our game in the last century. However, the lasting publicity for bridge in the stories of Agatha Christie are in a category of their own, due to the fact that her novels will be read by generations far beyond the time Bond and Sharif will be remembered. We need to invite more stars to "come out" and publicise the game. Bridge should be advertised as a safe and healthy addiction; maybe casinos should be approached to include bridge as a possible therapy for problem gamblers.

The larger clubs should consider having regular "no frills" duplicate for novices just emerging from supervised play. A large proportion of the players who disappear after lessons do exactly that in their kitchens... they play simple bridge. They could stay in the clubs if they did not have to face the totally incomprehensible artificial systems too early in their careers. After gaining sufficient confidence, more of them would venture into the fray of real competition.

Another suggestion voiced by Victorian player Lilli Allgood, is to give players coming from the supervised ranks, or anyone without any ranking at all, (who may have learned bridge from friends or family) the option to wear a "P" plate with a name tag. All advanced players would be asked to be considerate, and they would volunteer to defer from using artificial systems or complex conventions. In addition, they should take the extra time to explain any simple conventions used, and generally, help the budding players to gain in confidence.

This "P" plate would be returned by the player to the club president with great ceremony, after the player acquired their first green points. I emphasise that this should be an optional requirement. We could consider

modifying the rules for alerts in club duplicates for the "P" plate opposition. Some new players are too shy to ask what a sudden leap to 4♣ means when they have never heard of conventions like Gerber or splinters.

The fact that schools are not involved is a real problem for bridge administrators, but I am sure there are schools willing to give bridge a go. This has been suggested many times, but it appears few do anything about approaching schools or actively organising school bridge, although there are willing players who could achieve just that.

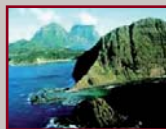
The emphasis here should be on bridge as an Olympic sport, with a chance to represent one's country. Olympic ideals do help to counter any bad image of card games, and it should be emphasised that bridge is a more social game when compared to its natural cerebral rival, chess.

While some of us enjoy the social side of the game, some stay at home and play via the computer by choice. This should be embraced, not shunned.

**Want to improve your bridge?
See www.ronklingerbridge.com
for new material each day**

Bridge Holidays with Ron and Suzie Klinger in 2008

**Lord Howe Island
May 31 - June 6**



**Kangaroo Island
June 29 - July 6**



**Murray River Cruise
July 6 - 11**



**Tangalooma
Island Resort
August 11 - 16**



**Salamander Shores
(near Nelson Bay)
November 2 - 7**



**Norfolk Island
(Book early!)
November 16 - 23**



Workshops in 2008

- ◆ Sydney at Grand Slam BC Double Bay, July 22-23
- ◆ Melbourne at Peninsula Country Club, September 15-17, and Borin Bridge Centre, September 19

For all enquiries contact:

**Holiday Bridge,
PO Box 140,
Northbridge NSW 1560**

Tel: (02) 9958-5589

email: suzie@ron-klinger.com.au

For starters, we should be considering mixed tournaments, especially at the large events. The annual migration of players to Canberra and half a dozen large competitions in the main centres is all very well if you have the time and money, but how many more players would participate if there was a facility in each large club to join in, under supervised conditions of a director and an observer, on a few computers?

Virtually the only amateur standard players who can go to Canberra are the retired and the reasonably well off, so why should we be surprised that ambitious youngsters and working age people shy away from a sport which puts such a high price on participation at a level where it really matters.

For those who want to watch, there is the possibility to do so with a three-hour delay at large clubs, where there should be Vugraph via the Internet, or online at home. TV is far too expensive, but the Internet is quite affordable for something like this, and it would be a great investment. No matter how optimistic we are, to have a cable TV channel showing bridge is for the time being, just a dream. We could have such a website tomorrow, however, for minimal cost.

There is also room for much better presentation later, with expert comments supported by the analysis of several players' handling of the deals being presented. It could all be accessed at the user's convenience, at any time after the necessary delay.

It cannot be all that complicated to transfer the computer-generated deals to a software program which enables internet participation in club duplicates or tournaments. A few tables in the club could be permanently set up with two computers, and at each of those tables, the duplicate players would "face" an external pair who of course would have to be in a different location.

We know the obvious - one could cheat in this situation. Online partners could talk on the phone about their hands, but at a club level, we can afford to be generous. I doubt very much that many people would want to go to such lengths for so little gain.

I suppose one could introduce Blue Points for remote participation, and judge them appropriately for awarding status in the game.

Remember also, that many players simply have problems getting to a club in the evening, for a wide variety of reasons.

Let us be more inclusive, and give a chance to the shy teenager or antisocial grumpy old fart who is interested in the game but not the socialising aspect (there are a

few players I know, to whom I would strongly suggest staying at home).

The club should collect a discounted fee from those who join the game from home online (since the club saves on overheads, albeit minimally) and the environment will be positively affected, with parking problems lessened.

With technology getting more affordable all the time, I can envisage existing unaffiliated clubs either joining bigger clubs online and providing "remote" directing. New clubs in country centres may even sprout up, participating from remote locations where there aren't enough players to make a traditional club financially viable. Thus, we overcome the tyranny of distance.

Scoring directly to the computer using electronic gadgets instead of travellers has been quite well received in Canberra. It significantly shortens the time for the next draw to be calculated in Swiss Pairs, and also reveals almost instantly the final result.

In the future, we may have custom-manufactured tables with four consoles to show the cards and bidding pads, with touch-sensitive screens, which would be kind to people like me, who have bad eyesight.

Good riddance to the ridiculous bidding box cards, which tatter and deteriorate faster than good quality cards. This type of arrangement would be eminently suitable for remote participation, but the design would have to incorporate connectivity.

And now we are talking about attracting the youngsters! Bridge would not be much different from other computer games, except for the fact that we already have vast organisation and infrastructure *in situ*, and bridge can offer the glory of formal competition, with honour rewards for success up to the Olympic Gold and Bermuda Bowls. Nintendo, eat your heart out!!

In the future, how about competing across the oceans in a sort of state-to-state competition with other bridge-playing nations? How about donating, say, eight connectable computerised bridge tables to a school?

As mentioned above, participation in Red Point competitions, and tournaments at a distance, would require the player to come to his/her club and play under a director's supervision.

The same tables set up for extramural participation in duplicate, with two computers, can be used at the weekend to compete in a Red Point congress. Since the players save on travel time and petrol, they would surely be happy to pay \$10 on top of the tournament fee to make it worthwhile for the director to open up the club. Bridge clubs could charge extra for participating

in the major national events, and restrict participation to really well-equipped clubs with appropriately experienced directors.

If a few clubs had this type of setup, we could see frequent flighted interclub competitions, including novices or seniors (in most clubs it is seniors' most nights, but we want to change that).

I know this all sounds too complicated for the administrators and directors, but there would be more money, more members, and a greater variety of competitions available as a result of my suggestions. The technology revolution is not going to go away, and I can envisage an ideal situation where one comes to the club twice a week to socialise, and play another two times online from home for convenience.

I believe the bridge environment is much more tolerant and accepting than many other activities and sports. Even a weirdo like me feels at home in a bridge club...

Interclub competitions too need to change. Bridge players are individualistic, and most of us have loyalty to a few favourite partners. Many of us do not have a permanent team that we compete in. There is little one can do about that, but most competitive sports excite supporters because the *club* is everything. Our administrators are too short-sighted. Victorian events like the Pennant Teams and the Croft are no longer competitions where we need to have strict club membership rules. Out with the club symbols, songs, and some sort of uniform (at least a funny hat, please?)

It is well known that this works for other competitive sports and activities, but bridge does not seem to embrace these features.

It is interesting to observe that clubs which are run by a committee of members (in Victoria, say, the Waverley, Geelong and Moonee Valley clubs) have more pride and spirit than those run by professionals. In my experience, very few clubs communicate in any way with the local councils and valuable advertising through the council websites and free activity handouts is lost.

We need to celebrate and cherish the greats of our game. Honour boards are not enough. Other sports have halls of fame, regular feature articles in their rags, like this one, and they fastidiously record statistics. I will provide an example: playing with a relative beginner, we managed to score a win of 77+% in a match against a very experienced pair. When I told my young partner, John Spender, that this was quite unusually high, and we had to be terribly lucky, I also thought, perhaps there

should be a way of recording such moments, as they would in cricket. Of course, a single win in a match which was just six or seven boards is sheer luck, but there are no comparisons, even from a serious open competition.

Bridge being probably the one and only serious game in which an ordinary club player may face a world champion, this would not be appropriate. Tell me, does anyone know what was the biggest ever margin a team recorded in a Red Point event? We have the McCutcheon Trophy for the highest achieving Masterpoint status, but I have not seen a historical alltime high achievers list and comparison of how current winners rank in the long run.

There must be other ways of recording and celebrating success at all levels of the game. If we want to attract the young, we need to give them something to aspire to, and strive for! And it should not be just the right to buy a name for a room at the VBA.

It is an interesting observation that for some players, a session of duplicate is too long and inflexible. For the player who dresses to kill, and drives the average 20 minutes to the club, it is not worthwhile to play a one-hour session. But I know addicts who would stay after a full duplicate for an extra hour of bridge (this suggestion may end up being equivalent of the Packer one-day cricket revolution). Are you reading this, Peter? I am sure you would welcome such opportunity...

I summarise the main suggestions for immediate action: make Green Point club nights available for players at home, Red Point competitions from any club licensed to run such competitions, and Gold Point tournaments from selected large clubs.

We need to engage some smart programmers and even electronic gadget manufacturers. We should not just look to North America and Europe. This time, we could lead, for a change - and prove that we have the "creativity factor" as in other sports and even businesses.

I would even suggest that competitions as important as Canberra should be available at weekends in large clubs. The introduction of simultaneous pairs was a good start towards this idea.

I think the game we all love so much will soon reach a critical watershed period. We must welcome and even speed up the technology required, but there is basically very little we have to alter in the nature of the game itself.

Anton Stavik, aka Antom the Phantom



ZEPPELIN TRAVEL

LICENCE NO. 1421

invites you on a



10 day BRIDGE CRUISE



...aboard Royal Caribbean's
Rhapsody of the Seas
...with your bridge hosts
Michael & Sue Witham

Inside Cabins from	\$1099-
Outside Cabins from	\$1329-
Balcony Cabins from	\$2768-

Port Taxes	\$350-
Prepaid Gratuities	\$120-

FREE BRIDGE LESSONS . FREE BRIDGE PLAY
Departs Sydney 01 Nov 2008

You will enjoy brilliant bridge surroundings, where you are guaranteed to make new friends, enjoy bridge and earn **MASTER POINTS.**

All this while you cruise through the breathtaking South Pacific on one of the finest ships to cruise out of Australia.

Sydney . Noumea . New Caledonia
Poum . Vila . Vanuatu
Isle of Pines . New Caledonia . Sydney

For more information, contact Zeppelin Travel on

07.55579888

Toll free on **1 300 786 888**

Via email to **info@zt.com.au**

Coaching Cathy at Contract

INFORMATION GATHERING

Esteemed Guru, etc.

I went down in a contract the other day that a few others managed to make. They may have received inferior defence, but I thought that I should run the situation by you.

Dealer: West

Vul: All

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

Glenda and I reached 4♠, and I was South. West led ♣5 and my Jack in dummy took the first trick. I played a low heart immediately and the queen held. West played the nine. I thought that this was a bit odd but, when I played the Ace next, he produced the 10 and the King took a trick later. That meant that I lost a heart, a spade and two diamonds in the end. Your thoughts?

Luv, Cathy.

Beloved niece etc.,

Let's start out by saying that this was an excellent contract, which would have made if West had held ♦A, even when a trump trick had to be conceded. Your play in hearts at trick two was correct. Playing the Jack immediately would be a loss if East had Kx, and chose to cover. So, initially, you are hoping for King-

doubleton onside. When ♥9 falls under the Queen, you are given a second option to play for. If West's ♥9 heralds a doubleton ♥109, then the successful play from here would have been to re-enter dummy via the diamond suit and call for ♥J. Whether East covered or not, West's ♥10 would be pinned, avoiding any heart losers.

However, it's not quite as simple as that. Let's go back to East having ♥K6, and West ♥1093. An alert West will still drop ♥9 under the Queen in an attempt to mislead you. Should he or she carelessly drop ♥3, you will have no choice but to play the Ace at your next turn. So when you see ♥9, you may become the victim of a diversion. I guess that what you do will be determined by just how clever you think West is. I would point out that there are many pretty competent players who have carelessly dropped a card like ♥3 in this situation, so you are paying West a big compliment if you decline to believe what ♥9 tells you.

Warmest regards, David

Dealing Machine

NEW SUPER MACHINE!

- ♦ 100% Australian made
- ♦ Uses cheapie Aussie cards
- ♦ Improve the standard at your club
- ♦ Ask us, your club may be eligible for a government or other grant

Only \$3995 plus delivery

Enquiries welcome to

postfree@bigpond.net.au

Visit Bridge Museum www.postfree.cc



Bridgemate®

Wireless scoring solutions for bridge

What is the Bridgemate®?

- ♦ The Bridgemate® wireless scoring system is the bridge club's best mate. It makes life easier for players as well as for directors.
- ♦ You will be amazed by the enthusiastic reaction from novices and experienced players alike.
- ♦ The system consists of a table top unit on each table and a central receiver.
- ♦ After each hand, one of the players enters the result into the BridgeMate® which has clear text on its large keys leaving no doubt about their function.
- ♦ The unit calculates the score and sends this to the central receiver (the server) and then on to the scoring program for further processing.

Who is using Bridgemate®?

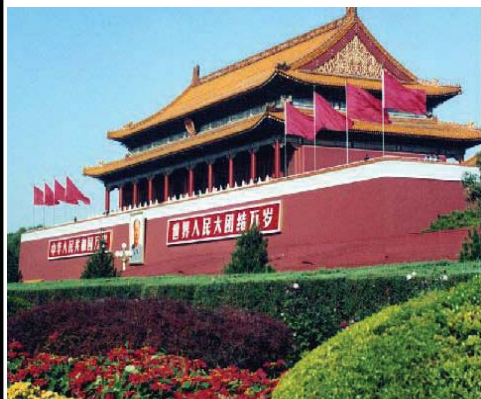
- ♦ The Bridgemate® wireless scoring system is used by the World Bridge Federation and the European Bridge League for their championships and tournaments. Worldwide more than 1000 clubs are using Bridgemate®.
- ♦ The Bridgemate® integrates well with a large number of popular scoring programs.
- ♦ You do not need to learn all the ins and outs of a new program - the scorers have one special button that activates the Bridgemate® system and starts collecting the results.

Find out more!

- ♦ Ask us for a free quote. You will receive personal support as well as a CD with information and demonstration software.
- ♦ Bridgemate can be reached through:
Bridgeweb Australia
PO Box 136
Marden SA 5070
Tel: 08-83635776
E-mail: info@bridgemate.com.au
Website: www.bridgemate.com.au



"The Silk Route"



RUSSIA

"Tsar's Gold" Private Luxury Train

Beijing To Moscow



14 - 28 September 2009

Travel on "Tsar's Gold" from East to West, a 2,000 year old trail linking Asia to Europe featuring such wonders as the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City and then off to Mongolia to see the Winter Palace of the last Mongol ruler. See Mongolian horsemen and picnic in a yurt as well as dancing in traditional costumes.

Our private train built in the 1950's by Nikita Khrushchev and later used by Communist party leader Brezhnev with his functionaries features the finest sleeping cars. We will be staying in the best hotels available in each city with daytime and on occasions overnight travel aboard our train.

During our tour we will visit Lake Baikal, a natural wonder, and the largest fresh water lake in the world, be greeted in the traditional Russian way with bread salt and balalaika music. Also included is a visit to Yekaterinburg where the last Russian Tsar and his family were executed and the church which has been built over the site. The tour finishes in the Great City of Moscow. All this and Bridge too...

Extension to St Petersburg available

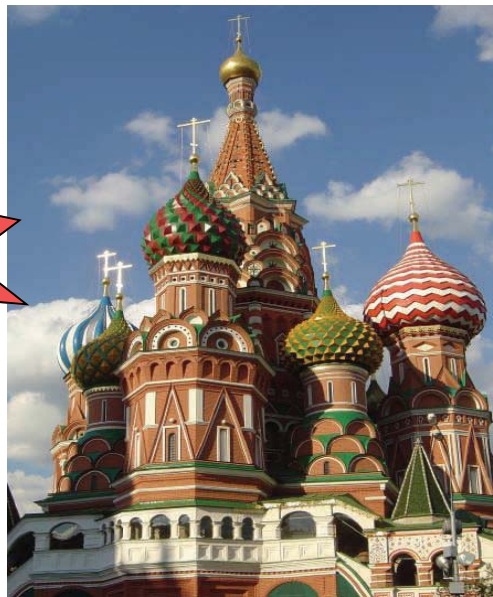
Beijing to Moscow - 16 Days Inclusive Land Package from * \$6425 pp twin share

Included in Tour:

- English-speaking Local travel guides
- 14 excursions all entrance fees
- 2 nights Hotel in Beijing
- 9 nights onboard "Tsar's Gold" Train
- 1 night Hotel Datong
- 1 night Hotel in Ulan Bator
- 1 night Hotel in Irkutsk
- 1 night Hotel in Moscow
- Doctor on board the train
- Showers on board
- Luggage service at all train stations
- All meals during the tour
- All Bridge activities
- And much more...

Excluding: Airfare, visa, travel insurance and any personal items.

**SPECIAL
AIRFARES
AVAILABLE**



Your Bridge Director: Cheryl Simpson Tel. 07 5538 8821



Contact: Ros Bulat or Stephanie Harms
The Conference Team – World Travel Professionals
Suite 2, 142 Budall Road, Bundall QLD 4217
(PO Box 4943 GCMC QLD 4217)
Phone: 07 5556 7222 Interstate: 1800 249804
Fax: 07 5556 7200 Email: tct@worldtravel.com.au
Licence: TAG1502



[CALL US NOW FOR A FULL BROCHURE!](#)

The New Laws are coming (at last)

The new 2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge come into effect within Australia and New Zealand on June 1, 2008. As a direct consequence of this, there are updated versions of the ABF Tournament Regulations, which will also take effect as of June 1.

The only exception to this implementation date is where an event commences a day or two earlier and continues on through June 1 without any break of days, i.e. a congress pairs starting on May 31, finishing on June 1 will play under the old laws.

Electronic versions of the new Laws are available from any of the following web sites

- WBF: <http://www.worldbridge.org/departments/>
- ECats: <http://bridge.ecats.co.uk/Documents/2007laws.asp>
- ABDA: <http://www.abf.com.au/directors/resources.html>

New law books have also been available from most bridge book suppliers since early January. Those who have already purchased a copy (either as a soft or hard-cover) should be aware that although the new code was promulgated by the WBF in October last year, there was a late change made to one law (concerning insufficient bids) at the beginning of March this year.

Consequently, most of the printed green Law books that are currently in circulation still have the older (now superseded) version of Law 27. Hence, anyone who regularly directs will need to download an updated

version of that section from one of the websites listed in order to paste it into their new law book.

Over the years there has been a marked increase in the expertise and experience of directors, which has been recognized in the new Code by their increased responsibilities. There are now fewer automatic penalties (rectifications) and directors have been given greater discretionary powers (to provide equity). While the material effect of many of the Laws is unchanged, the actual wording and sentence structure has been reworked with a view to increased clarity. The laws have also been significantly improved in the way they are grouped together. Another useful addition is the very comprehensive index of terms and law numbers which follows the main document.

With respect to the new regulations, the only aspect that might impact upon the average player is that the updated ABF Alert regulations will no longer require Stayman to be alerted. Specifically the new regulations have made “any 2♣ response to a 1NT opening bid in an uncontested auction” a self-alerting call. The only other regulatory change of note is that the ABF will now permit the use of ‘Stop’ cards in its tournaments.

Over the next few editions of the ABF Newsletter I will be covering some of the more important/interesting changes to specific Laws. In the meantime, an interpretation and guidance document prepared by the Zone 7 Laws Commission (of which both Australia and New Zealand are members) will be available via the ABF website.

Laurie Kelso, ABDA



The Northern Territory Bridge Association presents the

Territory Gold Bridge Festival

at the

Alice Springs Convention Centre

Wednesday August 27 - Saturday August 30 2008

Swiss Pairs (with play off points), Swiss Teams, Matchpoint Pairs

ALL WITH GOLD MASTERPOINTS, CASH PRIZES & MOST EVENINGS FREE!

Directors: Phil Gue & Martin Willcox

Convenor: Eileen Boocock

Details and entry form on http://www.ntba.com.au/TGBF_2008/Brochure.pdf



Statue of Liberty, New York

OZ Bridge Travel

Presents Gold Class

Montreal - New York

(Fly/Cruise/Hotel) on board the
Luxurious Crystal Symphony

October 18 – November 2

with **Gary Brown**

from...\$9,975



The **Crystal Symphony** is slightly smaller than her sister ship the Crystal Serenity but just as luxurious. With only 940 guests, this is a 6 Star experience in every which way. The Crystal maintains one of the highest space-per-guest ratios at sea, making her one of the most spacious cruise ships in the world. You will never feel crowded. You will love the pampered service and the elegantly appointed suites, most with private verandahs. The Canada/New England States itinerary is one of the most coveted of the North American cruise schedule. **Montreal** is known as one of the most exciting cities in the world and **New York**, well what can one say? Home of the Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty, the Met, Central Park, Woody Allen, John Lennon, the Yankees, Rockefeller Center, Brooklyn Bridge, Staten Island Ferry, Manhattan, the American Museum of Natural History, Guggenheim Art Museum (designed by Frank Lloyd Wright)...the list is endless. So we are going to compliment the cruise with a stay at the famous luxurious Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan, for two nights!

Montreal - Quebec City - Halifax - Saint John - Bar Harbor
Boston - Newport, Rhode Island - New York City...

With **Oz Bridge Travel** a Bridge Holiday is not just about the Bridge. It's about having the hassles and details taken care of. It's about the comfort, security and camaraderie that travelling within a group offers. It's about arriving back home, (which is always nice) and feeling good about your holiday. We would consider it a privilege to have you join us.



Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City

*This is truly going to be a ripper! Your host **Gary Brown** is a Bridge Grand Master, award winning Bridge author, creator of the best selling 'Flash Cards' and packing 10 years experience specializing in Bridge Cruise Holidays. His Bridge clinics in Melbourne are becoming legendary and are all completely booked out for 2008. You will have his full attention for the entire cruise!*

Included in Tour

1. Travel on the Crystal Symphony
2. 5 Star Hotels (Montreal/NY)
3. All meals, entertainment, and service charges on the ship
4. Four tours
5. Tour leadership
6. Comprehensive Bridge program (Including all Bridge fees)
7. Welcome cocktail party
8. Economy class air travel from Melbourne/Sydney/Brisbane
9. Port and handling charges
10. Cruise taxes
11. On board Gratuities

General Information and Booking

Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it, with a deposit of \$350 per person to: Travelrite International 298 Whitehorse Road Balwyn, VIC 3103

Contacts for a Detailed Brochure:

Travel Info: Annabelle: ☎ 03 9836 9765

Bridge queries, Gary: ☎ 03 9686 6288

brownbridge@ozemail.com.au

Due to the popularity of cruising worldwide, ships are actually booking out 12 months in advance. Get your deposit in early to avoid disappointment

www.ozbridgetravel.com

Bridge into the 21st Century

Fit-showing Jumps

In the Goren era, the 1940s, '50s and '60s, a jump shift by a passed hand showed a big fit with the suit opened and was forcing to game. In the '70s and '80s, the jump by a passed hand had developed into a "support jump", showing 10-11 HCP with a five-card suit and three-card support for partner's suit.



Fit-showing jumps (FSJs) were first mentioned as such in *The Bridge World* in 1977-78 as part of Ed Manfield's series on *High Level Bridge*, so the credit is to Ed and his fellow Washingtonian experts, especially Kit Woolsey.

In 1993, Andrew Robson and Oliver Segal published *Partnership Bidding at Bridge, the Contested Auction*, 234 pages of tightly-packed information on FSJs. The book sold poorly and I received around a dozen copies in a lot of remaindered books in 2002. The book had all the appearances of a primer for beginners, and they sat in my \$10 box at the NSWBA for an eternity. When there was only one remaining I gave it a brief glance, and was blown away. It was brilliant, although the requirements were for four-card support to make a FSJ, making them much less frequent. Nowadays the book is unobtainable, and the last copy I picked up sold immediately for \$50.

FSJs have played a minor role in most expert partnership's system for some 10 years, but lately I notice quite a few pairs have sharpened their methods, by abandoning Bergen Raises in favour of FSJs. Some pairs even play all jumps as FSJs. But for most, FSJs occur only in competition, after your side opens the bidding, or when your side overcalls.

These are FSJs:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1. 1♣	(1♠)	3♦/3♥ =FSJ	
2. 1♥	(2♦)	3♠/4♣ =FSJ	
3. (1♥)	1♠	(2♥)	4♣/4♦ =FSJ

After the opponents overcall (but not double) all jumps are FSJs. After they make a takeout double, a single jump is natural (or Bergen), and a double jump is a splinter:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♥	(Dbl)	4♦ = Splinter	

Nowadays, a FSJ shows eight cards in the two suits, either three-card support for partner and a five-card suit

of your own (at least KJ10xx), or four-card support for partner and at least a four-card suit of your own.

If you jump to the three-level you have the values to go to the three-level, and if you jump to the four-level you have the values to go to the-four level.

All the high card strength should be in the fit-jump suit and trumps, with little or no wasted values outside.

The more strength you possess in the FSJ suit, the better.

Splinters have their value, but sometimes you don't have a shortage, or you feel it may not be in your best interest to reveal your shortage.

I found this deal via a Google Search:

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

West	North	East	South
1♥	(1♠)	4♦	(4♠)
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥			

FSJs can be very useful in staying out of game.

This was a recent hand:

♠ 9 6 5, ♥ 9 8 4 3, ♦ 9, ♣ A Q 9 4 3

West	North	East	South
(1♦)	1♥	(1♠)	?

The choices seem to be 3♦ and 3♥, but a FSJ to 3♣ fits the bill perfectly. In fact, game is hopeless, and though holding a good hand, North should now sign off in 3♥ over 3♣:

North	South
♠ Q 8 4 3	♠ 9 6 5
♥ K Q J 7 5	♥ 9 8 4 3
♦ A Q 4 3	♦ 9
♣ ---	♣ A Q 9 4 3

This is also a recent deal:

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Poor East was endplayed into bidding 4♠, but a FSJ of 3♣ by West would do the job, and East would sign off in 3♠.

Paul Lavings
Postfree Bridge Books

Youth coordinator: Richard Touton

I was born and raised in California, before moving to Los Angeles to attend university. After graduating in 1967, I worked for five years in software development in Pasadena. The Vietnam war was in full swing at the time, and I was draft-eligible, so I stayed in a job that offered occupational deferment until I turned 26, and was no longer eligible for the draft.



In 1972, I moved to Melbourne, where I lived and worked in computing-related positions until moving to Brisbane, in 2001. In that period, I married and had two children, now aged 21 and 23. After leaving permanent employment in 2002, I took up freelance consulting, which has diminished to the point where I am now mostly retired from the workforce.

I first played bridge in my teenage years. As was common in those days, my mother was part of a group who played a social game of rubber bridge once a week. As I had played a lot of other card games, I was sometimes pressed into service as a fill-in if one of the ladies was unable to play in the weekly game.

During my university days, I became one of the players in a regular after dinner game in the lounge of the student house where I lived. That led to duplicate bridge at the local Pasadena Bridge Club, then to play in sessional and regional congresses.

After moving to Melbourne, I realised I had no partner, so I found a job at Monash for my good friend and regular partner. We then played at the VBA for 10 years, mostly in state events. Then in 1982, I had to return to the USA on family business, and I did not play bridge again until around 1996 in Brisbane.

In 2005, I took an interest in the development of youth bridge in Queensland, partly because my son, Ryan, had become a keen student of the game. Those early years were exciting, as Queensland was blessed with a wealth of young talent (most of whom later moved interstate or no longer play). With the sponsorship of the QBA, we held 'learn to play' clinics during school holidays, and we also held regular Thursday night youth sessions, attracting up to four tables.

Following the loss of our most talented young players, youth bridge has gone through some lean times in Queensland, but I am hoping we can soon find and nurture some new talent.



BRIDGE TRAVEL

Bridge Holiday Specialists Since 1983

BRIDGE CRUISES & HOLIDAYS



QUEEN MARY 2

CRUISE

Sep 26-Oct 10



TOUR DE FRANCE

Oct 8-Oct 18



MEDITERRANEAN

CRUISE

Oct 18-Oct 29

Join us on ANY or ALL of these bridge holidays.

There are still some vacancies. But hurry!

Queen Mary 2: See the unmatched Autumn colours of New England and Canada then embark on a timeless Atlantic crossing! Cruise New York - Halifax - St John - Portland - Boston - Newport - New York - Trans Atlantic Crossing - Southampton. Join us for the 15 night package from \$5660* OR the 8 night Splendours of the Fall cruise New York return from \$3130*.

Tour de France: Your itinerary includes daily tours, bridge at nights, most meals and first class accommodation. Highlights include Mont St Michel, Bayeux Tapestry, WW1 battlefields, tasting and sightseeing in Champagne Region. (Paris 2 nights, St Malo 3 nights, Hornfleur 2 nights, Rouen, Reims 2 nights). Fully escorted throughout from \$6049* including return airfares with Singapore Airlines + taxes. QM2 passengers join at Cherbourg.

Mediterranean Cruise: Your 11 night cruise on MSC Armonia takes you from Genoa - Naples - Catania - Katakolon - Rhodes - Limassol - Alexandria - Heraklion - Rome - Genoa. Full bridge program on ship. Your price from \$4427* includes airfares with Singapore Airlines. The price when combining this cruise with the Tour de France is from \$8999* including airfares + taxes.



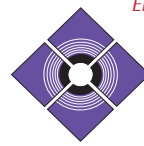
QUEEN VICTORIA

Sydney to Singapore 27 day fly/cruise from \$9759* Feb 20 - Mar 19, 2009

Sydney - Cairns - Rabaul - Saipan - Nagasaki - Pusan - Shanghai - Hong Kong - Nha Trang - Ho Chi Minh City -

Bangkok - Singapore. Includes Qantas flight home from Singapore to Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane. *Conditions apply.

Enquiries for any of the above holidays should be directed to:



AlburyKentTravel

To book or for more travel information:

Phone (02) 9569 1197

Lic No 2TA5533 PO Box 92 Westgate NSW 2048 • Fax: (02) 9560 0938

E: info@alburykenttravel.com.au • www.alburykenttravel.com.au

Contact Bridge Travel for details of the following local holidays

Leura Gardens Resort Aug 26-29: 4 days/3 nights of master point bridge with prizes and trophies. Price of \$549 includes dinners, breakfasts and coffee & biscuits with bridge.

Camden Valley Inn Nov 10-13: Completely renovated this historic resort will host our 4 day/3 night bridge break. Price \$589 includes 3 course dinners, full breakfast & full bridge programme.

Thredbo Alpine Resort Jan 7- 14, 2009: Our 24th summer bridge week in the Alps. Your price of \$845 covers your 8 days of bridge, 7 nights accommodation and 2 dinners. \$50 early bird discount so phone (02) 6459 4184 now!



Bridge enquiries welcome contact John Newman:

BRIDGE TRAVEL

www.bridgetravel.com.au

PO Box 871, Chatswood 2057 Ph: (02) 9888 3903

Mobile: 0412 062 957 • Email: john@bridgetravel.com.au

Book Review

Another 52 Great Bridge Tips

by David Bird.

Published by Batsford Books

The author is one of the most prolific of bridge writers. His books often provide entertainment as well as mere instruction, but this one focuses more on instruction. Nevertheless, it is still to be classed as light reading. As per the title, the book contains 52 tips which cover bidding, declarer play and defence. Each covers three pages and may even cover multiple issues. Some tips are fairly elementary while others are somewhat advanced.

The following is an example for the tip "Test the side suit while there are trumps out".

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

West leads ♦K against South's 6♠ contract. How would you tackle the deal?

Declarer won ♦A, drew trumps in four rounds, and tried the club suit. The 5-1 break defeated the contract, as declarer was short of an entry to dummy.

Declarer was careless. At trick two, correct play is to cross to ♣A, then ruff a club high. If both defenders follow to two rounds of clubs, you can draw trumps and cross to ♥A to enjoy the established clubs. When clubs are 5-1 as here, you must cross back to ♠A and ruff a second club high before drawing trumps and finally crossing back to ♥A and the remaining clubs.

This was a relatively straightforward example, but there were two more difficult deals for this tip. This makes the book more interesting for the slightly better player.

If you don't already have a book of tips, and are a low to middle level player, this might be worth a try. The best thing about such books is that each tip can be consumed separately then the book put away for when you have another spare minute.

John Hardy

John Hardy

Bridge Books



Another 52 Great Bridge Tips <i>David Bird</i>	\$30.80
Defensive Plays <i>Sally Brock</i>	\$26.40
Improve Your Judgement: Doubles <i>Audrey Grant</i>	\$19.80
My System: The Unbalanced Diamond <i>Marshall Miles</i>	\$26.40

Bridge Software

JACK 4.0 <i>Upgrades from versions 2 and 3 available</i>	\$104.50
Bridge Baron 18 Upgrade to BB18 (old CD required)	\$99.00 \$55.00
Modern American Bidding <i>Expert tuition on 2/1 Game Force bidding</i>	\$63.80
Bridge Master 2000 <i>Challenge your declarer play skills</i>	\$91.30

John Hardy (ABN 63 813 139 759)
63 Tristan St., Carindale QLD 4152
Ph: 07-3398 8898 or 0409 786 050

Email J.Hardy@uq.net.au
Website www.uq.net.au/~zzjhardy

JACK 4

\$114.95 (includes postage and GST)

The world's best bridge program

BRIDGE TIMERS AND DEALING MACHINES

Remote-controlled timers for \$595 including GST, + \$10 postage in Australia.

We also have second-hand dealing machines in excellent condition.

Dennis Yovich, EBA Pty Ltd

P O Box 70, Leederville WA 6902

Ph: (08) 9420 2458 Fax: (08) 9341

4547 Email: dyovich@inet.net.au

Copy Deadline

for Issue No 132, July 2008, the deadline is:

June 28, 2008

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 133, September 2008 at the discretion of the Editor

Email: editor@abf.com.au



PAUL LAVINGS POSTFREE BRIDGE BOOKS

PO Box 807 Double Bay NSW 1360

Tel: (02) 9388-8861 Email: postfree@bigpond.net.au

VISIT BRIDGE MUSEUM at www.postfree.cc

or UPSTAIRS, 68 New South Head Rd, VAUCLUSE 2030.

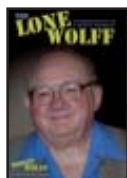
New books & software



Countdown for Winning Bridge

By Tim Bourke & Marc Smith

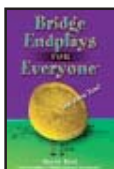
There are three ways to successful declarer play: counting, **counting** & *counting*. Tim Bourke's great book is now on CD. \$64.95 POSTFREE



The Lone Wolf

By Bobby Wolff

Enthralling and brutally honest, with chapters on two famous Australian players. \$34.95 POSTFREE



Bridge Endplays for Everyone

By David Bird

Written for the club player who felt endplays were only for experts. \$32.95 POSTFREE



A Computer's Twist

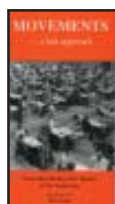
By Rosenfeld & Rajkumar

Play problems with Bridge Baron analysis 28 tough deals. \$26.95 Postfree Bridge Books



2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge

Now also in hard cover Discount for 6+ copies SOFT COVER \$24.95 HARD COVER 34.95 POSTFREE



Movements - a fair approach

By Hallen, Hanner & Jannersten

A monster 608 pages of movements for the conscientious director. \$89.95 Postfree Bridge Books



The Play of the Hand

By Louis Watson

A classic. Written in 1934 and still a favourite. \$29.95 Postfree Bridge Books



The Power of Shape

By Ron Klinger

Ron's classic now back in print by popular demand. \$26.95 POSTFREE



KEM Double Packs

The very best cards in the world, 100% heavy plastic. Pay at least \$70 in department stores. \$44.95 POSTFREE



PIATNIK Doubles

Attractive cards for home play. Many colourful designs. El cheapo. \$14.95 POSTFREE

Back in Stock

CLUB SUPPLIES

- 500 page double-sided BIDDING SLIPS 40 pads \$180
- TRAVELLERS, SYSTEM CARDS, PERSONAL SCORERS
- TIMER from Europe (1 year warranty) \$460 POSTFREE
- EBA 100% PLASTIC SUPER CARDS – \$4.40
- QUEENS SLIPPER \$2.50 per pack
- PLASTIC DUPLICATE BOARDS \$2.75 each
- ASE 8 CLUB SCORING PROGRAM - \$399
- DERRICK BROWNE BEGINNER & INT. BOOKS, Flipper
- BIDDING BOXES \$59.95 a set with 100% plastic bid cards



Dealing Machine

NEW SUPER MACHINE!

100% Australian made

No barcodes, faster, smarter, cheaper at \$3995 + delivery

Ask us about government grants postfree@bigpond.net.au

An ideal gift –



A subscription to **Australian Bridge**, your national bridge magazine. \$49 for 6 issues.

We stock the full range of **Paul Marston's** beginner and intermediate books and cheat sheets. Discounts for clubs and teachers.

ALL NON-DISCOUNT MAIL ORDER IS POSTFREE UP TO \$15!

What Should I Bid?

West deals, all vulnerable

♠ K 8 6 5
♥ A 8 5 4 2
♦ ---
♣ A Q 6 4

West	North	East	South
3♣	Pass	Pass	?

The best problem for March was submitted by Julian Foster of Sydney.

“Nasty problem, I thought. Partner has got short clubs and hasn’t acted, so perhaps I should be passing this out? But then if we have a decent major suit fit, we don’t need that much to make a vulnerable game, even with just a few values opposite: (♠AQxxx, ♥Kxxx, ♦xxx, ♣x). I bid 3♥ in the end, which partner raised to four on ♠Axx, ♥10x, ♦AQxxxx, ♣10x and went two off.

At the other table, my hand doubled, then over the 3♦ response bid 3♥, which was raised to 4♥. They went



three down, so we actually picked up on the board. Does the opponent’s sequence promise a huge hand with hearts here?

Or perhaps there’s a case for it not to show extras after the double (i.e., the equal level conversion principle) on the grounds that a really big hand with hearts would just have bid 4♥ initially?

The other question is whether partner should overcall 3♦ initially (he didn’t think he was quite strong enough) - if he does, we will end up in 3NT, which also has no chance.

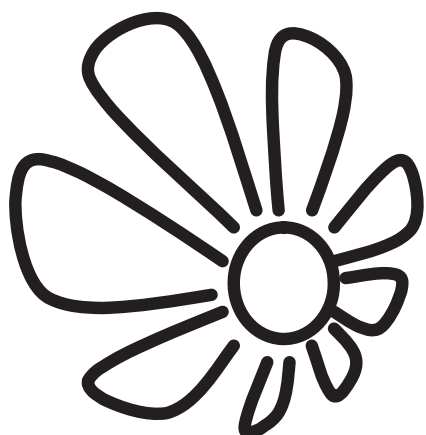
Passing out 3♣ for two or three down, and +200, was definitely the winning action at the table.”

Sartaj’s Reply:

Hi Julian,

It is rather nasty. We probably have the best hand at the table, but I think the winning action is to pass. Admittedly, we may miss game on a really bad day, but the chance of converting a plus to a minus is too great on all the other days. Also, partner will “ill-advisedly” raise 3♥ to 4♥ on say a six-count with a stiff club and three trumps, and game won’t have much play. On the dream hand given, partner may have found an imaginative double. We are allowed to dream!

The man with the shortage must bid!



ANC 2008
SURFERS PARADISE

HOLIDAY INN
VIEW STREET



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

FRIDAY 25 JULY – FRIDAY 8 AUGUST

PLAYOFF QUALIFYING POINTS - GOLD MASTER POINTS

AUSTRALIAN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS
OPEN - WOMEN - SENIORS - MIXED - YOUTH

AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS
OPEN - WOMEN - SENIORS - RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN INTERSTATE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS
OPEN - WOMEN - SENIORS - YOUTH

ANC CONGRESS EVENTS - DAILY - RED POINTS
PAIRS - TEAMS - WALK-INS

Emails: anc08@qldbridge.com Telephone: 07 3351 8602

Website: www.qldbridge.com

You raised a good question about the meaning of pass and bid. Tony and I play that if the opponents open with a preempt, then double followed by bidding a suit is a flexible hand, always. No exceptions. It's a lot more useful to get to the best game than to try and diagnose slam issues.

I have to admit that I am not totally convinced that this is the best approach, as we have in recent history missed a couple of slams that the "double and bid = monster hand" school were likely to get to.

About a 3♦ bid; it seems too much without a singleton club. You'd need another king to bid at the three-level with xx in their suit.

Great hand!

Sartaj Hans

Ed: As promised, Sartaj has answered the query posed in the March Newsletter:

"Open game with 7/4 shape"

There are a few things going for this theory.

Such hands have tremendous playing potential, which argues for aggressive action. Moreover, it's hard to conduct intelligent auctions with such a wild shape.

For example, ♠ AQJ10xxx ♥ x, ♦ x, ♣ K10xx

This hand would have play for 4♠ opposite as little as ♣ QJx. But it's going to be hard to show partner this is all we want. Say we open 1♠, and partner responds 1NT. Now 2♣ creates the live possibility of being passed, 3♣ forces to game, 3♠ doesn't mention clubs, and 4♠ is a case of going back to square one.

The other upside for opening game on such wild hands is that the opposition have to enter the bidding at a high level. On the same hand, if we open 4♠ and they enter the bidding with five of a red suit, partner could be sitting there, ready with his sledge hammer.

So the two big reasons seem to be:

1. The inadequacy of methods to bid the hand in a traditional way.
2. Obstructing the opponents and creating opportunities for big profits.

"Modern School"

Now onto my assertion that the modern school no longer follows this approach. \

The problems with opening game on 7/4 shapes are:

1. We miss some good slams. Modern bidding has made tremendous strides in the slam bidding zone. Once, there was no guarantee that even if slam was on, we would be able to diagnose and bid it. But current methods and agreements are geared and ready for it.

When Steven Burgess and Ishmael Del'Monte played on the OzOne squad, in one of the early practice matches they had a hand where a 4♠ opening was passed out at their table, while our opponents bid to a making slam. They decided to change their style to something along the lines of "4♠ cannot be a king more than an opening hand".

2. "Modern" opponents are much better geared to cope with high-level openings. Not so long ago, say after a 4♠ opening, one often found LHO bidding at the five-level with an unsuitable hand. However, top players have evolved towards a style of takeout doubles and "the five-level belongs to the opponents". The use of takeout doubles minimizes the danger of misjudging who should be playing the hand. The more cautionary attitude to introducing unilaterally a suit at the five-level has led to a steep decrease in the penalties collected by the 7/4 perpetrators.

Viva Benito

I would like to end with a little story involving the person I consider to be the greatest bridge player ever, Benito Garozzo. Benito is a few months away from being 80 years old as I write this, and yet he finished second last month in a very strong tournament in Taiwan, to which the world's best teams were invited.

A proof of Benito's vision comes from this hand in the 1972 World Team Olympiad:

♠ K Q J 10 9 8 2

♥ Q J 9 4

♦ ---

♣ 5 4

♠ A 6 4

♥ A K

♦ K J 4

♣ A K 8 6 2

After a pass on his right, Garozzo opened the North hand 1♠ and the Italians bid comfortably to 7♠. In the other room, the American North opened 4♠ and ended up in 6NT by South. There we have a trailblazer of the "modern" style, even though it took the rest of the world some time to catch up.

In his book "*Inside the Bermuda Bowl*" written 30 years later, John Swanson as part of his diatribe against perceived Italian cheating, calls this decision to open 1♠ "remarkable". If he were an active player, perhaps he would continue to open 4♠, continue to lose IMPs and continue to blame it on other factors instead of his own firmly shut eyes.

Peter Gill - Oz bridge great

Our parents taught all of us to play bridge – John and Peter first, probably when they were nearly 12 and 10 years old, and then Barbara (in order to always have a ‘bridge four’). Until 1973 we just played bridge at home, and occasionally helped out with Mum’s bridge groups.

In May of 1973, we went on holiday to Sydney’s Blue Mountains. John and Peter discovered the bridge club nearby, and being young and confident, (18 and 16) they went for a game. They won, and were hooked! By Queen’s Birthday Monday (June, 1973), further investigations revealed the existence of Lindfield Bridge Club. Peter took Dad for a game, and I took Mum for a game. Both pairs sat NS – the boys came first and the girls were second.

I recall John’s and Peter’s excitement at the discovery of youth bridge. They headed off to Canberra in January, 1975 – Peter with his geologist’s pick (yes, he was very keen on rocks back in those days). The boys took simply ages to disembark the plane on their return; apparently the pilot had confiscated Peter’s geologist’s pick as a dangerous weapon. Can you imagine being allowed onboard with something like that these days?

Peter raved for days about a hand where Bob Sebesfi had opened 1♥ (Precision) in front of him. Was Bob, a renowned psycher back then, psyching? Peter held the remaining eight hearts!

By 1975, Peter was at Sydney University, and he became very active at the bridge club there. His interest in youth bridge and mentoring young players has continued.

Peter’s earliest partners tended to be our brother, John, and his school friend, Robert Kuhn. Once at university, he developed a partnership with Ross Davis, and also played fairly regularly with John Roberts, Bob Sebesfi and eventually Warren Lazer.

By 1975 we, the Gill siblings, had also ‘graduated’ to the New South Wales Bridge Association. I can recall



Peter mentors youth players at a NSWBA teams-of-three event

playing the State Mixed Teams – the Roberts team – more like a law firm – Roberts, Gill, Gill & Gill. The event was barometer-scored over the last night and the unknown Roberts team was lying fifth. At the time, all the ‘big names’ of Australian bridge played such events – Seres, Howard, Cummings, McMahon, Lavings, Evans, Smilde and so forth. It was tough competition.

I have a wonderful photo of Peter playing against Giorgio Belladonna in March, 1976, when the Lancia Team toured Australia. David Stern organised the tour, which included Giorgio Belladonna, Benito Garozzo, Pietro Forquet and Omar Sharif. My memory suggests that our team – Peter with John Roberts, brother John and me – finished fifth, with Team Lancia finishing seventh in the tournament.

Playing with Ron Klinger, Peter first qualified for Australia in 1984, for the Seattle Olympiad. My team of Sue Lusk and me, Sue Neill and Barbara McDonald also won the Women’s Playoff, so we had an extremely proud mother that year. This year’s Olympiad (now the World Mind Games) will be Peter’s second Olympiad.

Continued on page 22



the Australian
internet bridge club

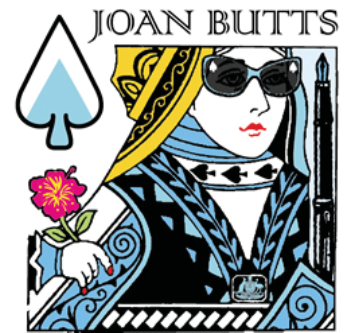
Red ABF Masterpoint sessions coming up!

Come to Queensland for a Winter Bridge Holiday

...with Joan Butts at the

Hyatt Regency, Sanctuary Cove, Gold Coast

4 nights - Thurs 17 July to Mon 21st July 2008



Joan teaches many people to play and improve their bridge each year. She organises bridge holidays & cruises, and has written beginners and intermediate books that offer a new hands-on approach to learning the game. She owns and operates a bridge club, and has represented Australia in Women's bridge. Choose from:

4 NIGHTS

Twin share **\$1195pp**
Single rate **\$1650**

Includes all bridge, accommodation, cocktail party and dinner.

WEEKEND (Fri/Sat nights)

Twin share **\$595pp**
Single rate **\$830**

Includes all bridge, accommodation, cocktail party and dinner.

DAILY RATE

(book direct with Joan)

Includes 2 bridge lessons and games, coffe/tea. Lessons only \$25pp.
Lessons and 1 game \$40 pp

The Hyatt Regency is a five-star resort, on Qld's Gold Coast. It is surrounded by championship golf courses and a 300-berth marina. The Village, located within the resort, has a multitude of waterfront restaurants, cafes and eateries, as well as boutiques and speciality stores. Your bridge holiday will feature the best in modern bridge lessons and games for all levels of player. Need a partner? NO worries!



The Programme

Thursday 17 July
18.00 Get together meeting
19.30 First Duplicate Game

Friday 18 July
09.30 & 10.30 Lessons.
13.00 Romney Pairs 1
17.30 – 18.00 COCKTAIL PARTY
19.30 Romney Pairs 2.

Saturday 19 July
09.30 & 10.30 Lessons.
13.00 Sanctuary Pairs
18.00 Victory Dinner
19.30 Sanctuary Pairs Final

Sunday 20 July
09.30 & 10.30 Lessons.
13.00 – 16.00 The Pines Pairs
19.30 – 20.00 Casual Duplicate
Monday 21 July CHECK OUT

For Sanctuary Cove enquiries please contact **Carmen Ford** on **07 3870 9877** or email **carmen@travelconcepts.com.au** Any other enquiries to **Joan Butts** on **0413 772 650 / 07 3254 4795** or email **joaneb@uq.net.au**. Further information can be found at **www.joanbuttsbridge.com**

REGISTRATION FORM (please fill in and return to secure your place)

NAME..... ADDRESS.....

SUBURB..... POSTCODE..... PHONE.....

EMAIL.....

Package (please tick): Four Night Weekend Stay Daily

Deposits of \$220pp to Travel Concepts by 30th May to secure a place, and balance by 30th June.
Make Cheque payable to: Travel Concepts. 33 Park Rd, Milton, Qld, 4064

Looking at his achievements, Peter has won nearly every major Australian title... except the Gold Coast Pairs and Teams. He has been particularly successful during the 2000s.

One of his more touching achievements was to help our mother to achieve her life-long bridge dream of reaching Life Master. He played the weekend of pairs with her in Canberra a few years ago so that she could acquire enough Gold Masterpoints, and they just squeaked over the line (MP-wise).

Major Achievements

- 1984 Olympiad with Ron Klinger
- 1991 PABF: Third, in team with Peter Newman, John Spooner, Phil Gue, Zoli Nagy and Stephen Burgess
- 1993 Bermuda Bowl with Warren Lazer
PABF with Warren Lazer
- 2003 PABF with Mike Prescott (Peter replaced Barry Noble)
- 2007 PABF: Second, with Paul Gosney
- 2008 World Mind Game with Bobby Richman

There is an anecdote attached to the 1991 team. Apparently, just before playoff nominations closed, Zoli Nagy was at a party with us (Barbara and Jeff Travis). Discussion turned to the Playoffs, and Zoli mentioned that if Peter nominated on a team with him and Phil Gue and others, they would foul a few other teams nominating. The next day, this 'drunken' conversation became reality, with Zoli ringing Peter. A team of five formed – Zoli and Phil Gue, Peter Newman and John Spooner (practising for the World Junior Teams), with Peter's qualifying points being relevant to the team's entry. As predicted, a few players re-grouped, ensuring that they were in qualifying teams for the Playoffs – some things never change.

Somewhat unexpectedly, this team then qualified to represent Australia.

In 2007, it would be fair to say that Peter and Paul Gosney headed to the PABF as 'third pair' in the team. However, they were in fine form, and rapidly became the 'anchor' pair, playing nearly every match. With only two days remaining (six matches) our mother had a stroke in Noosa, and we were told she was dying. I had to inform Peter of the situation, yet the Australian Open Team needed him desperately. I suggested that before he decided whether to fly 'home' early, I should assess things and he should keep playing bridge.

On my arrival in Noosa, it was evident that Mum would indeed survive. How Peter managed to keep his cool, and keep playing top-level bridge during those 24 hours is beyond my comprehension – but I'm full of admiration.

Australia led China going into the final match, but lost the PABF on the last hand!

Barbara Travis, SA

Next issue: Peter Gill hands, plus photos from the archives.

2008 - 2009 Bridge holidays with Joan Butts



Here are three tempting holidays:

Winter Bridge Holiday in July

July 17 – 21, 2008

Hyatt Regency, Sanctuary Cove, Gold Coast

Four nights, weekend or daily packages are available. Includes: all bridge lessons (beginners to advanced) with notes, masterpointed duplicate games, twin share accommodation (single is available) all breakfasts, coffee & tea during bridge, a welcome cocktail party, victory dinner and prizes.

Another Crystal cruise of a lifetime: Joan joins US teacher Audrey Grant October 5 – 21, 2008

Fly to New York for three nights, then cruise on the beautiful Crystal Symphony for 10 days to Newport, Boston, Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Montreal. Enjoy two days in Montreal post cruise.

Round Australia on the World Cruise - Crystal Serenity March 1 - 20, 2009

Join the ship in Sydney, cruise to Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth up to Broome (see the Kimberleys), then to Bali and Singapore. 18 day cruise.

*For all prices and brochures call Carmen Ford
(Travel Concepts) on 0438 692 761
or (07) 38709877*

*For bridge enquiries call Joan Butts on
0413 772 650 or (07) 32544795*

Congresses and Results

June 5 - 9

VCC, Melbourne

June 7 - 9

Barrier Reef Congress, Townsville

June 14 - 15

Annual Congress, Illawarra Bridge Assn. Inc.

Email: iba@speedlink.com.au

June 28-29

Geelong Bridge Club Congress

Email: suerob@ncable.net.au

July 12 - 13

Gold Coast BC Swiss Teams

Email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

July 25 - August 8

ANC and Butler Pairs, Surfers Paradise

August 16 - 17

Wagga Wagga Congress

Email: dkjeldsen@bigpond.com

August 23 - 24

Swan River Swiss Pairs, Floreat

August 19 - 24

Coffs Coast Bridge Supercongress

Email: chbridge@midcoast.com.au

August 27 - 30

Territory Gold Bridge Festival, Alice Springs

August 31

Swiss Pairs Congress, Illawarra Bridge Assn. Inc.

Email: iba@speedlink.com.au

September 26 - 29

Hans Rosendorff Memorial Congress, Perth

October 2 - 5

Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs and Australian

Swiss Pairs, Hobart

October 4-5

Gold Coast BC Butler Pairs & Swiss Teams

Email: gcbc@winshop.com.au

October 22 - 30

Spring Nationals, Sydney

November 22 - 23

Golden West Swiss Pairs, Mandurah

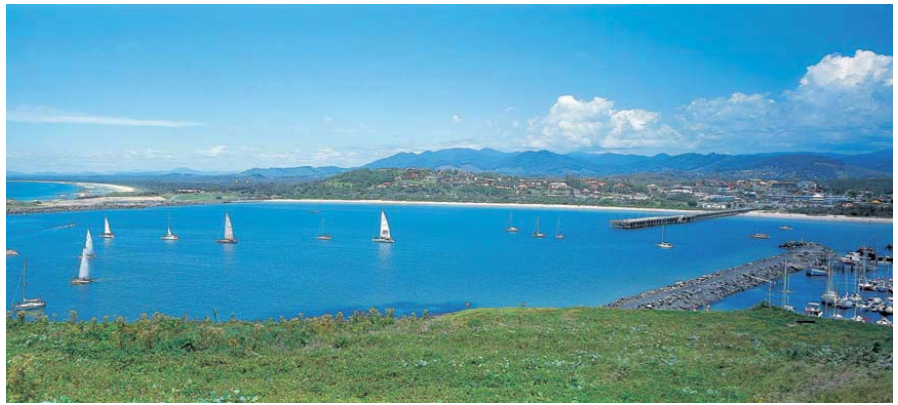
Maitland Teams Congress Results

1. BATTISTA, Emil Battista, Barbara Hunter, Roger Yandle, David Monahan
2. PICKLES, Eileen Pickles, Ken Wilks, Ian Walker, Bernie Adcock
3. HANNIGAN, Michael Hannigan, Patricia Grigson, Jenny Cominos, Ruth Littler

McCutcheon Leaders

Current at 31/3/08

Name	Total	This Year
1. MARSTON, PAUL	3557.98	130.95
2. GREEN, MURRAY	3127.57	127.49
3. PEAKE, ANDREW	3882.21	123.78
4. HORWITZ, HELEN	513.03	113.51
5. GILL, PETER	6380.67	113.48
6. NUNN, TONY	4322.91	105.99



COFFS COAST BRIDGE CLUB

presents the

COFFS COAST BRIDGE SUPER CONGRESS

Newly Approved Gold Point Event

19 – 24 August, 2008

OPAL COVE RESORT, COFFS HARBOUR NSW

Tuesday 19th - Welcome Walk-in Pairs

Wednesday 20th – Thursday 21st - Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday 22nd - Workshops and Walk in Pairs

Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th - Swiss Teams

Total Prize Money: \$15,750 CASH as well as Sessional Prizes

Open and Restricted Sections

Contact: Robyn Bingham on (02) 6651 7845

Helen Blewitt on (02) 6651 1686

email: chbridge@midcoast.com.au

Website: www.coffsbridge.com.au, take the congress link for programme details and application forms

7. WILLIAMS, JUSTIN	2252.28	104.37	29. KANETKAR, AVINASH	3213.25	76.7
8. BROWN, TERRY	6364.73	101.9	30. HANS, SARTAJ	2494.63	74.46
9. RICHMAN, BOB	9361.53	99.98	31. GUE PHIL	5693.19	73.2
10. WYER, PAUL	1792.38	99.02	32. DE LIVERA, ARJUNA	6126.03	72.67
11. LESTER, JOHN	2640.96	98.37	33. BOYLSON, CHRISTINE	930.58	72.63
12. DYKE, KIERAN	5198.13	96.63	34. ROBINSON, IAN	3360.79	72.44
13. GASPAR, GEORGE	4175.38	96.02	35. MARKOVICS, ANDREW	2011.3	70.78
14. KLINGER, RON	8090.94	93.95	36. EBERY, JAMIE	3394.03	69.37
15. LILLEY, DAVID	4134.07	93.45	37. BURGESS, STEPHEN	3517.22	69.14
16. HAUGHIE, BILL	4063.16	93.45	38. HUNG, ANDY	540.42	67.48
17. BRAITHWAITE, ANDY	1015.24	91.6	39. GIURA, NICOLETA	2345	67.44
18. LAVINGS, PAUL	8653.35	90.96	40. WARE MICHAEL	1128.96	67.28
19. LORENTZ, GABI	2314.72	86.15	41. LEIBOWITZ TONY	925.58	67.17
20. HANLON, TOM	206.86	85.19	42. WATTS MARLENE	3063.44	66.66
21. NEILL, BRUCE	6040.23	84.92	43. JEDRYCHKI, RICHARD	1917.64	66.58
22. HUTTON, TONY	3126.44	84.72	44. DELMONTE ISHMAEL	6221.1	66.32
23. FRANCIS, NEVILLE	4042.27	84.34	45. BROWNE SEAMUS	6133.39	65.93
24. HUTTON, HELENA	1878.25	82.95	46. MCMANUS MATTHEW	4091.6	65.28
25. GOSNEY, PAUL	1479.87	82.62	47. ROTHFIELD JESSEL	4927.05	65.09
26. BOURKE, MARGARET	8255.23	80.87	48. COURTNEY MICHAEL	3859.66	64.24
27. GRIFFITHS, NYE	1113.89	80.09	49. JANUSZKE ROGER	5198.26	63.86
28. MILL, ANDREW	4904.63	78.82	50. WILKINSON MICHAEL	1199.79	62.5

Sail and play... ...in Canada and the USA

New York to Montreal on the Crystal Symphony

Departs October 06-21 2008 - 16 days

Prices from **A\$9575** twin share

Includes: economy class air fares and taxes from Brisbane, Sydney or Melbourne, 2 nights at the Sheraton Manhattan, New York, transfers and an 11 day cruise on the Crystal Symphony.

Come with Joan Butts and join Audrey Grant and her American bridge players again in October '08 for another Crystal cruise and bridge experience. This time it's from New York to Montreal on the Symphony.

NEW ENGLAND AND CANADA WILL BE SPECTACULAR IN THE FALL



Cruise in style aboard the Crystal Symphony



Joan and Audrey.

Audrey Grant has established an international reputation in the field of bridge education. She has written official textbooks for the American Contract Bridge League and is the founder and editor of "Better Bridge" magazine.

Joan Butts has owned and operated a bridge club in Brisbane Australia for 20 years. She has a BA, Dip Ed & Dip Ed Psych, and has written bridge books for beginners and intermediates. Joan's passion is teaching bridge, and she will create an atmosphere of fun for you while helping you to improve your game.

There will be animated daily bridge lectures, comprehensive notes, duplicate bridge games and help with play sessions. Partners are guaranteed.

We look forward to meeting you. It's booking up fast!

Oct 8 New York City, New York, USA
Oct 9 Newport, Rhode Island, USA
Oct 10 Boston, Massachusetts, USA (overnight)
Oct 11 Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Oct 12 Bar Harbor, Maine, USA
Oct 13 Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada
Oct 14 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Oct 15 Cruising the Atlantic Ocean
Oct 16 Cruising the Gulf of St. Lawrence
Oct 17 Québec City, P.Q., Canada
Oct 18 Montréal, P.Q., Canada (overnight)
Oct 19 Montréal, P.Q., Canada
Disembark am

For a full cruise brochure and price details, call Carmen Ford at Travel Concepts on +61 7 3870 9877 or email carmen@travelconcepts.com.au