

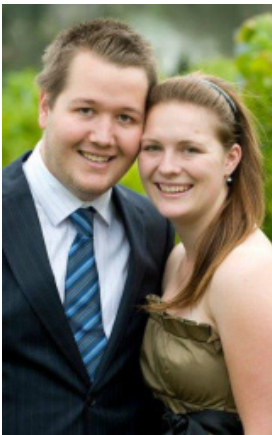
# AUSSIE YOUTH BRIDGE BULLETIN

Bulletin Editor: Andy Hung

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ISSUE 8

## Congratulations – Laura Ginnan and Peter Hollands are now engaged!



Congratulations to Laura Ginnan and Peter Hollands!  
To put it in Justin Lall's words:

*"The luckiest woman in the world! If only I had been born a woman, so I could have had the chance to be Ms. Pete Hollands. Life is so unfair sometimes ☺"*

Peter Hollands and Laura Ginnan

## ABF PRE-ALERTS!

For 2013

DATES	EVENT	WHERE
<u>JUN</u> 6 - <u>JUN</u> 10	2013 VCC	Melbourne
<u>JUL</u> 6 - <u>JUL</u> 16	2013 ANC	Adelaide
<u>AUG</u> 3 - <u>AUG</u> 11	3 <sup>rd</sup> World Youth Teams Congress	Atlanta (USA)
<u>AUG</u> 19 - <u>AUG</u> 25	2013 Youth APBF	Hong Kong



## AUSSIE JUNIORS PLAYING AT THE 2013 YEH BROS CUP

Justin Howard, Peter Hollands, Michael Whibley and Liam Milne recently competed in the 2013 Yeh Bros Cup in Yokohama, Japan. They took out 9<sup>th</sup>



place in the qualifying, defeated New Zealand in the Round of 16, and thereafter fell to the Netherlands, the eventual winners, in the Round of 8. You can read about it [here](#).

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013 was a sad day. Bobby Richman, one of Australia's finest bridge players and a great supporter of Youth Bridge, passed away on this day. Sartaj Hans has written a tribute which you can on [page 10](#).

Just as we completed this bulletin, we heard that Rabbi Leonard Helman, kind sponsor of two annual ABF Youth Awards, had also sadly passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> June. You can read more about Rabbi Helman on the [ABF website](#).

## CONTENTS

- Pre-Alerts!..... 1
- Checkback (Results)..... 2
- 2013 NSW Youth Trials  
By Edward Burrowes..... 4
- Turning Japanese  
By Liam Milne..... 7
- Bobby Richman by Sartaj Hans... 10
- QLD Youth by Pat Hobson..... 11
- 2013 VIC Youth Trials  
By Justin Howard..... 12
- VIC Youth Weekend Training  
By Laura Ginnan..... 16
- Redouble in Action  
By Susan Humphries..... 21
- Kibitzer's Corner..... 25
- Paul Lavings Bridge..... 26
- Suit Combinations..... 28
- Beefing Up Conventions..... 29
- State Associations..... 30

THESE ARE SHORTCUT HYPERLINKS!

Email suggestions or articles to [youthbridge.au@gmail.com](mailto:youthbridge.au@gmail.com)

# CHECKBACK (Results)

## 18<sup>TH</sup> NEC CUP

16 APR – 21 APR, 2013 (Yokohama, Japan)

For more details, please visit the Japan Contract Bridge League website [here](#).

Open Teams	Place	Team
Qualifying	7 <sup>TH</sup> (of 47)	Australian Youth Team
Open Teams Knockouts	1 <sup>ST</sup>	<b>Russia:</b> Andrey Gromov, Evgeny Gladysh, Alexander Dubinin, Mikhail Krasnosselski, Sebastiaan Drijver, Sjoert Brink
	=5 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>Australian Youth:</b> Justin Howard, Peter Hollands, Liam Milne, Michael Whibley

## 2013 YEH BROS CUP

22 APR – 26 APR, 2013 (Yokohama, Japan)

For more details, please visit the Japan Contract Bridge League website [here](#).

Open Teams	Place	Team
Qualifying	9 <sup>TH</sup> (of 24)	Australian Youth Team
Open Teams Round of 16	Australian Youth	R1: 52, R2: 47, Total IMPs: 99
	New Zealand	R1: 35, R2: 20, Total IMPs: 55
Open Teams Quarter Finals	Australian Youth	R1: 50, R2: 2, Total IMPs: 52
	Netherlands	R1: 44, R2: 36, Total IMPs: 80
Open Teams Flnals	Italy	R1: 25, R2: 25, R3: 22, Total IMPs: 78.5 (+6.5 c/o)
	Netherlands	R1: 27, R2: 48, R3: 27, Total IMPs: 102
Consolation Swiss Teams	Place	Team
	8 <sup>TH</sup> (of 16)	Australian Youth Team

## 2013 ACT YOUTH TEAM

*Due to insufficient numbers, there was no need for trials.*

2013 ACT YOUTH TEAM	Place	Team
		John Yoon, Daryl Whitfield, Stephen Williams, Zaiga Thomann, Andrew Spooner, Zachary Neulinger

## 2013 QLD YOUTH TEAM

*Due to insufficient numbers, there was no need for trials.*

2013 QLD YOUTH TEAM	Place	Team
		Chris Larter, Jessica Brake, Angus Gray, Russel Skennerton, Anastasia Mulcahy, Andrew Gosney

## 2013 NSW YOUTH TEAM TRIALS

19 MAY, 2013 (NSWBA, Sydney, Australia)

2013 NSW Youth Team <i>(For more details, please visit the website <a href="#">here</a>)</i>	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Edward Burrowes – James Ferguson
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Alan Stoneham – Stephen Guo
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Natasha Jacobs – Tomer Libman

## 2013 VIC YOUTH TEAM TRIALS

25 MAY, 2013 (VBA, Melbourne, Australia)

2013 VIC Youth Team <i>(For more details, please visit the website <a href="#">here</a>)</i>	Place	Pair
	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Peter Hollands – Justin Howard
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Jamie Thompson – Ella Pattison
	3 <sup>RD</sup>	Nathan Howard – Maxim Henbest

## MEANWHILE AROUND THE GLOBE...

### 6<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ostend, Belgium 15 – 29 June 2013



For tournament website, click [here](#)



### 24<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wroclaw, Poland 11 – 20 July 2013



For tournament website, click [here](#)



## 2013 NEW SOUTH WALES YOUTH TEAM TRIALS

BY EDWARD BURROWES, SYDNEY

After narrowly missing out on winning the ANC at our first attempt last year, a lot of chat was thrown around about James' and my perceived favourite status heading into the ITS for the NSW youth team this year.

Perhaps all the talk was justified, after our excellent results in recent events: Youth Week (narrowly missing out on the Youth Team playoffs; losing to NZ in a hard fought test series; bravely attempting the "London Challenge"), the ITS for the NSW open team (top half of EW pairs in Round 2 of the second stage) and the Good Friday Pairs (Best Restricted Pair).

Rumours of secret training sessions with Andy Hung (quotes of "best pair I have ever coached" heard through the grapevine) and Adam Edgton only increased the hype. However, James and I knew we would ultimately be judged by our deeds at the bridge table.

If NSW are to have any shot at the ANC this year they would need an experienced and steady anchor pair (we don't mind if you call us this from now on; "The Boys" is OK as well). As such, we went into the event with three key goals:

- Bid game
- Make game
- Win IMPs

The trials consisted of 2 rounds of 5 board matches against every pair. Here are some of the highs and lows from the day:

We began strongly, surging to the lead in Round 1. Then, on the final board of the second round, James and I were EW against Tomer and Natasha.

Board 10	♠ 9 8 2		
E/All	♥ A Q 9 3		
	♦ 6 4 3		
(Edward)	♣ Q J T		(James)
♠ A 7 5		W	♠ K 3
♥ - - -		N	♥ J T 8 7 2
♦ A J 9 8 7 5 2		E	♦ Q T
♣ 6 3 2		S	♣ K 9 8 5
	♠ Q J T 6 4		
	♥ K 6 5 4		
	♦ K		
	♣ A 7 4		

The bidding went Pass-1♠-3♦-3♣ // 4♦-4♠-All Pass.

I was fairly sure 4♠ wouldn't make, but not wanting to deal any long term psychological damage to the young declarer (Tomer is only 14), I restrained from doubling. I underestimated Tomer to my peril. I didn't want to lead a spade and had a feeling a club wouldn't do us any favours.

For reasons best not mentioned in this prestigious bulletin, I preferred to underlead my ♦A rather than lead an unsupported ace.

Tomer took full advantage of my mistake, winning the lead with his kingleton. He led a low trump from hand which James won with the king. James tried his second diamond but this was ruffed by Tomer. I won the second round of trumps with the ace of spades and lead another diamond. Tomer ruffed, finished drawing trumps, crossed to the ♥A then took the club finesse. He still had a heart to lose but made his game and a cheeky 10 IMPs.

We dropped to 4<sup>th</sup> place and realised the trials were going to be a dogfight, and not the walkover we were expecting. Needless to say, I learnt my lesson – better now than at the ANC.

Match 4 saw us against the ACT spies (Stevie and John). James and I cleverly held back our best bridge, so they would spread rumours of NSW's weakness. We executed the plan perfectly, going down by 20 IMPs by letting them make all their games. Both John and Stevie seemed completely unaware of our tactics as evidenced by board 19.

Board 19	♠ J 4 3		
S/E-W	♥ A J 8 7		
(Edward)	♦ J 9 6 2		
	♣ K 8	(James)	
♠ K Q T 9 7 2		♠ 5	
♥ K 6 4 2		♥ T 3	
♦ - - -		♦ A K Q T 7 5	
♣ 7 6 3		♣ A Q 5 4	
	♠ A 8 6		
	♥ Q 9 5		
	♦ 8 4 3		
	♣ J T 9 2		

The bidding went Pass-2♠-Pass-2NT\* // Pass-3♦\*-All Pass (2NT inquiry, 3♦ Pete's Sliding Scale of Awesomeness).

John almost discovered our strategy, commenting after passing my pre-empt "It looks like you have pre-empted partner". Of course, no experienced bridge player would pre-empt with four cards in the other major.

But before John could put two and two together, James took quick evasive action. Knowing that we use Pete's Sliding Scale of Awesomeness and that I often make weak (but not terrible when vulnerable) pre-empts, he bid 2NT enquiry effectively forcing 3♦, which he could pass out. I then confused matters further by going down two, 8 IMPs out and the trap was set for the ANC.

A strong last match put us in 2<sup>nd</sup> place behind the Sydney Boys pair of Alan and Stephen at the break. It was sometimes hard to defend and bid against new partnerships that were experiencing frequent miscommunications. James and I slightly changed our tactics in the second round, with a view of achieving our pre-tournament goals. Part of this involved bidding more aggressively to force the untried partnerships into mistakes.


This plan almost came to fruition on the second last board of the day against Jack and Alan, the Canberrans-cum-Sydneysiders.

Board 24	♠ 8 2		
W/Nil	♥ K 4		
(Edward)	♦ Q 9 7 4		
	♣ A T 9 5 4	(James)	
♠ K T 9 5 4		♠ A J 3	
♥ A T 8		♥ J 9 5 3 2	
♦ K T 5 2		♦ J 8 6	
♣ 6		♣ 7 3	
	♠ Q 7 6		
	♥ Q 7 6		
	♦ A 3		
	♣ K Q J 8 2		

The bidding was Pass-Pass-2♦\*-2NT // 4♥-Dbl-All Pass (2♦ = 0-7 HCP w/ 5 card major, closer to 0 when NV).

It was also the first time I had got to use the "sick good" 2♦ opening that Glenn taught James at the Gold Coast Congress (I still think it is part of a Kiwi conspiracy to beat us in the next test match).

Every time it has been explained to me, James has emphasised the "closer to 0 points" part of the bid. So thinking James had 0 points and an absolute rock beneath me, I jumped to game, wanting to prevent our opponents playing 3NT and forcing them to guess a minor game. The double from North only confirmed my view of the situation.



However, when James put down dummy I experienced a double shock – to see 7 whole points from partner and then his comment “you run so good”. Apparently James hadn’t interpreted my 4♥ as pass or correct ...

Unfortunately I don’t quite remember the play – I ended up losing one heart, two diamonds, and a club.

At the end of the day it was an enjoyable and close fought event – in the last round 2<sup>nd</sup> played 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> had to play Stevie and John with a 20 VP spread between them. Alan and Stephen did well to hold their nerve and onto second place.

Very promising if NSW finds itself in a tight position towards the end of ANC. While other states may write us off due to our perceived inexperience, I’d like to point out that three of our teammates are under 18 and so won’t be drinking (~~as much~~ at all – Co-Ed.) during the event.

It was great to see so many new faces at the trials. Congratulations to the pairs selected:

- The anchor pair (aka ‘The Boys’)
- Stephen and Alan (‘Team black system card’)
- Natasha and Tomer (‘Team cradle snatcher’)

## TURNING JAPANESE – “AUSTRALIAN YOUTH” AT THE 2013 NEC AND YEH BROS CUP

By LIAM MILNE, SYDNEY

In mid-April, a team of Australian youth players was invited to Japan to participate in the 18th NEC Bridge Festival and the 2013 Yeh Brothers Cup. Our team was “Australian Youth”: Justin Howard - Peter Hollands, and myself playing with Michael Whibley. It would be two weeks of bridge against some of the best teams in the world, including Italy, two USA teams, and the reigning Bermuda Bowl champions, the Netherlands. By the end of it all, one team would have the bragging rights, the glory, and the US\$110,000 first prize.

The first three days of the NEC were qualifying rounds, with 4 matches per day. The first task was to make it into the top 8 (of 47 teams), which would qualify us for the quarter-finals. Mid-way through Day 1, we were well-placed having won our first two matches, when we were informed that our next match would be on BBO vugraph against the winners from 2 years ago, NedUK (Verhees-van Prooijen, Bakshi-Gold). Four boards later, we were feeling pretty good – as the Daily Bulletin put it, “We’ve waited over 30 deals for our first redoubled contract on VuGraph. Here it is, and it’s a doozy.”

Bd: 5 Dir: North Vul: N/S	<b>North</b> ♠ 72 ♥ 8 ♦ 87432 ♣ K8752	<b>East</b> ♠ 63 ♥ KJ ♦ AKQ6 ♣ J10943
<b>West</b> ♠ KQ94 ♥ A109753 ♦ 1095 ♣ ---	<b>South</b> ♠ AJ1085 ♥ Q642 ♦ J ♣ AQ6	

In the Closed Room, the Dutch pair missed an excellent game after a 1♣ opening from East, 1♠ from South, 2♦ from West (showing hearts) and 2♥ from East, all pass. The real excitement was in the other room, however ...

Michael opened the same 1♣ with the East hand, and now South bid 2♣, showing 54 or 64 either way in the majors (an unusual treatment!). Over an artificial 2♣ bid like this, our style is to play that doubling 2♣ then doubling their next bid is for takeout. If we want to penalise them, as I did here, we pass and then double on the next round.

After 1♣-(2♣)-Pass-(2♠), Michael found a nice takeout double to compete for the partscore. Now, South redoubled! Whether he intended to show a nice hand or was simply trying to scare us off is still not known, but thankfully Michael and I had a useful agreement here. If we don’t want to defend the redoubled contract, we have to bid something immediately – so, if we pass, it means we think they’ve made a mistake. After an agonising tank in the passout position (it always pays to make sure ...), Michael produced the pass card when the bidding came back around to him.

Against 2♠xx, Michael found the trump lead which went to the Jack and Queen. I returned the ♦10 to Mike’s Queen and he produced a second trump, at which point I knew that declarer couldn’t be making many tricks. Declarer won the ♠A and played a third trump to my 9. I decided to draw another round of trumps to make sure there were no accidents before playing a heart to the King that my partner was known to have on the bidding.

At this point, with good diamonds and hearts, declarer was limited to 2 trump tricks and his 3 clubs for -1600 and 16 IMPs for the boys.

After three days, we managed to sneak into 7th place and thus qualify for the knockout rounds – mission accomplished. In the first half of our quarterfinal against Russia the next morning, our boys brought back a few nice boards including this effort:

9		♠AK10		
		♥AJ1092		
		♦K62		
		♣J10		
♠QJ642	(N)	♠9753		
♥8653	W—E	♥7		
♦	S	♦J854		
♣AQ54		♣K973		
		♠8		
		♥KQ4		
		♦AQ10973		
		♣862		

Justin (Juzz) as North opened a strong 1NT, and Pete transferred to diamonds then bid 3♣, a useful treatment showing 6+♦ and a singleton spade. West doubled to try and get a spade lead against 3NT. After Juzz bid 4♦, theoretically denying a club control, Pete bid 4♥ to show a heart control and slam interest.

At this point, Juzz “knew” Pete had the Ace or King of clubs, because if Juzz has denied a club control, Pete must have one to continue trying for slam - otherwise the opponents will take the first two club tricks! So, Juzz bid 4NT (Roman Keycard) and got the response of 5♣, 1 or 4. West doubled again – it looked like he wanted a spade lead against game but a club lead against slam!

Juzz realised that he was declaring diamonds (having bid 4♦) and No-Trumps (having opened 1NT), and that a club lead through dummy’s potential King might beat the slam if West had the ♣AQ. He had a look at the bidding and realised that the only suit which his partner could be declarer in was in the suit he had cue-bid at the 4-level – hearts! Moreover, it was very likely his partner had some heart support because of his shortness in spades. So, he made the only logical bid: 6♥. West also ‘knew’ Pete had the ♣K so he led a heart ... 13 tricks claimed and +1010 for 11 IMPs when our opponents were in 3NT at our table.

Sadly we went on to lose the match by 7 measly IMPs, meaning we had only just missed out on the prize money for the first event. However, a few days later, the second event was to begin – the invitation-only Yeh Bros Cup, one of the biggest prize money events in the world. This was the event the top teams had really turned up to compete in.

After a couple of days rest, we were psyched up and ready to go. Sadly, after the first 2 rounds of qualifying, we had one single VP to our name! It would’ve been easy to get dejected, but we knew it was early days in the event, and we got our act together, winning our next 7 matches in a row (losing the last to Sweden) to qualify in ninth place.

In the first knock-out round, we found ourselves facing familiar opponents – New Zealand. After 32 boards, we had beaten them comfortably, 99-55 IMPs. As satisfying as this was, we knew there was a long way to go yet; the format of the event is somewhat unconventional, and the net result is that teams qualifying in the lower half have to play a LOT of matches before they get anywhere near the podium. There were rumours we might get an easy draw for the next match, but when we checked the draw, we were playing ... the Netherlands.



After watching the final of the 2011 Bermuda Bowl, staying up until the early hours each morning to watch the young USA2 team play against the Dutch, the names of the all of our opponents were very familiar to us. Nevertheless, at half-time, we were ahead by 6 IMPs! Michael and I also had one nice hand which justified all the hours of online bidding practice we had done before the event:

6		♠ KQ74	
		♥ 1072	
		♦ 62	
		♣ 7654	
♠ A9	N	♠ 62	
♥ AKQ98	W—E	♥ 53	
♦ Q94	S	♦ K1083	
♣ QJ3		♣ AK1092	
		♠ J10853	
		♥ J64	
		♦ AJ75	
		♣ 8	

In 3<sup>rd</sup> seat (as West, dealer is East), I opened 1♥, and Michael responded 1NT (2♣ for us would've been an artificial raise of hearts). I had a gadget available here: 2♣, showing either a club suit or 16+ points with various options. Mike bid 2♦, showing 8+ points (GF opposite the 16+ option), I bid 2♠ (various options, confirming 16+), Mike bid 2NT to find out what I had, and I bid 3♠, showing "a balanced hand (5332), 18+ points, and some interest in playing game or slam in a minor, rather than 3NT".

This was great news to Michael, who now knew we were very likely to have a club fit, as well as the potential to make 6♣ with the aid of my source of tricks in hearts. He bid 4♣, I made a 4♥ cue-bid, and he now bid Roman Keycard followed by the solid 6♣.

After the ♠K lead, I won, drew trumps, and tested the hearts, falling back on finding the Jack of diamonds if I had no luck there. Today, hearts broke so we had +1370. Our opponents in the other room were playing simple natural methods, so bidding the slam was impossible; +12 IMPs.

The Dutch proved too much for us in the second half, outscoring us 36-2 to win the match. They went on to win a three-way match the next day against the USA and Sweden, won another three-way match against Denmark (the current Vanderbilt champions) and the Yeh Bros professional team, before finally beating the Italians in the final to take down the title and the \$110,000 first place prize money.

Playing in Japan was a fantastic experience for all of us, and playing every match against world-class opponents totally changes your view of the game. Not only was the bridge excellent, but the people, the sights and the culture were amazing - Japan is truly a destination to have on your wish-list.

This time around, we were close to glory, but no cigar ... If a few hands had gone differently in each match, we would've knocked out the eventual winners of both events. With any luck, we'll be back there next year, competing against the world's best. Follow us on BBO because we'll be back for revenge!

## BOBBY RICHMAN

BY SARTAJ HANS, SYDNEY

“**JUNIOR !**” Many of us have heard Bobby Richman address us thus. That charismatic figure is unfortunately no longer with us and will be sorely missed by the entire bridge community.

Bobby was one of the towering pillars of Australian Bridge over the last few decades, having won every national title at least once. He was the first Australian Emerald Grand Master (link [here](#)), crossing the 10,000 masterpoints benchmark a few years ago. His playing career saw him top the masterpoint races in the years 1976, 1985 and 1995. He represented Australia countless times both in Open and Seniors competitions, the best results being 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Bermuda Bowl in 1979 and making the quarterfinals of the Bowl in 2003.

Bobby was a delight to hang out with and seemed to raise the energy level of any conversation with his colourful quotes and quips, many of which are being shared in the Facebook group “Tribute to Bobby Richman” (link [here](#)), a site well worth looking up.

In the 1990s, Bobby was widely referred to as “Father” by the youth bridge players of that era. Bob partnered lot of players in their formative years like Ishmael, Matt Mullamphy, Rob Fruewirth and Matthew Thomson, all of whom went on to become top Australian players in their own right.

I also had the pleasure of playing with him. In the 2002 GNOT, before the event started, Bobby had some advice for me “Junior, I don’t care what it is you are thinking about, **DON’T DO IT**”. My youthful exuberance was restrained and I played like a solid citizen, having points for my bids and pre-empting only when holding sound hands.

On the first board of the last set of the final, we had this auction:

Hans	Smolanko	Richman	Nagy
W	N	E	S
2♠	2NT	Dbl	Rdbl
Pass	3♦	Dbl	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dbl	4♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

We were trailing by 29 IMPs and the favourable vulnerability on the first board enticed me into opening 2♠ on ♠Kxxxx and nothing else. Bobby quite obviously expected a much better hand.

And then, as we can see, a typical youth bridge auction started. With all the doubles and redoubles.

With some systemic misunderstandings between our opponents. The first double was of 2NT which was cold, so was 3♦, they ran to 3NT, even that was cold! The final contract of 4♣ however was the only contract that was going down and +200 led to the start of a great momentum set, leading to a great comeback and my first ever national title.

That was life with Bobby. Always full of action, lots of doubling, lots of excitement and usually ending up ahead!

(You can also read more recollections of Bobby at Cathy Chua’s blog [here](#))

## QLD YOUTH BRIDGE GAMES

BY PAT HOBSON, GOLD COAST

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April the Surfers Paradise Bridge Club was the venue for the continuation of the “youth bridge” games being arranged by the QBA.

Nathan van Jole, assisted by Therese Tully and Andy Hung, organised this particular event.



Teacher Paul Brake gave lessons and play was in full swing for many hours for participants from Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

Having such young people in the club was certainly a buzz. I have had such positive feedback from all involved.

What a fantastic idea. Thanks to the organisers of the day.

Pat Hobson,  
President,  
Surfers Paradise Bridge Club



## 2013 VICTORIAN YOUTH TEAM TRIALS

BY JUSTIN HOWARD, MELBOURNE

On Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2013 the Victorian Youth Team selection event was held to select the team that will represent the state in the upcoming Australian National Championship Teams, held in Adelaide in the middle of July.

For top pairs, normally making their state side is simply a matter of turning up and playing for the day but in Victoria this is not the case. Victoria has in its possession 7 of the top 8 players from the Australian Youth Trials that were held in Canberra, and with the addition of two of Australia's up and coming players to the mix it was bound to be an interesting day's bridge for all attending.

With Laura Ginnan qualifying for the Victorian Women's Team, this left just four pairs in contention. Peter Hollands – Justin Howard (top qualifiers for the 2013 Australian Team), Maxim Henbest – Nathan Howard (2<sup>nd</sup> qualifying pair for the 2013 Australian Team), Lucy Henbest – Ellena Moskovsky (Ellena qualified 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Australian team playing with Lauren Travis from South Australia, and Lucy was a part of the 2012 Oceania Team that playing in the World Youth Championships) and the final pair, Ella Pattinson – Jamie Thompson (Ella played for the 2012 Oceania team and Jamie was on the 2012 under 21s team that made it to the Quarter Finals of the worlds).

The top three pairs are all extremely experienced and it was going to be a tough day for the youngsters, but with 60 boards to play and lots of confidence they were always going to be in the mix.

The day started off as many youth events do ... late. We had organised with the director to start at 10:30am rather than the seniors who had to start at 9:30. However, since most youth players are lazy and hate mornings, we didn't get underway until nearly 10:45 with 2 of the 8 players failing to make it in time; note Jamie (Guns) Thompson made it there on time coming from Echuca.

After waiting for everyone to get settled, the first match lined up with the two brothers facing off in the first match – Justin Howard and Peter Hollands vs. Nathan Howard and Maxim Henbest (there is a full record of the match on BBO as it was recorded kindly by David Thompson).

At the other table were Ellena Moskovsky and Lucy Henbest vs. Guns Thompson and Ella Pattinson. The match between the brothers was rather heated, as always, and with a few game contracts being bid which all failed, the match was set to go the way of the younger and more awesome brother Justin and the best player in the world Peter Hollands.

The biggest swing of the match came on board 9 of the set. It was a hand where all players had some choices to make and any of them could have been correct.

As the opener, I held ♠6 ♥Q82 ♦AK10982 ♣A92. I elected to open 1♦ (which in our system shows either an unbalanced hand with diamonds or any 18-19 balanced hand). Then Nathan Howard on my left overcalled 4♣ at vulnerable against not.

(Note that normally a jump in the bidding is a pre-emptive bid designed to push the opposition out of the auction or making them guess at a high level where they want to play, however at this vulnerability the penalty for going down in a contract is so high that a pre-empt at the game level is actually a hand that thinks they have a fair chance of making the game – partner has free licence to push on for slams or compete with the intention of making a game)

Peter passed, as did Max, and it was back to me: what should I do?

Ellena was faced with this tricky problem too: she decided that with only 13 points, having already opened the bidding she had done enough and passed. I decided that with Peter knowing Nathan was bidding to make his 4♠, Peter would be bidding anytime he thought the 4♠ contract would make and being not vulnerable, Peter would be happy to try for a sacrifice.

This led me to double, asking partner to do something intelligent, over which Peter bid 4NT asking me to pick my suit(s) (Peter didn't know if I had the 18-19 balanced variety, or a hand with short spades, and thus was not 100% sure if I had diamonds). I then bid 5♦ over 4NT and that was where the auction ended. Full deal:

Board 9	♠ 6	
N/E-W	♥ Q 8 2	
	♦ A K T 9 8 2	
	♣ A 9 2	
♠ Q 8 5	N	♠ A K J T 7 4 3 2
♥ K T 4	W	♥ A 9 5
♦ 6 4	E	♦ 5
♣ K T 8 6 4	S	♣ J
	♠ 9	
	♥ J 7 6 3	
	♦ Q J 7 3	
	♣ Q 7 5 3	

Max	Justin	Nathan	Peter
W	N	E	S
Pass	1♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	4NT
	5♦	All Pass	

The opposition led a top spade and switched a heart, letting me win the Queen, which allowed me to escape without a third loser.

And then with a combined effort from the Howard boys we managed to endplay Max into giving me either a trump and discard, or an extra club trick by leading away from his ♣K (Nathan had won the ♥A on the second round and played another heart after trumps were drawn). This was one off for minus 50 – can you spot how E/W could have solved the issue of letting N/S play 5♦ undoubled?

Nathan had bid 4♠ with the intention of making it but Max didn't know if he should be defending or pushing on to 5♠, and when he ended up passing it led to 11 IMPs to N/S. What Max failed to do on this hand, due to a lack of agreements, was that he could have doubled 4NT asking partner to act if he wanted to (over which Nathan would either double 5♦ or bid 5♠, both of which would at least get some of the IMPs back).

The opposition are never going to play in 4NT, so by doubling you are offering your partner a chance to do something. If you just want to double the opposition for penalty, you can pass 4NT and later double when the bid contract comes back around to you, so by doubling 4NT you are asking partner for their input into the auction.

The match finished up with Peter and Justin winning by 31 IMPs and Ella and Jamie winning by 10 IMPs.

The second match was Justin and Peter vs. Lucy and Ellena, and at the other table Nathan and Max vs. Ella and Guns.

The girls had Peter and Justin on the ropes after the first five boards, having bid a very nice 6♣ contract that protected the ♥K from the lead and which gained them 11 IMPs. At the other table, Nathan and Max found their major suit fit and with the lead going through the ♥K (with ♥AQ being offside), their slam failed.

So a nicely bid hand by the girls (other than a little key card mix-up where Lucy denied the trump Queen by mistake) and a very nice lead at the other table to capitalise on the boys getting to the inferior slam of 6♠.

After this board Peter and Justin were down by 13 IMPs, but with a little thinking outside of the box and an unusual situation, it all came back on the next board. The auction started with Lucy opening 1♣, I overcalled 3♦ and this was passed back around to Lucy who held ♠AJ2 ♥KQJ4 ♦K54 ♣A104 at unfavourable vulnerability. What would you do?

Lucy elected to double as she had 18-19 points and did not want to get robbed of her contract. This was followed by a pass by me and Ellena bidding 4♣ (converting back to Lucy's first bid suit, thus not forcing). Peter passed, Lucy passed and I was left there with ♠1063 ♥3 ♦AQ10963 ♣K72.

I knew that my partner must've had points since the opposition did not bid game, and along with the singleton heart plus my club and diamond winner, it meant that the opposition making 4♣ was highly unlikely. So I doubled.

I was the pre-empting hand so I could not have a true penalty double. This double is inviting partner to pass if he has any defence and compete if he doesn't. This double was a little risky as partner may have to bid 4♦ and we might get doubled, but it was a risk that I was happy to take. 4♣ doubled went all pass, and when dummy put down zero points and a 3334 the contract failed by 4 tricks for +1100, gamble paid off in the end. The full hand was:

Board 16	♠ T 6 3		
W/E-W	♥ 3		
	♦ A Q T 9 6 3		
	♣ K 7 2		
♠ A J 2		N	♠ 7 5 4
♥ K Q J 4		W	♥ T 6 5
♦ K 5 4		E	♦ 8 7 2
♣ A T 4		S	♣ 9 8 5 3
	♠ K Q 9 8		
	♥ A 9 8 7 2		
	♦ J		
	♣ Q J 6		

The final result of the match ended up with Peter and Justin coming out with an 11 IMP win.

At the other table Nathan and Max had another few hands where they overbid and went away with a 22 IMP loss to the youngsters.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> match between Ella and Guns vs. Peter and Justin ended up with a 13 IMP win to the boys, and at the other table Nathan and Max scraped together a 2 IMP win against the girls

for their first win of the day.

This was the first half of the day done and everyone wandered off to get lunch, some looking a little more sheepish than others on our way down. After lunch it was time to play the second round robin with the scores currently standing: Justin and Peter on 48 VPs, Ella and Jamie in 2<sup>nd</sup> place on 36 VPs, Lucy and Ellena in 3<sup>rd</sup> on 21 VPs, and Nathan and Max trailing the field on 15 VPs (note this was using the new 20 victory point scale instead of the old 25 point scale).

The second round robin started with Justin and Peter vs. Lucy and Ellena, with Nathan and Max vs. Ella and Guns at the other table. The match was full of small swings each way at both tables, with it being a draw at the other table and with Peter and Justin taking the honours in our match until the last board where both tables decided to open a 2236 14 HCP hand a Strong No-Trump. This led the other hand, which was a 4441 17 HCP, into bidding 6NT.

Ella and Guns as well as Lucy and Ellena picked up 12 IMPs on the hand giving Lucy and Ellena a small loss and Jamie and Ella another win of 10 IMPs – basically locking them into the team as long as they did not have two bad losses.

It was getting down to the pointy end of the competition and was looking to be Nathan and Max playing off against Lucy and Ellena (for all those who don't know, Lucy is Nathan's girlfriend of many years and is also Max's sister). One would make the team and the other would miss out.

The second last match did not go at all as planned for Nathan and Max with them bidding 2 failing slams and Peter and Justin bidding a making slam, leading to a 28 IMP loss to the old Howard once again.

They had almost conceded that they would not be going, however a friendly result of Ella and Guns beating Lucy and Ellena by 1 IMP left the boys in need of an 18 IMP win in the last match to make the team.

The top two pairs were both locked with Peter and Justin being over a match ahead of second place and Ella and Jamie being over a match ahead of 3<sup>rd</sup> place; this allowed the two pairs to not have to play the final match and head back to chateau de Hollands to watch to see who would be the final pair on BBO.

The boys had all the cards in the final match, and with Nathan playing 6 out of the 10 contracts and Max playing another, the girls bled IMPs against the datums losing by 18 IMPs, which secured the boys a place in the team by .01 of a victory point!

The final scores were Nathan Howard and Maxim Henbest on 39.01 and Lucy Henbest and Ellena on 39.00.

Overall it was a really fun day with all the players coming back to join in many drinks together and some chats about the day's proceedings. The final team was a surprise to many with the young guns coming up and comfortably stealing a spot from Ellena and Lucy. They will join Justin Howard and Peter Hollands along with Nathan Howard and Maxim Henbest in the ANC starting on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

## VIC YOUTH TRAINING WEEKEND

BY LAURA GINNAN, MELBOURNE

On the weekend of April 27-28 the Victorian Youth Bridge Club held its first ever training weekend. The training weekend was to be an opportunity for the 6-13 year olds (and those who might not quite make the age cut but are young at heart) who come to our weekly 2-hour sessions to have a game and to train with the older youth players,

The Saturday was kick-started by an advanced workshop by Andrew Mill. This may have been a scheduling flaw as it meant that people like Max Henbest, Nathan Howard, and Hannah Sprod (yes Hannah Sprod: blast from the past) had to make it to the VBA by 10:00am!!! In good news all accounts say that it was definitely worth it.

Following the advanced workshop, all the troops converged for lunch. This involved about 40 people taking over the VBA café area to down lasagne, choc ripple cake and frogs in a pond. When the troops were sufficiently nourished we split into two groups.



The first group's activities, aimed at the under 15s, were run by Andrew Mill. It was great to have four tables in this group, with half of them coming up from Bairnsdale where Frank Power has been running a very successful schools bridge program. With sultanas and Freddo Frogs in hand, the kids learnt about how to limit their hands and what they are trying to accomplish in the bidding. They were banished to the board room at the VBA which wasn't even enough to contain the sounds of fun and laughter.

The players that were old enough to drink coffee without it stunting their growth took part in workshops with Ben Thompson. There was a bit of a skill discrepancy so Ben was able to break them up into three different subgroups.

While he was running a lecture, Grant Kilvington (VIC and AUS Youth Captain) was supervising a subgroup that were playing problem hands which tested bidding and card play. It has been great to hear that since these workshops, Jane Rennie has improved her entry management and no longer has to sit at the table looking sheepish because all her winners are stranded in the wrong hand. At the end of the day the Bairnsdale kids jumped back in the bus and set off on the three hour journey back home - they are champions for making the trek!

After a good night's sleep, players trekked back into the VBA to take on the fierce battle for the Blaine Howe Trophy (more about that in a minute). The contest was a Pro-Am teams, with Victoria's leading players donating their time and expertise to have a game with the youth players. This prompted some interesting reactions when team members were introduced to each other, since it was clear (not mentioning any names) that some pros were a little bit in shock over just how small some of the kids were: for example, there sat Kristen and there is no way that her feet come anywhere near touching the ground when she sits at a bridge table!



After the meet and greet we got into the battle for the Blaine Howe Trophy, created in Blaine's memory as the prize for winning what will be the annual Youth/Open Vic Pro-Am.

Blaine was a great supporter of Youth Bridge and tragically passed away last year. Blaine's smile was as infectious as Giggles' giggles and his passion and fascination for the game was something that many youth players were able to share in. Blaine was always after news or an article to get on the web to promote Youth Bridge. Even in his passing Blaine is still at work supporting Youth Bridge, and of course there will be an article for the web too.

Blaine's mother Ursula has set up the Blaine Howe Foundation to provide a monetary contribution to Victorian Youth Bridge. With this money the youth club is going to run a training weekend each year and select congresses as key target events for the youth. One of the key congresses is Bairnsdale where hopefully we will see a hoard of teams made up of kids under 15 years old.

In the battle for the Blaine Howe trophy there were some quite exciting scores and it would even seem that a bit of youth rubbed off on some of the pros when you see how many 1700s were floating around. One thing that I didn't think anyone would expect on the day was this:

VIC YOUTH PRO-AM - MATCH 6

Board No: 19, Dealer: S, Vul: EW, Room Datum: 60

[Go to Previous Board](#) [Go to Next Board](#)

Teams		Score	
NS	EW	Contract Lead	Tricks NS EW
<a href="#">2 SMART Team</a>	<a href="#">4 STRONG Team</a>	2NT S	7 50
<a href="#">3 GEYER Team</a>	<a href="#">8 ARBER Team</a>	3NT S	8 50
<a href="#">4 STRONG Team</a>	<a href="#">2 SMART Team</a>	3NT S	8 50
<a href="#">5 RIDGWAY Team</a>	<a href="#">11 BLAKEMAN Team</a>	3NT S	9 400
<a href="#">7 MACREADY-BRYAN Team</a>	<a href="#">9 KAPLAN Team</a>	3NT N	8 50
<a href="#">8 ARBER Team</a>	<a href="#">3 GEYER Team</a>	3NT S	10 430
<a href="#">9 KAPLAN Team</a>	<a href="#">7 MACREADY-BRYAN Team</a>	PASS	0
<a href="#">10 MAGEE Team</a>	<a href="#">6 LESTER Team</a>	3NT S	9 400
<a href="#">11 BLAKEMAN Team</a>	<a href="#">5 RIDGWAY Team</a>	3NT S	8 50

As the day went on rivalries were forming and I am pretty sure that I may have overheard a wager or two! The fiercest of rivalries would have to be that between the Robertson brothers, Liam and Aiden. Aiden was able to take out bragging rights over his older brother Liam ... I don't think he will let him forget it too easily. I think there were a few rivalries between the pros too!



Speaking of brotherly rivalries, can you imagine what it would have been like for Nathan and Justin Howard back when they were much younger?

*Nathan (left) and Justin (right) Howard, with Cathy Mill (mum).*



# FEEDBACK:

*At the Vic Youth Bridge Club, I was playing hands of bridge like they normally do in real bridge except we didn't have the boards across the table. When we got there in the morning we were all gathering and getting ready for the bridge to begin!*

*We had 4 players per team (like real bridge) and we had adults for partners. We were playing against other teams just like us. There were several games and then we had lunch! After lunch, MORE BRIDGE!!! Because it's a **Bridge** Club, you play bridge in bridge clubs.*

*My team won several games, lost a couple, and had one draw.*

*I had a lot of fun, it can be pretty challenging, but we learn a lot at the Bridge Training on Tuesday nights.*

*- Matt Kirkland*

*Vic's youth weekend turned out to be huge success with many youth and experienced players being able to exchange greetings, pleasantries and advice ... which went both ways by the way! To cap the weekend off was a tournament on the Sunday where a mixture of sub-experience and pure youth teamed up with the traditional experts. In saying this, I'm sure I saw some of the experts were upstaged by one or two of the youth!*

*The event was tremendous fun, especially watching the juniors try to focus for 5 hours and hold concentration. For many, including myself, it was our first teams event so the scoring proved to be very 'challenging', particularly working out if we had done well ... or not. Towards the end of the day, the leader board was of huge importance to those that were on the verge of taking the number 1 position out. One pair particularly got pipped right on the line by a tremendously talented junior/expert combination and were very annoyed to lose their first spot. Poor Miss Rennie.*

*In all, a huge thanks to the VIC Bridge Association for the weekend and a job well done. I look forward to next year where maybe I can be considered a more advanced junior!*

*- Andre*

*On Saturday, Ben gave us a class on the importance of maintaining entries. While I didn't use this information during the hands on Sunday, it has been very useful since then when playing in the duplicate at Waverley. Likewise, all the youth players on the Saturday received a disc of useful information to take away and practice.*

*For a lot of us it was also the first time we had been to the VBA headquarters. So it was good to get a feel for another bridge hotspot in Melbourne.*

*The games on Sunday were very enjoyable. There must have been an age gap of at least 60 years between some of the players on the day (I'll confirm that after I've checked with Andre about his age - mental and physical).*

*- Jane*



## BETTY'S STORY



Betty, aged 81, teaches Bridge to young indigenous people in prison. What if learning to play Bridge could change your life?

You can find more information about it [here](#).

You can also keep updated via Facebook by friending [People Who Play Bridge](#)

You can also view the ABF article [here](#).

# FREE ROBOTS For JUNIORS!



BBO is generously offering FREE leasing of GIB Robots for junior players on BBO from now till the end of 2013!

If you are an Australian youth player, and under 26 years of age (or 26 that year), simply send in your name, date of birth, and your BBO I.D. to Dave Thompson at [dave@amontay.com](mailto:dave@amontay.com) and he should process that for you in no time. For any other junior players outside of Australia, simply send in an email to [diana@bridgebase.com](mailto:diana@bridgebase.com) or [rain@bridgebase.com](mailto:rain@bridgebase.com) with the same details along with some proof of your "juniorhood" such as a link to your junior masterpoints earned, or it could just be a photo of you with other juniors! (But do not send in photocopies of IDs.)

If you know someone who is a junior, or someone you know who knows a junior, or ... just spread the word!

For those who already have GIB, the robot's system notes can be found [here](#).

## FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER [DECLARER PLAY]

S/All      ♠ 7 5 4  
              ♥ A 9  
              ♦ J 9 8 4  
              ♣ A Q J 7

♦ K

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

South to make 4♥(IMPs)  
 Opening lead is ♦K

*Solution on Page 28*



Do you have a bidding problem? Then ask our expert, Andy Hung at [What Should I Bid?](#)

Each month Andy will select the best enquiry and the winner will be presented a \$30 voucher (funded by [TBIB](#)) toward any purchase made at the [Bridge Shop](#) or at [Paul Lavings Bridge Books](#).



The ABF Youth Website is moving! The new relocated website will be [www.youthbridge.com.au](http://www.youthbridge.com.au) and we will also be creating a bridge forum to discuss anything from bridge problems to international events. This is currently under construction - send [griff.bridge@me.com](mailto:griff.bridge@me.com) an email if you have any suggestions or want to help test the forum. Stay tuned ☺

## THE REDOUBLE IN ACTION

BY SUSAN HUMPHRIES, AUCKLAND (NEW ZEALAND)

How often are you in a redoubled contract making? Well, asking a bunch of youth I think the percentage would be slightly higher than the norm.

However, have you ever made a redoubled contract only to go back to score up to find your teamies also made a redoubled contract on the same board?

That was the fun discovery at score-up at our Easter teams congress – we decided to have some fun mixing up the partnerships between Andi Boughey, Nick Jacob, Luke Gardiner, Susan Humphries (me), Steph Jacob and Val Gardiner.

The pairs in action on this particular hand were Susan/Luke and Nick/Val.

Luke and I were keeping it simple: Standard with straight weak two's.

This was the deal:

W/Nil (Luke)	♠ T 7 4 3 ♥ K J T 9 4 2 ♦ - - - ♣ K 9 8	(Susan)									
♠ K J 8 6 5 ♥ 3 ♦ J T 8 5 4 2 ♣ 4	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 9 ♥ A Q 8 7 5 ♦ A K 7 ♣ J T 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A 2 ♥ 6 ♦ Q 9 6 3 ♣ A Q 7 6 5 2										

As dealer, Luke passed as we didn't have a conventional 2♠ (spades and a minor) available.

North, a Little Old Lady took a rosy view of her hand and opened 1♥. I didn't particularly like overcalling 1NT with all those hearts but because I had to make some move I did it anyway. South happily doubled, which saw Luke remove to 2♠. It went pass, pass to South who bid 3♣. Luke then took the opportunity to bid his 6 card suit, 3♦.

Now this is where it got strange. North now doubled, presumably takeout (to what is the question?). I thought I had a worthy hand and definitely didn't want to go back to score up and tell Nick (the redouble king) that I had missed a prime opportunity, so out the blue card came with a couple of kisses on it. South was more than happy to pass this, given she had four trumps and 12 HCP including two aces after her partner had opened and acted again.

Full auction:

Luke	Susan		
W	N	E	S
Pass	1♥	1NT	Dbl
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
3♦	Dbl	Rdbl	All Pass

I would say Luke was looking rather pleased with himself, having landed himself in his six card suit. I obviously had every confidence in him, but as always slightly nervous - is this going to go off for

200+? Luke gave me a good smile after dummy hand come down and he had analysed his chances for success - I knew we had this one in the bag.

Nothing much to the play. Deep Finesse says making 4♦ is possible, but I was more than happy with making 3 for 640 ☺

At Nick's table the bidding was vastly different, however with North still liking her hand. I am subbing Nick into the article to quickly explain:

<p>W/Nil</p> <p>♠ K J 8 6 5 ♥ 3 ♦ J T 8 5 4 2 ♣ 4</p>	<p>♠ T 7 4 3 ♥ K J T 9 4 2 ♦ - - - ♣ K 9 8</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>♠ A 2 ♥ 6 ♦ Q 9 6 3 ♣ A Q 7 6 5 2</p>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ Q 9 ♥ A Q 8 7 5 ♦ A K 7 ♣ J T 3</p>
	N										
W		E									
	S										

	Val		Nick
	W	N	E
	2♦!	Dbl!!	Pass
	Pass	4♥	Dbl
	Pass	Pass	Dbl
	All Pass		3NT
			5♣
			Rdbl

*A certain mystique surrounds the redoubled contract. Deception, foolhardiness and a gambler's optimism meet at the juncture of serendipity, leaving one partnership simmering and the other giddy with delight.*

Everyone dreams of bidding to that grand on a 4-2 fit or pulling off a Devil's coup, but the features of a redoubled contract are not so textbook. As such, everyone will agree that there are at least a couple of quirky actions that lead to most redoubled contracts. The first two actions, by my LHO and my partner, set the scene.

*First: a routine weak two, with suit quality not great for a five card suit, but okay, and with the playing strength of the side six card suit helping immensely... except that LHO opened 2♦, not 2♠. Second: an aggressive 2♥ overcall, made fine by the good suit quality and shape ... except that partner doubled. RHO was happy to lurk and must have been feeling delighted with her decision after I bid 3NT, LHO passed, and my partner bid 4♥!*

*I didn't really know what partner was up to, although the raw glee from my RHO left me under every impression that it wasn't good. Mind you, given I had six trumps and 12 HCP including two aces after partner had doubled and bid again (sound familiar?) I was happy to redouble 5♣. Everyone passed with varying degrees of optimism. It takes a trump lead to beat 5♣.*

*Maybe LHO should have found this lead but I was very happy to take my +800 on the spade lead. Only +1440 for two redoubled contracts? There needs to be a bonus for this.*

Now I might have sounded critical of my little old lady on my right for opening 1♥, even though it did not work out for her on this particular hand. I took some of her spirit with me for the last hand of a pair's tournament that I played with Mike Ware a few weeks ago.

As we all know, sometimes points go out the window and shape takes over – well let me tell you shape overrode every decision I had in this auction!

I was first in hand at favourable and picked up ♠K3 ♥AJT9 ♦ -- ♣J986543. Right, so the best part about my hand is the hearts so there is no way I was going to miss an opportunity to playing in those, so 3♣/4♣/5♣ was quickly ruled out, leaving me with 1♣.

Pass from LHO and 1♥ from partner. Perfect, I thought, the plan is working, that is exactly what I wanted to hear. I was playing mini splinters and from previous experience Mike knows that I play those freely and not to show any extras, therefore I was prepared to bid 3♦. But alas RHO was there to stop this cunning plan of mine and bid 2♠ (intermediate).

Bugger, I thought, now I have to come up with something else. What are my options - I thought 3♥ or 4♥, 4♥ seemed like an overbid so ruled that out, but then I thought – shape, Shape, SHAPE! If I was going to bid 3♦, why not 4♦! Now I know that is a drastic overbid when points are concerned but I had the shape to back me up and a nicely placed ♠K.

Over 4♦ it went pass 6♥ (!) passed out. I thought oh dear what have I done! As RHO lead ♦A, I thought OK at least that is not a wasted card in partner’s hand. As I was putting dummy down I announced to Mike that I was missing something, and that something was points!

Mike looked at this carefully to plan his play, he ruffed the ♦A and played a small club off dummy, they flew Ace which he ruffed and the ♣Q popped. I thought that was off to a good start. From there it was smooth sailing (from my point of view) to set up my clubs.

When he made this, he said “Sus I was missing something too – and that was also points!”

He held ♠A765 ♥Q65432 ♦JTx ♣-- ☺

There you have it: on our combined 16 count we bid and made slam! Here is the full deal:

N/E-W	♠ K 3	♠ Q
	♥ A J T 9	♥ K 7
	♦ - - -	♦ Q 9 8 7 6 5
	♣ J 9 8 6 5 4 3	♣ A T 3 2
♠ J T 9 8 4 2	W                      E	
♥ 8	N                      S	
♦ A K 4 2		
♣ K Q		
	♠ A 7 6 5	
	♥ Q 6 5 4 3 2	
	♦ J T 3	
	♣ - - -	

	Susan		Mike	
	W	N	E	S
		1♣!	Pass	1♥
		4♦!	Pass	6♥!
	2♠			
	All Pass			


Mike’s commentary about the hand:

*“This is a fine slam, needing either two hearts with West, or stiff K either hand or clubs 3/3 or a club lead.*

*I thought it was cold on any lead but as deep finesse points out, on the actual layout it is cold off as after ruffing ♦A lead and ruffing four clubs (when they don’t fly ace) to set them up, you only have one entry to dummy (♠K or a trump) and after using that, East can ruff leaving South with spade losers.*

*In real life I ruffed ♦A lead, and led a club. Can’t really blame East for playing Ace. Now I ended up taking heart finesse to make 6 or 7.”*

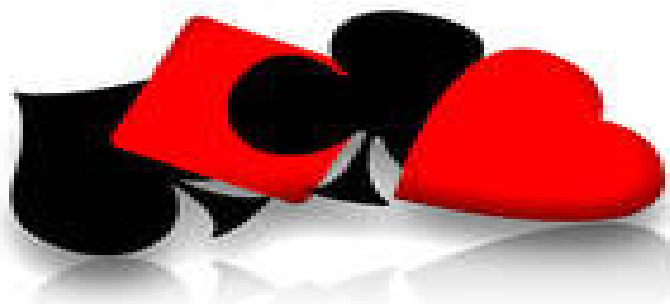
BRIDGE TRIVIA!



Oh no! This issue’s trivia has been stolen ...

Where could it be?

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN**  
**UNDER 30'S**  
**YOUTH CONGRESS**



**WHEN** SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> – SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> of OCTOBER 2013

**WHERE** SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
243 YOUNG ST UNLEY

**PAIRS** SATURDAY QUALIFYING AND FINAL 10 – 4PM

**TEAMS** 2 SESSIONS SUNDAY 10 – 4PM

FEE \$30 for the weekend/\$10 Student Concession

**CONTACT TONY LUSK ON 0415 510 731 or**  
**[bluedwarf@live.com.au](mailto:bluedwarf@live.com.au) or SABA on (08) 8373 3995**



## KIBITZER'S CORNER

To view the photos from this bulletin in higher quality, click [here](#).

Rather than the usual photos in this section, this issue we have two bridge documentaries which you may or may not have seen. The first one on the left is a very short interview, shot in 2011 by the Leader Newspapers, between Maxim Henbest and Ignacy Tyrmand who were the youngest and the oldest players, respectively, that played in the 2011 Australian National Championships.

The second video on the right, shot in 2004-2005 by director Andy Pedersen, follows two great bridge players Gavin Wolpert and Vincent Demuy (back then, the top Canadian Junior pair) around the world where they compete in the high stakes of professional bridge.

Click [here](#) or the pic below to view the video in Youtube.



Source: Leader Newspapers

Click [here](#) or the pic below to view the video in Youtube.



Source: Andy Pedersen

## PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS



Paul Lavings is a frequent supporter of the Australian Youth Bridge scene and he generously donates bridge books as prizes for the Australian Youth Bridge Week. He has represented Australia in our Open team many times, including his recent success in the winning team at the 2012 and 2013 Australian Open Team Playoffs and the 2012 Autumn National Open Teams in Adelaide. He also owns a bridge book and supplies company, so make sure to visit his website at [www.bridgegear.com](http://www.bridgegear.com) and contact him if you are in any need of a bridge book or CD. (P.S. Paul offers a good price on bridge books for youth players so be sure to check his website out!)

### NOT ANOTHER BLOODY PARTSCORE

By PAUL LAVINGS, SYDNEY

How often have you heard that plaintive cry, "Not another partscore"? Partscores are boring, and slams are exciting. I disagree. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Slams are frequently just a matter of technique in the bidding, and a quick claim in the play. Partscores may involve to up to a dozen critical decisions from both sides, and require concentration, judgement, experience, skill, and courage.

If you step over the invisible line you are -500 or -800. If you hold back, you get stung for 7 IMPs. Bid 3♠ over a making 3♥, and win 3 IMPs if you go one down. And just two decent partscore swings equal a slam swing.

Partscores are the area where the true expert has it all over the lesser player. An expert pair is more than 2 IMPs better a board than their less experienced opponents on partscore deals.

The last hand from the final of the recent Autumn National Teams in Adelaide illustrates my point. Only the names of the winners are shown, to protect the guilty.

The BRAITHWAITE team had a good lead throughout the match, but in the last set QUAIL came back strongly, and was only two IMPs behind when the last board hit the table.

Both rooms were on BBO, and the Open Room was the first to finish.

Brd 56	♠ Q 8 6 4		
W/N-S	♥ Q J		
	♦ 8 6 3		
	♣ A 7 3 2		
♠ A 5 3		N	♠ 9 2
♥ A T 4 2		W	♥ K 9 8 7 6
♦ T 7 5 4		E	♦ K Q
♣ T 8		S	♣ K J 6 4
	♠ K J T 7		
	♥ 5 3		
	♦ A J 9 2		
	♣ Q 9 5		

Open Room

	Ebery		Gold
W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dbl
3♦	3♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

	Robinson	Braithwaite	
W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	All Pass

In the Open Room, Leigh Gold's takeout double was minimum, but clear-cut, and Jamie Ebery's 3♠ was also automatic. There wasn't much to the play, declarer lost the obvious five tricks for minus 100. QUAIL was in with a chance.

The last comment before everyone switched to the Closed Room to see the action was: *Al Holland: David(Thompson) did say it would be QUAIL by 5*

In the Closed Room, South's decision not to make a takeout double over 1♥ was, to be kind, conservative. This is the sort of risk you just have to take. And if they catch you for 800, don't make the mistake of not doubling next time, and the time after.

If North-South could defeat 3♥ they would win. Let's switch to the commentary:

- David Appleton: It is hard to see that twoimps coming back without a novelty here*
- David Thompson: Looks like NS need to go positive here to win the match*
- David Appleton: OK, so need three misguesses and a revoke (to go down in 3♥)*
- David Thompson: How about getting restricted choiced in ♥ and a misguess in ♣*

Prophetic. South kicked off with ♥3 lead, dangerous, but so was every other lead, 2-Q-K. Could South have led a trump from a holding of J53? Dangerous. You don't get these sort of decisions in slams. East decided yes, the odds of almost 2-1 to finesse really aren't affected by the card South chooses to lead. It may simply be the least of evils.

North won ♥J and switched to the ♣2. It was all happening! Without much thought (dear oh dear), East played low, and South won ♣Q. I could hardly contain myself, it was so exciting. In heaven they only have partscores.

Now was the time for some measured consideration. It was the last deal, it could be critical, and the defence had gone very well up to this point. Defence, defence, defence. But no, without so much as a pause South returned a club, OMG, and now declarer didn't have to lose a spade.

I always root for the underdog, so I was in momentary shock. But David Thompson on commentary had the last word:

*David Thompson: No shortage of drama on that hand!*

True, but when you think of it, a fairly typical partscore hand.

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## SUIT COMBINATION

THIS ISSUE	FOR NEXT ISSUE
<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p><b>K Q 5 3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 3 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>J 6 2</b></p>	<p><i>(Assume unlimited entries)</i></p> <p><b>Q J 9 8 7 5</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 4 tricks</p> </div> <p><b>4 2</b></p> <p><b>A 7</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p><b>Target:</b> 0 losers</p> </div> <p><b>Q 6 3</b></p>

If the suit breaks 3-3 or anything worse than 4-2, then it doesn't matter what you do so we shall focus on the 4-2 breaks. If the ace is with the four-card holding then you are destined to lose two tricks (unless that opponent misdefends). Therefore, to obtain three tricks when the suit breaks 4-2 you will need to find the opponent with the doubleton ace (so they are forced to play the ace on

the second round of the suit. However, the only way you can do this is to play your LHO for the doubleton ace. So you start from hand and lead low towards dummy's KQ. Assuming that wins, come back to your hand and lead another low card towards dummy's other honour. If your LHO started with a doubleton ace, he will be forced to play the ace on the second round and thus you will not need to waste an honour on this trick.

Of course you can try to drop a doubleton ace with your RHO (i.e. low to your jack then duck the next trick) but this is too risky since if you are wrong (i.e. suit breaks 3-3) then you will lose an extra trick.

**K T 9 8 5 3**

**Target:**  
4 tricks

**6 4**

The best way to play this suit is to take a double finesse. Play low to dummy's 10 and assuming that loses to the J or Q, come back to hand and play low to the 9. This will win whenever the J or Q is onside, but loses when RHO has exactly QJ doubleton.

Playing low to dummy's king on the first round is inferior since it loses to RHO having A, AQ(x), AJ(x). Playing low to the 10, then playing low to the king wins with RHO having QJ but loses to AQ and AJ.

### BRIDGE TRIVIA!

The Joker took it to the VCC Trivia night. Make sure to participate in it to get it back!

#### FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER

##### [DECLARER PLAY] SOLUTION

(Problem on page 20)

S/All

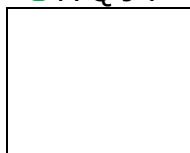
♠ 7 5 4

♥ A 9

♦ J 9 8 4

♣ A Q J 7

♦ K



♠ K 6 3

♥ K Q J 10 8 6 4 2

♦ - - -

♣ 10 2

South to make 4♥ (IMPs)

Opening lead is ♦K

You have a 9 top tricks, and there's a very good chance for 10.

You can see if the ♣K is onside, and if not, fall back on the spade finesse hoping the ♠A is onside. Needing one out of two finesses is about 75%. However, there's an even better line!

Discard a club on the first trick! Assuming West switches to a club, win ace, cash the ♥A, and play the ♣Q for a ruffing finesse.

If East covers then ruff high, go to dummy with the ♥9 and cash the ♣J. If East plays low, discard a spade.

All this requires is trumps 2-1 and clubs no worse than 5-2. If clubs break 6-1, we can then fall back on the spade finesse, and if trumps are 3-0, we hope the ♣J will cash!



**FOR THE IMPROVING PLAYER - BEEFING UP BRIDGE CONVENTIONS**

**INVITING OVER PARTNER'S "BOTH MAJORS"**

In the last issue we looked at inviting over partner's "Major + minor" hands where it could be useful to distinguish between an offensive raise and a high-card raise in partner's major.

This method can be used in a similar fashion when partner's hand is "both majors". Here are a few examples:

(a)

W	N	E	You
1♣	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass Or Dbl	?

2♣<sup>1</sup> = 5-5 Majors, any strength

(b)

W	N	E	You
1NT	2♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass Or Dbl	?

2♣<sup>2</sup> = 5-4 majors (either way)

In example (a), what would you bid with a hand of ♠4 ♥K964 ♦98432 ♣K65 ? Or what about ♠42 ♥KJ75 ♦A965 ♣J52 ? It feels like you want to bid an offensive (preemptive) 3♥ with the former example because of a fourth trump and a singleton spade (for ruffs). 3♥ may or may not make, but your partner might be able to find a good sacrifice due to the favourable vulnerability.

However, what would you bid with the latter example hand? You might just blast 4♥ hoping for something good to happen but that might be too high since partner does not promise the world for a 2♣ bid at favourable vulnerability.


A good way to distinguish both hand types is to use a 3M jump bid to show the offensive (preemptive) hand, whereas a 3m bid shows a high-card invitational raise (or better) in the respective major suit (so 3♣ is invitational in hearts and 3♦ is invitational in spades).

You may have already been using the 2♦ bid as a start of a sequence intending to show the invitational nature of your hand (i.e. over 2♦ your partner bids their better major in which you will then bid 3M to invite in that major). Or maybe you normally use 2NT as a start of an inquiry, intending to show an invitational hand in a major. However, these have major drawbacks – they both assume that the opponents are nice enough to pass throughout the auction, letting you to complete your plan of bidding your major at the 3-level. Having silent opponents is very rare these days and thus it would be very useful to show the true nature of your hand immediately in one bid.


Similarly, in example (b), you can use 3♣ to invite in hearts and 3♦ to invite in spades. In both of these examples, if you want to show single suited diamonds (the other minor) you can now use the 2NT bid for that hand. Note that 3♣/3♦ need not be restricted to exactly invitational strength for you might want to start off with it to initiate a slam try.


Also note that this inviting method cannot be used effectively in some particular scenarios. For example, if you use a 2♦ opening to show both majors, or a double of an opponent's strong 1♣ opening to show both majors, it is important not to give up the ability to bid either minor suit naturally (and the 2NT inquiry) as the trade-off is not worth it.


## STATE ASSOCIATIONS - UPDATES

	EVENT (QLD)	DATES
	QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day at QCBC (Brisbane) QLD Youth Bridge Fun Day at QCBC (Brisbane) After school bridge club @ QCBC, held on Monday afternoons (during school term from 4:30pm-6pm) For More INFO: <a href="http://www.qldbridge.com/">http://www.qldbridge.com/</a>	Thursday, 27 June 2013 Thursday, 4 July 2013

	EVENT (NSW)	DATES
	After school bridge club @ NSWBA, held on Friday afternoons (during school term from 4pm-5:30pm) Email: <a href="mailto:fraserrew@gmail.com">fraserrew@gmail.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.nswba.com.au/">http://www.nswba.com.au/</a>	---

	EVENT (ACT)	DATES
	ANU Bridge Club regular meetings Email: <a href="mailto:youth@bfact.com.au">youth@bfact.com.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.bfact.com.au/">http://www.bfact.com.au/</a>	Thursdays 1-2pm during term

	EVENT (VIC)	DATES
	After school bridge club @ Waverly Bridge Club, held on Tuesday afternoons (during school term from 4:30pm-6:30pm) Contact: <a href="http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php">http://www.vba.asn.au/vbaHome.php</a>	---

	EVENT (SA)	DATES
	SA U30s' Youth Congress Contact: <a href="http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/">http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au/</a>	12-13 October 2013

	EVENT (WA)	DATES
	Contact: <a href="http://www.bawa.asn.au/">http://www.bawa.asn.au/</a>	---

	EVENT (NT)	DATES
	Contact: <a href="http://www.ntba.com.au/">http://www.ntba.com.au/</a>	---

	EVENT (TAS)	DATES
	Contact: <a href="http://www.tasbridge.com.au/">http://www.tasbridge.com.au/</a>	---