AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007 DAILY BULLETIN

Editors: Noelene Law & Linda Bedford-Brown

No. I

Saturday 7th July 2007

68TH ANC PERTH

Welcome to the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, venue for the 68th Australian National Bridge Championships.

On behalf of Nigel Dutton, President of BAWA and Keith McDonald, President of the ABF and the ANC

Committee, I would like to welcome you into our bridge family for the next 15 days.

The ANC Committee has been working tirelessly for the last two years to make sure your bridge needs are catered for during the event. Without their hard work and commitment it would not be possible to run an event of this magnitude. If you see one of the team, please take time to thank them for the effort they have put in on your behalf.

The 2007 Perth ANC brings many firsts for Australian bridge players:

- The Seniors is a 3 stage Butler
- The Welcome Teams, giving all players an opportunity to rub shoulders with the cream of Australia's bridge players
- Australia Post has created a special postmarker which will be used to stamp mail at the Fremantle Post Office during the two weeks of the event. (see next column)

Every day there will be three congress events for players who are not participating in the Championships. I encourage you to enter these events and follow the progress of the players in the Butler in the first week and the State Teams in the second week. If you have never kibitzed before come and pull up a chair next to some of our country's finest players as they battle it out in the Butler.

I would like to wish all competitors challenging deals and an enjoyable time both at the bridge table and socially. See how many new best friends you can make!

(See Convenor's Tips page 4)



SATURDAY 7 JULY Championship Events: Butler Stage 1: Open, Women's, Seniors' 10.15 am: 2.15 pm: 7.30 pm

Congress Events:

- 10.00 am Bedford-Brown Bed & Breakfast Pairs
- 2.00 pm Bunbury Bridge Club Pairs
- 7.30 pm Lindy Rosenwax Pairs



The First Bridge Postmark

The 68th ANC has been privileged to have a unique recognition of the event by Australia Post creating a special commemorative postmarker which will be used at Fremantle Post Office for the duration of the Championships.

This is the first time bridge has had any special recognition by Australia Post and we are lucky to have this means to commemorate the game.

Souvenir postcards and ANC envelopes are available at the Hospitality Desk which can be (self) addressed and left with the desk staff who will courier it to Fremantle Post Office for the special cancellation. This is an opportunity to send a friend (or enemy) a card saying "wish you were here".

This postmarker will be also available through Australia Post's special philatelic outlets and one hopes that those very numerous collectors of postmarks (as well as stamps) will become aware of bridge and its popularity in Australia.

We hope this first ever recognition of Bridge by Australia Post will be supported by players - after all it will be an inexpensive reminder of what will be an enjoyable fortnight of bridge.



Allison Stralow

Email articles to: outlaw2@iinet.net.au

INFORMATION FOR ALL PLAYERS

HOSPITALITY DESK

The Hospitality Desk can provide information on Congress discount tickets, cocktail party & Victory Dinner tickets, restaurants & menus, parking, transport, shopping and in fact anything you want to know.

We thank the volunteers from metropolitan clubs who are manning this desk.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Bulletins will be published daily from Saturday 7 July and articles for the Bulletin may be placed in the box at the Hospitality Desk. There is a laptop in the office for those wishing to write an article and to make it easy; a hand write up sheet is available at the Hospitality Desk.

A \$100 CASH PRIZE will be awarded for the best Bulletin article written by a player attending the 2007 ANC.

CONGRESS TICKET BOOKS

Books of 10 tickets are available for \$100 – a saving of \$50. These may be used for all Congress events **EXCEPT** ANC Swiss Pairs and ANC Restricted Butler.

ENTRY FEES

Entry fees for all Congress & walk-in events are \$15 per session and will be collected at the table. ANC Swiss Pairs \$140 per pair ANC Restricted Butler \$100 per pair

WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY

Sunday 15 July at 7.00 pm - \$25. Tickets are available from the Hospitality Desk.

VICTORY DINNER

The Victory Dinner including trophy and medal presentation will be on Saturday 21 July at 7.00 pm. Tickets are available from the Hospitality Desk. The cost of \$85 per person includes dinner, drinks, music, spot prizes. Bookings close 18th July. Tables will be set for 10 and you may select your table from the list at the Hospitality Desk.

CONGRESS PRIZES

Prizes will be available approximately half an hour after the conclusion of an event.



31 Hampden Road, Nedlands Ph: 08 93866866 To all ANC participants, Lindy is offering a 10% discount on all full priced merchandise for the duration of the Tournament.

MOBILE PHONES, PAGERS ETC

Active mobile phones, pagers or other electronic equipment are prohibited in the playing area during session time.

SMOKING

Smoking is only permitted round the corner to the left and right of the main entrance.

BRIDGE IN THE VALLEY

Please note that due to lack of numbers this event has been cancelled.

FREMANTLE MAPS

Maps are available from the Hospitality Desk.

CAT BUS

A free bus service around Fremantle City is available and runs frequently – see the Hospitality Desk for further information.

HICCUPS

If you are experiencing any problems other than at the bridge table please contact Allison Stralow, the Convenor, on 0403 153 823 or visit the Hospitality Desk.

REGULATIONS

Please ensure that you have read the Regulations for the ANC, Butler and Congress Events.

SYSTEM CARDS

REMINDER: For every event players must have two identical system cards.

PARKING

See list page 4



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BUNBURY BRIDGE CLUB

for that friendly game down South

PHILATELIC BRIDGE

That's stamp collecting to most of you.

Essentially many major events are frequently attended by a special stamp issue by the country that hosts the event. For really big events like the Olympic Games many countries will jump on the band wagon and issue stamps to commemorate the Games and reap a good profit from enthusiastic stamp collectors.

Bridge seems to be the exception to this for, in spite of it being virtually the most frequently played game very few stamps have been issued to celebrate the game wherever a major international tournament has been held.

Probably the truly international competition circuit began in 1950 with the first Bermuda Bowl so named for being held in Bermuda. The Venice Cup was added in 1974, yes, in Venice. These events have then occurred regularly every few years interspersed with the Bridge Olympiad which was introduced in 1960. These have been held in Italy (7 times), the USA (9 times) and then in France, Argentina, Brazil, Japan, China etc. not forgetting Perth in 1989.

Of a total of 46 major international tournaments, only three countries have seen fit to commemorate the event with stamps. Bermuda in 1975, when it held the Bermuda Bowl for the second time, issued a set of four stamps (fig.1); Monaco issued one stamp in 1976 for the Bridge Olympiad and then the Netherlands in 1980 issued one stamp (fig.2). Hardly a big collection to assemble!







There are further examples of bridge on stamps. The Netherlands Antilles – Curacao and sundry other small islands in the Caribbean – issued three stamps in 1977 for the 6th Central American and Caribbean Bridge Championships. The following year, Barbados issued four stamps – to go one better – for the 7th regional championships.

Lebanon in 1962 and again in 1965 issued sets of stamps for European Championships and again in 1965 for the World Championships being held there (though the Bermuda Bowl was held in Argentina that year – famous for the Reece/Shapiro cheating allegation). Finally, Mali of all places issued a stamp in 1978 for no special event, showing a bridge hand.

An aspect of Philately is called Postal Stationary where a card or envelope has a stamp imprinted on it before sale by the Post Office. Italy issued a postcard in 1983 when the Bermuda Bowl was played in Stockholm – with a 350 lira imprint and the logo of the Federazione Italiana Bridge.

It should also be noted that stamps to the value of 10 cents were issued in the USA to be stuck on a pack of playing cards as a tax. The East Germany issued 4 stamps in 1967 showing German Court Cards but commemorating no particular event.

Other than that there is a 1978 postmark used in Germany (who incidentally have never hosted an international event) showing the symbols of the four suits. This was commemorating the 50th anniversary of the German Playing Card Museum in Leinfelden. Many country federations have their own printed envelopes and the Bridge shop in Spit Junction has its own Postage Paid cancel thus eliminating the need for a stamp to be affixed on the envelope.

Now if we turn to postcards and cigarette cards – remember such things when they were included in every packet of cigarettes – we make available to the collector many more items pertaining to playing cards and games. Churchman's cigarettes issued a set of 50 cards in 1933 showing different bridge hands with a full explanation of the bidding and play on the backs. The bidding is very pre Culbertson and quite amusing.

Postcards using card games as a theme are very extensive varying from the comic to the serious study and portrayal of antique playing cards.

Perth issued a commemorative postcard for the 1989 Bermuda Bowl and there is a wide range of other postcards from early 1900's showing cards and card playing.

Derek Pocock

PHILATELY DISPLAY

Be sure to view the display of stamps, postcards and cigarette cards by the Hospitality Desk.

ABOUT OUR PHILATELIST

Derek Pocock is a retired forensic pathologist who has been collecting stamps since he was about 12 years old and has become what could be considered a leading figure in the stamp world. He has been President of the Australian Philatelic Federation, been a founder of several specialized societies and has won numerous medals at exhibitions for his displays of North Borneo, Nepal, Nicaragua and Western Australia. He has written many articles in stamp magazines which are orientated to these and other areas of philately. He is also a judge for international and national stamp exhibitions. In the last 20 years he has also collected picture postcards on many subjects and is writing a book on the early postcards of Western Australian. He does play a bit of bridge too!

Editor's note: He's no dummy either!

Convenor's tips to get you through:

- Be good to partner; try to keep them on your side
- Be generous with praise, stingy with anger
- Be extra careful during the match right after dinner
- If something goes wrong, call the director! Don't try to make your own ruling.
- Important Safety Tip: don't cross the committee members



WA OPEN TEAM 2007



Back L to R: John Kemp, John Nicholas, David Schokman Front: Phil Tearne (npc) Jonathan Free, Thelma Free, T P Ranasinghe.

ANC CADDIES 2007



L to R: Gabby, Cesca, Naomi, Andrew, Danni, Kirstyn

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT BRIDGE

THE MARGARET RIVER HEMP CO 85 Market Street, Fremantle Obtain your discount voucher from the

Hospitality Desk



Parking Information Car Park II Cnr Marine Tce & Norfolk St \$1.20 per hour or \$6 per day 197 bays \$1.20 per hour Car Park 20 **Opposite Esplanade Hotel** 27 Cnr Marine Tce & Mews Rd Car Park 21 0.70c per hour 65 Crossing 10 Norfolk Street \$1.40 per hour Car Park 56 24 \$10 per day Collect voucher from Hospitality Desk Collie St Car Park **17** Collie Street A lot