



WEST
AUSTRALIAN
BRIDGE
CLUB

TRUMPS PLUS

MAY 2008 VOLUME 1 - 08

9284 4144
7 ODERN CRES.
SWANBOURNE



Welcome To The New Clubhouse!



With
Aclamations
Bouquets and
Champagne
For all



EDITORIAL

The idea to re-launch the club magazine, *Trumps Plus*, originated earlier this year. After informal discussions among members, I agreed to take on the role of editor. Our aim is to collect contributions from as many members as possible, and these need not be limited to bridge, as a following article will demonstrate. We will also seek contributions from bridge personalities in WA and elsewhere. No doubt, news of our magnificent new bridge club has echoed in congresses around the world.

The outcome of this great building was achieved through the efforts of dozens of members, on many different committees, over the past ten years. We owe them all a huge debt of gratitude for their hard work and perseverance.

A special vote of thanks must go to President Des Cain for his tireless endeavours on our behalf, and to his wife, Jan, for her understanding acceptance of those long hours he had to spend.

Now it is time to look forward and plan for an exciting future. The work needed to sustain the club and nurture ongoing growth and development remains very great. Your committee requires help and assistance, of many kinds, from all club members. To paraphrase US President, John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your club can do for you, but what you can do for your club."

John Rigg

Editor: John Rigg



Co-Editors: Diana Chase Val Krantz



Computer Layout and printing:
Lynne Errington Sheenagh Young



Trumps Plus will grow and change. Many regular features are planned for the future editions including a LETTERS TO THE EDITOR PAGE and there will be more bridge items, as well as the social and personal items which should characterise a Club Magazine. The success or otherwise of this venture depends on you, the members. The editorial committee looks forward to receiving your contributions and letters.

EMAIL

bridge@wabridgeclub.com.au

ADDRESS

7 ODERN CRESCENT

SWANDBOURNE

PHONE

9284 4144



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Dear Fellow Bridge Players,

This club is about people. We come together to enjoy each other's company, play bridge at a level that suits us and relax in a pleasant environment.

Now the euphoria of the official opening on Friday, March 28 is over, we are moving on to the next phase. What a wonderful day we had. My thanks to Derek Pocock and the many members who worked so hard at wining, dining and entertaining us all ... and how about those photos?!

Yes, we have the newest club house, and, I think the best in Australia.

Two principles I have always applied in management – good communications and analysis of the data. Communication is always a two-way process. (When Jan and I have a discussion, I always have the last word – ‘Yes dear.’)

This New Series of *Trumps Plus* (Volume 1) is your club communicating with you, the members. So if you have any helpful ideas about what we do, what we need or where we go from here there will be a suggestion box outside Sheenagh's office.

Since the opening of the new building, our membership has increased substantially and we plan to try several new sessions. The dedicated teaching area and new equipment, combined with the expertise of our Club Professional and teacher Peter Smith, is the envy of other clubs. I will be asking Peter about new ideas and directions.

Major events are imminent on the calender and we hope as many members as possible will support these. The first, the Foundation Day Congress commences on Friday, May 30, and runs over the long weekend to June 2nd. Bill and Helen Kemp will be running the Congress and it will be a wonderful opportunity to compete at all levels. So come and join in. There'll be plenty of room as we can comfortably handle fifty-six tables.

Our application for the new liquor licence has been tortuous to say the least. We have the facility, a licensed bar manager (Sheenagh) but will need some registered helpers. So if you enjoy a tipple and are prepared to help, please see Sheenagh.

Over the next few weeks we will be installing new noise reduction panels in the social area ceilings. The coffers will only take two days to install and the contractor will do his best to work outside playing times. So please be patient. Thank you all, and happy bridging.

Des Cain.

OPENING DAY



Launching the new Clubhouse



When the first sod was metaphorically turned for the new clubhouse, it was apparent that some celebration should be held to mark the building of what was to be the finest bridge club in Australia, if not in the southern hemisphere.

A letter was sent by the author to the Management committee with a few suggestions which naturally meant that the job was promptly given to the writer. A committee was formed with all the skills needed to run such an event. It was decided against a formal affair with white tie and tails and the decision of 'when' depended on the waywardness of builders and completion dates.

Who was to perform the ceremony? Famous players from overseas and interstate were considered but the expense was thought unwarranted. A prominent local person was needed and who better than the member for Nedlands, Sue Walker? Sue Walker was enthusiastic, especially since her family boasted three highly visible bridge playing sisters.

It was unanimously agreed that speeches should be short and limited to the President, the Representative of the State Association of which we are a member, and the official guest, Sue Walker, who would formally open the club. All members were invited plus the Architect, the Builder, representa-

tives from Nedlands Council, and from the Lotteries Commission (who had provided funds for furniture) along with dignitaries from BAWA and other clubs. This gave us an expected number of 300 – 350. In fact many more than this attended

A tentative date in late November was set but sadly the best laid schemes..... "oft gang awry" and the sewer was our downfall (not literally!). Eventually the committee settled on March 28th and speakers, invitations, food, drink and music were booked while everyone kept their fingers crossed that all would be well.

The day arrived and, after play, music, wine and nibbles entertained the guests while the playing area was prepared for the official opening. Afterwards delicious finger food and drinks were enjoyed by the assembled company.

So all went off on time and according to plan. I would like to express sincere thanks to a committee who worked so well and harmoniously - all of whom brought their skills to the event and enabled the opening of the new clubrooms to be a memorable affair. Thanks to Sue Broad, Angela Roberts, Toby Manford, Heather Bannerman John Rigg and Sue Clements for making the job of chairman of the Launch Committee so easy and pleasant.

Dr Derek Pocock

The Launch Committee





Meet old club members:



Meet new club members



Helen Cook and Kate Pinniger

Helen and Kate joined WABC a few months before we moved from the old club rooms. Both had always wanted to learn Bridge, and after lessons with Peter Smith couldn't wait to be part of the club games. Now they play regularly two or three times a week, sometimes with different partners but often together. Helen laughs and says that though they often come last, they really enjoy the challenge of the game and feel that the more they play, the better they'll do. Kate comes from Melbourne and finds it a real plus to meet so many friendly and encouraging people and of such a cross-section of ages. She has some nostalgia for the old club in Dalkeith, but is sure she'll come to feel the same about the new premises, especially as the garden grows and we become more settled. Kate and Helen are two of the many busy young women who will strengthen our club in the years ahead.

Diana Chase



FOUNDATION DAY CONGRESS 2008

To be held at the
WABC CLUB ROOMS

7 Odern Crescent SWANBOURNE

FRIDAY MAY 30TH to MONDAY JUNE 2ND

CONVENOR: HELEN KEMP

DIRECTOR: BILL KEMP

Friday Congress Pairs 1.00pm

Saturday Congress Pairs 1.00pm

Sunday Congress Teams 10.00am & 2.00pm

Sunday President's Phone-In Pairs 1.30pm

Monday Swiss Pairs 10.00am & 2.00pm

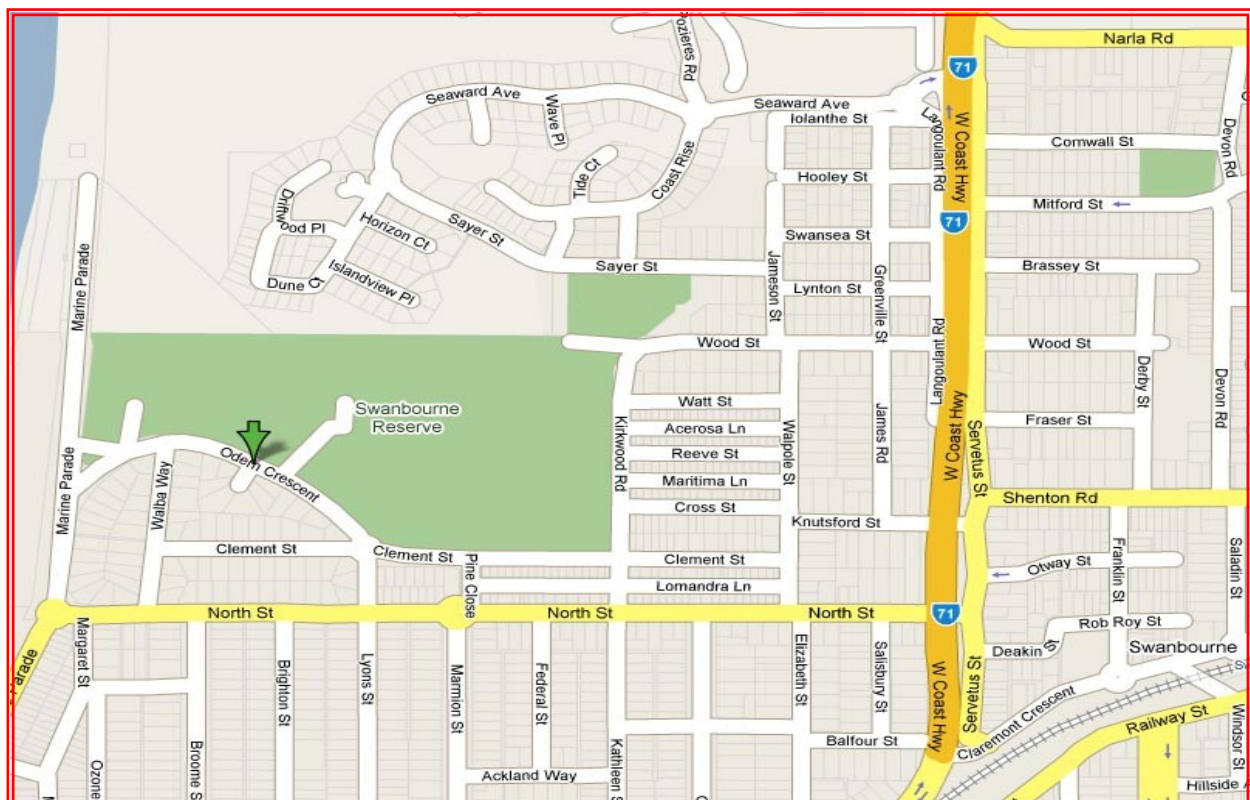
Entry Fees: \$12 per player pairs \$25 per player teams & swiss 1/2 price entry Youth players

Entries

via BAWA website www.bawa.asn.au

via WABC website www.wabridgeclub.com.au

Phone 9284 4144



BEYOND THE BASICS

With Peter Smith FITS AND MISFITS

We all know that having good distribution in a trump contract is valuable but not all singletons are good singletons and not all voids are good voids. Their worth depends on how they fit with partner's hand. For example:

DEAL 1

WEST	EAST
♠ AK976	♠ Q43
♥ KQ32	♥ AJ98
♦ 65	♦ 2
♣ 82	♣ AK543

THE BIDDING

1♠	2♣
2♥	?

In a heart or spade contract West would usually have no trouble making 12 tricks, losing just one diamond. East, with a fit in both of partner's suits plus a side singleton, should be enthused about slam prospects. It would be reasonable to try Blackwood now (preferably Key Card), or even better, make a splinter bid of 4♦. Both paths will lead to slam.

DEAL 2

WEST	EAST
♠ AK976	♠ 2
♥ KQ32	♥ AJ98
♦ 65	♦ Q43
♣ 82	♣ AK543

The bidding would start the same way, but with a misfit in partner's first suit, East should just settle for game in hearts. This will make an overtrick only if spades and hearts are friendly. Note that it's much better to have queen-third in one of partner's suits and a singleton on the side rather than vice versa.

In no trumps, misfitting hands often require more than 25-26 points to make game. Here is the reason:

WEST	EAST
1. 32	AKQ76
2. 432	AKQ76
3. 5432	AKQ76

In (1) it's possible to make 5 tricks only if the suit breaks 3-3, a 36% chance (a 4-2 break is more likely: 48%)

In (2) all that's needed is a 3-2 break. The odds of this are much better though, 68%. In other words, with no extra points, a better fit almost doubles our chances for the same number of tricks.

In (3) you'll make 5 tricks 90% of the time. The good fit makes winning 5 tricks almost certain.

WITH A GOOD FIT OR A DOUBLE FIT

- * "Overbid" even if you don't have the points. With a double fit bid at least one more than usual.
- * Compete aggressively.
- * Prefer to declare rather than defend.

WITH A MISFIT

- * Damage control is often best with a weak hand. Be conservative.
- * Don't bid on if it looks marginal. You'll often need full values and then some.
- * Be keener to defend. Look for opportunities to double the opponents when you have strength.

QUIZZES

1. Your partner opens 1♦, you respond 1♥ and partner raises to 2♥. What would you call next?

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

a) _____ b) _____ c) _____ d) _____

2. Your partner opens 1♥, you respond 1♠, and partner rebids 2♦. What would you say next?

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

a) _____ b) _____ c) _____ d) _____

ANSWERS ON PAGE 19

Overheard:

On the lead of the two of clubs.

Q. What do you understand by your partner's lead?

A: Oh ... err-r ... um ... the top of nothing.

Q. Director!

UNUSUAL LINES OF PLAY

Would you have done the same?

TWO HANDS

On both of these hands declarers were able to take a line of play confident that partner would understand if it went wrong. A factor not always to be taken for granted.

1. No Finesse

National Open Teams Canberra Wednesday 17.1.96 Session 1 Board 4

West Dealer

Both sides vulnerable

		10 2	
		A 5	
		Q 10 9 2	
		AQJ 9 2	
KQ 9 8 4 3	N		A 7 6 5
10 8			K 3 2
A J 8	W	E	K 7 4
K 4	S		8 6 5
		J	
		QJ 9 7 6 4	
		6 5 3	
		10 7 3	

The Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1S	2C	3S	-
4S	all pass		

Opening lead – ace of hearts

North followed with a second heart taken by dummy's king. Declarer drew trumps with spade king and ace and ruffed the remaining heart. North was now known to have 10x, Ax in the majors and needed the diamond queen for a respectable vulnerable overcall. Accordingly declarer refused the diamond finesse, playing king, ace then jack to leave North on play to lead up to the club king or concede a ruff and discard in this position :-

	-		
	-		
	10		
	AQJ 9		
Q 9 8		7 6	
-		-	
-		-	
K 4		8 6 5	
	-		
	QJ		
	-		
	10 7 3		

+ 620 to East West turned out to be a flat board after North in the other room chose a diamond lead into the A J.



If you have any hands which are unusual and might be of interest to club members, please feel free to contribute a short or long article.

2. Some Finesse

WABC Tuesday Afternoon Pairs 8.4.08 Board 25

East Dealer

East West Vulnerable

			Q 8 3 2		
			4 3 2		
			9 7		
			AK 5 2		
KJ 7 6		N		E	A 9 4
9	W				A 8 5
KJ 8 5 2		S			AQ 6 2
J 9 3					Q 6 4
			10 5		
			KQJ 10 7 6		
			10 3		
			10 8 7		

The Bidding:

East	South	West	North
1D	2H	X	-
2NT	-	3D	3H
3S	-	5D	all pass

Opening lead – king of hearts

East-West were playing Acol. After South's weak jump overcall West's double promised 4 spades. East's later support for spades implied only one heart stopper for no-trumps and West decided on a 5D contract. Declarer needs to keep club losers to 2 and lose no spade trick. After winning the heart lead and drawing trumps with ace and king, declarer played club jack (rather than risk a finesse for the 10) to the ace; king and third club from North. A heart was ruffed to this position with West to lead.

			Q 8 3 2		
			4		
			-		
			5		
KJ 7 6					A 9 4
-					8
J 8					Q 6
-					-
			10 5		
			QJ 7 6		
			-		
			-		

As North was more likely to hold the spade queen, declarer played the spade jack and ran it successfully. Had it been covered, the ace wins and after the 10 is taken by the king, the nine makes for no spade loser. 3NT would have been easier as the cards lay as the heart ace can be held up and South has no entry.

John Ashworth



MY INTRODUCTION TO BRIDGE AND LIFE THEREAFTER

In 2001, a couple of friends of ours asked Rick and me if we would like to join them in learning to play Bridge at WABC as they had seen an advertisement in the Post for Peter Smith's Bridge classes. I was very apprehensive, doubting that I would have any interest in this mystery game, never having played cards, but we decided to give it a go. The four of us were all working full time, so along we went to the Wednesday evening classes. 8 lessons later, I was well and truly hooked!

In August of the same year, Oliver Mailes started a Supervised session on Saturday afternoons at WABC so Rick and I decided to attend. Playing amongst other beginners and being able to seek advice was very comfortable, so one week, when we were both free on a Friday, we consulted the WABC handbook and saw that the Friday game was described as (a)big and (b)friendly. Unsuspecting, we gaily walked into the packed Club rooms at 12.45 taking our place at the only free table near the door, having no idea that we were playing in the most difficult game of the week, on the most difficult side of the room! On the first hand, I had the Director called for revoking. I was totally ashamed thinking that the whole room was staring at me and remember turning a deep shade of red. On the second board, Rick opened INT, to which I responded 2C (Stayman). Rick bid 3C, thinking Clubs looked a good idea. I tried to rescue by bidding 3S, but he didn't have Spades, so he bid 4 Clubs. We were doubled and down 800. And so the afternoon continued. By coffee time, I was a shaking nervous wreck, thinking I would happily pay someone \$100 to be able to go home! Needless to say, we came bottom, with 39%.

Fortunately, that was the low spot of my association with WABC and with the game of Bridge and from there, things only improved. We returned to Supervised the following day, much chastened and recounted our tales of woe to Oliver, who kindly explained that we hadn't chosen the best day to make our debut into the real world. He talked us through the intricacies of the various levels and days, the unwritten rule that the strong players gravitate towards one side of the room and also pointed out that 39% was not in fact too disgraceful a percentage under the circumstances. We then

understood why we had been such lambs to the slaughter and made our return foray into Club bridge at a more appropriate session, on a Saturday afternoon which was far more manageable.

The more we played, the more we came to love the game and many new vistas were opened up for us. We would never have believed it if someone had told us 7 years ago that we would be travelling the continent to play a game of cards! This year, we have already played in the Summer Festival of Bridge at Canberra and the Gold Coast annual Congress. We also plan to go to Alice Springs to play in the Northern Territory Bridge Festival with our friends from Melbourne. From there we will travel to Queensland to play in the Pacific Asia Bridge Federation Congress. In case you think these travels are all Bridge, let me assure you that they are not. We hope it won't be long before grandchildren appear, so we are making the most of life before grandchildren. A friend, knowing how I dote upon my daughters, recently asked me, 'What happens to Bridge when you have grandchildren?' I replied, 'It takes a back seat.'

Bridge is a wonderful game, providing mental stimulation, inexpensive entertainment and a wonderful social medium where you have the opportunity to meet people from all walks of life. Different age groups happily play together. In what other sport can you see 9 year olds playing against 90 years olds? WABC in particular is a fabulous Bridge Club with its wonderful new club house which must be second to none in Australia. We have made many friends through our association with it and owe a huge debt of gratitude to our two friends who first introduced us to the game. Ironically, they didn't continue.

Rick and I were away for the Club's big move, but what a tremendous surprise awaited us on our return. We really must applaud the committee and everybody who made the dream become a reality. WABC members are rightly proud to belong to the best Bridge Club in Australia.

Maura Rhodes





A Sad Tale

Once Upon a Time – that’s how all good stories start – our dear friend and President Des Cain was a lad of about fifteen. Among his many fine qualities, he was a magnificent 440 yarder (yards not metres, that’s how long ago it was).

The WA State Boys’ Championships were due. Des was expected to win his race and confer great honour on his school. With this in mind, his chums decided that they would take him to a movie the night before and see him early to bed so he would be in top shape for the championship.

Unfortunately, on the way to the cinema, they passed Des’s Granny’s house; and she, knowing how he loved loquats, passed him a big bag of her luscious, newly-ripened fruits. Des watched the movie, munched away happily, finished the bag - and no prize for guessing what happened thereafter.

The ten stone, sturdy lad was up and down all night. A fragile nine stoner lined up in the morning for the great race, and came – oh dear! – SECOND.

The good news is that I too, like Granny Cain, have a magnificent loquat tree. Des gets a nice bagful every year – on a Thursday!! Why Thursday? Sh-sh-sh ... Because Joy and I meet Jan and Des at the table every Friday, and we hope he will so enjoy his loquats that his ‘opening twos’ and Weak NTs’ will be so weakened that tops will come our way.

Maggie Sacks

BUSSELTON BRIDGE CLUB

As a recent retiree to the Busselton/Dunsborough area, I was pleasantly surprised by the level of enthusiasm for the game in this pocket of the south west.

The first thing that strikes you is the open friendly nature of the club members. It so reminded me of Perth in the 1950’s when you knew everybody in your street.

For those unfamiliar with the club, the official playing days are, Monday afternoon (in Dunsborough), with Tuesday night and Wednesday afternoons in Busselton. On these occasions around 10-12 tables compete, although I have heard that the numbers drop off in the colder months as players migrate to Exmouth and the likes.... lucky doers !

In addition to these times there are the unofficial social events such as teams, hosted at a member’s house once a month, a ladies day and a men’s red wine and cards day. I suspect the latter being more red wine than cards.

So for bridge devotees, there’s plenty of variety both in skill levels and format to be had. Throw this together with the Margaret River region’s vineyards, a truck load of restaurants and cafés serving great coffee. You’d be mad to miss a week away down here, or the Margaret River/Busselton Congress (held in Busselton this year) later in the year.

Visitors welcome, we’d love to see you.

For contact details please refer to the BAWA website (affiliated clubs)

IAN WAKE,
Busselton Club member





Vale Vera Vahala

One of our finest players, Vera Vahala, died on April 19th aged 90.

Vera was born in 1917, one year before Czechoslovakia became a democratic republic. Her family owned an estate, part of which Vera remembered with nostalgia as a cherry orchard. She however followed an academic path and studied medicine at Prague University, where she met and married a fellow student, Wenceslas Vahala.

When the Nazis overran the country, Vera was forced to go into hiding. At the end of the war following the “sudden death” of Mazaryk, the liberal democratic leader of Czechoslovakia, the Russian-backed Stalinists declared the country to be “a Peoples’ Republic”. Many persons were sent to trial, shot or hanged for “conspiracy against the democratic order”.

The Vahalas decided to find refuge in another country. Vera was a very private person, who rarely discussed her family, however, she told the story of her drive to the border, through the communist checkpoints, with her husband huddled under the rugs and suitcases on the floor, and her sons sitting there with their feet on his back.

When the family arrived in England, Dr.Vahala studied to qualify for admission to the BMA. Vera did not resume her studies; she worked at menial part-time jobs in order to support the family. After they moved to Australia, she supported the family Medical Practice, educated three of her sons to become medical practitioners and delighted in the arrival of her grandchildren. In her private life, she was a typical European intellectual, scornful of the second-rate, accepting only the best of classical music and an eclectic selection of literature.

She joined the West Australian Bridge Association in 1962. In the following year she won the Mixed Pairs with Gordon Wilsmore. From then on she moved to the newly-established Women’s competitions. From 1965, Vera represented the state at the A.N.C. eleven times and was twice a member of the Australian Women’s Team, playing in the Far East Tournament in 1971, and in the Miami Olympiad in 1972. She was also a stalwart of our home club, winning the Women’s Pairs three times, the Open Pairs three times and was a member of the winning team eleven times. In BAWA events, she won at least nine more trophies, and when not a winner was always close.

Apart from her Bridge, she was devoted to her church and her family. Most of us remember her knitting away at a garment for one of her many grandchildren, when she was dummy. We also remember her tales of woe if she had made some small error of judgment. She always complained that she or her team had done poorly. Of course, she had usually won.

Ailsa Smith



THE WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB

NOVICE PAIRS CONGRESS
2008

To be held at the
WABC CLUB ROOMS
7 ODERN CRESCENT SWANBOURNE

SUNDAY 29TH JUNE

CONVENOR JEAN FIELD
DIRECTOR BILL KEMP

ENTRIES VIA – BAWA WEBSITE (PREFERRED)

www.bawa.asn.au

WABC WEBSITE

www.wabridgeclub.com.au

or phone 9284 4144

☺IF YOU HAVE NEVER PLAYED IN A CONGRESS BEFORE☺
THEN THIS IS THE EVENT FOR YOU

PLAYERS MUST HAVE 0 – 49.99 MASTERPOINTS as at 1
June

RED POINTS and CASH PRIZES

ENTRY FEE \$25 per player

ALL PAIRS MUST HAVE 2 IDENTICAL COMPLETED SYSTEM CARDS
(arrive early and we will supply the cards and help you fill them in)

2 SESSION EVENT– QUALIFYING COMMENCING 10.00am
FINAL COMMENCING 2.00pm

A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY WABC

PRIZE GIVING AFTER PLAY at approx 5.00pm



Director's Corner

Psychic calls or bids.

The 2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge define it in the following manner: (commonly 'psych[e]' or 'psychic') - a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or suit length.

The (2007) Law 40. A. 3. says: A player may make any call or play without prior announcement **provided that such a call or play is not based on an undisclosed partnership understanding.**

a part auction is
W N E S
IH X* IS** ?

* shows an opening hand and guarantees 4 spades

** East has a spade void and wants to obstruct NS

This is a simple example of a psyche and is perfectly legal; however, if East repeats this auction with the same partner this would create a partnership understanding. Then West would be obliged to alert and explain; while this may show a suit, my partner has previously made this bid with a spade void.

***The 2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge come into force on 1 June 2008. The Director's Corner will have the more important changes.

Letters to the Editor:

Please feel free to write to the editor by post or email or *Trumps Plus* box in the foyer, if you have something you wish to say or share with other members. We hope this will be a regular feature also.



Our first letter is here!

A Dissent

Although it has been said that W.A. started Contract Bridge in 1929, several people contest this and claim that many persons were playing the new rules from the New York Whist Club in 1927. The new rules became so popular that Alex Trouchet opened the Perth Contract Bridge Club in October 1928. The Portland Club {Whist} accepted the Vanderbilt rules in 1929. This information is documented by Rosendorff's Bridge column, by personal memories from older players whose parents were playing and by WABA and Perth Bridge Club Records."

Duty partners

If you can help, put your name on the list on the board at the club
OR give your name to the following organisers:

Wednesday evenings:

Contact Diana Chase:

93846124

Saturday Afternoon:

Contact Bernie West :

9388-3290

GRAND NATIONAL RESTRICTED PAIRS

The GNRP is a new **gold point event** introduced this year by the Australian Bridge Federation (ABF). On the back of your ABF player registration card you will see the number and type of points required to increase your ABF ranking. If you do not accrue gold points you are unable to rise above the rank of two star national master.

Recognising that a large number of club players have limited time or opportunity to enter the major gold point competitions, the ABF decided it would be beneficial to players to introduce a competition which can be played in the comfort of their own club during the usual session times.

- This is a gold point event played in your club during usual session times and with the people you usually play against.
- It is restricted to players who had not achieved life master status as at 1 January 2008
- Gold points are awarded to 75% of the field for club selection events. Usual masterpointing is to 50% of the field.
- WABC has decided to offer these events to its members only and, as far as we know, is the only WA club to offer five selection events.
- Entry fee is your usual table money plus a \$5 entry fee. Incredible value as gold point events attract an entry fee of \$75 or more and you usually have to play all weekend.
- It is a three session event and players must commit to playing all three sessions although WABC allows for a single player substitute for one session only.
- Each player must have a completed system card available throughout the event.
- WABC will send the two highest-placed pairs from each GNRP selection to the regional final.
- Immediately a pair has qualified for the regional final, either member of the partnership, or both, may play in further club selections (and win gold masterpoints) but must play as “non-contenders”.
- Winning pairs are expected to play in the regional final to be held on Sunday November 16th 2008. Winning pairs must declare their availability to play in the regional final once final results have been checked and posted on the club website and noticeboard. If unable to play their place will be offered to the next highest-placed pair.
- Pairs playing in the regional final will have a \$20 per player table fee. In addition, WABC pays \$30 per pair entry fee.
- Gold points will be awarded to 100% of the field in the regional final.
- The national final of the GNRP 2008 will be played in Canberra 17-18 January 2009 at the Hellenic club, Woden, as part of the *Summer Festival Of Bridge*. Pairs that qualify for the national final will receive a travel subsidy from the ABF. The subsidy will be sufficient to meet the cost of travel from home to Canberra and return.
- Pairs do not pay an entry fee for the national final. This cost will be met by the regional coordinator.
- 6 pairs will qualify from the Perth region for the national final.
- Gold points will be awarded to 100% of the field for the national final.

Friday GNRP selection takes place on the 6, 13 and 20 June.

Saturday GNRP selection takes place on 5, 12 and 19 July.

Entries via the website www.wabridgeclub.com.au or the club tournament book



You have two more easy opportunities to get those gold points so get your entries in now

INCREDIBLE VOYAGE

"I now belong to a higher cult of mortals, for I have seen the Albatross" Robert Cushman Murphy, American ornithologist, 1912



The Trumps Plus rebirth was delayed by a long planned vacation in Argentina and Antarctica in March, 2008. The highlight was "The Shackleton Odyssey" – a twenty day cruise, designed primarily to follow the path of Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic feat of May, 1916. In a 23 foot open life boat, Sir Ernest and five of his men crossed 800 miles of treacherous southern ocean, from Elephant Island, north of the Antarctic peninsula, to the Norwegian whaling stations of South Georgia, a sub-antarctic island. Alison and I were fortunate to enjoy this Odyssey, and consequently, this article has little to do with bridge and more with the heroic age of Antarctica and South Georgia wildlife.

More than twenty-three million birds nest annually at S. Georgia. We saw huge colonies of King penguins (over 100,000 pairs and 25,000 chicks), as well as other penguin species: petrels, cormorants, skuas, albatrosses and many others. We visited Grytviken, site of the abandoned Norwegian whaling station, and explored the museum, church, and small cemetery where Shackleton was buried in 1922.

At dawn on our last day on South Georgia, we entered the Bay of Isles and went ashore on

Prion Island. We climbed to the summit to within a few metres of about forty pairs of nesting Wandering Albatrosses, first recorded by the ornithologist Murphy in 1912. With a wingspan of more than three metres, the Wandering Albatross is the largest flying bird on the planet. A male can weigh up to ten kilograms and adults can live for sixty years. The birds usually mate for life, but females do not choose a mate until they are about seven years old, so that for several years, males court these young females with an elaborate mating ritual. On a beautiful, clear but windy March day we stood for an hour within a few metres of their nests and watched as several males glided in and performed these elegant rituals. Occasionally one would approach us and stare curiously, wondering, perhaps, what strange creatures were these.

For me, this morning this day, was the highlight of an Antarctic voyage of wildlife and history.

John Rigg



ANZAC DAY April 25 2008

Our President Des Cain was a proud man when he joined his son, Colonel Stephen Cain, on the saluting platform in Perth for Anzac Day.

Colonel Cain joined with Governor, Dr Ken Michael AC, to take the salute during the parade down St George's Terrace.

Stephen graduated from Duntroon in 1981 and now combines the role of a senior reserve Army officer and his other role as CEO for the City of Cockburn.

SOLUTIONS TO QUIZZES

1. a) Pass. The singleton in partner's first suit suggests caution.
 b) 4♥. The fit in both hearts and diamonds as well as the side singleton make this compulsory.
 c) 2NT. The best invitational advance, as partner wouldn't always have 4 card heart support.
 d) 4♥. It would be no surprise for this hand to produce 11 tricks.

2. a) 4♥. No hand valuation method (e.g. Shortage Points or Losing Trick Count) will tell you this but experienced players will bid 4♥ and usually make it.
 b) 2♥. With the misfit prefer hearts to the 4-3 diamond fit – the 5-2 fit usually plays better. And forget about spades: when partner is known to be 5-4 in two suits it's losing tactics to repeat a five card suit. Do you really think that 3 of partner's 4 unknown cards will be spades?
 c) 4♥. Bidding just game. The ruffing value in diamonds is of some value but switch the minor suits and it would be worth a slam try, starting with Fourth Suit Forcing or a Splinter Bid.
 d) Pass. Cut your losses. Diamonds will have to do, and again, to rebid spades would require six, not five.

SESSION TIMES

SUPERVISED – BEGINNERS

DAYTIME: Monday (P) 12.30 – 3.15 Except Public Holidays.
EVENING: Wednesday (P) 7.30 – 10.30 Ideal for any novice player.

- *These sessions are supervised – you may ask for help during play.*

(P) You don't need to bring a partner.

INTERMEDIATE

DAYTIME: Wednesday 11.30 – 3.00
Advice given, but only after the game, not during the session.

OTHER SESSIONS

DAYTIME:	Monday 11.30 – 3.00	Graduate to this from Supervised.
	Tuesday 1.00 – 4.30	The premier session.
	Thursday 1.00 – 4.30	Popular with newer players.
	Friday 1.00 – 4.30	Our most popular session.
	Saturday (P) 1.30 – 4.45	Relaxed and social.
	Sunday 1.00 – 4.30	Commencing June 8 th 2008
EVENING:	Wednesday (P) 7.30 – 11.00	Very popular & a good atmosphere.

- *Sessions marked (P) indicate you may attend without a partner.*
- *If you need a partner for any other session phone Val Fleay (9272 1388)*

www.wabridgeclub.com.au

TABLE MONEY PER SESSION: \$5.00 Members \$7.00 visitors \$3.00 Youth players

DIARY DATES

- **SUNDAY SESSIONS** will begin on June 8, 2008 at 1 pm.

Just the thing for a wet Sunday.
Come along and help get it started!

- **FOUNDATION DAY CONGRESS**
Friday 30th May to Monday 2nd June
- **WABC NOVICE CONGRESS** (under State Masters)
Sunday, June 29; from 10:am to 6:pm.

