

# ABF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

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## Live bridge pioneer

We have scores of famous names in bridge - mainly they are the inventors of system gadgets used widely like *Stayman* - or more rarely - *Lionel* (named after New Zealander Lionel Wright). These people have in common their passion for bridge, and they laboured long and hard thinking of ways to improve the game.



One of the most passionate people one could meet is Victorian Traian Chira. In a matter of three years, Traian has built up worldwide dominance improving and refining Vugraph presentations on *Bridge Base Online*, developing - and continuing to finetune - *Chirasoft*, his software package, and his website [livebridge.net](http://livebridge.net).

How did this happen? Traian was commissioned by the World Bridge Federation after the 2012 Lille Championships - the first coordinated event with live BBO coverage - and Traian is the 'go-to guy' for all things Vugraph.

The setting is Melbourne, mid-September, at 9pm. Traian is set up like a general at his command centre - a table at a prominent Armadale cafe - with his trusty laptop. He is watching his troops - the Vugraph operators - in action. They are presenting matches from the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships in Glasgow.

Traian notes that the photographs and profiles of *Black Swans* (a West Australian team spearheaded by Jon Free) are missing from the BBO site. Using his login *bebechira* Traian quickly copies and pastes the link to their ABF numbers into the BBO dialogue box, and a few seconds later the Vugraph operator confirms that this has been done - their photographs and system cards are on view for the kibitzers to see.

Peter Gill sees that *bebechira* is online, and requests to be logged in as a commentator for the *Black Swans* match - hey presto, done! It is fortunate that many of the Northern Hemisphere bridge events take place in

the Australian evening, as Traian holds down a fulltime day job as well. This means that we, the Australian audience, can watch our heroes and heroines battle it out on the other side of the world at a convenient time.

Many of the regulars on the World Bridge Federation circuit, who have competed in international events, already have their photographs saved on Traian's website. Their details, including system cards and past successes, can be accessed via a simple click of an icon. WBF players, like ABF players, have their own dedicated computer numbers, which link to the website. We in Australia are particularly fortunate, as Traian has access to the ABF numbers of all players, and is steadily building a comprehensive database of our players so they may be easily identified by watchers on BBO.

A visit to [livebridge.net](http://livebridge.net) shows just how busy Traian



has been. The various headings list the Vugraph schedules, a photo gallery. live theatre, BBO Operators and BBO Commentators. If you are interested, say, in players at the 2014 Victor Champion Cup, you would go to Photo Gallery, choose the event and click on the photo icon. If Traian

has had anything to do with an event, there are a host of photos to accompany the event.

Likewise, on BBO, when you click on the names of any of the players at the table, if Traian has had anything to do with the BBO presentation, you will find information about the players, as well as a photo. For us Downunder, it is great to be able to put a face with the names we read about in bridge publications.

At the time of writing, the world bridge luminaries are in Sanya, China, competing in the World Bridge Series. Our next chance of wonderful BBO presentations comes with the 2015 Summer Festival of Bridge, which will be a major platform for Traian's skills. You should be watching on *BridgeBaseOnline* if you're not playing!



## Silver medal performance

*by Margaret Bourke (npc)*

### Silver Medal at the Second Asia Cup

Congratulations to the Women's Team:

*Felicity Beale – Diana Smart*

*Eileen Li – Greer Tucker*

*Pele Rankin – Therese Tully*

The Second Asia Cup Bridge Championships were held in Wu Yi, China from June 13 to June 22.

The team started well and continued to be in contention for a semi final berth throughout the double round robin qualifying matches. While there were many deals from the preliminary matches that are worthy of discussion, I liked a deal from the second round robin that is an example of the virtue of patience as a defender.

*East deals, nil vulnerable*

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Both Wests led ♦10 against this seemingly routine contract. In the Open Room East took ♦A and shifted to a club. She received a club ruff in return and exited with ♥Q. Diana Smart took this in dummy with the ace and then played ♠K, followed by a low trump from table. When East produced ♠Q, Diana had 10 tricks for +420.

At the other table, after winning the first trick with ♦A, Eileen Li was not in any hurry to get a club ruff. She reasoned that declarer was in a 4-4 fit, and if Greer Tucker had ♣A then declarer probably had ♠A: she could get a club ruff, but then the remaining trumps would break 2-2, giving declarer an easy time. She decided to give declarer a little rope, returning a diamond to declarer's king at trick two.

The correct play in the trump suit is small to the king, finessing on the way back, as this picks up all 4-1 breaks. The Japanese declarer erred by running ♠J at trick three. Eileen took this with the queen and then

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shifted to her singleton club. The resulting club ruff gave +50 and a useful 10 IMPs to Australia.

At the end of the round robin the four leading teams were China, Japan, Indonesia and Australia. China chose to play Australia in the semi final and after the first set Australia led by 10 IMPs. The lead had been reduced to 7 IMPs when the last board of the second session was placed on the table.

*East deals, EW vulnerable*

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

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

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

*Open Room*

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
Dbl	1NT	Pass	2♣
2♦	3♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		



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by Ron Klinger

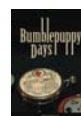
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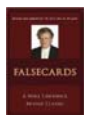
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the wool over your opponents' eyes  
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Did the Chinese NS have a rare misunderstanding? North's 1NT after Therese Tully's double was a transfer to clubs, and clearly North believed that her partner's acceptance of the transfer suggested a club fit and so competed to the three-level. When Tully showed extra strength with her second double, Pele Rankin knew exactly what to do, and the defence extracted the maximum penalty of a four-trick defeat of this ugly contract for +800.

In the Closed Room, the Australians avoided the three-level and a double:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
Db1	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

This went three off but that was 12 IMPs and an 82 to 63.5 score in favour of Australia.

In the third and last set the margin was reduced by a couple of IMPs, with Australia prevailing by 122 to 105.5 IMPs in a major upset over the tournament favourites and setting up a match with Indonesia in the final.

Alas, it was not to be our final. The Indonesian team led after every set and eventually won by 23 IMPs. It did not all go Indonesia's way as Australia had a winning second set and hit the front during the 3<sup>rd</sup> set. This hand was a stellar moment:

South deals, NS vulnerable

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
	Smart		Beale
	1♦	1♥	Pass
3♥	Db1	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led ♥7 and the defenders took two heart tricks before shifting to clubs. However, Felicity Beale was ready with a plan that would allow her to make the contract if the cards lay favourably. The main issue was that there was no entry to her hand to take the trump finesse. The only prospect of doing so was to get the opponents to help.

So, she cashed ♦AK, finding that it was her lucky day when the suit proved to be 2-2. Now she exited ♣5, forcing East to win the trick. Hoping for the best, East played a club. This saw declarer ruff in hand to take the successful trump finesse for +620 and 10 IMPs when the Indonesian NS rested in a spade partscore.

## 90th Birthday of Bridge

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## Asia Cup Teams Final

by Ron Klinger

We present the second instalment of the article which appeared in the September ABF Newsletter.

West deals, all vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	?		

What would you do as North with:

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

The finals of the Asia Cup Teams:

Open: Indonesia vs Singapore; Women: Australia vs Indonesia; Seniors: Australia vs Indonesia; Juniors: China vs Chinese Taipei; Youngsters: China vs Singapore.



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Nigel Rosendorff is one of Australia’s leading bridge players and teachers. He has been an Open Australian representative on five occasions, twice captained the Open Bridge Team and has won many state and national championships. When running Bridge holidays, Nigel’s humorous and instructive style has made him one of the most sought-after teachers in Australia. His annual classes in Noosa, Queensland and in Perth, Western Australia attract hundreds of players.

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2	At Sea			
3	Warnemunde, Germany	09:30	23:59	Docked
4	At Sea			
5	Muuga (Tallinn), Estonia	10:00	17:00	Docked
6	St. Petersburg, Russia	07:00		Docked
7	St. Petersburg, Russia		18:00	Docked
8	Helsinki, Finland	08:00	17:00	Docked
9	Stockholm, Sweden	09:00	16:00	Docked
10	At Sea			
11	Copenhagen, Denmark	10:00	18:00	Docked
12	At Sea			
13	Amsterdam, Holland	06:00		Debarck



This was Board 4 of the final.

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

You would not mind being in 3NT on the NS cards. It makes if ♣K is singleton, and will usually succeed if clubs are 2-2. As the cards lie, 3NT can also be made on any lead and any defence. If South is declarer and West leads a diamond, ducked to ♦K, and a diamond comes back, declarer takes two club finesses and then sets up a spade for one spade, two hearts, three diamonds and three clubs. If South opens 1♦ in fourth seat and North responds 1NT, South will bid 3NT. On a low diamond lead, declarer should play ♦Q and now 3NT is easy.

Over the five finals and five playoffs for third, 20 tables, 3NT was bid 16 times. It made eight times, was one off six times, two off once and four off once.

**Open Final, Indonesia NS:**

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

South won ♥Q lead and played ♣A, ♣Q (ducked) and ♣2 to East's king. East returned ♥2. How should South play?

South took the heart and exited with ♥4, hoping to endplay West if he held ♠A and ♦K. West cashed the other hearts and switched to ♦6. Declarer ducked in dummy. East won and cashed ♠A for two down.

**Open Final, Singapore NS:**

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dbl
1♠	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The first four tricks were the same as in the other room. When East returned ♥2, South ducked. West won and shifted to ♦J, two, king. East switched to a low spade. South rose with ♠K and had 10 tricks, +630, +13 IMPs.

In the playoff for third, Japan opened 1♦ in fourth seat, all pass, and made eight tricks, +90. With 5 HCP and a six-card suit, North is entitled to respond 1NT. At the other table, Australia reached 3NT by South, one off, -100, -5 IMPs.

Women's final: Indonesia 3NT S +600, Australia 3NT S -100, -12 IMPs. Play off for third: Japan 3NT S +600,

China 3NT S -100, -12 IMPs

In the Seniors' final, Richard Brightling for Australia opened 1♦ in fourth seat, passed out, +90.

At the other table:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Christie</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Buchen</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>
Dbl <sup>2</sup>	Rdbl <sup>3</sup>	1♠ <sup>4</sup>	1NT <sup>5</sup>
2♠	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

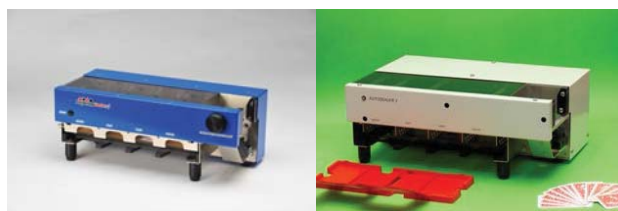
1. Strong
2. Majors or minors
3. 5-7 HCP
4. Pass or correct
5. 18-19 HCP

West led a low spade, taken by the ace. East switched to ♦K. South thought for some time before taking ♦A. Three rounds of clubs, finessing, followed, West discarding a spade and a heart. South then played ♥A, ♥K and a third heart. West cashed another heart, on which South threw a low diamond. West exited with a diamond and South had nine tricks, +600, +11 IMPs. It would not have helped West to exit with a spade. South can then make 10 tricks.

The opponents bid 1NT : 3NT. What would you lead from ♠K6, ♥J63, ♦Q83, ♣98753?

After two sessions of three in the finals of the Asia Cup Teams, Singapore led Indonesia by 85-51 (Open), Indonesia led Australia 72-65 (Women) and Indonesia led Australia 104-56 (Seniors). In the playoff for third in the Open teams, Japan led Australia by 90-50

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Peter Buchen, West, discovered a new position on this deal from the final:

Board 26, North deals, all vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	1NT <sup>2</sup>	Db1 <sup>3</sup>
2♣ <sup>4</sup>	Db1 <sup>5</sup>	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1. Artificial, 15+ HCP
2. Hearts and clubs or spades and diamonds
3. 5-7 HCP
4. Pass or correct
5. Takeout

West led ♣J: four – three (reverse attitude) – king. ♠3 went to ♠10, followed by ♥A, ♥K and ♥3, ruffed with ♠3, overruffed by ♠7. ♣10 went to the ace and ♦2: seven – nine – queen. West returned ♦4 to the king and ace and East played ♥Q: ♣5 – ♦3 – ♥J. Then came ♦6: eight – ♠8 – ♦10, leaving these cards:

♠ K 4 ♥ --- ♦ --- ♣ 6	♠ A J ♥ --- ♦ --- ♣ 8
♠ Q 6 ♥ --- ♦ J ♣ ---	<i>immaterial</i>

Buchen played ♠A and dummy was squeezed. If dummy plays low, West continues with a low spade and scores ♣8. Declarer actually unblocked ♠K and so West played ♣8. South ruffed with ♠Q and West had the last trick with ♠J for four down, EW +400.



*Buchen:* “How embarrassing. Declarer was squeezed in his own trump suit by a defender! Note that the squeeze will not operate if you swap ♣K and ♣Q. The position of the king and queen of trumps is crucial. Unless this squeeze has been analyzed elsewhere, I propose to call it the *Monarch Squeeze*.”

Board 33, South deals, nil vulnerable

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

In the Open final, both NS pairs bid 1NT : 3NT.

It was once the norm to lead your longest suit against 3NT. Then in 2011 along came ‘*Winning Notrump Leads*’ by David Bird and Taf Anthias.

In Chapter 1, ‘On average, after an auction of 1NT : 3NT ... (there is) ... a significant bias towards major-suit opening leads.’ Perhaps the Indonesian East has read this book, because he began with ♠K. That gave declarer four tricks. Otherwise he would have made only three.

Declarer played ♠A, ♠Q, ♠J and led a low heart to the queen and king. East switched to ♦2, ducked to ♦Q. West returned ♦8: nine – jack – ace. South played ♥A and a third heart. He finished with 10 tricks, +430.

At the other table Singapore’s West led the traditional long suit, ♣8 – ten – jack – four. East switched to ♦5, king. Declarer played ♠J, king, ace, and a spade to the queen. Next came a heart to the queen and king. East reverted to ♦2, ducked to ♦Q and West returned ♣5, ace. Declarer took three spades, one heart, three diamonds and one club for one down and 10 IMPs away.

In the playoff for third Open, Australia scored 10 IMPs for +430 in 3NT and defeating Japan in 3NT. Women’s final: Indonesia 3NT +400 and +10 IMPs, Australia 3NT –50. Seniors final: Australia 3NT +430 and +10 IMPs, Indonesia one off, –50, in 3NT.

Indonesia won the final of the Seniors Teams by 142-96 against Australia (Peter Buchen – Henry Christie, Richard Brightling – David Hoffman, Arjuna De Livera – Bruce Neill). China won the playoff for third by 106-94 against Japan Diamond.

In the Women’s final, Australia led 103-92 with five boards to go.

### Copy Deadline

for Issue 171, January 2015, the deadline is:

**December 26, 2014**

Late submissions will be held over until Issue 172, March 2015. Email: [editor@abf.com.au](mailto:editor@abf.com.au)





### Club Manager

Australia's largest bridge club seeks the services of a Club Manager. North Shore Bridge Club leads the way in bridge technology, and we will expect the successful applicant to continue with innovative ideas to maintain the level of bridge enjoyment for all our members.

The Club Manager will be required to oversee and manage 250+ tables per week, currently comprising 17 sessions at two venues. We have over 1300 members and we like to do everything possible to ensure that their bridge is conducted in an atmosphere of total satisfaction. To assist in achieving our goals, the Club Manager is supported by four administrative staff and eight session directors. The successful applicant will report directly to the President of the committee, and will work closely with the Treasurer on all financial matters, including budgeting and actual results.

In summary, the successful applicant must have management experience and be a good "people person" with a hands-on approach. He or she will have sound computer skills and will be likeable, personable and entrepreneurial.

If interested, please contact the club Manager, Bruce Minchinton either by email to [manager@bridgeclub.com.au](mailto:manager@bridgeclub.com.au) or by phone on 0434 192 035.

### Board 44, West deals, NS vulnerable

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

Women's final: Australia 4♥ +420, Indonesia 4♥ doubled +590. +5 IMPs. To beat 4♥ North must lead a diamond and South must duck (or spade to the ace and a low diamond from South). If West draws trumps, South must duck the next diamond. If West fails to draw trumps, South can give North a diamond ruff.

Open final: Singapore 4♥ doubled +590, +10 IMPs, vs Indonesia 3♥ +140. Playoff for third: Australia 4♥ +420, +11 IMPs, vs Japan 3NT -150. Seniors' final: Indonesia +14 IMPs for 3♥ W +170 and 4♠ S doubled, +790.

On Board 45, Indonesia Women bid a laydown slam, missed by Australia. Over the last five boards, Indonesia scored 34 IMPs to 0 to win the final by 126-103. In the playoff for third China defeated Japan by 123-86.

Singapore won the Open final, defeating Indonesia by 135-70. Japan beat Australia by 117-82 in the playoff for third.

Indonesia defeated Australia in the Seniors' final by 142-96. China beat Japan Diamond 106-94 in the playoff for third.

Juniors: 1. China, 2. Chinese Taipei, 3. China Hong Kong. Youngsters: 1. Singapore, 2. Chinese Taipei, 3. China Hong Kong. Girls: 1. China, 2. China Hong Kong. The Junior Swiss Pairs was won by Jamie Thompson – Stephen Williams (Australia). Open datums overall: 1. Andrew Peake – Ron Klinger.

## The Mental Game

*by Kim Frazer*

### Relaxation

Many players have told me that they have trouble sleeping after playing bridge, particularly when they play at night, because their mind keeps replaying the hands, dwelling on a bid they made or didn't make, or a signal from partner they missed.



This concern is not uncommon to athletes, who may struggle to sleep properly on the night before a match due to pre-match excitement. Learning how to relax the body and clear the mind in order to get a decent night's sleep, particularly in a multi-day competition, is a skill that can be learned, just like any other skill associated with playing bridge.

However, more importantly, developing the ability to relax can help you reduce anxiety in a match simply by taking a couple of deep breaths - a skill that athletes use in competition to great effect. Relaxation is also used as a preparatory step for mental rehearsal, which I will cover in my next article.

There are many different relaxation methodologies available, such as progressive relaxation, breathing techniques, meditation and so on. Everyone has their own preferred method. The technique that I liked to use when I was competing, and which is widely used at high level sport, is known as autogenic training.

A methodology for this process, which is too long to reprint here, can be found at <http://www.guidetopsycho.com/autogen.htm>; or you can email me at [kim.frazer@bigpond.com](mailto:kim.frazer@bigpond.com) and I will send you a script.

Over 3,000 clinical studies have shown Autogenics, which originated in Germany in 1932 by Dr Johannes Schultz, to be effective in many areas including:

- enhancing performance
- assisting memory and focus
- inducing a feeling of well being and confidence
- improving the quality of sleep

It takes at least two to three months to become accustomed to the autogenic training technique, but spending 15 minutes on this every night until it becomes second nature will assist you in the long run.

For those of you who want something simpler that you can start straight away, I have outlined below a simple relaxation technique to use.

The following script can be put on to a tape or learnt and then followed (proceed slowly allowing at least five to 10 minutes for the relaxation exercise).

- Settle yourself into a comfortable seated position; adjust your posture so that the chair is completely supporting your weight. Close your eyes and begin by taking three long, slow breaths, focusing on the feeling of relaxation each time as you breathe out. Notice with each breath you take that there is a moment of relief with the exhalation of each breath.
- Continue to breathe slowly, enjoying the feeling of relaxation, and as you do, try to associate that pleasant feeling with an increasing heaviness in each muscle group within your body.
- Let that feeling begin in the muscles around your forehead and face and then let it spread very slowly down through your neck and shoulders (continue the spread of relaxation, taking at least two minutes to spread it down through your whole body).
- When you have relaxed each and every muscle group within your body take two more deep breaths and then enjoy the feeling of relaxation.
- When you wish to “re-awaken” count slowly backwards from five to one, stretching your muscles as you do so. You will then feel refreshed and rested.” (Naturally you will skip this step if you are doing this at night in bed and want to fall asleep).

It takes a little time for your body to learn to respond to the relaxation procedure to the point where you can relax quickly, but with daily practise you will eventually be able to achieve a level of relaxation by simply taking a few deep breaths.

Relaxation techniques such as this can be combined immediately with mental rehearsal so that 5-10 minutes is spent on relaxation, followed by 10-20 minutes for the rehearsal. I will cover this topic in my next article.

*For more information on this topic, Google “autogenic training sport psychology” or “relaxation training” on the internet.*

## Masterpoint session awards explained

by David Anderson

The late Dr David Askew, the originator of the modern Masterpoint scheme, had a strong preference for the teams format, and it shows in the session award rates: for a similar number of tables the duplicate session awards are less than 70% of that for teams!



This bias was in part redressed for club green point sessions when the duplicate award rates were increased by 50% some 20 years ago, however, the imbalance has continued for all higher rated competitions.

Further, in a duplicate session, the winners get the lion's share, while those lower down get just a fraction. This is best illustrated by referring to the Gold Coast Congress, where a pair winning one 14-board match out of two in a session will get 1.12 gold points each, whereas a score of 50% in a session of the Open Pairs Qualifying will gain them very little at all.

With this in mind, the following alternative method of masterpointing congresses, state and national match-point duplicate events has been introduced, effective from October 1 2014:

For a session score in excess of 45%, a player will receive:

$[2 * (\text{score less } 45.00, \text{ rounded down}) * W] / 100$  (W is the Masterpoint Weighting for the Competition.)

This is much more in line with the teams masterpointing approach, since pairs will get masterpoints based on their score, rather than their placing. Furthermore, if they get 46% or more, they will be guaranteed of some reward for their efforts.

### **Some Examples:**

*Gold Coast Congress*, W = 10, a 46% score earns 0.20, 50% score 1.00, 60% 3.00

*State Pairs Championship*, W = 5, 46% is worth 0.10, 50% earns 0.50, 60% 1.50

*Congress (B4) Pairs Championship*, W = 2.5, 46% will get you 0.05, 50% 0.25, 60% 0.75

Final placing awards will remain the same, and shall continue to go to the top half of the field, rounded down.

Please note that the new system is optional, with competition convenors having the option of continuing to follow the old methods.

Finally, should you have any queries about the above, please contact your State Masterpoint Secretary, or else you can write to me at [revokel@live.com](mailto:revokel@live.com)

**ABF Masterpoint Unit**

## PREPARING FOR YOUR FIRST COMPETITION

The overwhelming majority (**71%**) of people playing bridge in ABF affiliated clubs around Australia are 'novice' players – ie have less than 100 masterpoints (*see below*).

Almost **45%** have less than **20** masterpoints!

Many of our Regional and National competitions are now catering more for this 'segment'.

Masterpoints	Number of members	% of total membership
0	2,589	7.27%
0-5	9,745	27.35%
0-10	12,563	35.26%
0-20	15,896	44.61%
0-100	25,430	71.37%

For a first-timer, you will feel that you are heading into the great unknown when you register for your first competition. That is why both the Summer Festival of Bridge (*Canberra in January*) and the Gold Coast Congress in February (*upcoming gold point events*) go to great lengths to ensure that your experience is both positive and exciting.

These major events run specific competitions for newer players. They give you a little extra time to complete your boards, provide a very 'player-friendly' director, give you free lessons and generally make sure that you are supported and encouraged.

Mary from the Beenleigh Logan Bridge Club attended her first competition in February 2014 at the Gold Coast Congress. She said "i was keen to do the Rookie under 10 masterpoints - my Club President Val Roland welcomed my partner and I to the event and other people inside the venue made us feel relaxed".

### Top woman in action

Mid-October's international bridge program features the 14th *Red Bull* World Bridge Series, held in Sanya, China. We hope to bring you some of the Australian news from the event in the next newsletter.



One of my longtime bridge heroes has

Mary's partner, Isabel, said "my partner and I were a bit apprehensive about playing in our first rookie event. It was well organised and we found everyone very friendly".

Check out the details about both the Summer Festival of Bridge and the Gold Coast Congress on the ABF website at [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au) – look under events. There you will find super-novice (for players with 0 – 20 masterpoints) and rookie (0 – 10 masterpoints) events designed to welcome you to competitive play.

The objective of both events is for you to have a fabulous time so that you gain maximum enjoyment from bridge. We want you to have fun!

You may even 'bag' some **gold** points!

If you would like to attend an event but don't have a partner simply contact the Partnership Secretary and they will match you up with someone of similar ability. Contact details can be found on the website for each event.

Don't worry if you don't know how competitions work as this will all be explained to you on the day. We **all** started out as newer players at some stage so we understand it may be a bit daunting.



We hope to see you at one of these gold point events in 2015.

Come along, attend some free lessons by experts, make new friends, socialise, travel and generally have lots of fun.

Start **2015** with some of those elusive **gold** points as you work your way up the rankings!

been American Kerri Sanborn. Kerri has won six world championships, is a McKenny Trophy winner, and was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame, a big thing in the USA. She has played with a variety of partners, including Irina Levitina, Barry Crane, Steve Sanborn and Karen McCallum.

In Sanya, Kerri was a member of *Moss*, who made it through to the round of eight before being eliminated.



Moss had the easiest win in the round of 32, winning by 100 or so (despite 'spotting' their opponents an 1100 on the very first deal – just to make it more interesting)...

This was deal two:

East deals, NS vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
Zhao		Sanborn	
		Pass	4♥
Dbl	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Where Moss - Seamon were NS, a quiet 1♥ opening saw Gothard collect +150 in 3♣. Kerri Sanborn found herself in 4♠ after her opponents went for a more aggressive choice with the South cards.

Curiously, nobody defended a 3♥ opening doubled here, but quite a few pairs were caught in 3♥ when East could pass and balance with a takeout double or even open light and re-open with a double.

How would you play 4♠ on repeated heart leads? Best must be to ruff, cross to a top club in dummy and ruff another heart. North can do no better than discard a diamond on this trick, and now you unblock your trump honours from hand, cross to a second club in dummy and draw a third round of trumps, leaving North with the master trump and club, and play a third club.

North is in, and can cash his trump if he wants, but you end up scoring two ruffs and three trumps, with five tricks in the minors.

Kerri successfully brought home her game in approximately this fashion.

### Mixed Teams final

Playing nearly flawless bridge in the fourth quarter of the final, *Salvo* came from behind for a 103 - 90 victory over *Geely Automobile* in the Red Bull Mixed Teams final.

*Salvo's* squad was captained by Anita Sinclair (England). She played with Nafiz Zorlu (Turkey). Their teammates were Roy Welland and Sabine Auken (Germany), Marion Michielsen (Netherlands) and Zia Mahmood (USA).

*Geely Automobile* is a Chinese team captained by Shen Yue Gui. The rest of the team is Jianming Dai, Hongli Wang, Liping Wang, Lixin Yang and Yu Zhang. Wang Wen Fei is the coach.

Geely took a 26-19 lead after the first set and led 48-41 at the halfway point. The lead was 6 IMPs after three sets, but Geely could not hold off *Salvo*, who won the final set 37-18.

### Mixed Pairs

In the Mixed Pairs, Kerri and Jack Zhao ran away from the field on the final day, winning in the end by about 4% - or four boards! It was Kerri's second win in the Mixed Pairs. Her first was in 1978 with Barry Crane.

### Open Pairs

**Stop Press:** Congratulations to Nye Griffiths - Liam Milne, who finished 9th in this prestigious event, won by Israeli pair Ehud Friedlander - Inon Liran. Stephen Burgess - Gabi Lorentz were 42nd.

## Australia brings home NZ Pairs trophy

The New Zealand National Congress was held in Hamilton as usual, starting September 27. A large contingent of Australian players habitually flock to the event, which features night play and a lot of bridge! One of the Australian pairs was Sydneysiders Peter Gill - Martin Bloom.

Martin brought home a good game despite *Deep Finesse's* prognostications on this one from the first New Zealand Pairs semi final round.



**Margaret Smith**  
MEMORIAL TEAMS 2014

**Sunday 23 November 2014**  
9:45am for 10:00am Start  
Expected to Finish 4:30-5pm  
Manly Leagues Bridge Club  
Cnr Federal Pde and Pittwater Rd,  
Brookvale (Free Parking)

*Margaret Smith*

"A grand master with a reputation of being a "grand" partner. Margaret was happy to play with players of any level to put back into bridge the pleasure and social interaction she enjoyed throughout thirty years of playing."

**PRIZES (\$3,000 total)**

**1st Prize: \$1,000**  
**2nd Prize: \$400**  
**3rd Prize: \$200**

**Plus six \$200 prizes** to the best remaining teams: <4000, <3000, <2000, <1000, <500 & <200 team MPs (Subject to at least 2 entries).

**Plus a Champagne Platter prize** to the best remaining team from each of Manly Leagues, Parramatta, Peninsula and North Shore bridge clubs.

**EVENT DETAILS**

- 6 x 8 board Swiss Teams
- B4 red MPs, no yellow systems
- \$120 per team
- Director - John McIlraith
- Lunch orders taken before start of play

**Conference Convenor:** David Farmer  
**mobile:** 0415 715 743 or  
**email:** austega@gmail.com  
**more info:** see [www.bridge-game.info](http://www.bridge-game.info)

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA, with ABF approval for red master points at B4 level.

Note - the event is played on the mezzanine level with stair only access.

**Entries required by Thursday 20 November 2014**

Online: <http://bit.ly/msmt2014>

OR email/phone David Farmer with names & ABF numbers

# Finesse

## Home & Contents Insurance

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Insurance Brokers

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## ATTENTION ABF MEMBERS

**Tbib now provides a competitive home insurance policy for ABF members that combines the convenience of an online portal and the security of having a broker on your side. It's called Finesse Home and Contents Insurance**

The great benefit of this scheme is that you will be able to take advantage of all of the convenience of direct insurance but with the support of a Broker if you need assistance.

For prestige homes or members who require a more tailored solution you may need to speak with a broker and have a specific policy tailored to you needs, and you can do so by phoning us on 07 3252 5254, or send us an email to [steveweil@tbib.com.au](mailto:steveweil@tbib.com.au).

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Terms and Conditions apply. Please visit  
[www.tbib.com.au](http://www.tbib.com.au) for full details.

**TBIB** Tony Bemrose  
Insurance Brokers

East deals, NS vulnerable

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

West	North Bloom	East	South Gill
		1♣	Dbl
3♥	Dbl	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

♣Q was led, ducked in dummy and overtaken by West with ♣K. Bloom won the second club and played a heart to ♥Q and ♥A. East persisted with clubs and Bloom ruffed in the closed hand. He drew the outstanding trumps and cashed ♠AK. East had to decide whether partner was more likely to hold ♠10 or ♦Q. He settled for the latter, so failed to unblock the spades. Bloom was now able to play a third spade, endplaying East and giving him the choice of leading away from ♦K or playing a club, conceding a ruff and discard.

A couple of hands from late in the Final give some indication as to how Martin Bloom and Peter Gill came through to win.

A couple of hands from late in the Final give some indication as to how Martin Bloom and Peter Gill came through to win.

First, we have Gill showing real testicular fortitude. He declared 3NT from the South seat on the following deal:

West deals, all vulnerable

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

He escaped a diamond lead, instead getting a spade. Most of us would happily cash our nine top tricks and move smugly on to the next board. Not Peter.

He cashed his clubs and spades, seeing both East and West shed a diamond. He now exited dummy with the fourth spade. East won, but switched to a heart and Peter had 10 tricks.



Then Gill showed the virtue of careful perseverance in the face of apparent adversity. He was declarer in 3♦ doubled from the West seat, after North had passed a takeout double.

South deals, nil vulnerable

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

A club was led, taken by declarer's Ace and he led ♦Q, covered with ♦K and won in dummy. Now he played a club and South slipped – he won ♣K and continued the suit, conceding a ruff and discard. This enabled declarer to shed a heart loser as he ruffed in dummy. He led ♥10 off table and South grabbed ♥A – presumably influenced by Peter's discard. South continued hearts and declarer ruffed. He ran ♠9 to South's ♠J and South persisted with hearts for declarer to score another ruff. A spade to dummy's ♠A and a spade to South's ♠K saw this three-card ending, with South on play:

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

Whichever card he exited, North was endplayed in trumps, allowing declarer to emerge with a mere -100 in the debit column – close to average. *Deep Finesse* has 3♦ at least three down for -500, which would have been a potential disaster for the eventual winners.

*Ed: Part of this article comes from the excellent Daily Bulletin presented during the Congress. Thanks to the Editor, Alan Taylor.*



## Support the Bridge for Brains Challenge



## BRIDGE FOR BRAIN RESEARCH CHALLENGE

The Bridge for Brain Research Challenge is held in the first week of May each year.

All clubs are invited to host a bridge session and donate the proceeds to Alzheimer's research at Neuroscience Research Australia.

Clubs can register for the 2015 Bridge for Brain Research Challenge by registering online, calling NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) on 1300 888 019 or emailing [foundation@neura.edu.au](mailto:foundation@neura.edu.au) to register interest.

There is no entry fee for the event - we are relying on the support and generosity of bridge clubs and players to use the event to raise funds and make a donation.

You can make a donation online directly supporting the Bridge for Brain Research Challenge.

All registered clubs receive a complete 'Play Kit' in the post by mid-April.

## ♠♥ Bowral Bridge Club Inc. ♦♣

Welcome to Bowral Bridge Club Inc.

### Bridge for Brains National Champs



Congratulations to Club Member John Zaranski and Anna Zaranski as National Champs topping 1850 EW pairs in the 2014 Bridge for Brains Championships. This outstanding result combined with Ant Ractliffe and Sherri Gates at 20th on the other side makes it a great result for our region .

The Southern Highlands are great supporters of the event (see screen grab from the Bowral Bridge Club website above). Pictured below is Marion Rice, one of the oldest participants, and a trio from the NSWBA.



## The New Dealer4+



- DEALER4+ has all the features of DEALER4 and MORE
- **NEW!** Runs stand-alone, featuring a touch screen and a USB port
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**Paul Lavings:** (02) 9388 8861 or

**Martin Willcox:** 0419 380 392

To trade up your old machine to this great new model call

**Chris Szarek:** (03) 9720 7534 or

**Martin Willcox:** 0419 380 392

## ABF Professional Development

Peninsula Bridge Club (Northern Beaches, Sydney) was honoured to host the first ABF Continuing Professional Development Day for NSW bridge teachers. Teachers from all over the state gathered to hear Joan Butts, the ABF National Teaching Coordinator, revisit methodology: *looking at modern competitive methods from the point of view of opener, responder, intervener and advancer*. The Bridge Education team really appreciated learning more about "what to teach", as well as reviewing "how we teach".

We were also delighted to be able to provide a delicious lunch for the 32 attendees, thanks to the generosity of the NSWBA and the creativity of Jo Jarvis. The Chairperson of the NSWBA was in attendance to congratulate everyone involved, and then joined us for a relaxing debrief at the end of a really productive today. Special thanks to our PBC Committee and the Bridge Education team for supporting this ABF initiative.



by Andy Hung

After losing to the Chairman's Team in the quarter-finals of the 2014 Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships, the Australian Team joined the rest of the field to play in the Transnational Swiss Teams. Alexander Smirnov, a frequent visitor to Australia, was the coach of the Australian team and was now able to join in as a player in the Transnational Teams. With a couple of partnerships mixed around, Alex and Ishmael Del'Monte decided to pair up for a few rounds. This is the brief summary of their system discussion:

Alex: "Natural, 2/1, weak twos, upside down carding?"

Ish: "Yep, sounds good!"

Alex: "Anything in particular you want to play?"

Ish: "Not really, anything's fine. What about you?"

Alex: "Well, there's this one thing...a strong 1NT overcall (15-18) doesn't go well with me as it's never been good. How about we play a 1NT overcall as the Polish NT (aka Raptor)?" (*The Raptor 1NT overcall is a convention that shows a two-suited hand with exactly four cards in the unbid major, and a longer (5+) suit in an unbid minor.*)

Ish: "... (If you don't know Ish, the "natural" 1NT bid is probably his most utilised bid over anything else.)

Ish: "OK sure".

In the second match of the Alex - Ish partnership, board 20 came along. Ish held ♠A1083, ♥Q108, ♦KJ106, ♣AJ and was in third seat, all vulnerable.

Alex passed as dealer, and Ish's RHO opened 1♥ ... Ish, under system constraints, restrained all of his might and passed. What followed came as a surprise to Ish but not to Alex. The full deal:

West deals, all vulnerable

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

After Ish passed, South bid 2♦, North bid 2♠, South bid 3♣, North bid 3NT, South 4♣, and North raised to 5♣, passed out. This contract drifted down two, and you can guess what happened at the other table.

Over Pass - 1♥, East at the other table overcalled 1NT. Liam Milne, South, doubled for penalties and that's

## Bridge Software

JACK 6	\$93.50
Jack 6 upgrade (from Version 5)	\$45.10
Bridge Baron 25 (Bridge Baron 25 expected late November)	\$77.00
Bridge Baron 25 Upgrade	\$44.00
The Terence Reese Classics	\$39.60
Counting at Bridge (Lawrence) 1 or 2 (each)	\$39.60
Defence (Lawrence)	\$39.60
My Favourite 52 (Cohen)	\$29.70
Clearance sale of all bridge books - nothing over \$10.	
Includes many classics (while stocks last, postage extra)	

John Hardy (ABN 63 813 139 759)  
63 Tristan St., Carindale QLD 4152  
Ph: 07-3398 8898 or 0417 509 662  
Email [sales@johnhardy.com.au](mailto:sales@johnhardy.com.au)  
Website [www.johnhardy.com.au](http://www.johnhardy.com.au)

**Apology:** In the September Newsletter John Hardy advertised for sale *Bridge Baron 25* and an upgrade to that version. At the time of publication those products were not available and were not due for release until mid-October. The CD version is still not available at the time of publication, although a downloadable version is available for Windows but not Mac. The ABF apologises for any inconvenience caused.

where the auction rested. Declarer was restricted to four tricks, and +800 was 14 IMPs in.

Then came Match 3 of the Alex - Ish duo. Ish picked up ♠K2, ♥AJ5, ♦10642, ♣AKJ7 in fourth chair at all vulnerable.

The auction went Pass - Pass - 1♦ to Ish. Again, Ish had to pass and now LHO jumped to 3♦, showing 6-9 points with 5+diamonds. This was passed around to Ish, who could no longer stay quiet. Knowing Alex had at most a singleton diamond, Ish balanced with 4♣!

LHO continued with 4♦, passed back to Ish, who now confidently doubled.

The full deal:

South deals, all vulnerable

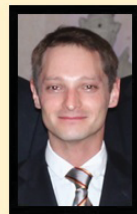
♠ J 9 8 5 4	♥ K 10 9 6 3	♦ ---	♣ 10 9 4	♠ Q 7 6 3	♥ Q 8 4 2	♦ A K J	♣ 9 3
♠ A 10	♥ 7	♦ Q 9 8 7 5 3	♣ 10 8 5 2	♠ K 2	♥ A J 5	♦ 10 6 4 2	♣ A K J 7

4♦ doubled was down three for +800. Ish's favourite bid is now the green *Pass* card.





# Join **ANDY HUNG & ALEX SMIRNOV** For our 2015 **HUNTER VALLEY BRIDGE HOLIDAY!**



**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015** (5 Days 4 Nights)



Andy Hung and Alexander Smirnov invite you to enjoy a Bridge Holiday at the Tuscany Wine Estate Resort in the Hunter Valley, two hours North of Sydney. The beautiful Hunter Valley is the perfect destination for the wine connoisseur or anyone who is seeking a peaceful, relaxing getaway in a superb rural setting boasting an old world, rustic charm.

### The Package includes:

- ♥ Return Bus Transfer (Sydney – Tuscany Resort)
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- ♥ All bridge competitions and workshops
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- ♥ Winery and cheese store tour

**Pricing:** ♦ Single: \$1380 ♦ Double or T/S: \$1220 pp

### The Bridge:

- ♣ Five professional seminars with Andy and Alex
- ♣ Topics include: Card Play Technique, Beating More Contracts on Defence, and Winning Competitive Bidding Battles!
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**Contact, or  
for Brochure:**

♠ **David Stern** (Preferred)  
Email: [david.stern.general@gmail.com](mailto:david.stern.general@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0411-111-655

♠ **Andy Hung**  
Email: [hung.andy.p@gmail.com](mailto:hung.andy.p@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0425-101-094

## Holiday events

### Trumps Festival of Bridge

26 December 2014 - 4 January 2015

Pairs, teams and Swiss Pairs events plus one-session Pairs, Gourmet Pairs and more!

See [www.trumps.net.au](http://www.trumps.net.au) or, for free brochure, phone (02) 9969 5959, or email [trumps@trumps.net.au](mailto:trumps@trumps.net.au) Trumps Bridge Centre, 66 Spit Rd, Spit Junction 2088

### Kings and Queens Summer Congress

26 December 2014 - 2 January 2015

Eight days of bridge with Swiss Pairs, Butler Pairs and teams events, plus one-session Pairs. Go to [www.ksandqsvictoria.com.au](http://www.ksandqsvictoria.com.au) for information. Enter online at [www.bridgeunlimited.com](http://www.bridgeunlimited.com), or phone (03) 9530 6622, Kings and Queens Bridge Club, 20 Spink St, Brighton, 3186

## Australian author wins IBPA award

Tim Bourke and Justin Corfield have won the Master Point Press Book of the Year Award for their book *The Art of Declarer Play* (reviewed in the September issue).



Tim is a well known columnist and author from Canberra while Justin is from the British Isles.



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### Special Offer

Book both holidays and pay in full by 15 March 2015, and receive \$100 discount on EACH holiday. (\$200 in total).

Contact Joan: [joan@joanbuttsbridge.com](mailto:joan@joanbuttsbridge.com)



**REVERSES**

*What would you rebid on these hands:*

1♣ - 1♠: ?

1. ♠ 64, ♥AQ105, ♦76, ♣AKQJ62
2. ♠Q6, ♥A1065, ♦A8, ♣AQ984
3. ♠Q, ♥KJ5, ♦KJ87, ♣AJ765
4. ♠K6, ♥AQJ6, ♦6, ♣A109854
5. ♠6, ♥AKJ105, ♦5, ♣AQJ654
6. ♠6, ♥A7653, ♦6, ♣AQJ653



1. **2♥**. In the 1950s and 60s there was only one bridge authority, Charles Goren. Experts of the day could quote verbatim from his grand opus, "*Goren's Bridge Complete*". How well I remember his description of a reverse in bold type, "**A reverse is a bid which forces preference at the three level**".

So a sequence such as 1♣ - 1♠: 2♥ shows 16+ points or the equivalent, because with a bare minimum responder has to retreat to 3♣ simply to sign off in the partnership's better fit.

2. **Open 1NT**. If you open 1♣ you have to bid 2♥ now, but you are better to open 1NT with good strength in your doubletons. Also it is preferable to have your hand as declarer, with the lead coming around to your short honours.

3. **1NT**. You are better to downgrade than upgrade with your singleton in responder's suit, scattered lower honours and poor suits.

4. **2♥**. Rather than rebid 2♣ you should upgrade your hand and reverse to 2♥. All your honours are working well and in notrumps your club suit has extra muscle with the 10-9-8. If you rebid 2♣ you might miss a 4-4 heart fit when responder has five spades and four hearts with 8 or 9 HCP and passes 2♣.

5. **2♥**. Only 15 HCP but super shape and strong suits. You intend to bid 4♥ on your next turn. Beware of bidding 4♥ over 1♠ as that would be a splinter agreeing spades.

6. **2♣**. Some experts prefer to open 1♥ but surely if you wish to reach your best fit you should open your longer suit first. So what do you rebid over 1♣ - 1♠? Bid 2♣, and trust that events will lead you to your heart fit if you have one. Here is one of the many possible ways to reach your 5-3 fit through the back door:

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

1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

**Responding to Reverses**

There are many systems of responding to a reverse, and over time I have played Blackout, Lebensohl, Transfers and a few others.

These days I prefer something simple and natural:

- 1♣ - 1♠
- 2♥ - 2♠ The automatic and economical bid with 5+ spades. Forcing for one round
- 2NT Natural and non-forcing, opener may have just 16 HCP and responder may just have 6 or 7 HCP
- 3♣ Simple preference, natural, non-forcing
- 3♦ Fourth suit game forcing, may have good club support or four-card heart support or all sorts of good hands
- 3♥ Natural non-forcing, maybe 6 or 7 HCP
- 3♠ At least six good spades, game forcing
- 3NT An assurance of good stoppers in the unbid suit and lack of fit for opener's suits

Australia's top player, Ishmael Del'Monte, plays that the cheapest bid over the reverse is non-forcing and everything else is game forcing. So if it goes 1♦ - 1♠, 2♥ then 2♠ shows a minimum hand and may only have a four-card suit, and is the only rebid that is not forcing to game.

**When on lead**

When opponents have a reverse sequence and finish in 3NT, their weakness is often responder's first suit. Study this sequence:

1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Frequently opener will have a singleton spade while responder could just as easily have four small spades. Responder's suit is frequently their Achilles Heel. You might even anticipate a singleton honour in dummy and lead low from QJ10xx.

The spade suit in the above sequence could well be:

♠ A 6 4	
♠ K	♠ 9 8 7 5
	♠ Q J 10 3 2

If you lead ♠Q declarer has a stopper, and a spade trick. ♠3 lead is the winner.

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- Send personalised marketing emails that are fully compliant with the *Spam Act 2003*
- Target your emails based on ABF rank, membership status, birthday, attendance, gender - or pretty much anything else you can think of
- Run management reports such as: which members have a birthday this month, or who most supported the club last month or who - heaven forbid - who should have played last month and has not appeared
- Offer an unparalleled partnership finder system that allows members to choose exactly who is able to see their advert
- Publish results online and automatically send a personalised results email to everyone that played
- Provide in-depth analysis to players on their performance in each role (declarer, defender - even dummy!) and by partner
- Create and maintain your club's entire website with our brand new website-builder

This is a brief summary of the virtues of *Pianola*. To learn more contact us on 0437 274 343 or visit [www.pianola.net](http://www.pianola.net) for a demonstration.

So, why not try *Pianola free for three months* and decide for yourself if it's useful for your club. What's more - start your trial before the end of 2014 and we'll knock 10% off your first year's subscription.





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## GROUP SECURITY

Our group offers comfort, friendship and security. So you can relax and enjoy it.

### Opportunities for teachers

by *Joan Butts*

*The ABF is offering great opportunities for teachers!*

#### *Phase 1: Teacher Training Programmes (TTPs)*

We all know that good teaching produces more (*happy*) members, so, since 2011, I've been running, on behalf of the ABF, *TTPs*, to help prepare new teachers for their first class, and to improve the effectiveness of experienced teachers.

*TTPs* concentrate on **How to teach**, and focus on both beginners and later lessons. The material, if followed, will give teachers the tools to deliver top-quality bridge lessons. Guaranteed!

Approximately 400 people have now completed a nine-hour *TTP*, which is free, not only for current teachers, but people wanting to learn how to teach, and/or interested in bridge education. These are funded by the ABF, with assistance from the states.

The results are now evident, with a number of clubs reporting big increases in membership, one recording 100% growth, and another 65%, all in the space of six months. And some are small country clubs. So, you *can* do it.



#### *Phase 2: Professional Development for Teachers*

To support teachers as they try out these new ideas and methods, and to assist them on the road to full Accreditation, the ABF are now offering **Continuing Professional Development Days (CPDs)**

These six-hour days (usually Sundays) concentrate on multi level lessons (for improving players), and allow teachers to upgrade their own bridge skills in order to better present the material as lessons in their own classrooms.

So...they concentrate on **Content - what to teach**.

I've done two of these so far, one in Sydney (see the report and pics on page 15), one in Melbourne (see pic next page), and one is coming up in November in Brisbane.

The material is called **Modern Methods**, and shows teachers the way bidding is developing, and how to be more competitive at the bridge table.

Teachers have said it is just what they need.

The idea is to do a *TTP* first, and then follow it up with the *CPD* (which will offer 10 points towards Accreditation)

#### *Phase 3: Website Support for Teachers*

For teachers unable to attend *CPD* days in person, there will soon be a video/podcast to cover the four aspects of the material used for *CPD* days.

The four aspects of *Modern Bidding Methods* are covered: *Opener, Responder, Intervener, and Advancer*. It's a fact that people learn more efficiently from pictures than from text and verbal presentations.

Other videos available for teachers on my site are:

- 4 *beginners* videos
- 6 *Card Play* videos, covering fundamental play techniques
- 6 *Competitive Bidding* videos, covering *Over-calls, Doubles, and Responding*

The ABF will very soon have a *forum area* for teachers and players to ask questions about hands, to establish discussions, and to put forward their points of view.



### **Last CPD for 2014:**

**Brisbane** (Toowong Bridge Club) Sunday, November 23. Contact: Sandra Mulcahy

For 2015, the following are in the planning stages

### **Teacher Training Programmes TTPs (Phase 1)**

- **Bowral** (NSW) February 7 - 8: Contact Rob Ward: [rob@robward.com.au](mailto:rob@robward.com.au)
- **Adelaide** (SA) March 7 - 8: Contact Margaret Walters: [margaret.walters@bigpond.com](mailto:margaret.walters@bigpond.com)
- **Melbourne** (Vic) March (TBA)
- **Perth** (WA) July (TBA): Contact Noel Daniel: [noel25@iinet.net.au](mailto:noel25@iinet.net.au)
- **Brisbane** (Qld) October: Contact Kim Ellaway (TBA): [manager@qldbridge.com](mailto:manager@qldbridge.com)

### **Continuing Professional Development Days (CPDs) (Phase 2)**

- **Kiama** (NSW) Feb 15: Contact Ann Blue: [ann-blue50@hotmail.com](mailto:ann-blue50@hotmail.com)
- **Melbourne** (Vic) March: (TBA)
- **Canberra** (ACT): (TBA)

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**Norfolk Island Holiday**  
Monday to Monday,  
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**Kangaroo Island**  
Tuesday to Tuesday  
May 5 - 12, 2015

**Monday December 1 to Friday December 12**

Silversea Cruise from Singapore to Hong Kong, visiting Ko Samui and Bangkok (Thailand) and Ho Chi Minh, Nha Trang and Chan May (Vietnam). Includes six classes with Ron, four supervised play sessions and three duplicates. Still some suites available.



**Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort**  
(off Brisbane)

Sunday to Sunday, July 5 - 12, 2015

**Wednesday, August 5 – Saturday August 22, 2015**

An intimate luxury cruise on Silversea's *SilverWind*, from Monte Carlo, Monaco, to Civitavecchia, Rome. Ports include Saint Tropez and Marseilles, France, Alcudia, Valencia, Barcelona, Palma De Mallorca and Ibiza Spain, then Sardinia and Portofino and Florence, Italy, finishing at Civitavecchia (Rome).



Brochures available for any of these on request from [suzie@ronklingerbridge.com](mailto:suzie@ronklingerbridge.com) or (02) 9958 5589

- **Perth** (WA) July: (TBA) Contact Noel Daniel [noel25@iinet.net.au](mailto:noel25@iinet.net.au)
- **Brisbane** (Qld): (TBA) Contact Kim Ellaway [manager@qldbridge.com](mailto:manager@qldbridge.com)

NB: If your club or region (*especially* country areas) would like to be considered for either a TTP or CPD day, please contact me (asap) by emailing [joan@joan-buttsbridge.com](mailto:joan@joan-buttsbridge.com)

There is no requirement for experienced teachers who are happy with their presentations to complete either of these phases, but the road to good teaching should always be one of self-improvement. When experienced players and teachers attend one of the sessions, it is always a bonus.

**Joan Butts (ABF National Teaching Coordinator)**



**An Invitation to the....**

**45th** CANBERRA  
*Summer Festival*  
OF BRIDGE



The Australian Bridge Federation extends a warm invitation to **all** players to attend our premier event for 2015, the Summer Festival of Bridge (SFOB). Each year the SFOB offers the ultimate bridge experience. From world-class players and events to guest lecturers and hospitality, the SFOB offers bridge at its finest for **all levels** of players.

For new players and players new to duplicate, the SFOB offers the an outstanding **Super-Novice Program**, designed especially for players with **0 – 20** masterpoints. Free lessons from the ABF National Teaching Coordinator (Joan Butts), a welcoming cocktail party and a specialised Director for your event. We offer you a wonderful opportunity to test out competitive bridge!

### **What's New in 2015?**

- ✓ A new Swiss Pairs event – the Penline 1 Day Swiss Pairs. Prize money applies to this event.
- ✓ The Chris Diment Pairs will become a Swiss Matchpoint Pairs event.
- ✓ The National restricted Swiss Pairs is now known as the Penline 500 Swiss Pairs (still restricted to 500 masterpoints).
- ✓ A refurbished Rydges Hotel – now re-badged as QT, Canberra. *Lucky's Speakeasy Bar* will be the place to share your war stories!
- ✓ Our 2015 charity is Neuroscience Research Australia. Collections tins will be on-site and gold coin donations will apply for all of the education program activities.
- ✓ The 2015 SFOB App has an additional feature on this year's app – you will be able to register for events thus removing the need to visit our Information Desk. It is now available on I-Phone, I-Pad and Android devices. Download now from the App stores. Search for 'Summer Festival of Bridge' and say yes to location services and push notifications to take full advantage of the App.
- ✓ The guys from our National sponsor, Tony Bemrose Insurance Brokers, will be on site to answer all your insurance questions (personal, business, professional and Club) from 17 – 19 January.
- ✓ Novice Cocktail Party – Tuesday Night (13 January). This occasion is for people with **0 – 100** masterpoints.
- ✓ Two workshops for improving players by Joan Butts, the ABF National Teaching Coordinator.
- ✓ Four celebrity speaker events (Ron Klinger, Sartaj Hans, Matt Mullamphy and David Beauchamp).
- ✓ Birthday celebrations for Contract Bridge (90<sup>th</sup>)



### **We will again be providing:**

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Check out all the details at our website : [www.summerfestivalofbridge.com](http://www.summerfestivalofbridge.com)



*Celebrating 90 years of Contract Bridge*

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