

The Summer Festival of Bridge

Daily Bulletin 10

Rydges Lakeside, Canberra

Friday January 27th 2012



Winners of the South West Pacific Teams

*George Bilski, Barry Noble, Ishmael del Monte, Joe Grue, Ashley Bach
and Justin Lall*



Tim Bourke's Problem**10. ANTICIPATION**

Dealer East. E-W Vul.

NORTH

♠ 7 6 5
♥ K 4 3
♦ A K Q J 4
♣ Q J

SOUTH

♠ A K J 9 8
♥ 6
♦ 9 7 6
♣ A 7 5 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♠	2♥*	2♠
		All pass	

* Weak, 7-10 points with exactly six hearts and it denies four spades.

West leads the ten of hearts against your spade game. When this holds, West plays a second heart and you ruff with the eight. How will you continue?

S.W.P.Teams

It was always going to be a cut-throat last day. With only eight teams qualifying for the NOT rather than 16 or even 20 as in recent years, the pressure was going to be on with a vengeance. At the start of the day there were 49 teams within a match of eighth position. Newman led by five from Travis with Blom a further eight back in third. Outside the top eight were highly seeded teams like Klinger, Dyke and Fordham. Livesey was a long way ahead of its seeding and was in the eight. Others in the top twenty and well ahead of their rankings were Zhang and Moskovsky.

After round 10, Newman and Travis still led

though both suffered losses. Noble came up to third after a maximum. Out of the eight went Livesey and Hinge while in came Klinger. There were now 47 teams within a match of qualifying.

After round eleven, the 47 was down to 42. Newman and Travis both lost and Noble took 24 to step into the lead. Klinger was having a big day and had moved up to third. The number two seeds, Hinge, had recovered from earlier setbacks to be on the cusp at ninth.

And so to the final round. Noble won to extend its lead to 10 VPs while Klinger slipped past Newman to claim second. There was some shuffling of position but the big gainer was Dyke who crept into the eight at the expense of Ozenir by the narrowest of margins. Congratulations to the Nixon team who qualified fourth – well ahead of their seeding and well ahead of some teams with more famous names. Biggest embarrassment for the seeding committee was the second seeded Hinge combination who ran down the track, failing to run on in the final straight.

Points, Shmoints, Shape Rules

This is international player Sartaj Hans's personal mantra. He gave me three examples from this week of what he means by this..



Sartaj

In the third round of the SWPT, this one came up:

19 EW Vul
Dir S

♠ 86	♠ A3
♥ AK85	♥ 972
♦ A9743	♦ K8
♣ 96	♣ AQT543

♠ QJT9	♠ A3
♥ Q	♥ 972
♦ QJT52	♦ K8
♣ J87	♣ AQT543

♠ K7542	♠ 75
♥ JT643	♥ AK6
♦ 6	♦ T97432
♣ K2	♣ T6

♠	1	4	3	1
♥	1	4	3	1
♦	3	-	-	-
♣	3	-	-	-

Sartaj's international partner, Tony Nunn held the North cards and opened 1♦. The next player called 2♣ and Sartaj doubled. Tony rebid 2♥ and Sartaj invited with a raise to three. Despite his minimum opening bid (in terms of points) Tony obeyed Sartaj's dictum and bid four hearts, making on schmoints total of 18.

Then in round 6 was

18 NS Vul
Dir E

♠ KJ	♠ 87
♥ Q753	♥ AT8
♦ 6	♦ K8753
♣ AT7643	♣ J82

♠ Q65432	♠ 87
♥ 9	♥ AT8
♦ QT942	♦ K8753
♣ 5	♣ J82

♠ AT9	♠ 75
♥ KJ642	♥ AK6
♦ AJ	♦ T97432
♣ KQ9	♣ T6

♠	5	6	4	4
♥	5	6	4	4
♦	3	-	1	-
♣	3	-	1	-

Tony passed as East and South opened 1♥. Sartaj interposed 3♠! (No doubt it wasn't just the shape but his excellent spade spots that inspired him.)

This jammed up the auction sufficiently that North bid 4♥ and South passed. A cold slam deflected with only 4 schmoints.

Then, in round 9, there was

13 All Vul
Dir N

♠ J9863	♠ 75
♥ T542	♥ AK6
♦ K65	♦ T97432
♣ Q	♣ T6

♠ KQ	♠ 75
♥ QJ97	♥ AK6
♦ Q8	♦ T97432
♣ J9753	♣ T6

♠ AT42	♠ 75
♥ 83	♥ AK6
♦ AJ	♦ T97432
♣ AK842	♣ T6

♠	2	1	4	2
♥	2	1	4	2
♦	-	2	-	-
♣	-	2	-	-

South opened 1♣ and North responded 1♠. South invited with 3♠. Sartaj notes that North was not present at the talk on "Points, Schmoints" which Sartaj gave earlier in the week and he passed. Had he been at the talk then a 4♠ call would have saved his team 10imps instead of assessing his six schmoints and passing.

Tim Bourke's Problem - Solution

The best move is to cash the ace and king of trumps at tricks two and three. If both defenders follow then you will just give up a trump and make ten tricks if West has the king of clubs and eleven if he doesn't. Problems only arise when West has four trumps (as East cannot have four). Suppose the full deal is:

Material for the Festival Bulletin can be left at the Festival Desk or emailed to me at

alan@tayl0rs.co.nz

The 0 is a zero not a letter

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

When you cash the ace-king of trumps, East discards a heart on the second round. You aim is to make the contract when West started with the king of clubs. You should cross to the ace of diamonds and ruff dummy's last heart, removing West's remaining card in the suit. Next, you run the diamond suit. If West refuses to ruff any of the diamonds, you will discard two clubs from your hand and throw West in with a trump. After scoring two trump tricks, he will have to lead away from the king of clubs. The effect is the same if West ruffs one of your diamond winners. He can cash his other trump winner but will then have to lead away from the king of clubs.

The defence at trick two was rather soft. East should have won the first trick with the jack of hearts and shifted to a club. Then West scores a trick with his king of clubs and then the contract can only be made only with the double-dummy line that relies on your reading West's original distribution. You would have to reduce him to Q-10-4 of trumps and force him to ruff a diamond winner. He would then have to lead into the King-Jack of trumps. Another promising defence would be for West to shift to a diamond at trick two. The simplest line then would be to win the shift in dummy, ruff a heart and play as on the deal above.

SWP Teams

Match 10 saw Tony Nunn (West) and Sartaj

Hans of the third placed Bloom team take on David Beauchamp and Nathan van Jole (South) of the leading Newman team.

Sartaj lived up to his own teachings on board 2.

2	♠ J6	NS Vul Dir E
	♥ AQ97 ♦ 952 ♣ KT84	
♠ AT9	♠ Q854	
♥ KT3	♥ 4	
♦ A873	♦ KJT64	
♣ 953	♣ QJ7	
	♠ K732	
	♥ J8652	
	♦ Q	
	♣ A62	

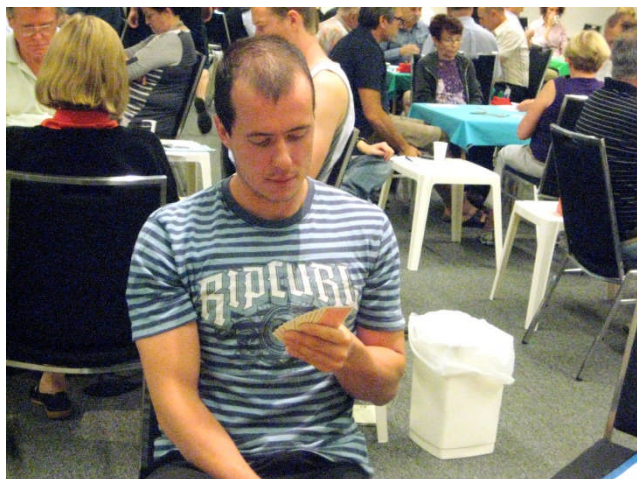
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	3	-	4	-	-
S	3	-	4	-	-
E	-	3	-	1	-
W	-	3	-	1	1

First in hand, he opened the East hand 1♦! Nathan overcalled 1♥ and Tony showed a diamond raise by bidding 2♥. David responded in kind with a 3♦ bid and Nathan signed off in 3♥.

Tony led the Ace of diamonds and continued the suit for Nathan to ruff. He played a small club to the King and then a spade to his King and Tony's Ace. By this stage, Nathan had seen Tony produce eight of the defence's 20 high card points. That suggested that Sartaj would need all the others, including the ♥ K, for his opening bid.

Accordingly, he needed Sartaj to have the King singleton and, therefore, he laid down the Ace. He was right about the singleton but wrong about what Sartaj needs to open the bidding

Two down.



Nathan tries to count Sartaj's schmoits.

Then on 8, Nathan found himself in a difficult slam.

8	♠ KQ ♥ A532 ♦ T62 ♣ QJ75	Nil Vul Dir W																								
♠ 652 ♥ 6 ♦ QJ94 ♣ T9643	♠ 97 ♥ QJT9874 ♦ 73 ♣ K2																									
♠ AJT843 ♥ K ♦ AK85 ♣ A8	<table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>8</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>8</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	♣	4	5	2	8	7	♥	5	5	2	8	7	♦	-	-	-	-	-	♠	-	-	-	-	-	
♣	4	5	2	8	7																					
♥	5	5	2	8	7																					
♦	-	-	-	-	-																					
♠	-	-	-	-	-																					

After a pass from Tony, David opened 1♣. Sartaj stepped in with 3♥ and Nathan called 3♥. David offered 3NT but Nathan continued with 4♦. David called 4♠ and Nathan reached for Keycard. Two with the Queen was enough to send him to slam.

Tony led his singleton heart which Nathan took in hand. He cashed the ♣ A and played a small club to the queen and Sartaj's King. Sartaj played back a heart and Nathan ruffed high. He drew two rounds of trumps before cashing the ♣ J to discard a diamond. As he couldn't cash the ♥ A without Tony ruffing, he had nowhere to put his other diamond loser and so was one off.



Tony Nunn

Having run the hand through DeepFinesse a few times, it seems that most of the successful lines of play involve playing West for the QJ of diamonds and leading towards dummy's 10 late in the hand.

Two boards later, Nathan fell foul of a lousy trump break – it really wasn't his day.

10	♠ Q974 ♥ K32 ♦ T76 ♣ A54	All Vul Dir E																								
♠ KT8 ♥ AJ95 ♦ 98432 ♣ 8	♠ AJ63 ♥ T7 ♦ ♣ KQ97632																									
♠ 52 ♥ Q864 ♦ AKQJ5 ♣ JT	<table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	♣	-	1	-	-	-	♥	-	1	-	-	-	♦	5	-	-	3	-	♠	5	-	-	3	-	
♣	-	1	-	-	-																					
♥	-	1	-	-	-																					
♦	5	-	-	3	-																					
♠	5	-	-	3	-																					

The auction:

West Tony	North David	East Sartaj	South Nathan
		1♣	1♦
1♥	X	2♣	2♦
P	P	3♣	P
P	3♦		

Tony led his singleton club, taken on table. A small spade came next and Sartaj took his Ace to play a second club and then a third. This had the effect of generating a trump trick for Tony. If Nathan ruffed low, then Tony would over-ruff, while if he ruffed high, he could no longer pick up Tony's 98xxx of trumps. Together with the club trick already taken and three major suit tricks, that was one off.

On the next David and Nathan did well not to pursue their 5-3 heart fit.

11	♠ K98	Nil Vul Dir S
	♥ QJ965	
	♦ 753	
	♣ 86	
♠ Q	♠ J7643	
♥ KT74	♥ 3	
♦ QJT42	♦ 86	
♣ QJ9	♣ KT732	
	♠ AT52	
	♥ A82	
	♦ AK9	
	♣ A54	

♠	1	4	2	4	NT
N	-	1	4	2	4
S	-	2	4	2	4
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Nathan opened 1♣ and Tony overcalled 1♦. ♦ David bid his hearts and Sartaj his spades (points, schmoints). Nathan jumped to 2NT and David raised to game. Tony led a high diamond which Nathan took to play a heart towards dummy. This neutralized Tony's ♥10 so Nathan could take four tricks in the suit. As the pressure for discards told, Nathan was also able to establish four spade tricks and end up with eleven tricks in all. In the other room, North-South were lured by the heart fit but the contract drifted one off



David Beauchamp

Then on 13, David and Nathan had a bidding misunderstanding.

13	♠ Q2	All Vul Dir N
	♥ Q5	
	♦ Q7532	
	♣ J642	
♠ K874	♠ JT53	
♥ K7	♥ T8432	
♦ KJ	♦ 64	
♣ AKQ97	♣ T3	
	♠ A96	
	♥ AJ96	
	♦ AT98	
	♣ 85	

♠	3	-	-	1	NT
N	-	3	-	-	1
S	-	3	-	-	1
E	1	-	1	2	-
W	1	-	1	2	-

They propelled themselves into 3NT. Tony thought he had quite a good defensive hand and so it proved. Tony cashed his club tops and played a fourth round. On table, Nathan ran the ♦ Q to Tony's King and the last club was cashed. Nathan was able to throw Tony in and avoid the heart finesse so escaped for two off.

A few boards rest before a 27 point slam was attempted – without success.

17 Nil Vul Dlr N

♠ Q8532
♥ J9
♦ Q85
♣ AK7

♠ KJ94
♥ AQ742
♦ K3
♣ 52

♠ T7
♥ T853
♦ T4
♣ 98643

♠ A6
♥ K6
♦ AJ9762
♣ QJT

♠	4	1	-
♥	1	4	2
♦	-	2	-
♣	-	2	-

19 EW Vul Dlr S

♠ 652
♥ 93
♦ KQJT976
♣ 3

♠ KQ74
♥ QJ8
♦ 853
♣ QT8

♠ A
♥ A7542
♦ 42
♣ AJ952

♠ JT983
♥ KT6
♦ A
♣ K764

♠	2	-	-
♥	-	2	-
♦	4	4	4
♣	4	4	4

It's hard to pinpoint exactly where the auction went off the rails as much of it seems to be suffused with a rosy glow of optimism.

You judge.

West	North	East	South
	1♠	P	2♦
P	2♠	P	2NT
P	3♦	P	3♥
P	3NT	P	4♦
P	5♣	P	6♦

It isn't a pretty spot and with all three important cards - ♠ K, ♥ A and ♦ K – there was no happy ending – two off.

The North-South pair in the other room reached the equally unlovely 3NT and so the damage was minimal.

David had more success with diamonds a couple of boards later.

Nathan opened 1♠ and David raised to 2♠. Sartaj called 2NT and Nathan passed. 3♣ from Tony saw David introduce diamonds and then Sartaj introduced hearts. Nathan called 3♠ and Tony bid the heart game. David took the dive in 5♦.

He saw five obvious losers when dummy went down and so it eventuated. Still -500 was good against the cold heart game.

On then to the last round of qualifying which saw Bloom facing Noble. For Bloom, Sartaj and Tony (West) opposed Joe Grue (North) and Justin Lall. It really was a "Starship Enterprise" affair as the four of them went where no man had ever been before.

I should warn anyone of a delicate disposition or who has medication prescribed not to read any further. What follows is not for the faint-hearted or infirm.

Consider

Vu Graph operators wanted for the NOT

Experience desirable but not essential. Operators will be paid \$2 per board.

Session times: Friday 27th (Quarter-finals) 9am start – 64 boards
 Saturday 28th (Semi-finals) 9am start – 64 boards
 Sunday 29th (Final) 9 am start – 64 boards

Phone Paul McGrath after 7pm on 0409927094

3	♠ 9752	EW Vul Dir S																									
	♥ 9																										
	♦ T9652																										
	♣ AQ8																										
♠ KQ86	♠ J43																										
♥ JT865	♥ K43																										
♦ K4	♦ A8																										
♣ 92	♣ KJ653																										
	♠ AT																										
	♥ AQ72																										
	♦ QJ73																										
	♣ T74																										
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♠	♣	♥	♦	NT																							
N	-	3	-	-																							
S	-	3	-	-																							
E	1	-	2	2																							
W	1	-	2	2																							

Justin opened 1♦ and Tony doubled. Joe responded 1♥ which was not quite as obscene as it looks as it had some systemic meaning. Sartaj closed proceedings by calling 3NT. It would be a mistake to describe Sartaj's demeanour as "relaxed and happy" when he saw dummy but wait...

Justin led the ♠ A and continued with the ♠ 10. Sartaj won with dummy's King and led the ♥ J. This was allowed to hold so he continued a small heart to Joe's diamond discard, Sartaj's King and Justin's duck. Sartaj led a club to table's 9 and Joe's Queen and won the diamond return with dummy's King. He gave up another club to Joe's Ace and looked surprised when he could count nine tricks.

Then, a few boards later, Sartaj, once again demonstrated his disbelief in points. Mind you, if I understand the mantra correctly, it is shape that rules and, in this case, Sartaj had neither adequate points nor anything other than the most mundane shape. His lack of virtue reaped its own reward.

6	♠ Q9764	EW Vul Dir E																									
	♥ AQ5																										
	♦ Q865																										
	♣ 8																										
♠ K	♠ AT32																										
♥ J7632	♥ K4																										
♦ KT42	♦ A973																										
♣ 432	♣ AQ7																										
	♠ J85																										
	♥ T98																										
	♦ J																										
	♣ KJT965																										
		<table border="1"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>♣</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	♠	♣	♥	♦	NT	N	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	E	1	4	3	1	W	1	4	3	1
♠	♣	♥	♦	NT																							
N	-	-	-	-																							
S	-	-	-	-																							
E	1	4	3	1																							
W	1	4	3	1																							

As dealer, Sartaj opened the East hand 2♣ which systemically showed 18 or 19 balanced (or something close in this case.) Moments later he was declaring 3NT.

There weren't anything like enough tricks and -300 was the result of Sartaj's little adventure in counting schmoits.

Fast forward to

9	♠ Q82	EW Vul Dir N																									
	♥ J87																										
	♦ QT953																										
	♣ K7																										
♠ A7	♠ T6																										
♥ K6542	♥ AQT																										
♦ 42	♦ AK8																										
♣ AJ53	♣ QT964																										
	♠ KJ9543																										
	♥ 93																										
	♦ J76																										
	♣ 82																										
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♠	♣	♥	♦	NT																							
N	-	-	-	-																							
S	-	-	-	-																							
E	5	1	5	1																							
W	5	1	5	1																							

After Joe had passed as dealer, Sartaj opened 1♣ and Justin leapt to 3♣. Tony doubled and Joe raised to game.

Sartaj hit that and, at that point, DeepFinesse suggests that they were looking at +800. However, Tony thought long and hard before opting for 6♣ and -100.

Two boards later and ET was still in play.

11		♠ 65	Nil Vul
		♥ A876	Dir S
		♦ 73	
		♣ JT432	
♠ J987	♠ AKT43		
♥ QT94	♥ 5		
♦ Q9	♦ KJT		
♣ AQ7	♣ K965		
		♠ Q2	
		♥ KJ32	
		♦ A86542	
		♣ 8	

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	-	-	1	-	-
S	-	-	1	-	-
E	2	1	-	5	4
W	3	1	-	5	4

Justin opened 1♦ and Tony doubled. Joe redoubled which had some systemic meaning and Sartaj bid the spade game. OK, having opened on a point or two less than we might have done, you or I would probably pass as South. But not on the Enterprise - 5♥ (!!) from Justin. It didn't take long for Tony to find the red card and not a helluva lot longer for Justin to go four down.

There will now be a brief interlude while we play this public service message from the ACT Sanity Commissioners.

Remember, these are seasoned international players. Don't try these things at home.

And now back to Star Trek.

OK, the men in the white coats have come to test you. You hold at nil vul

♠ 7 ♥ 9 ♦ Q9642 ♣ AQJ963

Your right hand opponent opens 1♥. What do you do? I guess there are lots of votes for an unusual NT or its equivalent and some for a club bid. Certain NZ players present here will vote for 1♠ (yes, McTaggart, Brown and Bach senior It is you I mean, so stop looking innocent.) Justin, however, does not believe in half measures

nor even in quarter measures as he went all the way to 4(!)♠. Tony doubled and Joe piled Pelion on Ossa with a raise to the club game. Charitably, this is going for 500 against the non-vul game which hasn't actually been bid but that's OK, as Sartaj called 5♥ and the realistic par was reached anyway (even if the route required a trip into the Andromeda Galaxy.)



Justin (right) waiting for Scotty to beam him up.

500 was again on offer shortly thereafter but, once again, Tony and Sartaj preferred to make 400 the hard way.

17		♠ K3	Nil Vul
		♥ AT7653	Dir N
		♦ 65	
		♣ 732	
♠ Q982	♠ AT7		
♥ K92	♥ 4		
♦ AQ98	♦ KJ32		
♣ Q4	♣ KT985		
		♠ J654	
		♥ QJ8	
		♦ T74	
		♣ AJ6	

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	-	-	1	-	1
S	-	-	1	-	1
E	4	4	-	3	-
W	4	4	-	3	-

Joe opened 2♥, as many earthlings would, and Sartaj doubled. Justin called the heart game and Tony doubled. DeepFinesse suggests that this is 500 country (again!) but

Sartaj called 4NT and Tony settled in 5♦. The heart Ace was cashed and then Joe came out the ♠ K. This was not best and Tony quickly wrapped up eleven tricks.



Joe looks to see if his new light sabre has arrived yet.

Still not convinced about the extra-terrestrial nature of the happenings at table one in the final round of qualifying? Then try a bidding problem. I've given this one to a number of expert and near-expert players but none has yet found Joe's solution.

You hold vul against not

♠ A105 ♥ AQ1087 ♦ AQ7 ♣ K4

Lefty opens 1♦ and partner passes. Righty responds 1♠ and it's your go.

The whole layout was

18	♠ AT5	NS Vul
	♥ AQT87	Dir E
	♦ AQ7	
	♣ K4	
♠ KJ96		♠ 42
♥ 6543		♥ KJ2
♦ T963		♦ KJ54
♣ 3		♣ AQJ5
	♠ Q873	
	♥ 9	
	♦ 82	
	♣ T98762	

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	2	-	-	1	-
S	1	-	-	-	-
E	-	2	1	-	1
W	-	2	1	-	1

Joe settled for a 3NT(!) call. Sartaj doubled but Tony took out to 4♦. Things did not start well for declarer when Justin led his heart and then ruffed the continuation at trick two. A small spade went to the King and Ace to enable another heart ruff. Having lost four tricks already and, having still to negotiate a spade loser and the AQ of trumps, Sartaj was probably relieved to escape for "only" three shy.

Just to confuse my metaphors completely, all I can say is "Yes, Virginia, there is a Father Christmas" **and** an Easter Bunny **and** a Tooth Fairy **and** a Great Pumpkin and they were all playing at table one in the final round of qualifying for the NOT.

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Mixed

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Country

Kevin Steffensen, Neville Francis, Carolyn Miller, Janeen Solomon

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