

ABPF NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

EDITOR: Stephen Lester

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Australian Women at the 1st Asia Cup

When the Australian Team Trials were held in March, the women were playing for two 'target' events: the Pacific Asia Bridge Federation Championships in Hamilton, (May), and the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship in Delhi, (October). An additional event appeared on the calendar with the creation of the Asia Pacific Bridge Federation, which combines Zone 4: BFAME (Bridge Federation of Asia and Middle East), Zone 6: PABF (Pacific Asia Bridge Federation) and Zone 7, our zone (South Pacific Zone). This grouping's objective is to unify the Asian countries, in order to have bridge recognised for the Asian Games. As its starting point, the 1st Asia Cup was held in Ningbo, China, at the end of August.

The Chinese Contract Bridge Association provided accommodation and meals for team members, so the major cost associated was the airfare. Of the 26 member countries of this newly-formed ABPF, 21 sent teams – some to both the Open event [the Ningbo Cup] and the Women's event [the Cicheng Cup], and some to one event.

So, at reasonably short notice, the three pairs who qualified from the trials, Sue Lusk - Therese Tully, Alida Clark - Leone Fuller, Rosa Lachman - Pele Rankin, headed to China, along with a slightly-modified Australian Open Team. 15 teams competed in the Women's event, and 19 in the Open.

Match 1 saw us playing China. A good win would have been a great way to start, and there were plenty of opportunities, but we lost 9-21.



In Match 2 versus the Philippines, Lusk - Tully had an impressive auction to an excellent contract:



Board 6, East deals, EW vulnerable

♠ Q J 9 7 6 3
♥ A Q 7 3
♦ ---
♣ K 8 6

♠ K 4
♥ 6
♦ K 7 3 2
♣ A Q 9 7 4 2

West	North Tully	East	South Lusk
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass	2♠ ²
Pass	4♦ ³	Pass	4♥ ⁴
Pass	5♦ ⁴	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

1. When opener has rebid a suit, Sue and Therese play "3rd suit GF, artificial"
2. Precisely doubleton honour in spades
3. Diamond splinter
4. Cuebids

6♦ was a bit of a misbid; Sue says she should have bid 6♣, choice of contract. Only two pairs in the Open field reached the spade slam, and one other pair in the Women's field reached 6♣. As it happened, their Filipino counterpart went down one in 5♣, so when 6♠ made it was an even better pick-up.

Unfortunately, Day 1 didn't continue in such style. A 25 -3 loss against Singapore left us in second last spot at the end of the day. However, there was plenty of time to recover, although China had a substantial break on the field. Perhaps we should target third place, then second place, before trying to catch China?

By the end of Day 2, we were still lagging in the lower half of the field, having had some poor results (draws and losing draws) against weakish teams. We remained determined to improve our position, and from here on we found form and a series of wins.

My next offering is another Lusk - Tully effort. On this deal, they bid to slam after a 1NT opening, always a satisfactory feeling (even when 1NT is 10-13 HCP).

Match 5, Board 2, East deals, NS vulnerable

♠ 6
♥ Q J 6 3
♦ 9 4
♣ A K 8 5 4 2

♠ A J 4
♥ A
♦ A Q 7 6 5 3
♣ Q 9 6

West	North Tully	East	South Lusk
		1NT	Dbl
Rdbl	Pass ¹	2♣	3♦ ²
Pass	4♣	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

1. Showing values
2. Single-suiter

Sue's 6♦ bid was a little rash; she could have bid 6♣ to show secondary support and choice of contract, given that 3♦ had already shown a single-suited hand. However, having heard the 1NT bid on her right, she was justified in her aggressive approach to the hand, in the knowledge that finesses would be working.

Only one pair in the Open field bid to this slam (being in the superior 6♣) and our Australian pair were the only women to bid a slam.

Ed: The hand looks perilous on a spade lead, I'm assuming another lead was made against 6♦.

Rosa Lachman - Pele Rankin had a lovely (short) auction to their slam 'victory' in the match against Chinese Taipei.

On Board 1, Rosa, East picked up:

♠ ---, ♥ AQ102, ♦ AQ, ♣ KQJ10964

She opened 1♣, heard a 1♦ overcall followed by a negative double from partner. This double shows specifically 4-4 in the majors, given that Pele can bid both



1♥ and 1♠ naturally. After North raised to 2♦, Rosa made the practical bid of 6♥. Pele blanched as she tabled her meagre dummy.

The full hand:

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

The hand was written up in the Daily Bulletins because Rosa had 'right-sided' the contract. It was difficult for South to diagnose to lead ♣A and give North a club ruff.

The Chinese Taipei EW bid to 6♣ by East. This contract cannot make unless you get a lead from South's ♦K, which did not happen. Consequently, Australia gained a full slam bonus.

The next match was a wild affair against New Zealand. With a scoreline of 59-43 over 16 boards, swings abounded. Alida Clark decided it was time to show her skill at defeating a slam (rather than bidding one). The opponents had conducted the following uninterrupted auction:

West	North Clark	East	South Fuller
1NT ¹	Pass	2♠ ²	Pass
3♣ ³	Pass	3♠ ⁴	Pass
3NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

1. 15-17
2. Range enquiry or transfer
3. Maximum
4. Slam try in diamonds



Against 6NT, you usually lead fairly passively – unless you believe the opponents have a long suit they can run. On lead with ♠ 10932, ♥ K943, ♦ 1054, ♣ 108, she

decided an attacking lead was called for, which just happens to be fourth-highest of her longest and strongest, too. She felt that either partner might have ♥A, or that she needed to develop a winner to go with any trick Leone might have. How right she was. At the other table Lusk and Tully had made their 6NT contract on a passive lead.

Here's the full hand:

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

By the last day, it seemed possible that with two maximum wins we might catch third place. The team never quite succeeded at getting the big wins against the middle-ranked teams, and once again we hit a hurdle against Thailand.

However, the following hand provided some amusement at score-up, with its contrasting auctions at the two tables:

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Match 14, Board 13, North deals, all vulnerable

♠ K 10 5 3 2
 ♥ K 9 5 3 2
 ♦ ---
 ♣ K J 5

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

West	North	East	South
	Tully		Lusk
	1♠	2♣	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1. Tully was sitting there thinking “Yippee”, until partner bid 4♠

The auction had marked what was going on in hearts, so Therese had no problem making this light game on a heart lead.

Meanwhile, at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Rankin		Lachman	
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	1♠	2♣	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	All Pass

Can you see the difference? Lachman-Rankin played in 5♦, a suit never bid at the other table! The contract failed by a trick, but that was still a hefty gain for Australia.

We finished with a huge win against Palestine (101-1 over 16 boards) for a much-needed 25 VPs, taking us to 4th place. This was a great recovery by a very motivated team, determined to prove to themselves they could ‘do it’, and they very nearly did.

The event was smoothly run, with lavish opening and closing ceremonies, and a very happy host country having their current world champion Women’s team win the Cicheng Cup.

Thank you to the ABF for sending us, to the CCBA and the Ningbo Bridge Association and municipality for creating this marvellous event. We will endeavour to perform better at the Commonwealth Nations Bridge in India in October.

Barbara Travis

Responding to Partner's Takeout Double in Competition

What do you bid on the following hands, nil vulnerable, after the sequence below:



(1♣)	Dbl	(1♥)	?
1.	♠ J73, ♥ 98, ♦ J762, ♣ AK103		
2.	♠ 842, ♣ KJ87, ♦ AQ42, ♣ 85		
3.	♠ KJ942, ♥ Q4, ♦ J96, ♣ K72		
4.	♠ AJ102, ♥ J6, ♦ A43, ♣ K1092		
5.	♠ K10965, ♥ 82, ♦ K76, ♣ A102		
6.	♠ KJ8762, ♥ 2, ♦ AJ82, ♣ 102		
7.	♠ J1087632, ♥ 62, ♦ 3, ♣ J62		
8.	♠ QJ10763, ♥ 72, ♦ 854, ♣ 96		
9.	♠ QJ73, ♥ 93, ♦ KJ975, ♣ J7		
10.	♠ KJ8, ♥ 76, ♦ KJ642, ♣ 10764		

1. **1NT.** Partner's takeout double guarantees at least three cards in each of the majors, so the hearts you can leave for partner to cover. Your 1NT more shows values in clubs. You don't want to pass in a competitive auction with 9 HCP, and 2♦ holding ♦J762 doesn't convey the right message, or set the right platform for the remainder of the auction.

2. **Double.** Your partnership needs to decide whether this double is takeout for the other two suits, diamonds and spades, or penalties, showing 4+ hearts. I like penalties. Your RHO may have four small hearts and your partner ♥AQ10x, so the 4-1 break is of little consequence. A good blanket rule is that if opponents bid a suit that was shown by your side's takeout double, then double of that suit by either partner is penalties. If you have four diamonds and four spades you can simply bid 1♠. The modern style is for the takeout doubler to raise the major with four-card support, with or without competition.

3. **1♠.** In the good old days, when takeout doubles showed attractive, shapely hands, this was a clear-cut 2♠ bid, inviting game. Nowadays, any flat 12 HCP, or even 11 HCP, with roughly the right shape is a takeout double. Even 4-3-3-3 shape with 11 HCP is held up as an example of a good takeout double. Another consideration is that ♣K, under the club opener, is a dubious

value. So bid a conservative 1♠, and if pushed, compete further with 2♠.

4. **2♣.** This is only forcing to suit agreement, but with your chunky 13-count, you will go to game. If partner replies 2♥ then bid 3NT. You should have four spades for this sequence, else why didn't you bid 3NT first up?

5. **2♠.** Too good to bid 1♠; you wouldn't want partner to pass with a good looking 13-14 HCP. This is a much better hand than Example 3.

6. **4♠.** Worth bidding game with all your controls, great shape, and points in the right places. You expect to make 4♠ opposite a minimum takeout double.

7. **1♠.** Bid 4♠ only if you also believe in Santa Claus. Firstly, why preempt when partner may have a good hand, but I don't think partner has spades, the auction is too slow. Experience tells me to expect a big hand opposite, something like 19 + HCP with a good five-card or longer suit. Partner is doubling first, intending to show a good hand by bursting forth later. A possible hand is, ♠ A, ♥ KQ5, ♦ AKJ873, ♣ K87. You need to leave space to rebid your spades at the lowest level later.

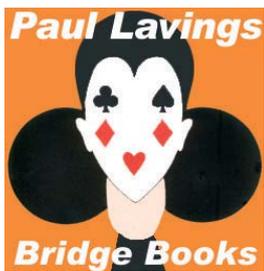
8. **1♠.** There is a temptation to make some sort of preempt, like 3♠. I suggest 1♠, to leave yourself room to bid 2♠. At the table, partner held 19 HCP balanced, with a doubleton spade, and bid 4♠ over 3♠ for two down.

If you bid 1♠, partner rebids 1NT, and now you can bid 2♠, the highest making contract for your side.

9. **1♠.** Your plan is to bid 1♠, and later compete with 2♦ or 3♦. If you had five spades you would bid your spades again, as per Example 4, because you know partner will have three-card support for the takeout double. So bidding spades first, then diamonds, must be four spades and five diamonds.

10. **2♦.** That part is easy, but what do you do if opponents compete further with 2♦? If you had four spades and five diamonds, you would have bid spades first, then diamonds. So when you bid diamonds first and then spades later, you should have five diamonds and three spades. The 4-3 spade fit at the two-level is often a great spot in a contested auction.

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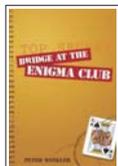
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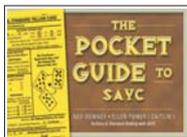
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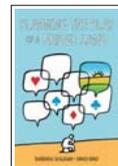
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SN Lythgo - manager extraordinaire

The 1930s Melbourne bridge world, as elsewhere in the world, was very much the preserve of the middle and upper classes. One of its major centres, and often *the* centre, was Lythgo's Bridge Studio, presided over by SN Lythgo (born Norman Stanley Lythgo, but always referred to by his reversed initials). His was the largest teaching organisation in Australia. He was one of the pioneer drivers of Culbertson and contract bridge, the principal organiser of major competitions, and the director of choice for any important contest. It is somewhat ironic, therefore, that the icon of this rarefied bridge world was a former carpenter. Even more strange, no record has yet been found of any bridge competition in which he himself played.

SN was born in Ballarat in 1892, the third of four children. We know nothing of his early childhood or schooling. His father died in 1900, and SN appears to have moved with his siblings to New Zealand to join his oldest brother, who was married and living in Auckland. The rest of the family stayed on in New Zealand, but SN, having acquired his carpentry trade returned, aged 20, in 1912, working in the building trade, first in NSW, before moving to Melbourne.

He was in Melbourne in August 1914, when war was declared. While in Auckland, he had been a reserve member of the 2nd Auckland Regiment since he was 17 - and he enlisted three days after the start of the war. Following training, in 1915, he was assigned to the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps and his first involvement in action was the Gallipoli landing. On the fourth day of the landing, he was promoted in the field to sergeant and he stayed five months on the peninsula.

SN was never wounded, but like many of his compatriots, was badly affected by disease – in particular, dysentery (the 'Gallipoli trots') and

scabies, with its maddening itching that made sleep impossible. After several brief hospitalisations in ships off the peninsula, it was finally agreed that he was no longer fit to fight. He was transferred to hospital in Cardiff in Wales where he spent six months. In addition to the loss of two stone in weight, and being generally debilitated, he was considered to be suffering from high levels of combat stress and was frequently depressed and in low spirits. When he was finally invalided out in late 1918, he was regarded as having a permanent 50% combat-related disability.

While the damage to his health was real enough, the war had another side. The carpenter, who went in as a private, came out the other end as an officer. Following his discharge from hospital, he was classified as fit for home, but not overseas service, and as 'home' included the UK, he was transferred to a gunnery school just outside London, where he was promoted to lieutenant, and stayed until his discharge at the end of the war. In the process he found another role – as a teacher - which would be an important basis for his later career.

DO YOU KNOW THESE PEOPLE?

Many players in 1930 to 1950 are only known by their initials. The Biographical Dictionary, compiled by Keith Ogborn, lists many of these players.

Please contact Keith at historian@abf.com.au if you can confirm the listed details or if you can provide any missing names.

Biographical Dictionary

1930 - 1950

(Victoria, NSW, Queensland, Tasmania)

We know very little about his career in the 1920s but on return to Melbourne, there was no return to manual labour. In 1919, he gave his occupation as 'sales' but had received a serviceman's loan of £150 to establish a manufacturing business. By 1924 he was described as a chemist, indicating that he was manufacturing in this line, but we have no information on the name of the business, its scope or fate. The next piece of information about him comes in the form of a brief classified advertisement he lodged in the Melbourne Argus of 31

August, 1929. The ad invited readers to learn bridge in their own home with three friends. They were to note that he used the latest method of teaching by examination and example. Success was guaranteed for moderate fees.

His appearance as a bridge teacher is something

of a mystery. There is no record of his participation in any of the various bridge competitions reported in the newspapers in the 1920s, and we do not know if the move to bridge teaching was a positive and voluntary career move, or a response to losing his day job. However, his address at around this time was described as “rear” at 206 Carlisle Street, Balaclava – the rear indicating that as someone almost 40, he was probably not a man with substantial means at the time.

If his career shift was motivated by the financial possibilities afforded by the bridge craze, he was not alone. The classified advertisements offered a range of options for the person wanting to learn bridge. However, a career as a bridge teacher or bridge club owner was in 1929 and any of the years that followed more commonly a road to bankruptcy than success and wealth. Many began, but very few survived. The Depression played a part but the bigger problem was always the lack of a paying market. Many people were keen to learn bridge but most learned from their friends - often badly but for nothing. When it came to playing venues, existing clubs or charity groups formed their own clubs – usually no more than a weekly session, but crowding out any potential bridge entrepreneurs.

In this environment, to survive even for a relatively short period, would show considerable business acumen, but Lythgo not only built his business, but survived in it until 1946, when he was the last commercial operator still standing. In October, 1930 he began his first club – the Piccadilly Club at 358 Little Collins Street. This was followed, in September 1931, by a move into the third floor of the new Howey Court nine-story “skyscraper” at 234 Collins Street, trading initially as the Howey Court Bridge Club. Finally, in January 1936, he aspired to an entire floor of the Presgrave Building at 275 Little Collins Street, trading as the “Lythgo Bridge Studio”. At its peak, he employed nine staff.

There were a number of reasons for his success and relative longevity. He was an excellent teacher, and in the early thirties, differed greatly from many other teachers, in his realistic approach to the game. When others promoted the game as simple to learn, SN squarely addressed the fact that learning bridge properly required study and discipline. A series of his lessons, which are known to us from having been published in regional newspapers still read well today. They

show that he had the gift of clear explanation, and took pupils systematically through the game, making no assumptions whatsoever about existing knowledge – starting from the classic statement of the basic requirements of bridge that “the game requires four wide-awake players, two packs of cards with different coloured backs, four scoring pads and four pencils”.

He wrote that:

“More books have been written about Auction Bridge than any other card game. Its popularity is increasing every year and not to know the game is a handicap. As many people cannot understand bridge books, they receive instruction from friends, and in most cases the information imparted is wrong or out of date. Although bridge is a difficult game, the weekly lesson in this column will be as simple as it is possible to make it. If you play the game, study them carefully and talk them over with your friends; if you desire to learn, arrange a party of four and master each lesson as it is given.”

He was a tireless innovator. He started to come to public attention in 1930 through a series of bridge broadcasts on 3UZ. Listeners were given the hand to be played in the Argus, and advised to paste it into an exercise book so that they could make notes as Lythgo explained the play.

He was the first teacher in Melbourne, and probably Australia, to actively promote contract bridge, and he established himself as the main Australian link with Culbertson – a position he retained until the end. He was tireless in promoting bridge and different forms of competition. He donated a cup for a Victorian pairs championship – the SN Lythgo Cup, and tried many competitive formats – separate women’s teams, men versus women and regional bridge. He provided the mailing address and facilities for the Victorian Bridge Association in its different incarnations until after WWII. He had a major role in setting up the first interstate contest – the NSW versus Victoria match of 1933. The 1935 contest was played in his studio, and he hosted the various international par contests of the thirties.

Some of the success was due to his sales skills and understanding of the market. At a time when most other clubs wanted payment of annual membership fees up front, his patrons only paid modest table money each time they came. He invested in advertising. His ads were always the first in

the list of bridge clubs or tutors in the classified, always the largest, and always the most appealingly written. He understood the importance of copyright, and had the knack of getting value for his services. A local newspaper that carried his columns wrote in introduction:

“We have arranged with a professional player to supply us with a series of 26 articles, which will commence with the raw material and turn out the polished player at the end. These articles are being secured at some expense and we hope they will be appreciated.”

Above all, he established himself as a trusted neutral director at tournaments, no matter who was playing. The importance of this neutrality to his business model was illustrated by an unusual legal case in 1938. The “3AW Women’s Association” had decided that they wanted to play a tournament against a NSW organisation, and asked Lythgo to train 20 of its members and select the best to play in the tournament. After the selection, word reached Lythgo that one of the unsuccessful aspirants had disputed his choice, saying that it showed that he did not want them to win the match. The supposed author of the statement denied she had said anything to that effect, but, Lythgo, nevertheless, launched a defamation action against her, seeking substantial damages of £249. The judge asked the parties to try and settle the case out of court with the splendidly sexist statement that ‘sometimes women misunderstood things they heard’ and suggested that the matter could be solved if the person concerned could put it on the record that she had not accused Lythgo of dishonesty or favouritism. She was prepared to do this, but Lythgo proceeded with his action regardless. The action inevitably failed, as no witnesses could be found who would confirm that the statement had ever been made, and the lady in question reiterated that she had never considered that Lythgo had ever behaved dishonestly

Lythgo had support from a high-powered bridge-playing legal team of R. Keon-Cohen and V. Braham, and they would have almost certainly advised him that his action had little chance of success. Possibly though, it was a case of no publicity is bad publicity. The case got media attention and, if nothing, else sent a loud and clear message about how serious he was about not playing favourites.

At the beginning of the 1930s, Lythgo’s was the place to be for a strong game, but, in terms of

playing strength, Lythgo’s by the mid-1930s had ceded first place to the Kallara Club in South Yarra, from which Victor Champion’s teams dominated Victorian (and Australian) bridge – although he still counted on patronage from many of the State’s leading players, including Dorothy McCance, Johnstone and Marjorie Thwaites and Charles Hickman. He also ceased to play a leading role as a bridge administrator. In the early 1930s, he was heavily involved in an embryonic Victorian Bridge Association, and was attempting to set up a national organisation linked to the Culbertson international network, for which he was the main Australian contact. This was overtaken by the broader development of the VBA and the Australian Bridge Council. Lythgo did not resist this, and was highly supportive of the VBA, including hosting its administration, right until the time of his retirement from bridge.

The business, though, continued to be solid and he was able to purchase the 275 Collins Street studio, consisting of three rooms on an entire floor of the building of approximately 3500 square feet. The thirties seemed to be a good time for him also, for non-bridge reasons. In 1933, aged 41, he married, a New Zealander, Doris Horssman Manning, also in her forties, who he is likely to have known through his family in Auckland,. This was his third attempt at marriage. The first, in 1914 was extremely brief in terms of both courtship and duration. In 1926 he married a young woman he had met in England in 1918, and who came out to marry him some eight years later. This too was very short-lived, but his final marriage continued until his death in 1960. There were no children.

Lythgo’s, like other bridge clubs, was badly affected by the advent of war in 1939. Quite apart from the absence of many players and the seeming impropriety of continuing games during this time, bridge clubs faced many practical difficulties. Petrol rationing made visitors reluctant to drive into the city. Blackout restrictions made inner city alleyways and streets seem insecure. The clubs also struggled to maintain refreshment services in the face of restrictions on butter and similar necessities.

SN wrote more than once to the Argus, complaining of unnecessary restrictions which hampered businesses such as his, and of the lack of responsiveness of officials to complaints. The complaints about responsiveness likely related

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to a telegram he had sent to the Prime Minister complaining particularly about the fact that businesses, such as his, offering refreshments rather than full meals, were unable to get butter rations – a telegram to which he had received no reply. However, unknown to him, the lack of reply was deliberate. In the telegram, almost certainly as rhetoric only, he had said that he would be unable to contribute to war bonds because he would have to use his savings to buy butter on the black market. This was certainly rhetoric – no one (at least no one with SN's intelligence) seriously intending to buy on the black market would advertise this to the authorities in advance – but the authorities could also not be seen to ignore such a stated intention. The telegram had, therefore, been referred to the Director of Rationing in Victoria for investigation of black market activities, with an instruction that there be no reply to the letter pending the investigation.

As can be expected, nothing came out of this and at the end of the war, among bridge clubs, Lythgo's was the last commercial one standing – but only just. In 1945, he resumed aggressive advertising – focussing on auction bridge, which seemed at the time to be making a comeback against contract. By early 1946, though, he decided that enough was enough. In February, 1946 he informed the VBA that he would no longer be in a position to host the Association and in February 1946, he advertised the business and the floor of the building it occupied for sale.

Following the closure of the club, SN disappeared from the bridge scene almost as abruptly as he had appeared in 1930. By the time of his death in 1960, aged 68, he was largely unknown to the newer generation of bridge players. Ever the pragmatist, to earn a living, he had actually gone back to his previous trades of building and carpentry. Among the public works for which he successfully tendered, was the refurbishment of the merry-go-round in the Melbourne Zoo – perhaps appropriate for somebody who more than once and more than most had ridden the swings of fortune.

This article is based on information from defence and patent files and John Curtin papers in the National Archives, the Argus and Age newspapers, Victorian birth, deaths and marriages records, the Victorian Government Gazette, Commonwealth Electoral Rolls and Cathy Chua's History of Australian Bridge. **Keith Ogborn, ABF Historian**

What should I bid?

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The best August submission was from Michael Wilkinson of Sydney.

With both sides vulnerable and playing IMPs, I was West with:

♠ J
♥ K J 9 8
♦ Q
♣ J 10 9 8 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥
?			

What should I bid?

We were playing a weak notrump, and open 1♥ with 4-4 in the majors and a strong notrump - so partner will only hold three clubs if 4-3-3-3 on a major.

Kieran's Reply:

Michael,

Lots of stuff going on here. 2♥ is misleading at a couple of levels - 2♣ might work constructively (if partner has a good hand I may be able to figure out what to do next), 3♣ totally misdescribes the offensive strength, 1NT shows the points and the stopper, but overlooks the 4-7 shape completely.

What bothers me is the spades - there must be a huge chance that opponents can make a bunch of spades, maybe game - if they can find their fit

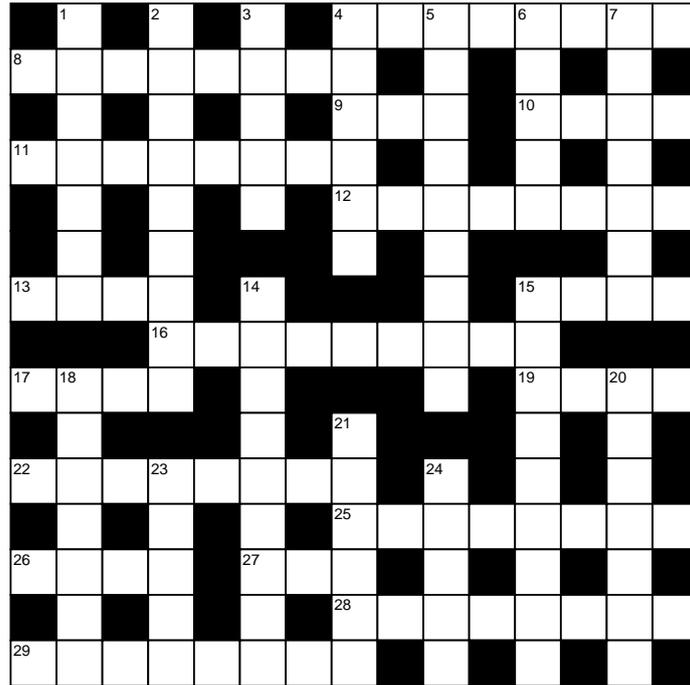
So, I'd like to bury the spade fit without hurting our constructive auction too much. My choice is 2NT, emphasising the heart stoppers and counting on the massive club fit to provide the tricks I need. Maybe I'll make 3NT opposite a minimum strong notrump. Or, maybe it will just be high enough to kill the opponents' spades.

Regards, Kieran.

Spring National Results

In the final of the Spring National Open Teams, **NOBLE**, Barry Noble - George Bilski - Michael Prescott - Ishmael Del'Monte - Hugh Grosvenor defeated **HORWITZ**, Helen Horwitz - Nabil Edgton - Andy Hung - Adam Edgton - Justin Howard - Michael Whibley 199 - 107 IMPs.

Puzzle 1094



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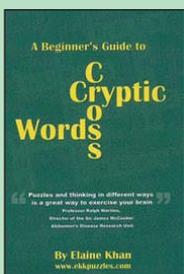
ACROSS

- 4 A quiet model with lasers can be used to extinguish smoker.(8)
 8 A soldier model at otherwise irritating person.(8)
 9 Single doctor of theology gives sum.(3)
 10 Edge a small measure.(4)
 11 Hail which will ring a hundred blood group.(4, 1, 3)
 12 Audits insects quietly inside.(8)
 13 Graduate student with one holiday destination.(4)
 15 Unable to use slang?(4)
 16 Stage background curtain gives Cottesloe Yacht Club learner, or a mother!(9)
 17 Nothing we ever say for a start shows he hasn't paid.(4)
 19 Worker rode crazy.(4)
 22 Upset one Governor General at Rhode Island the day before...(8)
 25 Ten measure no student beginners inside the hot foreign rock fragment.(8)
 26 False bible god is with a black sheep student.(4)
 27 Abbreviate roughly part of ticket arrival time.(1,1,1)
 28 Elements having a combined effect make firm loud cast member.(8)
 29 TV alien visitor regarding head of Sydney company is outdoors.(8)

DOWN

- 1 Sayings by Christ not found in the Gospels makes a chart one.(7)
 2 Site latch rearranges field exercises.(9)
 3 Attach branch.(5)
 4 Sailor is engrossed in operatic solo for second half of Saudi country.(6)
 5 Stows skins before a small lane.(5, 4)
 6 Right about initials is to the east for lift.(5)
 7 Mexican peninsula empty. You can take small thanks.(7)
 14 Sharp head gives severity.(9)
 15 Rogue is sick of accounts for cars.(9)
 18 Little bird in a state with string appendage.(7)
 20 Zero tone I'm confused about feeling.(7)
 21 Large US company coax the outside to a mess.(6)
 23 Measure of a Sheik?(5)
 24 French one providing you start to merge.(5)

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Oh, What a Tangled Web

The art of deception is a legitimate skill found in any experienced player's arsenal. It can take many forms ranging from subtle falsecards, all the way through to deliberate psyches. It also includes what are sometimes called 'tactical' bids.



Dorothy Rice Sims, the matriarch of the psychic bid, coined the term about 80 years ago. Dorothy was also a talented motorcycle racing champion, an aviatrix, a sculptress, and a writer of crime novels! She happened one day to bid, perhaps by accident, a suit she did not have, and afterwards she meant to say that her effort was "psychological". What she actually said was "psychic", and ever since then, imaginative players who grossly exaggerate the length of a suit or the strength of a hand, have described these manoeuvres as 'psychics'. Bridge was in its heyday during this era, and psyches became prevalent throughout the bridge tournament circuit. Dorothy ultimately published her ideas in 1932 under the title of 'Psychic Bidding'.

The Laws define a psychic (psych [e]) call as, "a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or of suit length." Usually the resultant effect is similar to that of a misbid, in that the actual hand held is quite different to that expected by partner, and/or documented on the system card. Just as it is not illegal to misbid (everyone makes mistakes), neither is it an infraction to psych. The only real difference is that a misbid is accidental, whereas a psych is intentional.

Of all the possible deceptive ploys, it is undoubtedly psyching that seems to cause the most consternation amongst average players. I suppose this is because one can easily accept losing to superior cardplay or to someone who has bid better than oneself, however, it somehow feels worse when you are led astray through an opponent's deception. In poker, it is certainly galling to be bluffed out of the pot when holding the best hand at the table, and I think many bridge players feel the same way about psyches.

The Laws do, however, accept psyching as part of the game of bridge. Law 40C1 says, "A player

may deviate from his side's announced understandings, always provided that his partner has no more reason to be aware of the deviation than have the opponents." While Law 40C2 continues, "...no player has any obligation to disclose to opponents that he has deviated from his announced methods."

The most common reason players psych is to obstruct the opponents from finding their best contract. For many, the psychic bidder seems to throw caution to the wind, walking where angels fear to tread. Many players have bittersweet experiences with psyches, be it from an unscrupulous opponent, cunning partner, or self-inflicted from within. Psyching often leads to very good or very bad scores, so if you wish to roll the dice on the assumption that there are two opponents to mislead and only one partner, then you are legally entitled to do so.

What, however, is not legal, is to be in a position where you are able to potentially diagnose whom at the table 'doesn't have his bid' because of some previous experience of partner's psyching habits. This becomes a violation of Law 40, because you now have more reason to be aware than the opponents!

To whit, "Repeated deviations lead to implicit understandings which then form part of the partnership's methods and must be disclosed..."

Psyching in new and irregular partnerships is OK, but repeated psyches involving long-term partnerships become a real problem because the players invariably get to know in which situations each are likely to deviate from system, and also the type of hands they usually hold for these actions. Frivolous calls are also frowned upon by many bridge organisations. There is a fundamental assumption that all the contestants are trying at all times to win. Hence to psych with the reasonable expectation of obtaining a higher score is fine, whereas to psych because one is bored, or out of contention, is not.

Trust and confidence are cornerstones of partnership bidding and psychic bidding can be very destructive to a partnership's longevity. This is why (by the early 1960's) as bidding theory developed and the effectiveness of the longterm partnership became evident, psyching fell out of favour.

To conclude look at the small amount of doggerel on the subject by Edgar Kaplan:



Gary

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Ish

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PSYCHING
*Thanks for the Bulletin's clever
 Clarification endeavour:*

*It's legal to psych
 As much as you like,
 So long as you like to psych never!*

Breaking The Bridge Rules
– First Hand Play

By Barry Rigal, Master Point Press, Toronto, 2010, soft cover, 174 pages, \$29.95 postfree



Barry Rigal writes a regular column on card play technique for the English 'Bridge' magazine. In his latest book, he presents a goldmine of advanced plays, based on "breaking the rules", when not to play second hand low, or third hand high, or lead the top of a sequence, plus much more.

Did you know, for instance, that with 1042 opposite A8653, you should start the suit by leading the ten? Or that with 942 opposite A8653 or AK765 you should start by leading the nine? This deal was a beauty:

East deals

♠ J 5
♥ A J 10 9 6 5
♦ Q J 7 2
♣ 9

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

♠ K 9 7
♥ K Q 8 3
♦ 6 5 4
♣ A J 10

West	North	East	South
Shofel	Franco	Frydich	De Falco
Pass	4♣ ¹	Pass	1♥
All Pass		Pass	4♥

1. Splinter

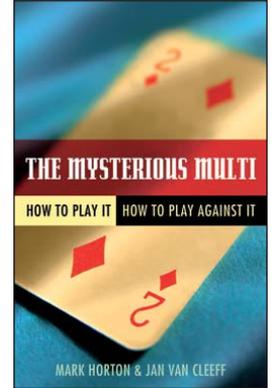
You are East. Despite the 4♣ splinter, partner leads ♣7. Declarer wins your queen with the ace, ruffs ♣J in dummy, and draws two trumps ending in hand, your partner discarding a diamond on the second trump. Declarer now plays a diamond to dummy's queen and your king, and you return a diamond. Partner wins ♦A and returns a third diamond to dummy's jack. Are you focussed? Declarer now leads ♠J? Frydich was ready, and he ducked smoothly, but unfortunately he was not the smoothest player at the table, and De Falco ran ♠J to bring home his game contract.

De Falco knew from the lead that East had ♣KQ, and had seen ♦K, so he knew that as a passed hand, East could not have ♠A.

Highly recommended, and a treat to read, although even strong players will not have seen many of the situations on offer.

The Mysterious Multi

By Mark Horton & Jan Van Cleeff, Master Point Press, Toronto, 2010, soft cover, 208 pages, \$29.95 postfree



The authors first detail the early history of the Multi, and then describe the various types of hand you can include in your Multi 2♦, with continuations. Having decided on what hands make up your Multi, they then elaborate on how you can now play your 2♥ and 2♠ openings – Dutch Twos, 5 major and 4 plus minor - 2♥ showing both majors – 2♥ showing 10-15 three suited including hearts, and more. Plus of course defences to all these methods.

For good measure you might like to play your 2NT opening as 5-5 in the minors, 6-10 HCP

Or perhaps 6-10, or 18+. Also the very popular Multi-Landy defence to opponent's 1NT opening is discussed thoroughly, plus the 2♦ response to 1♣ as a Multi is also there.

Dutch Twos, 5 major and 4+ minor, continue to be the most popular adjunct to the Multi. This sort of thing is not uncommon:

West deals, EW Vul

♠ A K J
♥ K 2
♦ A J 9 7 6
♣ J 10 2

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

♠ Q 6 5
♥ 10 7
♦ K Q 4 3 2
♣ Q 7 5

West	North	East	South
All Pass	Bertens	Pass	Bakkeren
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT

3NT proved unbeatable, making 10 tricks on a

spade lead.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Westra		Ramond	
2♥	Dbl	4♥	Dbl
All Pass			

Even with ♥K wrong, 4♥ was cold, +790, a 15 IMP double game swing.

A very professional book, not short on detail, with lots of hands, and pictures of players. Even if you're not interested in jazzing up your two bids, the defensive methods will prove useful.

*Reviews by Paul Lavings,
Paul Lavings Bridge Books & Supplies*

New Zealand National Congress

At this recent event, the Open Pairs was won by Denis Humphries - Alan Turner.

In the Teams Final, CORNELL, Mike Cornell, Ashley Bach, Martin Reid, Peter Newell, Tom Jacob, David Ackerley defeated LESTER, Stephen Lester, Jane Lennon, John & Jane Skipper by 158.5 - 82 IMPs (after a concession).

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Rydges has refurbished Cahoots Bar and built another new bar and Italian restaurant on the ground floor.

There are also several new restaurants in a new complex directly behind Rydges Lakeside, a supermarket, café and also new accommodation within 3 minutes walk of the hotel. Nearby in the city there is a vast choice of restaurants of all types to choose from. With so many places within Rydges to meet with teammates and friends, the Summer Festival will be the great bridge and social event that it was.

There is also

- **NO** night play in 2011!
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For full details visit www.summerfestivalofbridge.com

Looking forward to an exciting 2011 Summer Festival of Bridge

Coaching Cathy at contract

DUCK BILLING

Hey Maestro,

I am in the hand-play wars again, as these two examples indicate. The first hand was just a partscore, but we got a bottom when absolutely nothing worked. I know what you seem to always say about bad luck, so I won't mention it.

War Wound #1

East deals, NS Vul

♠ K J 4 2
♥ 5 3
♦ 9 3
♣ A 10 7 6 5

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

♠ 8 5
♥ A K 6 4 2
♦ K 6
♣ Q J 8 4

East opened 1♦ and I overcalled 1♥. West bid 1♠ and Glenda doubled to show a responding hand. I bid 2♥ over 2♦ and that was it.

West led a diamond and East played ♦A and another. I won ♦K and played the top two trumps.

On the third round of trumps, West discarded a spade. East won and cashed his winning trump before playing another diamond. I ruffed, and finessed in clubs. That lost, and the defence took two more diamonds and ♠A.

Two off, vulnerable, was a bad score, needless to say.

War Wound #2

I was playing this hand on BBO, and my partner took me to 6♦.

North deals, NS Vul

♠ 8 6 5
♥ K 6
♦ 10 8 5
♣ A Q 7 6 5

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

♠ A
♥ A 9 5
♦ A K Q 7 4 2
♣ 9 4 2

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West led ♠K. I won and drew trumps in three rounds. Then I took the club finesse, and it worked!

When I cashed ♣A, the cup of sweet success was quickly dashed from my lips when East discarded. Now I didn't have enough entries to dummy to set up the last club and get back to it, so I had to give them a club and a heart. I feel quite unlucky but I know you are going to say that I wasn't.

Luv, Cathy

Dearest Cathy,

If you imagine the players you fear are always luckier than you, it might tell you something. Both hands required a ducking play, but for different reasons.

On the first deal, it may have been OK to take the club finesse at trick two, but I can understand why that was unattractive. However, I want you to look at what happens if you play a low heart from each hand at trick two.

First of all, the opposition won't be keen to lead a third diamond, because dummy has a trump. They may instead play a black suit or a trump. Either way, you retain control. You can now play ♥A, K and, when the suit doesn't break, start on your clubs.

East can win and lead a diamond but you will trump and play more clubs, leaving the top trump outstanding. If East resists the temptation to trump a club until the fourth round (best), you will be one off at worst. If East trumps the third round, you will score enough clubs to make the contract, no matter what. Your ducking play in this example is intended to maintain control.

In the second deal, a ducking play is required once you draw trumps immediately, but this time it will be for the purpose of preserving communications. You correctly observed that you lacked the entries to enjoy the club winner you had worked so hard to establish. If you duck a round of clubs, you keep ♣A as an extra entry to ruff the fourth round, whilst retaining your heart entry for the purpose of cashing the fifth.

Actually, the best play is to duck the first round of clubs, because this caters for the possibility of a singleton king sitting over the queen. Note, too, that you could have ruffed a heart in dummy before drawing trumps. That would have worked as well. Always look at the ruffing potential of your dummy before drawing trumps! But that's another lesson!

Best wishes, David



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Vale Jessel Rothfield

It doesn't seem that long ago I wrote a heartfelt personal message following the sudden death of Carole Rothfield (April 23, 2007). Now I am penning one for her darling Jessel, who passed



away peacefully at home on September 10, 2010. It was great to be able to insert a lengthy article featuring Jessel in the last ABF Newsletter, and I hope that he saw it.

When I left Australia to return to New Zealand in 2009, Jessel and I said our goodbyes at his home, the day before I left. He had recently suffered a series of debilitating strokes that left him drained but feisty. He yearned for independence, and if it had been possible, I would have stayed to care for him in his apartment in Toorak, as he begged me. I feared it would be the last time I would see Jessel, and this was to be the case.

There will be other words written about Jessel's longtime support and sponsorship of bridge, the ABF, bridge players and his achievements, but my words remember the man. Jessel was an individual, gifted with so many talents, and sparking on all 12 cylinders, almost until the end of his remarkable life. He offered me friendship, insight, companionship, and an understanding of the value of family life. Anyone who has been involved in a Rothfield family affair has come away marvelling at the bond that inextricably links Carole and Jessel's respective offspring.

I remember a passion for health and fitness (my first introduction to Carole and Jessel was in the gym at the Hong Kong Intercities tournament in 1990). I remember the wonderful fruit and seafood lavishly served while staying in the couple's apartment during many Gold Coast Congresses. I remember being asked to pen a verse about Carole, and having it sung at her birthday party, at Jessel's request. Following Carole's death, I remember Jessel organising a fitting event to celebrate her life, at Borin Bridge Centre's Christmas Congress.

I also remember seeing a diminished Jessel struggling to reassert his independence while convalescing in hospital, already planning how he was to get about.

And now, Jessel, you are at peace, and with your beloved Carole. I miss you, and will never forget the impact you had on my life. Farewell, old friend.

Gold Coast Congress Update

Entry Form

The entry form is now available on the web and online entries are open.

Format

No major changes. Due to popular demand we now have an Intermediate Pairs as well as teams for people under 500 MPs. The Seniors, Intermediate, Restricted and Novices Teams will all play 12 rounds of Swiss the same as the Open. Finals for all teams will be held on the Friday. We have added an extra round to the Ivy Dahler Swiss Pairs. As well as the Mixed Teams (which must comprise two mixed pairs to receive the trophy for 2011 only) we have the Same Sex Teams.

40 Years Plus Attendees

We are compiling a list of people who have attended more than 40 GC Congresses. We would appreciate it if you or somebody you know qualifies - please contact Ray or Kim.

Attendees from 1962 - 1972

Similarly I would like to identify anyone who played in the Congress during the first 10 years and who will be attending next year's Congress - please contact Ray or Kim.

Tuesday Night Teams

50 years ago, people dressed up to play bridge, and as part of our celebrations, we are going to encourage everyone to make an effort to dress up for the first night of the teams. Men, please feel free to wear a tuxedo! The more formal, the better, as far as I am concerned, and gold is good! If you are going to still rock up in your shorts and thongs, perhaps even a gold shoelace around the neck as a mini cravat!!

History

Jan Peach, Geoff Slack-Smith and Eva Berger have been doing a wonderful job of collating old records, newspaper articles and photos. We are deeply appreciative of the Gold Coast Bridge Club for the help they have given, and the material they have supplied. Anyone who has interesting material especially relating to the early days please contact Kim or I and we will pass on.

Accommodation

Please check our website for any deals we have negotiated. We encourage you to contact the team at Hello Gold Coast Travel www.hellogoldcoast.com.au on 1300 244 348 (you get to speak to a real person!) or Connie on schoutrop@bigpond.com

Ray Ellaway

McCutcheon Trophy - Top 50 at October 31, 2010

1. Jamie Ebery	304.08	18. Margaret Bourke	196.71	35. Toni Sharp	165.17
2. Leigh Gold	289.4	19. Marlene Watts	195.64	36. John Brockwell	163.28
3. Paul Gosney	255.69	20. Justin Williams	190.17	37. Richard Brightling	163.2
4. Ted Chadwick	252.94	21. Kieran Dyke	188.34	38. Martin Bloom	162.84
5. George Bilski	250.67	22. Bruce Neill	186.38	39. Andy Hung	159.75
6. Peter Gill	249.82	23. Warren Lazer	186.03	40. Justin Howard	159.63
7. Bob Richman	244.3	24. Stan Klofa	180.29	41. Robert Gallus	159.14
8. Arjuna de Livera	244.12	25. Paul Lavings	179.27	42. George Smolanko	159.1
9. Nabil Edgtton	231.54	26. Adam Edgtton	177.32	43. Michael Courtney	159.08
10. Sartaj Hans	231.04	27. Simon Hinge	176.42	44. David Beauchamp	158.66
11. Neville Francis	227.97	28. Andrew Mill	175.89	45. Pauline Hammond	157.77
12. Avi Kanetkar	216.54	29. Michael Wilkinson	173.87	46. Andrew Peake	157.67
13. Tony Nunn	215.78	30. Nikolas Moore	168.19	47. Jeanette Reitzer	157.04
14. Pauline Gumby	208.64	31. Sara Tishler	167.43	48. Ian Thomson	155.89
15. Ian Robinson	206.6	32. Elizabeth Havas	167.28	49. Andrew Hegedus	152.72
16. Ron Klinger	206.23	33. Kim Morrison	166.73	50. Matt Mullamphy	152.56
17. Terry Brown	196.71	34. John Zollo	165.32		

Youth Week Update

The 2011 Australian Youth Championships are fast approaching, and this coming year is poised to be the best yet. The championships run from Saturday, 15th to Friday, 21st January, in parallel with the first week of the Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra. We have a superb new venue at Rydges Eagle Hawk Canberra Resort, and expect a mix of new participants along with some older hands (whose names have been cropping up at the top of Open events recently). As with the past few years, most players will stay at the venue as part of a great value package, including all entry fees, meals and accommodation.

The Youth Week is open to players born in 1981 or later. It includes pairs on the weekend, teams on the Monday and Tuesday, then other events

and activities for the rest of the week while the top 10 under-26 pairs start slogging it out for spots in the 2011 Australian Junior Team. For more information, see the flier on page 23, have a look at the brochure on the ABF website, or email me at youthweek@abf.com.au.

Players of any experience level are most welcome, and I particularly encourage new players to give it a go – this will be my 15th Youth Week, but the first time I played in the event I had only learned to play bridge in the preceding two months! I also encourage the wider bridge community to follow what is going on: results will be posted on the ABF website, alongside copies of Daily Bulletins published during the week. These should be an entertaining read for all bridge players.

Griff Ware



the Australian
internet bridge club

Just because we're all mates

2010 IBPA Awards

Ron Klinger reported the deal below, featuring Michael Courtney, in the Sydney Morning Herald, October 11, 2009.



The article took out the Rose Cliff Declarer Play Of The Year Award, announced during the World Bridge Series in Philadelphia (see Bulletin 12).

Anticipation

“Michael Courtney of Sydney found an ingenious deceptive play to divert East from the winning play on this deal from rubber bridge:

North deals, nil vul

♠	10 3
♥	6 4
♦	A Q 10 8 7 5
♣	5 3 2

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

♠	K Q 4
♥	Q 9 2
♦	J 9 2
♣	A K 9 8

West	North	East	South
	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led ♠6 to ♠10, ♠J and ♠K. Courtney took the losing diamond finesse. East thought it a good idea to cash the heart winners before returning a spade, and so he led ♥K. West was keen to deny possession of the heart queen and so he followed with the jack. Because ♠6 opening lead was fourth highest, and Courtney could see the three and the four, he was aware that West had at most six spades, and so East had another spade.

Courtney was naturally eager to inhibit a spade switch by East, and so when East continued with ♥A, he followed smoothly with the queen! West continued to unblock by playing ♥10. Completely, taken in, East played a third heart. Surprise, surprise, South's ♥9 won the trick. Suddenly a contract which would, under normal circumstances be three down, was made easily.

Well done, Mr. Courtney!

2010 World Bridge Series

Held from October 2 - 16 in Philadelphia, this event gives players from all around the world to enter, independent of their country's target events. The main teams event is the Rosenblum Cup, the Open event, and the McConnell Cup for Women's Teams. In recent years, the Rand Cup has been included for Seniors' Teams. The main pairs event is the Generali, which has both an Open and a Women's field. A variety of side events including the Mixed Pairs, Seniors Pairs (Hiron Cup), World Mixed Swiss Teams, Junior Teams and Youngsters Pairs make for a huge event.

Of particular relevance to those of us back home was the Generali World Open Pairs, simply because a number of Australian pairs performed extremely well. The event was won by Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein, US experts, pictured at right.



1. Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein, 57.58
21. Stephen Burgess - Michael Courtney 51.45
24. Ashley Bach - Ishmael Del'Monte, 50.93
34. Bill Jacobs - Ben Thompson 50.42

And in the Generali World Women's Pairs:

1. Lynn Deas - Beth Palmer (USA), 57.10
23. Nevena Djurovic - Pauline Evans, 49.08

The Rand Cup (Seniors) winners were Garey Hayden, John Holland, Gunnar Hallberg, Reese Milner and Paul Hackett from Great Britain.

The China Ladies Team, behind by 8 IMPs at the halfway point in the McConnell Cup final, outscored their Dutch opponents 90-41 in the second half to win the championship 134-93. The winning team was Ling Gu, Yan Lu, Ming Sun, Hongli Wang, Xuefeng Feng and Yanhui Sun..

The Rosenblum Cup saw two all-USA squads contest the final, with *DIAMOND*, John Diamond, Fred Gitelman, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss, Brian Platnick defeating *NICKELL*, Bob Hamman, Ralph Katz, Zia Mahmood, Jeff Meckstroth, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell by 121 - 78 IMPs.

The Mixed Pairs was won by Donna Compton (USA) and Fulvio Fantoni (Italy) with Barbara Travis and Subhash Gupta (India) in 13th place.



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Left-to-right: Justin Howard, Nabil Edgtton, Michael Whibley, Adam Edgtton and Andy Hung

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Recent Results

Commercial Club Bridge Club Congress

Three pairs tied for first in the Swiss Pairs:
Noel Bugeia - George Stockham, Kim Frazer - Tania



Gariepy, Kerrin Daws - Charlie Schwabegger.
The first two of these pairs are pictured above.



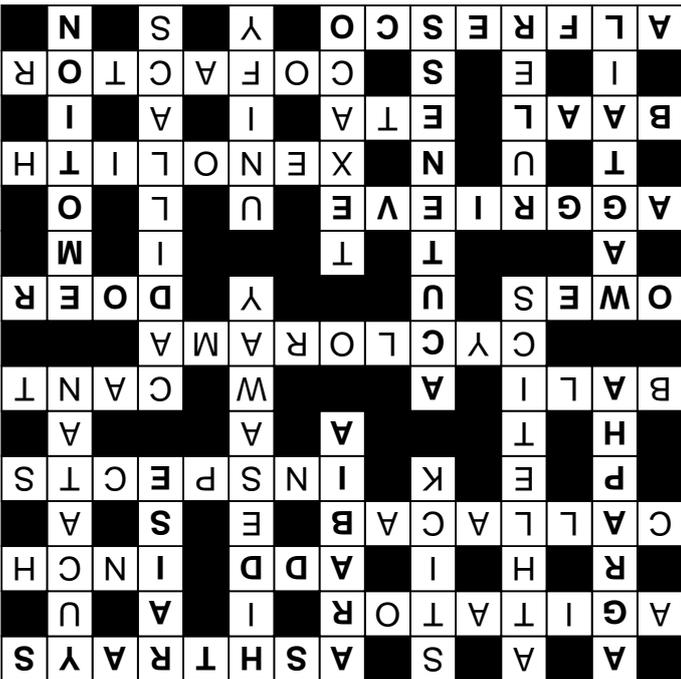
The Swiss Teams was won by Bob Gallus, Stan Klofa, Alex Czapnik and Stephen Weisz, pictured at left.

Best Local Pair: Sue McConnell - Elaine Mann

Swiss Teams:

2. Neil Ewart, Blaine.Howe, Chris.Quail, Richard.Hills
3. Raji Muir, Ian Muir, Alan Glasson, Kathie Radcliffe

Best Local Team: Joan Sattler, Jenny Stevens, Margaret Doyle, Jacqui Flemming



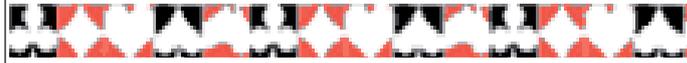
Solution:

Puzzle 1094

Grand National Pairs – National Final

The Grand National Pairs Final will be played in Canberra at Rydges Lakeside as part of the Summer Festival of Bridge. The dates are Saturday and Sunday the 22nd and 23rd January 2011. Play will consist of two sessions on each of these days, with play starting at 9.30am and 2.30pm. A prizegiving function will follow play on Sunday, with drinks and nibbles offered from 6.30pm. We are hoping that close to 120 pairs will compete in the GNP National Final. We are aiming to complete 30 boards during each of the four sessions. Reimbursement of travel subsidies will be made to all participants between sessions on Saturday 22nd January, unless other prior arrangements have been made.

The Summer Festival of Bridge has an attractive programme of events both before, and after, the GNP National Final. All GNP participants are encouraged to take the opportunity to play in some of these events. Please see a Summer Festival brochure at your club or visit the Summer Festival website www.summerfestivalofbridge.com for details.



2011 ABF Playoffs

The ABF Management Committee and Tournament Committee have determined the closing date for entry to the Open & Women's Playoffs.

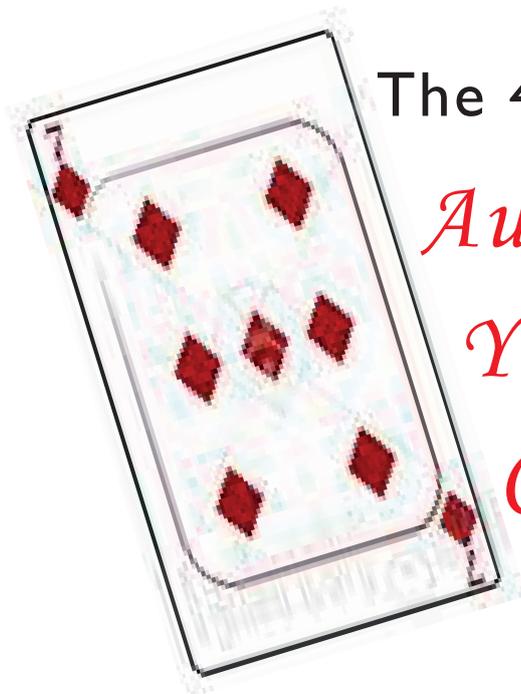
Open Tier 1 and Womens: 6.00pm, Friday, 14th January 2011

Open Tier 2, 6.00pm, Friday, 11th March, 2011, however, late entries may be accepted to facilitate the movement.

I am waiting on the Finance Committee to determine both the entry fees and the subsidies.

Jane Rasmussen, ABF Secretariat





The 43rd annual
*Australian
Youth Bridge
Championships*

Saturday 15th to Friday 21st January 2011

at

Rydges Eagle Hawk Canberra Resort
999 Federal Highway ACT/NSW Border ACT 2601

(Also Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd January at Rydges Lakeside for those pairs
who finish 2nd through 5th in the Australian Junior Team Selection Butler)

Open to players born in 1981* or later
International participants welcome

full-week price: \$480† (FT Students \$400†)

Includes ALL Bridge, Meals and Accommodation

Weekend Youth Pairs (2 days 1 night) only: \$100 (\$85)

Entries and info: youthweek@abf.com.au

www.abf.com.au/youth/events/ayc/

Director: Matthew McManus

Tournament Organiser: Griff Ware 0435 368 343 (m)

* Players who qualify for the Australian Junior (under-26) Team Selection Butler must satisfy eligibility requirements including being born on or after 02/01/1985.

† Full-week price includes \$20 discount for payments made before 24/12/2010. After this date the price is \$500 (\$420). Accommodation is in multi-share rooms. Twin-share rooms are available at a surcharge of \$25 pppn. The daily attendance rate is \$85 (\$70) per day and night.



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