

### TRUMPS PLUS

March 2015 VOLUME 8 Issue 1 Published Quarterly

9284 4144 7 ODERN CRESCENT SWANBOURNE

## CONGRATULATIONS Jan Blight and Heather Williams



## WOMENS PAIRS CHAMPIONS TWO YEARS IN A ROW!

### Also inside:

Articles from Matthew McManus, Peter Smith, Richard Fox.
Womens Pairs results; Restricted Congress results
New Members Party and photos.

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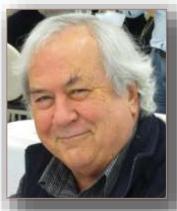
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### **Editorial**



You may have noticed that editions of Trumps Plus have seasonal variations. Your editorial team certainly has. The March edition, for example, reflects a thin season in the bridge world, that

of late summer. Bit like the famers I guess – late summer early autumn is a lean season for both of us. Nonetheless there have been a few competitions at the Club that we report on herein, including the Women's Pairs. This is perhaps the premier competition at the Club and Heather and Jan were back to back winners for 2014 and 2015. Well done Heather and Jan, and in particular well done Jan, who has three wins and a third over the past five years.

At such a time we note once again the moribund state of the Men's Pairs. Moribund! Let's hope that it is not like Monty Python's parrot and maybe this year we can rustle up a competition.

Now let me turn to a very serious matter. And that is parking. As we are all aware we are not overly blessed with parking and we need to make the most of what we have. Why then do so many of us ignore the bays and park across two bays? Please! Let's have consideration for other members. I know that the bay markings need work, and hopefully we can get the Council to remark them, but surely there is sufficient paint on the ground for us to be able to distinguish one bay from another.

Well, that's my harangue for the edition. Now for the reminders. The busy part of the year is starting and we need to look to our dance cards to make

sure we are not left standing without a partner for the upcoming events. In particular, in the next three to four months we have two major events, our Winter Congress starting Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May, and the Australian National Championships in July. Time to start thinking about these, if you have not done so already. And if you are wondering what is coming up and can't find your handbook remember that the list of forthcoming events is available on our web site.

Once again, if you would like me include anything please give me a call either at home, 9447 5224, or on my mobile 0422 381 253, or you can email me at bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au



Actual Picture changed to protect the guilty.

### President's Report

(Past President and Life Member). Already however some signs of the wear and tear on the clubroom imposed by the sheer traffic of up to 300 players per day are beginning to show. We plan to carry out a repaint of part of the interior as well as rust treatment and repaint of the exterior gates. This will take place before winter sets in and hopefully will cause minimum disruption.

The new audio/visual equipment is working well and has been often used in Peter Smith's classes and post game seminars. A highlight of our teaching year was of course the much anticipated series of lectures with Paul Marston – I hope we are all still refraining from overcalling 5 over 5 when a kiss would be better!

Players have also appreciated the A/V displays in congress events where it has saved time and avoided the tight cluster around the notice boards.

We have recently purchased 4 new chairs for the playing area. As these have arms they have been appreciated by those players needing a little more support both at



This year started in somewhat chaotic fash-

ion with the sudden illness of our Executive Officer but we are all very pleased that our lovely Sheenagh has made a full recovery, is back on deck and order has been restored.

I would like to thank so many of you who offered and gave of their time to help out in the office. I would especially like to thank John Beddow who took over the time consuming task of dealing our boards. Thanks also to the Management Committee who were rostered over the lunch periods to process the subscriptions. We coped – but how good it is to have you back Sheenagh!

It seems incredible that we are now into the eighth year at Swanbourne. Our Anniversary celebrations in January saw a record turnout for the Anniversary Cup and it seemed fitting that the winners were John Ashworth (Club Patron) and Toby Manford

the table and as extra leverage when rising from the chair.

The car park of course needs major attention and to that end I am continuing the submissions to Nedlands City Council first initiated last year by Gwen Wiles. I met with the Mayor in early March as a follow up to my last submission in November and raised the issue with him again. It appears that a sum had been set aside for remedial works to be carried out this financial year. However the amount allocated proved to be insufficient and it seems work will not progress until the shortfall is found. If any members who are ratepayers in the Swanbourne Ward feel they may be able to "pressure" their Councillor we would be most grateful for any assistance that will further our cause.

A major preoccupation of the Management and Finance Committees these past few months has been the finalisation of our Investment Policy and the appointment of Peter Fisher of Fisher GT Financial Group Pty Ltd as our Financial Advisor. As an accredited member of FPA Professional Practice the business is recognised as a leader in financial planning professionalism. Peter holds Bachelor Degrees in Science and Commerce, a Diploma of Financial Planning and is a Certified Financial Planner. The business has its own licensee through ASIC. Peter will be operating at all times within our Investment Policy Guidelines and any investments will be held in the Club's name. We will all need to be mindful that there will be good times and "not so good" times but research shows that over a 10 year period a diversified investment portfolio will yield better returns than our current "cash only" practice. We have in the past enjoyed very favourable interest rates from these cash investments which has allowed us to, in effect, subsidise membership fees by approximately \$50 pa. Bank rates now no longer will give us this return and hence

our need to rethink.

The Bridge year is now picking up pace and we have just finished perhaps our most prestigious championship, the Women's Pairs and with a record turnout of players. Congratulations to Heather Williams and Jan Blight who were most worthy winners. Special congratulations are also due to Deana Wilson, winner of the Australia-wide McCutcheon Award for the most masterpoints earned in 2014 by a player ranked in the National category.

Unfortunately the Individual Championship scheduled for February was postponed but we will soon advise you of the new date. This is a fun event with all participants required to play the same simplified system. I urge you to put your name down - no partner required! Our first Congress was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and was won by Eileen Reilly and Judith Wilson. You will find photos from this most enjoyable day on following pages. This is an opportune time for me to remind players in both Championship and Congress events that substitutes must be pre-approved by the Director at least 24 hours prior to commencement of the event. The only exception to this is where extenuating circumstances have occurred later than this and permission may be sought on the day. Should you have cause to cancel an entry in either a Congress or Championship event and you are unable to do this on-line and/or it is within 48 hours of the start of the event you must contact the event Director. This is your responsibility and if at all possible should not be assigned to another.

There are lots more congresses to come and one that will certainly have a place for you is the expanded Winter Congress on the June long weekend. Deborah Greenway has secured a sponsorship for this event allowing us to offer generous prize money. You can play all day every day from Friday to Monday and

get in heaps of practice for the big event of the year – the Australian Nationals. WABC has sponsored 4 sessions of duplicate pairs as part of the ANC and which have considerable prize money for each session plus added prizes for the best average scores over any 3 of 4 sessions. Please be part of this once in 8 year event.

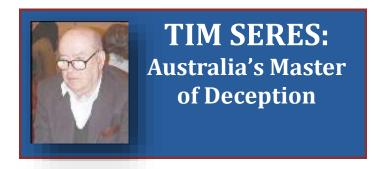
The Interclub Teams events are now well under way and WABC has already scored some good wins. Participation is the important aim however and I hope all team members enjoy the experience of representing WABC in this fun series.

The Travel Season will also soon pick up pace. I have a plea from our Treasurer. "On return from destinations afar could you please check the change in your purse". Coinage from other countries is often very similar to ours but unfortunately has no worth to WABC.

Our new arrangements for servicing the coffee and tea stations seem to be working well with lots of members now taking responsibility for both stocking and clearing away. Thank you all for your cooperation and may I wish you all a happy season of Autumn Bridge.

**Kitty George** 

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS
WELCOME: PLEASE FEEL FREE TO
FORWARD MATERIAL OR SUGGEST
TOPICS.
CLOSING DATE FOR
June Issue is 31st May 2015



#### **Trump Control - Problem 43**

In this chapter, Michael Courtney looks at Tim Seres' use of a forcing defence against suit contracts. Even against strong trump fits his method was attack from the word go.

	0		
	S. 53	32	
	H. 52	2	
	D. Al	K1092	
	C. K	105	
S. 10	N	1	
H. K97	W	Ε	
D. QJ875	;	S	
C. A432			
O. 7140Z			

Bidding: South	West	North	East
Lasut	Seres	E Manoppo	A Reiner
1S 2H	Pass Pass	1NT 2S	Pass All
pass			

This deal was taken from a practice session for the Indonesian team in Sydney in 1993 for zonal playoffs for the Far East Championship. Courtney was surprised Seres did not take some action over the opening spade bid but notes his brilliant defence. He led C2 (never lead away from an ace in a suit contract??) which East won with the CQ over dummy's 5 and returned C8 to the ace. Seres won and played a third club to which everyone followed. Declarer now played a heart to the queen and Seres' king. What did he play now to defeat the contract?

Solution Page 29



## TO ALERT OR NOT TO ALERT ????

PART 2 WITH Matthew McManus

Following on from last month's article, try this quick quiz.
Under the ABF/NSW Alerting Regulations, should the final call in each of these auctions be alerted or not?

	West	North	East	South
1.	1H	Р	4C (=Gerber)	
2.	2H (=6-10, a	t least 5/5 in	H and S)	
3.	1NT	Р	2D (=transfer)	2H (=takeout of hearts)
4.	1NT	Р	2D (=transfer)	X (=takeout of hearts)
5.	4C (=strong	heart pre-en	npt)	
6.	1C	1S	2H (=6-10 HCP,	5+ hearts, non-forcing)
7.	1NT	Р	2D (=transfer)	3D (=natural)
8.	1NT	X	2C (=Stayman)	
9.	1C	1H	X (=takeout, bu	ut denies four spades)
10.	1C (Precision)	2C (=both n	najors)	

Answers at the end.

### Some common questions about alerts: what to do if....

- \*\* I forgot to alert and only realised later in the auction (or even in the play)?
- Call the director immediately. There are some actions the director can take which may minimise the problems caused by your forgetfulness. The earlier you realise and call the director, the better it is likely to be for your side.
- \*\* My partner didn't alert my bid when he should have?
- Keep very quiet until the correct time according to the laws. That is, if you become declarer or dummy, call the director and tell the opponents at the end of the auction. If you become a defender, call the director and tell the opponents at the end of the play. (This is exactly the same as if your partner were to give an

incorrect explanation about the meaning of your bid.)

- \*\* My partner didn't alert my bid and now he has made a bid which I think is alertable? When he doesn't alert, I know he thinks he is bidding naturally, but under our system it is something special.
- Alert anyway. It is true that this will make partner realise his error, but the laws require you to alert. It is likely that the director will be needed to sort out the problem. There are a whole different set of procedures which the director will apply to ensure that the opponents are not damaged by you "waking your partner up".
- \*\* I think that my partner may have made a special call which I should alert, but I

can't remember the system?

– Call the director. He may choose to ask you to leave the table while partner explains his own bid. That way your opponents find out about what your agreements are, as they are entitled to under the laws, and you don't get to hear your partner explain his own bid.

### What happens when I haven't alerted when I should have?

It is up to the director to determine whether the opponents have been damaged by your failure to alert. It is often a fairly complicated process, which I won't detail here. It may be that the director will award an adjusted score to compensate the opponents if he believes that they may have been disadvantaged. This may take the form of a score which is different to the one obtained at the table, or it may be an artificial score – a certain number of matchpoints (percentage) or IMPs for each side. One very important principle which plavers often do not realise is that just because there has been a failure to alert, it does not mean that the offenders will automatically be penalised and consequently the non-offenders benefit. In fact, the non-offenders have some responsibility to protect themselves in certain circumstances even though the opponents may have neglected to alert when it seems they should have. The more experienced the player is, the higher the responsibility placed on them to try to mitigate any problems arising from a potential failure to alert. The following two examples which I have encountered in the past year may help to demonstrate this principle.

1. West opens 1S, North bids 2NT (no alert), East passes, South bids 3C and

that becomes the final contract. It goes one off, but it turns out that EW can make nine or ten tricks in spades. East held 10 points and four spades and calls the director. As might be expected, 2NT was the unusual no-trump showing both minors. As it was a conventional call, it should have been alerted. East claimed that when it wasn't alerted, he thought it must have shown 20-22 points and so he didn't bid. As East was a very experienced, this was clearly nonsense. He was very aware that 2NT was not natu-

ral. He had hoped that he would get a good result at the table, and if it didn't work out, he would call the director to get the normal result restored.

If you thought that that was a prime example of "bush law-yering", what about this next one?

2. With just NS bidding the auction goes, 1NT – 2C – 2D – 3NT (no alerts). East, on

lead with five diamonds, does not lead one and the contract makes. EW could have taken the first five diamond tricks. He calls the director because South had failed to alert 2D. (2C was simple Stayman, which didn't require an alert as it is a self-alerting call, ie. considered to be automatically alerted. Technically, 2D, denying a major, should have been alerted – a conventional call.) East claims that when 2D wasn't alerted he assumed it must have been natural and so didn't lead a diamond. Like in the first example, East is guite experienced and was very well aware of what the auction was all about. And even if there had been any doubt, he had the opportunity to check about the meaning of the auction before making his opening lead. Not only did EW not get a favourable ruling from the opponent's failure to alert. I gave East a warning about unsportsmanlike behaviour, with the threat of a

penalty if he engaged in similar gamesmanship in the future. Directors need to be on the alert for players who try to use the laws in a way which is against the spirit of the game. Many times a player's failure to alert arises either from forgetfulness or uncertainty about a call's meaning. It may be entirely appropriate that they not be penalised for such innocent mistakes.

### **Answers to Quiz**

- No alert. Calls above 3NT (except for conventional opening bids) are selfalerting.
- 2. Alert. Even though the bid is natural, it conveys additional meaning of which the opponents may be unaware.
- 3. No alert. Bids of suits either bid or shown by the opposition are self-alerting.
- 4. No alert. Doubles and redoubles are self-alerting.
- 5. Alert. Normally calls above 3NT are self-alerting, but there is an exception for opening conventional calls.
- 6. Alert. Even though it is natural, most pairs would play this as forcing on West to make another bid, so the opponents don't know that it could be quite weak.

- No alert. Bids of suits either bid or shown the by opposition are selfalerting.
- 8. Alert. Normally 2C after partner's opening bid would be self-alerting, but that only applies in a noncontested auction. Here, North's double means that it should be alerted.
- No alert. Doubles and redoubles are self-alerting, regardless of what they mean.
- No alert. Bids of denominations (ie. any suit or no-trump) bid by the opposition are self-alerting, even if they are totally artificially.

Remember, a self-alerting call means that the call is considered to be automatically alerted, and the partner does not need to go through the normal process for alerting.

Part One of this excellent article can still be accessed on line from the December 2014 Issue

### Australian Brielge



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WELL-KNOWN BRIDGE WRITERS.



## To all Club Members:

A big Thank You to all those Members who have taken their turn and set up or cleared away the tea and coffee Stations.

When the letter of your surname is displayed\*.

Please take your turn to help set up and /or clear away the tea & coffee stations each Morning, Afternoon or Evening Session

\*You are very welcome to help at any time.

Thank you Jessie Duffill

### ANNIVERSARY PAIRS

WABC CELEBRATES 7 YEARS
AT SWANBOURNE



Club Patrons Helen George and John Ashworth cutting the anniversary cake.



Toby Manford and John Ashworth winning the Anniversary Pairs Trophy.



### **BEYOND THE BASICS with Peter Smith** Bidding Five of a Major - What's the Point?

I'm sure that very few of you bid five of a major willingly rather than just four. Despite the five level not being a chosen destination in a major there are nevertheless circumstances in which the bid has value. Mostly this is when en route to a possible slam.

Take this hand from a recent Friday duplicate which featured in the after session discussion. As South you pick up the following:

Dealer South. N/S vulnerable (directions changed for convenience).

- AKQ8632
- AQ42
- J 3

You deal and open 1♠ and the bidding proceeds:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
4♣	4♠	Pass	?

What would you say now?

Partner's bid of 4♠ hasn't promised the earth, as it's under competitive pressure, but there must surely be great chances of slam. For this to succeed, obviously your heart void is valuable as are the diamond honours, which look well placed as any finesse should succeed, with the likely strength on your right.

So the only problem is in clubs. Asking for aces usually doesn't help when you have

either a void in your hand or a few low cards in a side suit. So how can we find out whether partner has clubs covered? The answer is to bid 5♠. When you willingly raise to five of your agreed major following a suit bid by the opponents the standard agreement is that it's asking partner to bid slam with control of their suit. (Note that had East bid 5♣ this would not apply as 5♠ would be purely competitive - despite Paul Marston's sage advice 'never' to bid fiveover-five.)

Here's the full deal.

- **♦** J 10 9 4 ♥ A 6 4 2
- ♦ KJ96 **8**
- **★** 75
- QJ1098753 **♥** K **♦** 875 103 ♣ AQ109654 ♣ K 7 2
  - ♠ AKQ8632
  - AQ42

Partner, trusting you to have everything else sorted out, now bids 64, which is laydown against any defence.

On the rare occasions when partner has first round control of the opponents' suit it's best to follow up with a cue bid, in case there's a grand slam.

#### BEYOND THE BASICS with Peter Smith

### Bidding Five of a Major - What's the Point?



With the guarded king in the opponent's suit partner should bid 5NT, in case no trumps is a better contract – to guard the unprotected king.

### Other Meanings of the Raise to Five of a Major

If the opponents haven't bid, a raise to five of a major has one of two other meanings.

- Asking for control of the remaining suit.

  - ↑ 7
     ♠ AKQ2
     ♠ 98

West East
1♣ 1♠
4♦ 5♠
Pass

4♦ was a Splinter Bid, agreeing spades and showing the values for game.

With hearts the remaining suit, East's 5♠ then says "Please bid slam with control of hearts". West declines. It would be so easy to bid the no-play slam without pinpointing the weakness in hearts.

2. Failing the situations designated above where one suit is pinpointed, raising to five of a major simply asks partner to bid slam with 'good trumps'.

- ♠ KQJ85432

**♦** 7

♣ J 8 ♣ A 5 3

West East 4♠ 5♠ Pass

East knows slam will be good as long as partner's trumps are strong enough. West accepts. Lacking one of those trump honours West would decline.

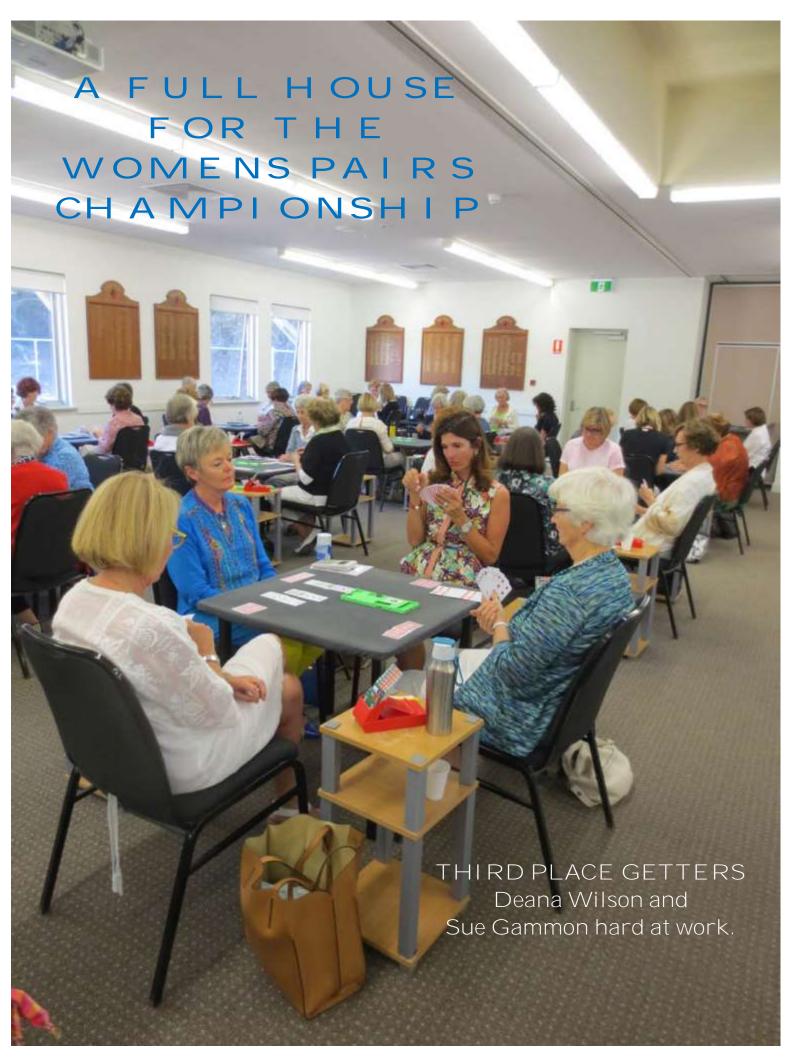
Note that this is a hand where even KeyCard Blackwood won't help much as it won't reveal enough about the depth of West's trump honours.

### LESSONS AT WABC TERM 2 2015

Peter Smith's next classes will start from Tuesday 21 April. As usual, there will be a range of classes for players at various levels.

Look out for more information on flyers around the club or see our website for details or contact Peter on 9381 5270 or email

lessons@wabridgeclub.com.au



The premier event of the WABC club championships is the Womens Pairs. Forty pairs entered and the three week competition was very successful. Assistant Director Peter Hicks kept the event running smoothly under the expert guidance of the Master.



Master and Apprentice:

#### **FINAL FIRST 6 PLACINGS**

- 1 Heather Williams & Jan Blight
- Nerilyn Mack & Carol Pocock
- 3 Deana Wilson & Sue Gammon
- Patricia Mcnamara & Belinda Taranto
- 5 Rose Moore & Linda Coli
- 6 Lynne Errington & Dominique Rallier





Second place:

Carol Pocock and Nerilyn Mack

### RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS



FIRST PLACE: A very happy Eileen Reilly and Judith Wilson were presented their prize by Hilary Yovich (centre)



#### **Second Place:**

Metka Agrez and Maria Ikier



#### Third Place:

Susan Evans. Barbara Riddle

Director Neville Walker: looking relaxed after a job well done.

### WINNERS IN THE RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS

1st: Judith Wilson, Eileen Reilly2nd: Metka Agrez, Maria Ikier

3<sup>rd</sup>: Susan Evans. Barbara Riddle

4th: Tim Munro, Matthew Smith

5th: Mark Doust, Vinod Nasta

6th: Steven Pynt, Dave Sloan



**Fourth Place:** Tim Munro, Matthew Smith



**Fifth Place :**Mark Doust, Vinod Nasta



Steven Pynt, Dave Sloan



Sunday the 29 th March was our New Members Party.

Twenty eight new members were greeted by Kitty, twenty eight committee members, life members and others. Deborah Greenway, our partnership coordinator, explained the use of Pianola when looking for a partner.

After a glass of Champagne we were paired off with a new member for a great afternoon of bridge, with our charming Bill Kemp as Director.

After bridge, food, drinks and chatter were plenty, with lots of laughter. It was obvious that this is one of our most popular events of the year.

Dymphna Elsey



Ursula Maitland and Dymphna Elsey making sure everything ran smoothly behind the bar on the day.

### **WINNERS: NORTH-SOUTH**

- Derek Pocock & Ping Robson
- Sue Broad & Coral Preston
- Joscelyn Charters & David Charters
  - 4 Margaret Shaw & Peach Partis

### **WINNERS: EAST-WEST**

- Roslyn Varkevisser & Gwen Wiles
- Kitty George & John Mcmullan
- 3 Val Fleay & Bev Hollyock
  - 4 Wayne Platt & David Burn





FIRST NORTH SOUTH

Derek Pocock & Ping Robson

FIRST EAST-WEST

Roslyn Varkevisser & Gwen Wiles



SECOND NORTH-SOUTH
Sue Broad
& Coral Preston



### NEW MEMBERS PARTY



SECOND EAST-WEST Kitty George & John McMullan



THIRD NORTH SOUTH
Joscelyn Charters & proud Dad
David Charters



HAVE YOU ENTERED FOR THE ANC YET?



### NEW MEMBERS PARTY



HAVE YOU ENTERED FOR THE ANC YET?



## Cardplays from Canberra 2015

with Richard Fox

It's not just about the bridge; especially for someone like me who's moved states it's a reunion and a chance to catch up with bridge-playing friends from all over the country. There are the tourist spots too, such as the War Memorial, galleries and museums and the artistically designed if impractical Parliament area. For the energetic there's a lot of good cycling along the shores of Lake Burley Griffin. Back to bridge, playing in a large event means there's time for all the bids we've agreed with partners to come up, and many of the more advanced cardplay manoeuvres from the books actually happen.

#### Intra-Finesse

In the first round of the Swiss Pairs, playing with my once a year partner Liz from Bathurst, this happened in the first round. Partner opened 1D and although I could have bid a game-forcing 2C, I chose an immediate 3NT which looked the most likely final contract. Usually playing Standard the 1D opening is 12-14 balanced, and it looked best for the lead to come into my hand. This time, partner had one of the other possible hands, the one too strong for a 1NT opening.

Liz had a dilemma as to how to look for slam, fearing I'd take 4NT as key-card asking in diamonds (I wouldn't - I'd have assumed it was quantitative, bid slam with 15, pass with less). Anyway she improvised 5NT, probably meaning "bid a slam if you can". Whatever it was, it looked as if partner must have a healthy collection of aces, so I hoped my kings and protected diamond suit were enough and bashed 6NT.

Swiss Pairs Rd 1 Bd 8 Dealer W Nil Vul	◆ 987 ▼ 7532 ◆ 10964 ◆ Q10	6NT by E JH lead
▲ A 6 4 3 ▼ A Q ◆ A 8 7 3 ♣ A 4 3		<b>★</b> K Q <b>▼</b> K 8 6 <b>★</b> K J 2 <b>♣</b> J 9 8 6 2
	<ul> <li>♣ J 10 5 2</li> <li>♥ J 10 9 4</li> <li>♦ Q 5</li> <li>♣ K 7 5</li> </ul>	

The JH was led, and dummy displayed plenty of aces but also some major spaces, especially in clubs. How to play for one loser? Hoping for K-Q doubleton is a very small chance, and there is a slightly better shot: the Intra-Finesse, first recognised by Brazilian maestro Gabriel Chagas. The key is to play for 10-doubleton in the North hand. I played a small club off the table and North rose with the queen, returning a heart. I won on the table, crossed to hand with a spade and ran the JC, needing the 10 to drop. When that worked. I didn't need to risk a diamond finesse because this took me up to 12 tricks.

The same play works if North has 10-rag and plays low. The nine forces the queen or king, and then running the jack pins North's 10. At another table where the slam was made, North put in the 10, and the declarer played to drop his honour on the next round. If the 10 had been singleton, it wouldn't be possible to pick up South's KQ75 for one loser; the 7 would become a stopper.

### **Trump Coup**

In Teams we know we like to stretch to bid games, especially vulnerable ones, but I pushed a bit too far on this one. North opened 1 Club, I overcalled 1 Spade as East, and at quite a few tables there was no more bidding. At our table, South scraped up a negative double, which would be OK if his partner didn't jump in hearts. As long as he was still able to show diamonds, that sequence would describe his hand accurately, too few points to bid at the 2-level but too many diamonds to go quietly.

Partner stretched a 1NT raise, which I'd typically play as 9-11 facing an overcall, North bid 2H and I bid a rose-tinted 4S. The QC appeared on the table and after some thought I ducked and South switched to the JD. I played low as did North, and a second diamond came through. About the only chance seemed to be if trumps behaved, the fourth club came good, and whoever won that third club would have to give me a heart trick.

SWPT Rd 11, Bd 12 Dealer N NS Vul	♣ J862 ♥ KJ82 ♦ A9 ♣ K92	4S by E QC lead
◆ A 10 ▼ Q 7 4 3 ◆ Q 3 2 ◆ 8 7 6 3		★ K Q 9 5 4 3 ▼ A 10 9 ◆ 7 ♣ A 10 4
	<ul> <li>↑ 7</li> <li>↑ 6 5</li> <li>↑ K J 10 8 6 5 4</li> <li>♠ Q J 5</li> </ul>	

This plan didn't work too well, as I ruffed the second diamond and played a spade to dummy. I ruffed the other diamond, mainly trying to run a defender out of diamonds, but there was a bonus that I shortened my trumps. Lo and behold, North had already been voided in diamonds. I continued with the KS but

South showed out.

I had no genuine play so I hoped for a defensive slip-up. I tried ace and another club, putting North on lead. She didn't want to lead from her J-8 of spades into my Q-9 although this would have worked because I'd have been stuck with a heart loser. She chose to exit with the KH and I won the ace and crossed to the queen. Now I ventured the 13th club, hoping North wouldn't realise the need to ruff. I got lucky in the position below.

Dealer N NS Vul	♣ J9 ♥ J ♣	4S by E QC lead
◆ ▼ 74 ◆ 8		♣ Q 10 ♥ 10 ♣
	◆ ◆ 865 ◆	

North discarded on the club, and I also pitched a heart, and then I could play a heart from the table picking up her trumps. This is the classic trump coup set -up, pity it required an error to make it work.

### **Endplay**

This hand started with a nice sequence of all four suits followed by 1NT. North opened a club, I passed as East, and South chose 1 Diamond evidently swayed by the suit quality, although with 5-5 shape 1 Heart would be the standard bid. West overcalled a Heart and North bid a Spade. I thought I had enough to try 1NT, and I played there on the lead of the beer card (7•).

Festival Teams, Rd 4, Bd 29 Dealer N All Vul	♣ A 10 9 6 ♥ Q 3 ♦ 6 3 ♣ K Q 10 6	1NT by E 7D lead
<ul><li>Q 7</li><li>✓ K J 9 8 7</li><li>✓ K J</li><li>◆ 9 8 7 4</li></ul>		<ul> <li>▲ J 8 5 4</li> <li>▼ A</li> <li>◆ 10 9 5 2</li> <li>◆ A J 3 2</li> </ul>
	★ K 3 2 ▼ 10 6 5 4 2 ◆ A Q 8 7 4	

If the lead was honest 4th best, it didn't matter which diamond I played, and I chose the jack which won. I played the 9C, covered by the 10 and jack and South threw a spade. Interesting, dummy's club spots could come in handy... I unblocked the heart ace and led a spade towards the queen. I half expected North to win, but South hopped up with the king. A-Q• and K• made 9 points, North clearly had every other high card. South sent a spade back to dummy's queen and North's ace, and North played her diamond to her partner's winners,

I was in hand with the diamond, needing 3 more tricks from the layout below.

North had to let a club go on the third dia-

mond, and the Q♥ on the fourth.

Festival Teams, Rd 4, Bd 29 Dealer N All Vul	<ul><li>109</li><li>✓</li><li>KQ6</li></ul>	1NT by E 7D lead
<b>♦ ∀</b> K J <b>♦ 8</b> 7 4		♣ J 8 ▼ ♣ A 3 2
	• 10 6 5 • 8 • •	

Fortunately it was double dummy as I knew North's complete hand. I cashed the JS and exited the spade, throwing

away my stranded heart winners, and North was allowed to win one high club. Then she was endplayed: the 7 of clubs in dummy could beat her 6 so there was no safe exit.

### Full Many a Gem...

I'll throw in a thank you to unassuming New Zealander Alan Taylor, who has edited many years of high-quality bulletins for Canberra. He could often be seen kibitzing unobtrusively near a top table, notebook in hand, and finally in his 293rd bulletin he was able to report the very rare "Smother Play". This can be found in card-play books, quoted as a curiosity along with the Devil's Coup, so infrequent that a player could win a world title without ever having to execute such a play.

The play was spotted by Michael Wilkinson, pulled off by his partner Susan Crompton (East). North-South were Jessica and Gwyneira from Kalgoorlie, who were defeating East's 3 Hearts Doubled, and as it happened the Smother Play only saved an extra undertrick.

Festival Teams, Rd 5, Bd 2 Dealer E NS Vul	♠ KJ987 ♥ A • Q10843 ♠ 96	3Hx by E
<ul><li>★ 8 6 4</li><li>★ K Q 9</li><li>★ J 2</li><li>★ A J 10 8 5</li></ul>		◆ Q 2 ▼ 10 8 6 5 3 ◆ 7 6 5 ◆ 7 4 2
	<ul><li>A 5 3</li><li>▼ J 7 4 2</li><li>◆ A K 9</li><li>♠ K Q 3</li></ul>	

Play progressed to the layout below, where South led a low heart to partner's ace. Doubtless she would have expected to make her jack, seeing the bare king on her left. However North's enforced diamond return killed her trump holding whether she over- or under-ruffed.

	▼ A • Q 10	
▼ K 9 ◆ ◆ 8		▼ 10 8 6 ◆
	<b>♣</b> ♥ J 7 4	

I can't help wondering how often these exotic plays do occur with nobody at the table realising. As per Gray's Elegy

Full many a gem of purest ray serene The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear Full many a flower is born to blush unseen And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

### WINTER CONGRESS SPONSORSHIP



Deborah Greenway receiving a sponsor-ship cheque from Janice Jenson, Corporate Manager with *Leanne O'Dea*.

Leanne O'Dea with Bowra and O'Dea are major sponsors for this year's event.

## When the President Dropped By



During the recent G20 Summit in Brisbane, President Barack Obama moved in to the Marriott Hotel, next door to my apartment block. We couldn't exactly miss his arrival, with such a massive

security presence. The street was barricaded, the police erected a tent and inspected under cars with mirrors, as well as checking everyone's ID through the computer.

In his speech at the University the President did lament that being stuck in conference rooms meant among other things that he couldn't go to the beach. One of his predecessors, Dwight Eisenhower, was known for his prowess at the bridge table, and it may be less well-known that Mr Obama is quite a dab hand himself. I

sounded him out and he said he'd come and have a game at the local club.

I asked if he could give me a lift in his car, but the secret service men with body armour, helmets, goggles and assault rifles, seemed to have other ideas. They followed him in a car with blacked-out windows, and I hoped I wasn't going to do anything to incur the President's displeasure.

At the first table our opponents looked startled to see who my partner was, but hoped to dine out on a good result.

We sat North-South and our opponents' card said they were playing Acol. "Ay-col, what's that?" Mr Obama asked in puzzlement. West opened 1C and after that it's a bit of a blur, but somehow he found himself as South in 3NT with only 20 high -card points between us.



Dealer W Vul N-S		3NT by S 6C lead
★ K Q 8 5 ▼ A 10 ◆ J 10 3 ♣ A Q 8 6		<ul><li>10 4 2</li><li>8 6 5 4</li><li>A 6</li><li>5 4 3 2</li></ul>
	<ul><li>▲ A 9 7 6</li><li>▼ K 9 7</li><li>◆ Q 7</li><li>◆ K J 9 7</li></ul>	

The President is a famously smooth performer in public, and he portrayed an air of confidence and "can-do" attitude. West led a 4th best club and the 10 held. Obama played a small diamond from the table, and East had to duck. When the queen held, the President followed up with a small diamond from

both hands, hoping for something good to happen, and indeed the ace popped up. The diamonds were now ready to cash when he could get to them.

A low spade switch at this point would have left our hero with no chance, but fortunately East returned partner's lead. Obama played the K♣, won by the ace, and when West persisted with the queen he smoothly false-carded with the jack. The fourth club was won by his nine and he could force an entry to the diamonds by leading to the QJ of hearts. West took the A♥ on the first round and tried the top spade but it was too late. Nine tricks were there, 5 diamonds, 2 clubs, a heart and a spade, and I was off the hook.

Richard Fox



### THOUGHTS FROM THE LIBRARY By Val Krantz

Last week I had a phone call from member upset because she and her partner had between them lost four library books. They had each taken out a copy of the same two books to read and discuss together. Before the afternoon play began they put them on a side table in the playing area to collect at the end of the ses-

sion. They forgot. Next day when they came to look for them they could see no sign of them. There was a happy ending and the books all turned up. But the story brings up a point of library management. If someone loses a library book should they be expected to pay for its replacement?

This is a continuing problem in libraries large and small. Sadly all libraries lose stock through carelessness on the part of borrowers or from deliber-

ate theft. The WABC library is no different. When we do the annual stock check of our 1000 odd bridge books there are almost always 20-30 missing. Some we can track to a borrowers' card; some just disappear without trace. Some borrowers swear the book was returned to our locked box but a card is still out in their name and the book cannot be found on the shelves.

We all know how easy it is to put a book aside and forget you've got it so pressure from us often turns up the missing book buried in a pile on the bedside table. We can make mistakes too: if we put the wrong card in a book, the error takes a

while to find and we may then accuse the wrong person of not returning a book. For this we apologise but do our best to provide an efficient library service. And this includes asking those who lose a book to pay to replace it if it does not turn up in a reasonable time after the date due. When you borrow a book you accept that responsibility.

Some will turn up in the next weeks but others will not. It is sad that a lot of the most popular books are the ones that disappear. Last year we located guite a few from our initial missing list and others that disappeared years ago came back to the shelves. After twelve months though the following books are still missing and I must write them off. We have duplicates of some, some are old and don't warrant replacing so I'll consider which are important and whether they are still in print. I hope some will

turn up on the shelves in the next weeks. It's nearly seven years since I began running the library with the help of the library committee and each year I dread stock checks and missing books. But missing books don't just walked off the shelves. Someone has taken them and every book we lose costs members. They must be somewhere so please help us find them. Look at home – and if appropriate into your hearts - for any of the above. If you find our books return them to a library committee member or to our locked box. Perhaps this will be a good year and many lost treasures will come home for you all to enjoy. We have a great library and want open access to it, the oppor-



tunity to browse at leisure, but losses may mean we must consider locking the shelves and allowing loans only with a committee member present. We really don't want to do that.

So what is the situation with lost books this year? We've just started our search and the following are ......

#### **MISSING MARCH 2015**

Bergen, M Better bidding with Bergen Vols 1 & 2

Bird & Bourke Planning in suit contracts

Boehm, A Matchpoint versus IMPS Dormer, A Dormer on deduction

Horton, & Van Cleef The mysterious multi: how to play...

Jannersten & Wohen Winning pairs technique

Kantar, E Intro. To declarer's play

Kantar, E Take your tricks

Karpin, F Finesse: how to win more tricks...

Kelsey, H Test your finessing Kelsey, H Killing defence at bridge

Kelsey & Bourke Test your card play 3

Kelsey & Glauert Bridge odds for practical players

Klinger, R Guide to better Acol bridge

Lawrence, M Complete book on balancing ...(1983)
Lawrence, M How to read your opponents cards

Lawrence & Wirgren I fought the law of total tricks Marston, P Language of bidding: strong NT (2011)

Marston LOB Acol (2005)

Marston, LOB 4-card majors (2009)

Marston Principles of card play (1986)

Marston LOB: Acol 4 card majors (2009)

Mendelson, P Right way to play bridge

Mollo & Gardener Card play technique (1971)

Reese, T Bridge for tournament players

Rimmington & Klinger Improve your bidding and play

Rodwell & Horton Rodwell files

Seagram & Bird 25 more bridge convention you should know

Seagram & Bird 25 ways to be a better defender

World Championships Bermuda Bowl: Venice Cup NY

Please have a look for these strayed tomes..

### **MORTON'S FORK COUP**

#### Cardinal Morton, Chancellor of the

Exchequer for Henry VII, had a simple rule for taxing merchants. If they lived well, they obviously had money and could afford a heavy impost. On the other hand, if they scrimped it was obvious they were hoarding their wealth and were equally able to pay substantial taxes. The bridge coup featured here is named after the worthy cardinal — the Morton's Fork Coup.

The coup is a play which offers an opponent a choice of evils. Here, the fork allows declarer to bring home the six heart contract.

West leads a trump. As declarer, what is your plan? Of course, if the club finesse works then twelve tricks will be easy.

	Q7 73 AK642 K743	
A865 654 Q98 Q105		J10432 J8 J1073 86
	K9 AKQ1092 5 AJ92	

Alternatively, it would be just grand if dummy's long diamond could be set up with a couple of ruffs, then the club finesse would not be necessary. Alas, there are not enough dummy entries for that. Or maybe there are! Yes, here is your chance to skewer the defense on a Morton's Fork, offering two losing options.

West leads a trump. As declarer, what is your plan? Of course, if the club finesse works then twelve tricks will be easy. Alternatively, it would be just grand if dummy's long diamond could be set up with a couple of ruffs, then the club finesse would not be necessary. Alas, there are not enough dummy entries for that. Or maybe there are! Yes, here is your chance to skewer the defense on a Morton's Fork, offering two losing options. After drawing trumps, you cross to the A♦ and ruff a diamond. Now you lead the ♠K and West will be impaled on one of these prongs:

First Prong: If West wins the ♠K with his ace he manages to score his spade, but not without cost. Now dummy has an extra entry (in spades) and you have the timing to ruff out the diamonds. You no longer need the club finesse, you have your twelve tricks via a spade, six hearts, three diamonds and two clubs.

Second Prong: If West ducks the ♠K then you cross to the ♠K, cash dummy's ♠K (pitching your remaining spade), give up a club, and romp home with twelve tricks. In this variation the defense never scores a spade trick.

This hand required perfect timing! It was necessary to cash just one high diamond and then ruff a diamond before playing on spades. If you had neglected to do that then you had no chance of getting the long diamond established. And it would have been fatal to cash *both* diamonds before playing on spades. That would have rendered the fork's second prong inoperable.

A very pretty deal!



### TIM SERES:

### Australia's Master of **Deception**

#### **SOLUTION to Tim Seres Problem p6**

S 532

H. 52

D. AK1092

C. K102

D. 6

C. J96

S. 10 S. AK94 H. 10843 H. K97 N D. QJ875 W E D. 43 C. A432  $\mathbf{S}$ C. Q87 S. OJ876 H. AQJ6

Seres continued with the 13<sup>th</sup> club allowing a ruff-sluff. On any other lead declarer has sufficient entries to lose only two spades and make the contract. Declarer ruffed in dummy and discarded a heart (Reiner a diamond). Lasur now played a trump to the SQ dropping the 10 but he still had to lose three trump tricks to East for one down. Seres gave the ruff-sluff on the grounds that declarer had no further side suit losers so it is a good time to weaken declarer's trump holding.

The board tied because Klinger-Lazur conceded 100 in 3S

Courtney notes that South could still have made after the ruff-sluff. Try for it before reading his solution.

'Discard a heart from dummy and ruff in hand; cash the top diamonds and play a low spade. East may duck but after winning the queen declarer can strip East's hearts, ruffing the last in dummy, and another diamond will coup East for contract in the three card ending.' (p.99)

### NEW & **REJOINING CLUB MEMBERS**

WE WARMLY WELCOME THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF OUR CLUB

#### **JANUARY**

Helen Agnew Shapour Mofakhami Lorraine Walter Shirin Mofakhami Gary Wood Roslyn Varevisser Kerry Barns Ziggy Morawiec Claudette Le Map John McMullan **David Macey** Tessa Mavall John Rome Rosalind Lilley Christine Buck Rosemary Ford Alison Papas Beverley Hollyock Peter Garcia-Webb Peach Partis Darilyn Evans

#### **FEBRUARY**

Neville Gale John Ruocco **Coral Preston** Carol Thomson Darilyn Evans

#### **MARCH**

Zinnia Browne Joscelyn Charters Ann Saw

### In Memorium

Graham Boyd Angel a Dvoretsky Al an Jordan Margaret Abrahams Susie Auburn Peter Douglas

### Diary dates 2015

APRIL			
Wednesday 1			
Thursday 2	Handicap Pairs – 1:00pm start 1 of 2	Members only	
Friday 3	Afternoon Duplicate only – 1:15pm start	Good Friday	
Monday 6	Afternoon Duplicate only – 1:00pm start	Easter Monday	
Thursday 9	Handicap Pairs – 1:00pm start 2 of 2	Members only	
	WABC Novice & Super Novice Congress –		
Sunday 19	10am start		
Saturday 25	Afternoon Duplicate only – 1:30pm start	Anzac Day	
Monday 27	Afternoon Duplicate only – 1:00pm start	Anzac Day Public Holiday	

MAY			
Friday 1			
Saturday 2	GNOT Heat – Noon start	At least 1 Player must be a WABC member	
Friday 8	Charity Day - 1:15 pm start	Open competition	
Saturday 9	GNOT Heat (if required)		
Saturday 16	ABF Western Seniors Pairs	NO CLUB BRIDGE at WABC	
Sunday 17	ABF Western Seniors Pairs	NO CLUB BRIDGE at WABC	
Friday 29	Winter Congress Friday Pairs - 10:00am start	No Regular Session	
Saturday 30	Winter Congress Saturday Pairs - 1:30 start Winter Congress Swiss Pairs – 10 am start	No Regular Session No Regular Session	
Sunday 31	Winter Congress Sunday Pairs - 1:30 start Winter Congress Swiss Pairs – 10 am start	No Regular Session No Regular Session	

JUNE		
Monday 1	Winter Congress President's Pairs - 1:30 pm start	No Regular Sessions
	Winter Congress Teams - 10am start Under 50 pts. Novice Championship –	No Regular Session
Monday 8	9:15am 1 of 2	Members only
	Under 50 pts. Novice Championship –	
Monday 15	9:15am 2 of 2	Members only



### **DUPLICATE SESSIONS**

#### PO Box 591 Cottesloe 6911

7 Odern Cres, Swanbourne. Phone 9284 4144

SUPERVISED – FOR BEGINNERS				
Monday (P)	12.30 – 3.15	Peter Smith	Except Public Holidays.	
Wednesday (P)	7.30 – 10.15	Annabel Booth	Ideal for the novice player.	
Friday (P)	9.30 – 12.15	Annabel Booth	Ideal for the novice player.	
Saturday (P)	1.30 - 5.15	Guest Director	Ideal for the novice player.	

- These sessions are supervised you may ask for help during play.
- (P) You don't need to bring a partner, no need to book, just turn up in the teaching area.

OTHER SESSIONS - UNSUPERVISED			
Monday am	9.15 – 12.30	Peter Holloway	Small & friendly. Not held on Public Holidays.
Monday pm	1.00 – 4.45	Dave Parham	Graduate to this from Supervised.
Tuesday	1.00 - 4.45	Bill Kemp	The premier session.
Wednesday	11.30 – 3.00	Peter Smith	Advice given by Peter – after the session.
Wednesday Eve	7.30 – 11.00	David Burn	Very popular, good atmosphere.
Thursday	1.00 - 4.45	John Beddow	Popular with newer players.
Friday am	9.15 – 12.15	David Burn	Intermediate players
Friday pm	1.15 - 5.00	Peter Holloway	Our most popular session.
Saturday (P)	1.30 - 5.15	David Burn	Relaxed and social.

- All sessions marked (P) indicate you may attend without a partner.
- If you need a partner for any other session phone Dymphna Elsey 9336 4802 8.30am 8.30pm.

All results posted at www.wabridgeclub.com.au. Licensed bar open after most sessions.

TABLE MONEY PER SESSION: \$7.00 Members, \$9.00 Visitors, \$3.00 Youth players

(SUPERVISED: \$8.00 Members, \$10.00 Visitors, \$4.00 Youth players)

All results posted at www.wabridgeclub.com.au.

Licensed bar open after most sessions.



## THE WINTER CONGRESS

MAY 29th, 30th, 31st and JUNE 1st



A SUPER CONGRESS WITH 50% MORE RED POINTS FOR ALL MAJOR EVENTS.

FRIDAY ALL DAY PAIRS: Two sessions 9.30 am & 1.30 pm<sup>-</sup>
THE AILSA SMITH FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm<sup>-</sup>
SAT & SUN: TWO DAY SWISS PAIRS Each day 9.30 am & 1.30 pm<sup>-</sup>
THE FRANK HUSSEY SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm<sup>-</sup>
THE LINDA WILD SUNDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm<sup>-</sup>
MONDAY TEAMS: Two sessions 9.30 am & 1.30 pm<sup>-</sup>
THE CHARLIE LIM MONDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: 1:30pm

Full Day events: \$30 per person per day Afternoon events: \$15 per person



Director: Bill Kemp Convenor: Kitty George ENTRIES VIA BAWA WEBSITE: <a href="www.bawa.asn.au">www.bawa.asn.au</a> WABC 7 Odern Crescent Swanbourne WA For General Enquiries: Phone: 9284 4144 Entry Enquiries: Helen Kemp: 9447 0534

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