



WEST
AUSTRALIAN
BRIDGE
CLUB

TRUMPS PLUS

Spring 2017 VOLUME 10 Issue 3
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BRIDGE in CORDOBA COLOMBIA



Photo courtesy of the wandering club members....

Andrea and Mike Gaff

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Editorial



Autumn, in the bridge world, and in particular in WABC-world, is a time when the packed calendar of past months can be seen to be thinning out as we

head for Christmas and New Year. Nonetheless, there are still important challenges ahead, with the Mens' Pairs and Evening Pairs Championships to be held in October, and I hope you are in the process of preparing for those events. In particular, all my fellow males, I hope you are in the throes of making arrangements for the Mens' Pairs 2017. We had a good turnout last year and we should be attempting to improve on it this year.

And then in early December we come up to the Christmas Congress. Now as you know, an important part of the Congress is the teams session scheduled for Sunday December 3rd. Congress team numbers are usually not too bad, compared with some of our other teams events, but generally speaking attendance levels at Club teams events is relatively poor. You may have noticed, I hope you have, that the Tournament Committee and the Management Committee have been concerned in recent times about this and have been attempting to improve awareness and enthusiasm for these competitions. To that end we are very grateful for the effort Peter Smith is making this month to improve our teams knowledge by conducting two sessions that will provide an ideal introduction to teams play and its tactics. The number of nominations so far indicate that these sessions are being enthusiastically received so I hope to see you there. I also hope that you are all preparing your teams for the Christmas



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Bagley



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Congress as I write these hortatory words, and to provide additional encouragement we have included an article on teams a little further on in this edition.

In the teams arena there is an unusual event in the forthcoming 2018 bridge calendar, and that is the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship that will be held at the beginning of March on the Gold Coast, just before the Gold Coast Congress. This championship gets held every four years in conjunction with the Commonwealth Games, and the flier for next year's championship gives an indication of the countries that so far have indicated that they will be attending the 2018 competition



Further details can be obtained through the appropriate web site:

<http://www.qldbridge.com/cnbc/index.php>

BAWA is in the throes of selecting a team to represent Western Australia in this competition and I hope that you will be competing. Announcements will be made, fliers circulated, drums beaten, etc in the next few weeks. The selection process is expected to be conducted in early December. Be there!

Once again, if you would like me include anything in this eminent journal 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.

Chris Bagley



President's Report

We are all enjoying recent improvements around our great Club:

The upgrade of our refrigeration from the two Miele units [with handle deficiencies] to one large and much sturdier commercial unit.

The second hand books are now on and in the new drawers situated outside the office, leaving our Library with more room and less interference.

The "Friends of Allen Park" held a meet-

ing early in the year to collect community views about the use and harmony of the area and make submissions to the Nedlands Council. About six of our members attended. The Nedlands Council has engaged a consultancy firm to study and recommend development of the area including the surrounds of our Club. We are in contact to try and ensure we are not disadvantaged with any changes that are recommended.

It was decided at the Tournament Committee meeting to ask Peter Smith to promote Teams Bridge. I am happy to say we have set aside the 14th and 19th of September from 10am to 12 am and we are encouraged with the large number who have committed to attend. Thank you to Val, Kate, Pauline and John Beddow who will

help make up teams for practice at the end of the sessions with Peter.

The open teams competition was held on Saturday 26th August and it was good to see the numbers up on last year with nine teams competing.

The Wilson team came first followed by the Packer and Stokes teams. Congratulations to all.

I would like to congratulate Cynthia Belonogoff and Deana Wilson who came first at the ANC Womens Butler event and to Jane Reynolds and Viv Woods who came Fifth.

I have had many complaints about the use of our foam cups for tea, coffee and soup, concerning the impact on our environment. The only way to completely remove their use would be to have a commercial dishwasher installed in our kitchen and have people responsible to fill and empty at each session. The cost and amount of water in my opinion would be extravagant. In the short term I am encouraging anyone who wishes to make a difference to bring their own cup or mug, which can be used for both hot drinks and water.

Last but not least I must make mention of the passing of our long standing member, Dr Malcolm Smith. As a result we have almost lost our connection to those early members who had the foresight and commitment to invest their own money to start our wonderful club. Farewell Malcolm.

Please make note in your diaries that the AGM will be held the 3rd October. I look forward to your attendance.

Dymphna Elsey

To All Members

You are advised that the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the West Australian Bridge Club (Inc) will take place on:

4.30pm Tuesday 3 October
at the WABC clubrooms
7 Odern Crescent
Swanbourne.

Positions to be elected are:
PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER
And 7 non-office bearers

If more than the required number of candidates is nominated, election shall be by ballot. If required, ballot papers will be available for members, after 4.00pm on Tuesday 12 September 2017, to cast their vote. The ballot will close at 1.00pm on Tuesday 3 October 2017. Results of the ballot shall be disclosed by the Chairperson at the AGM.

CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP 2017



FIRST PLACE:
Tim Munro
Deana Wilson
Fiske Warren
Kaiping Chen

SECOND PLACE:
Jonathan Free
Linda Coli
Rose Moore
Virginia Seward



THIRD PLACE:
Di Quantrill
Audrey Stokes
(Kathy and Phil Power)



French Finesse

With Peter Smith

How would you play this hand from the final of this year's world teams championship, the Bermuda Bowl?
Board 10. Dealer East. Both vulnerable.

♠ A 10 8 3 2
♥ J 7 3
♦ 6 4
♣ Q J 6

N
W E
S

♠ K J 6 5
♥ K 10 8 6 5 4
♦ 10
♣ A 7

You reach 4♥ as South after the following auction in the Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Combescure</i>
		1♦	1♥
2♥*	3♥	Pass	4♥
		All Pass	

* Cue Raise, diamond fit.

The auction in the Closed Room was identical except that West bid 3♦ rather than the Cue Raise.

Both declarers received the lead of the ♠7. Plan the play.

Firstly, although there's a free spade finesse available by playing low from dummy, the lead is easy to read as a singleton. Realising this, declarer could finesse East for the ♠Q later on anyway, provided a late trump entry is available to dummy. Another more pressing factor is that trumps should be led first from dummy.

So both Francois Combescure for France and Brad Moss for USA2, made the good play of the ♠A from dummy at trick one. On this East played the ♠9, a Suit Preference Signal for a diamond entry.

Both declarers now led the ♥3 from dummy and East followed with the two. What to play – the king or the ten?

Moss, perhaps fixated on West's 3♦ raise simply being preemptive due to the lack of a

Cue Raise, decided to rise with the king.

Combescore for France, however, took a different inference. As West's opening lead was a singleton wouldn't East be eager to rise immediately with the trump ace if he had it in order to give a quick ruff? Accordingly, he finessed the ten of hearts.

Here's the full deal.

♠ A 10 8 3 2
♥ J 7 3
♦ 6 4
♣ Q J 6

♠ 7
♥ A 9
♦ K 9 8 5 3 2
♣ 10 8 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 4
♥ Q 2
♦ A Q J 7
♣ K 9 5 4

♠ K J 6 5
♥ K 10 8 6 5 4
♦ 10
♣ A 7

After winning the ♥A both Wests returned the ♦9, ostensibly denying an honour, to deflect partner away from playing back anything but a spade for the ruff. East won the ♦A and duly returned a low spade, South playing the jack.

West ruffed, giving the defence their third trick, but Moss still had to lose to East's trump queen for one light whereas Combescore's ♥K took care of that and he had the rest of the tricks for a well deserved 12 IMP pick up.

Moss still had the last laugh, however, as the 128 board match which was ground out over 3 days resulted in a final margin of just 2 IMPs to USA2! The winning team was Brad Moss, Jo Grue, Jacek Pszczola (better known and pronounced as 'Pepsi!'), Michael Rosenberg, Marty Fleisher and Chip Martel, with Jan Martel non-playing captain.

MENS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP



**SATURDAY
7TH OCTOBER**

10.00 AM and 1.30 pm

CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

ENTRY FREE \$12
PLUS TABLE MONEY per session
Substitutes are not permitted.
Pairs must play both sessions

**2016 Winners:
Kaiping Chen and
Fiske Warren**



ARE YOU GUILTY OF SLOW PLAY?

by Matt McManus

The major complaint that directors have to deal with is slow play

(although air-conditioning does come a close second). Whether it's because there's no time to play all the boards, whether it's players waiting for a table to finish so they can move there or because most of the players are hanging around for tables to finish play so the director can make the draw for the next round, slow play is the main cause of discontent for most players. So, if you are brave enough to take it, here is a quiz to see if you are one of those players who cause dissatisfaction...are you ready to start?

Are you ready to start?

One of the very obvious things that I observe is that players who are notorious for their slow play are also typically those who, when the round or match is starting, are making a cup of tea, chatting with friends, arguing with their partner or team mates – anything but being ready to commence play. If you do have a reputation as a slow player, how about trying the effect of sitting at the table before the director hands out the boards, all set to start play immediately? Those extra couple of minutes will make a difference.

Are you carrying too much weight?

No, I am not being personal, but like

a racehorse which is handicapped to slow it down by having to carry additional weight, a lot of slow players add to the delay by what they have to transport when they get up to move to the next table. A coat or jumper, a bag, a book or magazine, a score book, a pen, a glass of water or cup of tea, and various other paraphernalia. Why not try the effect of travelling light? Put as much as you can away in a corner before the start of the session.

Are you guilty of “scoring on the green”?

Golfers will know that one of the big no-no's is scoring on the green. That is, filling in your scorecard immediately after putting out, rather than moving off the green so that the group following can hit up. Bridge has its own version of this. It can be the players who are running late filling in personal scorecards before moving on. But there are other instances. Looking at the travelling score sheet to see what others have done, or inspecting the Bridgemate to see your percentage on the board is a privilege, not a right. If you are running late and other players are waiting to come to the table, you have lost that entitlement. The director, if he is on the ball and able to do so, should take responsibility for entering the score on the traveller/Bridgemate, so that EW can move on and NS can start play in the next round. (Of course, playing directors are unlikely to be in a position to do this – one of the reasons why it is even more difficult for playing directors to keep a

track on slow play.) Similarly, spending too much time poring over the results at the end of a hand, and engaging in lengthy post mortems with partner, is a significant cause of slow play.

Furthermore, there can be similar problems during the play of the hand. Some easy directions: if you are on opening lead, NEVER fill in your personal scoresheet until after you have made the lead. If you are dummy, ALWAYS put your cards down on the table immediately after the opening lead is faced. If play is being delayed by having to enter the data in the Bridgemate, try this procedure: after dummy's hand goes down, give the Bridgemate to dummy, who can then enter the board number, the contract, the declarer and (if recorded) the opening lead, before handing the unit back to North or South. At the end of the hand, it is then a simple matter of entering the number of tricks and having the score confirmed by the opponents. Finally, at the end of the hand, after the number of tricks is agreed, the very first thing you should do is to put the cards back into the board. If the director does need to move the board on, it will greatly speed things up.

Do you feel bad /remorseful when the director says “take an average”?

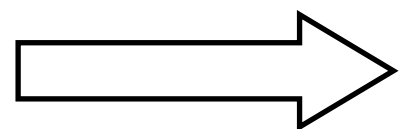
If I had a dollar for every time I've been told, “it wasn't our fault”, I wouldn't be directing, I'd be living in the lap of luxury on the Riviera!

There are two possibilities: one – it really wasn't your fault. In that case, it will be a very rare occurrence for the director to say, “take an average”. As it is so uncommon, it will hardly make a difference to you, and you will understand that what the director is doing is for the benefit of the game, keeping it moving

and making things better for everyone. However, if it is happening to you a lot, you need to ask the question, “why?”

The standard amount of time allowed per board is about 7 minutes. That means, each player has about 2 minutes per hand to consider their bids and plays. (The reason it doesn't quite add up is that dummy doesn't need any thinking time during the play period.) Of course, occasionally there will be particularly difficult problems when you may need to take extra time. That is not an issue. However, if you are consistently taking more than your fair share, that is a big problem. Apart from being discourteous to the opponents – and any one who has to wait for you to finish – it is a significant breach of the proprieties of the game. In tournament chess, a player who exceeds the time limit automatically loses the match. The penalties usually imposed in bridge (on the rare occasions that they are implemented) are usually of far less significance – often just getting average minus on a board.

Experienced directors know who the slow players are. Apart from having to consistently hurry them up, directors regularly receive complaints about having to play against “so and so, who is so slow”. When the same names keep coming up, the pattern and the truth is pretty well established. When these players react with comments like “we weren't slow” or “it wasn't me”, either they are being disingenuous, or are unacceptably unaware of their behaviour. In either case, clearly something needs to change for the good of the game and the enjoyment of all.



Are we done yet?

The fact that all the boards have been played is not a good indication that play has been timely. The biggest grumbles that the opponents of slow players have involve being pressured to rush through the last couple of boards because of the amount of time that has been used up earlier. A far better test of whether you are slow is to monitor where you are midway through the round. When the director says, “we have reached the half way point, you should have finished boards”, have you completed at least half your boards? If the answer to this is “no” more than 25% of the time, you cannot keep blaming your opponents – you are a slow player.

How did you go? I expect you passed. But maybe you may know of someone else for whom this article might be useful? Your partner perhaps? Remember that saying, “it’s not me, it’s my partner” is not really an excuse. Bridge is a partnership game. If your partner is to blame for making the game less pleasant for others, then at some point you have to take responsibility as well.



Don't Dawdle

MIXED PAIRS Championship 2017



**Winners:
Marie Musitano and Jay Medhat.**



**Second Place:
Audrey Stokes (and Steve Pynt)**

**Audrey seen here with Director
David Burn**

70% IN
2017**The 70's**70% IN
2017**JANUARY**

18 Jan	Derek Pocock /Geoffrey Pocock	76.62
9 Jan	Mimi Packer/Virginia Seward	73.92
26 Jan	Margie Tulloch/Anne Siopis	73.27
14 Jan	Judy Crooke/ Trish Smith	72.60
24 Jan	John Beddow/Bruce Fraser	70.37
28 Jan	Joan Carter/Bobby Mitchell	70.14
21 Jan	Breffni Baker/Margaret Martin	70.00

FEBRUARY

22 Feb	Joan Siciliano/Tony Siciliano	70.14
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MARCH

24 Mar	Phil Jacobsen# /Geoff Wearne	70.60
24 Mar	Jonathan Free/Philip Lagrange	70.37

APRIL

29 Apr	Debbie Chappell/Sally Savina	75.69
21 Apr	Deana Wilson/ Fiske Warren@	73.51
6 Apr	Phil Jacobsen# /Julie Short	71.87
10 Apr	Margareta Hughes# / Fiske Warren@	70.85
17 Apr	Robin Dawson/Susan Robertson	70.63
29 Apr	Mary Rose/Helen Ross	70.37

MAY

1 May	Penny Fayle/Sandra Viol	70.83
2 May	Helen and Mike George	70.18

JUNE

19 June	Kathie Smith/Catherine Grogan	76.53
14 June	Dave Parham/Frans Fikke	71.99

JULY

15 July	Margareta Hughes# / Fiske Warren@	72.28
26 July	John McMullan/John Aquino	70.37

AUGUST

11 Aug	Suzanne John/Mira Erskine	71.43
21 Aug	Susan Barham/Jan Malcolm	70.60
28 Aug	John Beddow/Egmont Melton	70.54

SEPTEMBER

2 Sep	Kathleen Negus/John Nelson	72.22
8 Sep	Jocelyn Parry/Margaret King	71.03
9 Sep	Hilary Heptinstall/Terence Heptinstall	70.19
14 Sep	Ann Youngs/Chris Bagley	74.06

Two-time winner. @ Three-time winner

This is for a bit of fun only. There are no prizes on offer. □ John Beddow

Vale Malcom Smith

1922—2017

Malcolm led a busy and exciting life. As a practising GP, anaesthetist, keen golfer, race horse owner, cricket lover, hobby farmer, body surfer and father of five, it's a wonder he had time to play any bridge at all let alone become a local champion of the game.

He was born in West Perth in 1922 and lived on Kings Park Road with his parents, Donald and Margery (Ginger), brother Brian and sister Robyn. Donald was a doctor and radiologist who had moved to Perth from Sydney. Ginger and Donald both served in WWI, he as a medic and she as a nurse.

Malcolm attended Hale School when it was in the old West Perth buildings (which still stand). After finishing school he decided to study medicine. As Perth had no medical school at the time, he moved to Sydney and Saint Andrews College, to which he donated funds right up until the day he died.

After a year of study the war began to heat up in the Pacific and Malcolm enlisted in the Navy. In 1944 he volunteered for the Services Reconnaissance Department, a secret organisation that conducted covert operations, often behind

enemy lines, against the Japanese. It was called the Z Special Unit, but commonly known as 'Z-Force', and was the forerunner of today's Special Air Service Regiment. After training and serving in various positions – Fraser Island, Garden

Island and on a number of naval vessels - Malcolm became a leading seaman and served on a small boat done up to look like a native fishing boat. Called the River Snake, and manned by a crew of eight, the boat patrolled in the Timor region, and later took ammunition, supplies and men up toward Borneo. One incident that Malcolm liked to recall was the time the River Snake



nearly came to grief in the straits of Malacca. The engine mountings had sheered off after a storm, so they were set adrift for several days. When an Allied plane flew over them they had no way of signalling who they were (all Z Force operations were covert, and none of the sailors had uniforms). After desperately waving at the plane, 'some smart bugger' went into the toilet, grabbed a toilet roll and let out a great ribbon of loo paper into the air and sea. This was enough information for the pilot and within hours an Australian ship rescued them. He loved to tell how he'd been saved by a 'bog roll'.

When Malcolm returned to finish his medical degree, he was introduced to a friend of his sister, a pretty, intelligent and witty young woman called Ailsa Brockman who had come across to Sydney after completing an arts degree at UWA. The pair discovered they had many things in common. Both were quick thinkers, decisive, energetic and forthright with a desire to get things done. So they hitch-hiked up to Brisbane and got married after Malcolm bought a copper ring made from an old curtain ring! As most members will know, Ailsa too went on to become a state champion and a club President. Sadly, Ailsa passed away in 2014.

When Malcolm graduated in medicine, he and Ailsa moved to Perth to begin what became truly rich and fulfilling lives. He worked as a doctor in various hospitals, including the Wooraloo TB sanatorium. Later he set up a medical practice in North Perth with two other doctors. He quickly gained a reputation as a popular and caring GP. As many of his patients were working class immigrants from Italy and Greece, he was known to occasionally take payment in kind, some times in the form of crayfish!

He began playing bridge after a school friend introduced him to it, and originally played Culbertson – the system his parents taught him. Later he read about ACOL and decided to give it a go. When new or eastern states players ask why the ACOL system is so popular in Perth, some might say it's because it is a good aggressive system, or they might simply say it's what Peter Smith (Malcolm's son-in-law) teaches. The truth is that ACOL was introduced to WA by Malcolm in the late 1950s.

Malcolm was a foundation member of the WABC. He was in the state team 3 years in a row from 1966 to 1968, play-

ing with Mike Hopper, and then again in 1976 playing with Hans Rosendorff. Malcolm played with some other good players from the WABC including Derek Pockock, Henry Christie and Brian O'Hara. In later years, he also played often with Ailsa, and sometimes his daughter, Kate.

The last time I played bridge with Dad at WABC, we sat at a table where a special light was set up for his ailing eyesight. I've never been a serious bridge player, but we won that day partly due to a small slam contract I put him into after he opened a weak two hearts bid. The look on his face when I bid 4NT was memorable! Fortunately my well-shaped 22 count (including the Heart Ace) and two favourable minor suit finesses got him home! We were the only pair in the small slam. He made no comment about the fact that my bid was ridiculous.

Always a gentleman, and always generous and charming, he also loved a good party. At his 70th birthday party two bridge-playing friends (who'd rather not be named here) ordered a striptease act in the form of a pretty young nurse. Before discarding any of her items of clothing, the 'nurse' was bitten by the family dog Nellie, fortunately not a serious bite. Things were clearly not getting off to a good start. When she finally got down to her G string, sat on Malcolm's lap and guided his hands over her chest, Malcolm yelled out "No lumps" referring, of course, to his job as a doctor. Unfortunately the stripper took this the wrong way and was later heard to be upset about this comment on her not-entirely substantial breasts. Oh well, you can't charm 'em all.

Long term family friend Geoff Holman likes to tell the story of when he and Ailsa and Malcolm were driving in NSW during a break in an interstate congress. "Malcolm was driving on the return to Canberra and stopped to refuel. Ailsa

went for a leak; Malcolm kept talking to the pump attendant and anyone who'd listen; paid and drove off." Geoff, who loves a good prank, just sat in the back seat fully aware that Malcolm had driven off without his own wife! "After a couple of miles I suggested to Malcolm that he might want to consider whether Ailsa might want a lift back to Canberra. Ailsa was standing on the forecourt preparing her words that are ever etched in my memory: *'Malcolm, I know you have not heard anything I've said in the last twenty years, but I thought you could still see me!'* "

In the early 1960s Malcolm and Ailsa built a hut on Garden Island so the family could holiday there with friends who also had huts. When he wasn't sleeping, playing cards or talking, he spent a great deal of time fishing at the 'back beach'. He also loved body-surfing. His daughter Nicky recalls him "...taking us to Trigg beach when we were 6, 7, 8 and 11 and him pushing us onto waves since we couldn't reach the bottom. When a really good set came, he couldn't help himself

taking the wave and told us to go out behind the break and dog paddle until he got back."

In the 1980s Malcolm and Ailsa bought a beach house at Golden Bay with friends and fellow bridge players Les Calcraft and Haydn and Annie Lowe. Many a fun night was had at 'The Bay', either playing bridge, scrabble, charades or 'Trivial Disputes'.

On the WABC honour boards are the names of many people who have had fun times with Malcolm and Ailsa, not just at Golden Bay but at the club, at the family Christmas eve parties, or at interstate congresses. Beyond the club are many people, some still with us, some who have passed away, who have enjoyed Malcolm's company, not just because he was witty and charming, but often because he (with Ailsa) took them in during difficult times, or simply because he welcomed them into his huge circle of friends and family. Not just a gentleman, a truly gentle man.



A sincere Thank You to Marjorie Thunder for her very generous donation of a comfortable outdoor bench for the club.

A great addition to our outdoor area.

Our underused bridge library



As every school boy and girl know, pons is Latin for bridge and Libra for book. I applaud our pons libra,

which is second to none but woefully underused and not properly appreciated.

Do you know we have 900 books and 60 DVD's? This is the best I have encountered and I have played in bridge clubs in Glasgow, Buenos Aires, London, New York, Sydney and countless other venues. We have an annual budget of \$1500.00 along with receiving numerous bequests, the most recent from the revered John Ashworth.

Especially comforting for a Scot is it is all free. No wonder I am its best customer!

But why do we have the best bridge library but lack so many customers? Regularly going to bed reading a bridge book means you will, eventually, wake up being a better player. We are never too old to learn.

We have a cornucopia of wisdom. A treasure trove of books. The Rueful Rabbit, the Hideous Hog, exotic squeeze play hands, defensive hands, bidding hands, declarer play. The great

Hoffman (he preferred to play with my wife Ursula instead of me), Omar Sharif (yes, he wrote a splendid book and also had a game with Sue Grenside). You name it, the library has it or will happily get it for you. American au-

thors, Australian writers and even a

Scotsman, the inestimable Kelsey who was one of the

greats. We even go as far back as Culbertson. Feast and grow learned, full of enjoyment, satisfaction and reward. As Sheridan said "A library is an evergreen tree of diabolical knowledge".

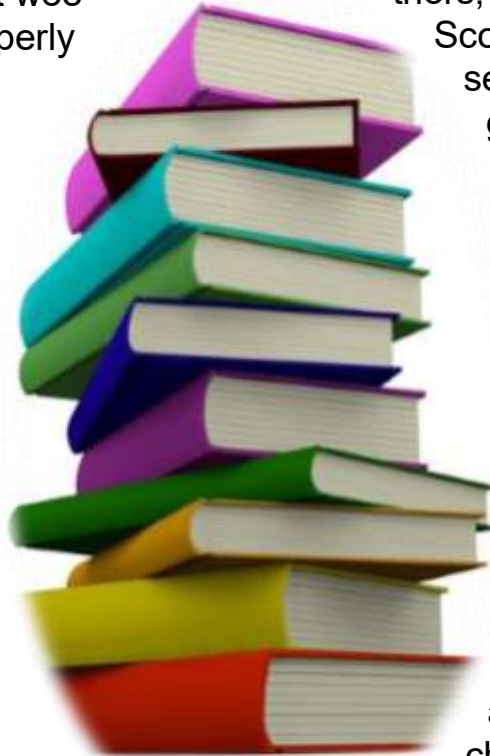
Having played bridge worldwide I can attest to pure enjoyment of playing at WABC with its sea views, good attendances at tournaments, charming Directors and the splendid Sheenagh. What

more do we need? An outstanding library? We have that.

But no library is complete without helpers. Those volunteers who give up their time to ensure the library is up to date with the latest publications, replace books methodically and help with advice and suggestions when you wish to borrow.

Our thanks and admiration to Val Krantz, Alison Rigg, Dorothy Cain, June Fox, Jan Cain, Zinnia Brown, Gary Wood and Mal Clark.....heroes all. We thank and salute you.

Ross Harper





A Report from the

GALLIVANTING GAFFS

I have been a member of WABC for 14 years and Andrea for six, so many of you reading this will know us and lots of you will be friends. As we spend only part of each year in WA and the remainder travelling, we are often greeted at the table with "Oh you're back - where have you been this time and what have you been up to?" So rather than recounting our adventures on our return I thought to submit this piece to Trumps Plus.

Over the last three years we have visited some 22 countries and played bridge in 11 of them. We travel independently and when piecing together itineraries I am constantly asking myself where I can find Andrea a game of bridge. Though keen, I am not a patch on my bridge-tragic wife who would play all day, every day if she could, and who is happy with any detour or change of plan if there is a game at the end of it.

The most recent example of this was on leaving Nicaragua, when A decided that a short detour (to Costa Rica!!) was worth it as she'd located a bridge club in San José. There, I am proud to announce that we came second, beaten only by the captain of the Costa Rican national team (admittedly there were only six tables that day). Andrea was also thrilled to coincidentally meet a former colleague there

from the Canadian law school where she completed her Masters in 1993.

The San José club ranks as the friendliest we have ever encountered, which is saying something as we have been constantly amazed at the warmth of our welcome from strangers who often don't have a word of English and who know they are unlikely to ever see us again. We have been collected from our hotel and taken to the bridge club, bought drinks and been invited to people's homes.

Our next stop was Panama, where thanks to recommendations from Helene Kolozs' daughter, a resident of Panama, we spent a wonderful week on the Caribbean coast. We then flew to Panama City, which we really enjoyed despite the bridge game being cancelled at the last minute (they must have heard of our Costa Rican triumph!) Poor Andrea, she had even booked us into the hotel where the bridge club plays. I loved seeing the Panama Canal in action and learning about its recent extension.

Andrea was then on the internet searching for clubs in Colombia, our next port of call. Rather apprehensively we flew into the large city of Medellin, former home to the infamous drug cartels. We expected the usual rich/poor extremes typical of

South America but actually found a fascinating and stylish city with wide boulevards, parks, good restaurants and an efficient metro system. A city trying to clean up its act after they managed to finally capture and kill Pablo Escobar and many of his henchmen.

We played bridge at the Country Club, confusingly located in the middle of the city. One of our opponents was Pablo Escobar's former neighbour and she regaled us with tales of the drug lord's excesses and the pervasive fear that he generated among locals. Drive-by shootings were a daily occurrence. He even had a commercial plane blown up mid-air to kill a certain politician, except that the politician didn't board the plane, just



dozens of innocent individuals!
We are now in Cartagena, a quaint UNESCO colonial city in northern Colombia. We're registered to play in a bridge tournament here before boarding our Caribbean cruise ship - where A hopes to play most days if there is organised bridge.

Bogota next (two bridge games organised), then Quito in Ecuador (two more), then the Amazon, Andes and Galapagos islands. Two final weeks in the USA before home in time for A's 50th birthday in late October.

So, Hasta La Vista Baby! Look forward to seeing you at the club upon our return.

Mike Gaff



They even have Bridge on their wall murals!

BECOMING TEAMS EXPERTS....

With Peter Smith



As advertised, our Club Teacher, Peter Smith, conducted the first of two sessions discussing how to play Teams bridge at the Club on the morning of the 14th September. He had a strong turnout for the session:

(with apologies from the photographer for the startled expressions on some faces)









Why Playing Teams is Best!

Teams are an integral part of bridge. Let us see why.

Firstly, what are teams. Teams are a form of bridge competition where two pairs, forming a team, play another two pairs, who are also therefore a team. Teams can be played within an organisation, such as the club teams championship, or the BAWA open bridge championship, or between organisations, such as a team competition between a WABC team and a Melville Bridge Club team.

Secondly, why are teams a popular form of competition, and becoming more popular. The primary reason here is that teams are a fairer form of competition than our normal day to day bridge, known as duplicate bridge. There can be quite a bit of luck in duplicate bridge. Let me illustrate this by a recent hand I played in a club completion.

Board 15
Dir: S
Vul: N-S

♠ 6 ♥ T7532 ♦ Q ♣ K87652		
♠ T832 ♥ J96 ♦ 964 ♣ AJ4		♠ KQJ7 ♥ K84 ♦ J872 ♣ T3
		
	♠ A954 ♥ AQ ♦ AKT53 ♣ Q9	N: 5 ♣ 3 ♦ 4 ♥ 2 ♠ 2NT S: 5 ♣ 3 ♦ 4 ♥ 2 ♠ 2NT E: W:

5
6 10
19

In this hand our opponents bid to Four Hearts. The bidding went 1D, (P), 1H, (P), 4H. Straightforward? Everyone should have been in Four Hearts? Wrong. Of the nine tables in the competition, only one NS pair was in four, the pair that played us. They had a top, we had a bottom. Such is bridge, and we are used to it.

But in a team competition, both teams have the same opportunity to bid and play a winning hand. Team A's NS should bid and play in four H, and Team B's NS should do the same. The result will be a draw, which is what it should be. Fair.

Teams also offer the opportunity for another fair result. If NS play in the safer 5C contract in pairs then they run the risk of getting a poor result compared to pairs that play in 4H. However, in teams the result is very acceptable, with the 5C contract getting only 1 imp less than the riskier 4H contract.

So teams are good, but what are the opportunities to play teams. Some would argue that the opportunities are not as rich as they should be but you, the bridge player, do have some options but perhaps not quite as many as we would like.

- ♥ The GNOT heats, in May. GNOT stands for Grand National Open Teams.
- ♥ The Teams competition in the Winter Congress in June
- ♥ The Masters-in-teams-of-three in May
- ♥ The Club Teams Championship in August
- ♥ The Teams competition in the Christmas Congress in December.

So, five opportunities, some but not many as opposed to upwards of four hundred opportunities to play duplicate.

However, there are other teams opportunities as well. Most clubs have one or two congresses a year, and there is usually a teams competition in at least one of those congresses. They are generally well attended, reflecting the underlying popularity of teams. In addition, BAWA has five competitions during the year, plus the GNOT finals.

BAWA also sponsors an interclub teams competition and WABC is usually a strong competitor in this competition, running four or five teams. This year we have Restricted, Intermediate, and Open teams. Winning, or doing well in this competition not only wins the competitors rich red points, but also wins money for the Club. Restricted and intermediate interclub teams winners win 0.42 Red Points, which is a useful addition to anyone's master point collection and in recent years the Club has typically won around \$1400 each year for its members efforts.

Some opportunities then, but enough?

Your Tournament Committee doesn't think so, and is currently working to set

up some teams events through the year, probably on various Saturdays. Be prepared: send out your invitations to your favourite partners to form a team for the new year.

Chris Bagley

DAYTIME PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2017



**FIRST PLACE:
Kaiping Chen
Deana Wilson**

**Closing date for
contributions
to the Christmas
Edition of Trumps Plus**

1st December 2017

WHY USE A TRAVEL AGENT?

Travelling – Common pitfalls of booking your travel online!

All too often, online travel purchases are not what they seem. Using an ATAS accredited travel agent who is a member of Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA), such as **Broadway Travel** (WABC Sponsor), is still your best option when booking your next trip. So, here are our top 5 reasons why you should use an accredited travel agent:

We save you time, energy and money

Travel agents will either charge you a fee or retain a commission for booking your trip or travel insurance...and so will an online travel provider! By all means, do your research online but when it comes to booking, what you get in terms of personal service, accountability, experience and industry knowledge with a travel agent is priceless. Your time is precious – using an accredited travel agent will leave you with more time to prepare and enjoy your travel, rather than spend hours on the phone or the internet trying to wrangle the best price or most direct route! Broadway Travel can generally match advertised online prices of reputable providers and in addition to this can often save you money, especially where you require a complicated itinerary. .

We don't trip you up with small print

Many advertisements for “too good to be true deals” are simply that – too good to be true! Some online providers use bait advertising with amazingly low offers to lure you in, but once you go through with the booking and read fine print, the final cost can blow out. An experienced travel agent will be able to personally explain the terms and conditions of your airfares, tickets and vouchers and assist with any visa applications that need to be made.

We offer a 24/7 emergency contact service

The reality is that plans can change after you've booked your travel and sometimes, through no fault of your own, things can go wrong! Airlines can reschedule or cancel flights, volcanoes can erupt, severe storms or weather conditions may change your travel plans.

These are just a few of the things that can go wrong, not to mention if you need to change plans due to illness or accident.

We are often being told of the problems that people experience when they try to change

travel arrangements that were booked online. It can be very difficult to actually speak to someone and get personal assistance – you are left to your own devices to try to fathom out how to make the changes you made with your online booking!

No matter what the time difference, you should always be able to get in touch with a contact person at your travel agency. At Broadway Travel, we offer a 24/7 mobile number, that is personally answered, in the unfortunate event that you need emergency assistance regarding your travel plans while overseas. You do not have to wait for office opening hours or speak with someone in a call centre!

We are a one stop shop

Travel agencies like Broadway Travel can handle all your travel requirements from booking your airline tickets, ground transfers, hotels, tours and activities, rail tickets through to arranging your travel insurance. Broadway Travel can even help you set up a foreign exchange money card. We tailor your itinerary to your personal requirements, guided by our trusted experience.

We advocate for you

We work for you and not for a travel supplier and so if you experience a problem while travelling, your travel agent will act on your behalf, and can help you sort out your travel related issues before and after you travel.

**Remember –
Without a travel agent you are on your own!!**



broadwaytravel
& Cruise Centre

How to Win at Bridge Using Quantum Physics



<https://www.wired.com/2014/06/bridge-quantum->

Contract bridge is the chess of card games. You might know it as some stuffy old game your grandparents play, but it requires major brainpower, and preferably an obsession with rules and strategy. So how to make it even geekier? Throw in some quantum mechanics to try to gain a competitive advantage.

The idea here is to use the quantum magic of entangled photons—which are essentially twins, sharing every property—to transmit two bits of information to your bridge partner for the price of one. Understanding how to do this is not an easy task, but it will help elucidate some basic building blocks of quantum information theory. It's also kind of fun to consider whether or not such tactics could ever be allowed in professional sports.

Putting together the nerdier sides of physics and cards has long been the hobby of physicist [Marcin Pawlowski](#) of the University of Bristol in the U.K. In 2000, he was a poor college student headed from Poland to China. Trying to save money, he opted to travel overland across the trans-Siberian train route, a trek of several weeks.

“We played bridge a lot on the train,” said Pawlowski. “And I was studying quantum mechanics at the time.”

Bridge is played in teams of two, and a major part of the game involves figuring out how to give your partner information about the cards in your hand using coded signals. Pawlowski realized that quantum particles would allow him to send extra bits of knowledge to his partner during a bridge game. With a team of co-authors

and some help from professional bridge players, he wrote a paper about exactly how to do this, [which appeared June 12](#) in *Physical Review X*.

Bridge is complicated. If you don't know how to play the game, don't worry. We won't be delving too deeply into the details just yet. You do need to know that each round of bridge has two main parts; the auction and then the actual gameplay, which is similar to Hearts or Spades.

In the auction phase, players go around and declare the number of hands they expect to win during gameplay. Whichever team ends up with the highest bid sets the trump suit, the suit that can't be beat. The bids have to be given in a very specific, constrained vocabulary of 38 words or phrases. This isn't poker and it's no good bluffing here, because if you set a bid much higher than you can actually win, you will be penalized points.

The bidding round also serves a second, more important function. Through bids, you are communicating to your partner across the table the strength of your hand. The higher you bid, the better you are saying your cards are. Experienced bridge players have added an additional layer of complexity, where certain types of bids actually communicate very specific things to their partners, like how many aces or kings they hold in their hand.

And here's where the advantage that

quantum mechanics offers comes in. Let's say that two physicists named Alice and Bob decide to enter a bridge tournament. With them, they bring a laser and a special crystal that produces pairs of entangled photons when hit with the laser. Entanglement is a bizarre quantum mechanical property where two particles are perfectly identical. If you measure the characteristics of one of the pair, you immediately know that the other one is exactly the same.

Alice and Bob place their laser-crystal apparatus on the table, and each holds a device capable of measuring different aspects of photons. They fire the laser on the crystal and each take one of the entangled photons. They have agreed beforehand on a convention to pass information to one another using these implements. In bridge, no team is able to have secrets and so the two physicists have to tell everybody what they're doing (whether or not their opponents understand quantum mechanics is their own problem).

The cards are dealt and the bidding starts. Bob has strong cards and thinks he and Alice can set the highest possible bid and win all the hands during the gameplay round. But he needs to know if Alice's cards are good enough to support him in the places where his cards are weak. So he uses an agreed-upon convention to ask Alice indirectly about the strength of her cards.

Alice wants to tell Bob about two things: She has the queen in the suit that Bob is strongest in, and she has one ace in another suit. In normal bridge, conveying these two pieces of information would eat up two rounds of bidding. Because each bid must always be higher than the one before, Alice would also drive up the final contract sending these two signals. But then she and Bob might not have strong enough cards, and would end up bidding too high and losing the round and some

points. Usually, Alice would just decide to tell Bob about the ace, because it is more powerful.

But now in Quantum Bridge, Alice can give a single bid that secretly has both pieces of information at the same time. She does this with her entangled photon. She can measure the polarization of her photon in one of two ways, let's call them angle x and angle y . Based on the cards in her hands, she will choose which of these measurements to make. And then she takes the results and does a calculation, calling out a bid based on both the measurement of her photon and her cards.

Bob hears Alice's bid. He's only interested in one of the pieces of information. He has enough aces but wants to know if the trump queen is in his partner's hand or his opponents'. Bob can try to extract the information he wants by measuring a corresponding angle on his entangled photon and combining that result with the bid he heard. With this method, he will correctly deduce the answer 89.5 percent of the time. Pretty sweet.

Even though the result was just one bit of knowledge about Alice's cards, the partners have an advantage here because they can send two pieces of information at once, and Bob can then decide which is more relevant to him. Their poor non-quantum bridge opponents will fall behind, able to only send one piece of information at a time with their bids.

There's a lot of chance at work in both this situation and bridge in general. In the card game, there are about 5.36×10^{28} different possible deals, making any particular scenario unlikely. Quantum mechanics, too, relies on probability. We have to take in to account the odds that Alice has some particular cards and the probability that Bob wants to know one piece of information or the other. All in all, Alice and Bob will win about 2 percent more often with their quantum

method than if they had just played bridge normally.

All that for a 2 percent advantage? It may not sound like much, but in a card game like bridge, which is played tournament-style with points accumulating over many rounds, this slight benefit will add up in the long run. Even better, Alice and Bob would get to walk into a bridge game and plop down a bunch of physics equipment. Because they are not specifically sharing messages via the photons (everything is communicated through the bids), it wouldn't really, technically be against the rules.

"I love the idea," said physicist [Michael Hall](#) of Griffith University in Australia, who was not involved with the paper. "The physics isn't all that much new, but what's really cool is this application to something interesting in the real world." Hall added that quantum information theorists often make up all sorts of games that help elucidate some principle or method they are researching. But

nobody actually plays any of these invented games. In this instance, the researchers were able to show that players could gain a real advantage with quantum mechanics that they wouldn't have using classical techniques.

Would such a thing ever be allowed in the professional bridge world? Most likely not, Pawlowski said. But on some level, that's what he wants.

"What we would really hope for is that the World Bridge Federation would say, "You can't do this." And then they have to mention the quantum information theory in their rules."

According to the International Olympic Committee, [bridge is considered a sport](#) (it and chess are the only two games classified as "mind sports.") So what Pawlowski and his team are hoping for is a ruling on their method, which would be the first instance of regulating quantum resources in a professional sport. And that might be the geekiest thing ever.

WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB "NO SHOW" POLICY Effective as of 1st August 2011

- ◆ When players enter a WABC club congress or a red/gold point event they make a commitment and are under an obligation to play.
- ◆ Failure to turn up for the event, without exceptional extenuating circumstances, will result in the player being unable to participate in any future club congresses and red/gold point events until all outstanding entry fees have been paid.

- ◆ Withdrawals to an event may be made up to 48 hours prior to the commencement of the event by advising the event Tournament Director.
- ◆ Withdrawals within 48 hours or non-attendance will be regarded as a "No Show" and will be considered on a case by case basis by the event Director to determine if there are any exceptional extenuating circumstances. The Director will report all "No Shows" without such circumstances to the WABC Tournament Committee for action

EVENING PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

WEDNESDAY 11 & 18 OCTOBER

@ 7:30pm

CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

ENTRY FEE: \$12 plus TABLE MONEY per session

SUBSTITUTES ARE NOT ALLOWED .

PAIRS MUST PLAY BOTH SESSIONS

ALL ENTRANTS ARE DEEMED TO HAVE AGREED TO ABIDE BY THE CLUB
"NO SHOW" POLICY

2016 WINNERS: VINOD NASTA & ANN YOUNGS



THOUGHTS FROM THE LIBRARY

By Alison Rigg

I'm disappointed to report that following our 2017 stock take we have deleted records for twenty three

books missing from the shelves for years 2015 -2017.

These are books that have been removed, not checked out correctly and not returned. We, therefore have no records or means of tracing them.

THIS BRINGS US TO A STAGGERING TOTAL OF 135 BOOKS MISSING SINCE 2005.

We prefer our open shelf policy so that members are encouraged to browse and check out books in the correct manner. This is a very easy process of removing a book card, recording your name and date and placing in the box on the table, as demonstrated clearly in the library.

Luckily, with some of the missing titles we have duplicate copies, and in others we have replaced popular stock. However a great many are out of print and irreplaceable. By calculating at approximately \$30 per book, our total loss is over \$4,000.

We are optimistic that a few of these titles may still be returned. Please check your bookshelves at home carefully and if you find one of our books PLEASE place it in the library returns box or hand to a library duty person. No penalty or recrimination from us, just thanks as it will be pleasing to have a missing book returned to the shelf.

On a more positive note, we have been able to forward the eight boxes of John Ashworth's collection of unbound library journals to a collector in Canberra, as recommended by the ABF. He has un-

dertaken to find homes for them. Val Krantz has contacted, thanked and informed Lorraine Ashworth of the outcome.

We have retained the bound issues of the American Bridge Magazine. Though old the masters are always worth reading and many of them contributed articles to this top journal, so please have a browse.



LIBRARY HELPERS

FOR APPROX. 30 MINUTES

BEFORE SESSIONS START

PLEASE CONTACT ALISON RIGG

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HELP

9384 9315

LESSONS AT WABC With Peter Smith



Peter Smith's next classes will start
from **Tuesday 10 October**
the final term for this year.

As usual, there will be a range of
classes for players at various levels,
featuring :

- ♥ **Beginners,**
- ♥ **Intermediate Bidding,**
- ♥ **Four Classic Conventions,**
- ♥ **Modern Slam Bidding**
- ♥ **Deadly Defence.**

Look out for more information on
flyers around the club or see our
website for details or contact Peter
by email at [les-
sons@wabridgeclub.com.au](mailto:lessons@wabridgeclub.com.au)

NEW & REJOINING CLUB MEMBERS

April– June 2017

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

JULY

Marilyn Smits
Monica Pixley
Kathy McDonell
Alan McDonell
Vera Rodin
Lynne McGuigan
David Ryan
Catherine Ryan
Helen Hewitt
Rohan Bandarage

AUGUST

Prue Hart
Philippa Clark
Barbara Wakefield
Fiona Todd
Vivienne Lloyd
Ted Sakashita

THOSE WE WILL REMEMBER

Malcolm Smith
Sara Meagher
Peter Eastwood
Anne Hay



WABC

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH

TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2017



SWEEPS

TIME

From 10:45

TICKETS

PRIZE

FOR BEST HAT

\$50 each. Available from the office



WEEKLY PLAYING SESSIONS

WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB

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 – 4.45	Annabel Booth	Ideal for the novice player.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>These sessions are supervised – you may ask for help during play.</i> • <i>(P) You don't need to bring a partner, no need to book, just turn up in the teaching area.</i> 			

OTHER SESSIONS - UNSUPERVISED			
Monday am	9.00 – 12.15	Peter Holloway	Not held on certain Public Holidays.
Monday pm	1.00 – 4.30	Dave Parham	Very popular. Graduate to this from Supervised.
Tuesday	1.00 – 4.30	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 – 4.30	John Beddow	Popular with newer players.
Friday am	9.15 – 12.30	David Burn	Not held on certain Public Holidays
Friday pm	1.15 – 4.45	Peter Holloway	Our most popular session.
Saturday (P)	1.30 – 5.00	David Burn	Relaxed and social.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All sessions marked (P) indicate you may attend without a partner.</i> • <i>If you need a partner for any other session phone Deborah Greenway 9245 7225 8.30am – 8.30pm.</i> 			

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.

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
Mystery
of the
Missing
Books*

135!!!

HAVE GONE
MISSING

*HELP US TRACK DOWN THOSE MISSING
BOOKS .. ALL OF THEM!*

7 Odern Crescent, Swanbourne
PO Box 591 Cottesloe WA 6911
(08) 9284 4144

bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au
www.wabridgeclub.com.au