

The Summer Festival of Bridge

Daily Bulletin 12

Sunday January 25 2015

Thank You And Farewell

As this will be my final Summer Festival Bulletin, indeed my final bulletin anywhere, after 10 years in Canberra and 19 in NZ with a couple of PABF's thrown in, a total of some 295 Bulletins, I must finish with some thank you's.

Firstly to Sean who was prepared to take a gamble on a Pom/Kiwi and then put up with that Pom/Kiwi's vagaries for ten years. Thank you Sean, I shall always be grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of so great a bridge occasion as the Summer Festival.

Thanks also to the Festival staff who have been unfailingly helpful and supportive with special mention of Arie, Laurie, Simon and John and all the directors whose patience has been unbelievable. Thanks to Wendy and Sandra on the desk who have made my life easier in so many ways. A particular thanks to Martin Wilcox and Bob Geyer who were not only helpful and supportive in the early years but who kept me in a state of constant laughter (though I couldn't repeat in public the causes of the laughter.).

Thanks also to the many experts who have contributed to the Bulletins by bringing me hands (and explaining them with massive patience) or by letting me pester them for explanations and comments on hands I had watched.

Very particular thanks to Barbara Travis and Richard Hills who have always been prepared to put pen to paper, producing a series of first-rate articles and thanks to all the other players who have taken the trouble to put pen to paper; a written out article is gold to a Bulletin editor.

Massive thanks to Ron Klinger, Paul Lavings and Terry Brown who have been unbelievably helpful for the past ten years; also to Andy Braithwaite who can add 19 years of NZ assistance to that.

Thank you all and farewell

Alan Taylor



Tim Bourke's Problem

12. INSPIRED

Dealer South. E-W Vul.

NORTH

♠ 7 4 2

♥ A 5 2

♦ K Q

♣ Q 7 6 4 3

SOUTH

♠ A Q 8

♥ K Q J 10 6

♦ A J 10 5

♣ A

West	North	East	South
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♥
All pass			

The auction deserves some explanation after the raise to three hearts. Three spades was a cue bid and three notrump was a strong slam try. After your cue bid of four clubs, North used Roman Key Card Blackwood and found that you had three key cards, the queen of trumps but no outside king.

West leads the jack of clubs and East follows with a low club. How do you plan to make twelve tricks?

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Two competitors are looking for a lift to Sydney this afternoon following play.

Please advise the Festival Desk if you can assist.



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Tim Bourke's Problem

SOLUTION

The auction to six hearts was a strong one, obviously based on power. As a result, this West would always seek a passive lead rather than an aggressive one. Consequently, you should place the jack-ten of clubs on your left and the king of clubs on your right.

After winning the first trick with the ace of clubs you should cash the king and ace of trumps in that order. If trumps are 5-0, you will have to rely on a successful spade finesse for your twelfth trick. If trumps are 4-1, you can also try ruffing a low club in to bring down a doubleton king of clubs, probably after taking the spade finesse at trick three.

When trumps are 3-2, you should ruff a club at trick four. The layout you must try to overcome is one such as this:

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

The winning play here is to cross back to dummy with a diamond and ruff a club. If the king of clubs had appeared by now, you would draw the last trump and cross back dummy with a diamond to cash at least one club winner for your twelfth trick.

As the king of clubs has not appeared, you must return to dummy with a diamond to ruff a club with your last trump. Now you intend play the ace and jack of diamonds, discarding spades from the table. If East ruffs with the nine of trumps then dummy will be high. If he discards two spades then you cash the ace of spades and ruff a spade for your twelfth trick.

On the assumptions about clubs, then, when the trumps prove to be 3-2, this line is very close to giving you a 100% chance of success.

The First Semi-Final Round

The lines-up were:

In Neill v Bloom

West	North	East	South
Bagchi	Bloom	Smolanko	Nunn

West	North	East	South
Gill	Nagy	Hans	Lilley

And in Lazer vThompson

West	North	East	South
Braithwaite	Jacobs	Robinson	Thompson

West	North	East	South
Markey	McManus	Williams	Ware



A wee hiccup saw the BBO broadcast disrupted – I watched in wonder as three expert players made a takeout double on a flat 9 count and three expert players responded in a three card suit! Eventually, the BBO hands were the same as the ones being played.

The first board on interest swung around whether or not the defence could get it right.

4		♠ J8432	Dir: W
		♥ 43	Vul: Both
		♦ 53	
		♣ A642	
♠ 75		♠ KQ106	
♥ Q87		♥ J10952	
♦ Q1082		♦ 74	
♣ QJ105		♣ 83	
5		♠ A9	
7	6	♥ AK6	
22		♦ AKJ96	
		♣ K97	
			♠♦♥♣NT
			N 3 3 2 3 2
			S 3 4 2 3 2
			E - - - - -
			W - - - - -

North – South were universally in 3NT.

Markey led the ♣Q and Ware ducked in both hands. The ♣J came next and Ware won with the King. He cashed the two top diamonds and continued with the ♦J. Markey took his Queen and cashed the ♦10. He now played a small club to declarer's 9 and Ware cashed his long diamond and then ♥AK and ♠A. The defence were able to take its tricks without Markey having to give up a trick to dummy's ♣A which withered on the vine as Ware went -1.

Thompson declared in the other room.

He took the ♣Q lead and cashed the two top diamonds before exiting with a small diamond to Braithwaite's 10. A small club was continued to declarer's 7 and Thompson conceded a trick to Braithwaite's ♦Q. That left him with 9 tricks and 12 imps.

For the Neill team, Lilley declared and Gill led the inevitable ♣Q. This was allowed to stand and Gill switched to a fateful ♦2. Lilley now had four diamond tricks to go with his five top winners.

Bagchi also led the ♣Q against Nunn. Again it was allowed to stand and again the ♣9 won trick 2. Nunn cashed the ♦A and then overtook the ♣K with dummy's Ace to play a diamond to the Jack and Queen. Bagchi cashed the ♣J and exited a spade to the 10 and Ace. Nunn gave Bagchi his ♦10 trick and the defence cashed two spades for two off and 13 imps.

Then a 21-19 split on which two pairs bid game – one in each direction!

6		♠ A104	Dir: E
		♥ AJ107	Vul: E-W
		♦ 84	
		♣ K1096	
♠ QJ9832		♠ K7	
♥ 6543		♥ Q982	
♦ 1096		♦ KQJ	
♣		♣ AQJ4	
12		♠ 65	
3	18	♥ K	
7		♦ A7532	
		♣ 87532	
			♠♦♥♣NT
			N 2 1 - - 1
			S 2 1 - - 1
			E - - 2 1 -
			W - - 2 1 -

After Williams opened the East cards 1♣, Ware made an ugly looking 1♦ overcall. Markey called 2♠ and



McManus doubled. 3♠ from Williams ran back to McManus who called 3NT. He must have been enraptured by the sight of dummy!

The ♠K held the first trick and Williams continued with a heart to table's bare King. McManus finessed the ♣10, losing to Williams's Jack. A spade followed to the Jack and Ace and declarer continued with the ♣K, losing to East's Ace. Out came the ♦K which was allowed to hold and then a small club to North's 9. A club back to Williams's Queen and again declarer opted to leave dummy's Ace alone when Williams continued the ♦Q. A heart went to declarer's 10 but the defence still had the ♥Q to come for 3 off.

This was compounded when Braithwaite/ Robinson got overboard in the other room (and in the other direction.)

Robinson opened 1♣ and Braithwaite responded with a 2♥ transfer. Robinson preferred to bid 2NT so they ended up in 3♠.

The ♥K was led and then Thompson played a spade to partner's Ace. A diamond came back to South's Ace and the suit was continued to declarer's Queen. Robinson played the ♣A and ♣Q pitching hearts from dummy both times. In with the ♣K, Jacobs tried to cash the ♥A but his partner ruffed and led a diamond for Jacobs to ruff and two down.

So -150 in one room and -200 in the other saw Lazer lose 8 imps.

In the other match Bagchi won the board in the auction or else Gill lost it – you decide.

Smolanko opened 1♣ as East, Nunn followed Ware's example with a 1♦ overcall and Bagchi called 2♠. That was that and, after the ♥K lead, Bloom ducked the first round of trumps before taking the Ace and playing hearts but it was too late to give Nunn a ruff – making 9 tricks.

Hans started with a Precision type club and Gill responded 1♦. Hans rebid 1NT and Gill transferred with 2♥. When Hans took the transfer, Gill jumped to game.

The defence had four obvious tricks and took them for a 8 imp pickup to Neill.

Board 9 was a case of do you preempt or not and, if so, how vigorously?

9	♠ 1098	Dir: N Vul: E-W
	♥ Q	
	♦ AJ10976	
	♣ 942	
♠ J74	♠ KQ65	
♥ 84	♥ AKJ10765	
♦ Q53	♦ 84	
♣ K10653	♣	
7	♠ A32	♠♦♥♣NT N 3 3 - - - S 3 2 - - - E - - 4 3 - W - - 4 3 -
6 13	♥ 932	
14	♦ K2	
	♣ AQJ87	

The auctions were:



Markey	McManus	Williams	Ware
	3♦	4♥	5♦
P	P	X	
Gill	Nagy	Hans	Lilley
	P	1♣	P
1♦	P	4♥	

Braithwaite	Jacobs	Robinson	Thompson
	3♦	4♥	5♦
X			

Bagchi	Bloom	Smolanko	Nunn
	2♦	4♥	

Those North's who pre-empted at the 3 level enabled their partners to take the good dive (-300 against -620 in 4♥.) Those who didn't pre-empt or who did so half-heartedly gave their partners no reason to sacrifice. Both matches pushed as the optimists were in opposing teams as were the pessimists.

Then an exercise in two opposing teams getting overboard for a push and two opposing teams staying safe for another push.

13	♠ 9	Dir: N
	♥ AKJ	Vul: Both
	♦ A10875	
	♣ 5432	
♠ QJ843	♠ A1075	
♥ 54	♥ 10987	
♦ K92	♦ Q6	
♣ J96	♣ K87	
12	♠ K62	♠♦♥♣NT
7 9	♥ Q632	N 4 4 3 - 2
12	♦ J43	S 4 4 3 - 2
	♣ AQ10	E - - - 1 -
		W - - - 1 -

Both Lilley/Nagy and Bloom/Nunn pushed to 3NT while taking care to highlight the defence.


Their auctions were essentially the same:

West	North	East	South
	1♦	P	1♥
P	2♥	P	2NT
P	3♣	P	3NT

Having strongly suggested that the defence lead a spade, neither declarer could have been surprised when it happened. There was no good news and both went two down.

The Ware/McManus artificial methods got them to 3♦ as did the Fantunes employed by Jacobs/Thompson. Nine tricks were not difficult to arrange for no imps to change hands on the board.





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Semi-Finals – Set 3

The lines-up were

In Neill v Bloom with Neill ahead 99 - 22

West	North	East	South
DeLivera	Hans	Neill	Gill

West	North	East	South
Nunn	Smolanko	Whibley	Bagchi

And in Gumby v Thompson with Thompson leading 65 - 22

West	North	East	South
Thompson	Gumby	Jacobs	Lazer

West	North	East	South
Ware	Markey	McManus	Williams

It looked as if the Bloom team might be playing catch-up when board 2 appeared.

2	♠ AK74	Dir: E
	♥ A75	Vul: N-S
	♦ K84	
	♣ J76	
♠ 32		♠ J105
♥ Q942		♥ K86
♦ 65		♦ 1073
♣ K10843		♣ A952
15	♠ Q986	
5 8	♥ J103	
12	♦ AQJ92	
	♣ Q	
		♠♦♥♣NT
		N - 4 1 5 2
		S - 4 1 5 2
		E 1 - - - -
		W 1 - - - -

The costly unopposed auction was (after a pass from East)

Gill	Hans
1♦	1♠
2♥	2NT
3♣	4NT
5♣	5♦
5NT	6♠

A heart lead meant that declarer couldn't give up a trick to the ♣A, ruff a couple of clubs and draw trumps before relying on the diamonds to dispose of his heart losers. Essentially there was no play and that was not the start the Bloom team needed when Smolanko/Bagchi reached 4♠ (+1) for 13 imps. Gumby/Lazer had the same result while Williams/Markey reached 5♦, making exactly.

Onto the next where Markey/Williams gained a big return for their aggressive methods.

3	♠ Q73	Dir: S
	♥ A2	Vul: E-W
	♦ J10	
	♣ AKJ953	
♠ A10962		♠ 84
♥ 9753		♥ QJ
♦ A94		♦ KQ7653
♣ 4		♣ 1076
15	♠ KJ5	
8 8	♥ K10864	
9	♦ 82	
	♣ Q82	
		♠♦♥♣NT
		N 4 - 3 - -
		S 4 - 3 - -
		E - 3 - - -
		W - 3 - - -

The contract was universally played in 3NT but only the Markey/Williams system meant it was played from South – Williams opening 1NT. A spade lead saw Williams happily cash eleven tricks while other declarers played from North, typically after a fourth in hand 1NT opener. East invariably led diamonds and that



made 7 tricks immediately available to the defence. Twelve imps to Thompson.

Then the first real slam hand of the set.

6

Dir: E
Vul: E-W

♠ 98632
 ♥ K107
 ♦ 43
 ♣ K43

♠ QJ107
 ♥ J8
 ♦ K1052
 ♣ A98

♠ AQ952
 ♥ AQJ986
 ♦ Q2
 ♣

♠ AK54
 ♥ 643
 ♦ 7
 ♣ J10765

♠	NT
♥	-
♦	-
♣	-
N	- - - -
S	- - - -
E	1 7 6 1 5
W	1 7 6 1 5

DeepFinesse has the grand making but most of us would be happy to play 6♦ and even that is not massively attractive at first sight.

McManus/Ware’s artificial methods didn’t help as the reached 3NT with the diamond suit only receiving a passing mention. Fantunes didn’t help Jacobs/Thompson either and the board saw just one imp change hands when Ware wrung out eleven tricks to Thompson’s ten.

The other two tables did better:

Nunn	Smolanko	Whibley	Bagchi
		1♦	P
1♠	P	2♥	P
3♦	P	3♥	P
4♦	P	4♥	P
4NT	P	5♠	P
6♦	P		

Whereas DeLivera/Neill won brevity points despite having to cope with interference:

DeLivera	Hans	Neill	Gill
2NT 6♦	3♠	1♦ 4♥	1♠ P

So a near push in both matches but one felt that Neill and Bloom earned theirs.

A few boards later and one match saw a boring 3NT push while the other saw 9 imps change hands and it could have been more.

9

Dir: N
Vul: E-W

♠ K104
 ♥ A832
 ♦ J98432
 ♣

♠ KQ109
 ♥ 2
 ♦ 1075
 ♣ AK1065

♠ A7
 ♥ QJ865
 ♦ KJ96
 ♣ Q7

♠ J865432
 ♥ A973
 ♦ Q4
 ♣

♠	NT
♥	- 11 -
♦	- 11 -
♣	- - - 3
N	- - 11 -
S	- - 11 -
E	1 1 - - 3
W	1 1 - - 3

Neill v Bloom saw

Nunn	Smolanko	Whibley	Bagchi
	P	1♥	3♠
3NT			

And

DeLivera	Hans	Neill	Gill
3NT	2♣	2♥	2♠

Ho hum.



However,

Ware	Markey	McManus	Williams
	P	1♣	4♠
x			

The ♣K was led and ruffed by declarer. He cashed the ♥A and played a heart to dummy's King. He ruffed a club and crossed back to dummy via the ♦A to ruff yet another club. He then exited with the ♦Q to the King. McManus cashed the ♥Q and Jack on the latter of which Ware discarded the ♣A. McManus continued hearts, ruffed by declarer and over-ruffed by West. Ware cashed the trump King which left these trumps outstanding:

QT	-	A
	J8	

For reasons which escape me, Ware continued the ♠Q and saved declarer a further undertrick.

I think it true to say that Lazer/Gumby have a less exuberant style than Markey/Williams. How did they handle this one?

Jacobs opened 1NT after a pass from Gumby, North. Lazer intervened with 2♥ (presumably some conventional gadget) and Thompson doubled. Gumby passed, showing I believe heart tolerance but Lazer pulled to 2♠ anyway. This ran back to Thompson who doubled.

Lazer was able to cobble together seven tricks and pick up 9 imps.

Then McManus/Ware got one spectacularly right:

11	♠ AKQJ62 ♥ AQ ♦ 97 ♣ J94	<i>Dir: S</i> <i>Vul: None</i>																														
♠ 10754 ♥ 43 ♦ AQ8 ♣ K532	♠ 3 ♥ KJ65 ♦ 43 ♣ AQ10876																															
17 9 10 4	♠ 98 ♥ 109872 ♦ KJ10652 ♣	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>♠</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♣</td> <td>NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	-	3	1	2	-	S	-	3	-	2	-	E	5	-	-	-	-	W	5	-	-	-	-
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	-	3	1	2	-																											
S	-	3	-	2	-																											
E	5	-	-	-	-																											
W	5	-	-	-	-																											

Ware	Markey	McManus	Williams
			P
1♥	2♠	3♣	3♠
4♣	4♠	5♣	P
P	X		

The happy position of both the ♥A and ♦K meant that the play held no terrors.

Gumby/Lazer were able to apply the brakes and stop in 3♠ and Gumby found 9 tricks and 12 imps.

Smolanko and Hans both tried their luck in the spade game but there just weren't 10 tricks available but 2 imps to Neil when Smolanko went one less down.

Then another potential grand which saw two near pushed though, again, one push was much more meritorious than the other.



15	♠ 10976	Dir: S
	♥ 10942	Vul: N-S
	♦ 76	
	♣ 543	
♠ AKQ4	♠ J	
♥ K83	♥ AJ5	
♦ K10543	♦ AQ9	
♣ K	♣ AJ10987	
	♠ 8532	♣♦♥♠NT
	♥ Q76	N - - - -
	♦ J82	S - - - -
	♣ Q62	E 6 7 6 7 7
0		W 6 7 6 7 7
18 17		
5		

DeLivera/Neil and Nunn/Whibley had natural, if unsuccessful auctions

DeLivera	Hans	Neill	Gill
1♦	P	2♣	P
2♠	P	3♦	P
3♥	P	3♥	P
3NT	P	4♣	P
4♦	P	4NT	P
5♣	P	6♦	

Nunn	Smolanko	Whibley	Bagchi
1♦	P	2♣	P
2♠	P	2NT	P
4NT	P	5NT	P
6♠	P	6NT	

Not being quite sure of the meaning of all of this, I asked two experts to decipher it and they suggest:

- 2♣ -game force.
- 2NT – waiting
- 4NT – quantitative
- 5NT – pick a slam
- 6♠ - bid a grand with extras or 6NT without.

Both contracts made 13 tricks so 2 imps to Bloom

The other match saw a triumph for artificial bidding.

I won't give you the Ware/McManus auction because it was a typically interminable auction.

By the time it had reached 4♥, McManus, sitting East, knew that Ware had a 4-3-5-1 shape with six controls (A=2, K=1). As McManus had three Aces himself, Ware's controls could only be one Ace and four Kings. McManus happily called 7♦.

Jacobs/Thompson had a Fantunes auction to the same contract (and again my consultants are to blame if the interpretation of the auction is inaccurate)

Thompson	Gumby	Jacobs	Lazer
1♦	P	2♣	P
2♠	P	3♦	P
4♥	P	4♠	P
5♦	P	5NT	P
7♦			

3♦ set the suit and 4♥ was Keycard. 4♠ showed 0/3 and 5♦ said "Enough" if it was 0. 5NT said that it wasn't and there was a bit more than might be expected.

So just another push.



National Open Teams Championship - Semi-Finals

	Total
BEN THOMPSON - BILL JACOBS - PHILIP MARKEY - JUSTIN WILLIAMS	102
ANDREW BRAITHWAITE - MATTHEW MCMANUS - MICHAEL WARE - WARREN LAZER - PAULINE GUMBY - IAN ROBINSON	134

MARTIN BLOOM - PETER GILL - SARTAJ HANS - TONY NUNN - MICHAEL WHIBLEY	97
BRUCE NEILL - ARJUNA DE LIVERA - GEORGE SMOLANKO - KHOKAN BAGCHI - ZOLLY NAGY - DAVID LILLEY	171

Australian Mixed Teams

Results after 6 of 10

Place	Team	VPs
1	BOURKE (1)	94.3
2	MILNE (14)	85.76
3	COLLINS (12)	78.26
4	DAVIES (13)	71.28
5	FERRIS (9)	71.25
6	FREE (4)	67.51
7	HURLEY (3)	60.42
8	CARROLL (6)	57.97
9	GUE (11)	56.43
10	GEROMBOUX (2)	53.79
11	CROSSMAN (10)	48.34
12	STRONG (7)	43.29
13	BERENGER (8)	41.56
14	*HOUSE (5)	9.84

National Flighted Swiss Pairs

Results after 6 of 10 matches

Place	Pair Names	VPs
1	FOSTER/WESTON	98
2	KHANDELWAL/KHANDELWAL	80
3	BODYCOTE/WEAVER	78
3=	NILSSON/NILSSON	78
5	RANKE/HEWAT	76
5=	MA/WILLIAMS	76
7	CARTER/HUTTON	72
8	MIRCK/HIRDLE	70
9	DAWSON/SEBESFI	67
10	ELICH/ELICH	65
10=	PETTIGREW/STEPHENS	65
12	LEACH/LEACH	62
13	WALLIS/NASH	59
14	MEAKINS/MEAKINS	58
15	WAIZER/NEHMY	57
16	DELGADO/STEWART	56
17	EVANS/HENDERSON	52
18	BOURKE/MARTIN	51
18=	CHEW/BRAHMA	51
20	HOLLANDS/HOLLANDS	50
21	BLACK/BLACK	48
22	BROGAN/HARPER	47
23	MCADAM/HECKER	46
24	WALTERS/GEROMBOUX	42
25	CARUANA/MCKEON	33
26	JOH KELLY/AN	23

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