

Rockingham Bridge Club Congress February 2025



1st Open Final: Beata and Tad Bieganski



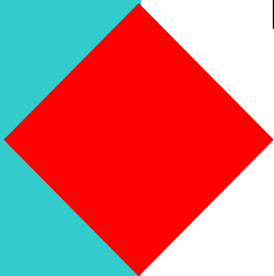
2nd Open Final: Kit and Tom Lemann



1st Plate Final: Sue Stephan and Ron Goodwin



2nd Open Plate: Helen and Steve Rogoysky



1st Novice: Pam Hughes and Roy Hughes



2nd Novice: Lynne Roberts and Rory O'Hanlon



1st Teams: Mike Fulwood, Nicky O'Connell, Alan Cransberg, Kimberley Zhao

2nd Teams: Gerry Daly, Viv Wood, Chris Mulley, Simon Brayshaw



# President's Report

By Chris Mulley

This is my first Report as President ... so welcome to me.

Firstly, I offer my sincere thanks to all the outgoing members of the various BAWA Committees. I would like to make particular mention of Ian Clark (the outgoing President) and Brian Wade (the outgoing Treasurer). Both have done huge amounts of work for the organisation during their terms of service. All bridge players in WA will see the benefits of that work for many years to come.

One of Ian's legacies is greatly improved communication with and involvement of the Clubs in BAWA. I plan to continue Ian's work in this area. As such, I was somewhat disappointed that at the recently held AGM of BAWA, we had to do some scrambling after the official start time to achieve the mandated quorum of eight Clubs being represented at meeting. I hope that won't be necessary next year ...

My major hope for the coming year is that BAWA continues its efforts to encourage growth in the game of bridge. To me, that involves three main areas of endeavour. Firstly, BAWA should look to provide as much support as possible for Clubs to run classes to teach bridge. No club should be in a position where they wish to run such lessons but cannot, for want of a teacher or the financial means to support the classes. Secondly, BAWA needs to attract more players to its own events that it runs throughout the year. Encouraging more people who have not tried State bridge to dip their toes into the waters is a high priority. Finally, BAWA will continue to support Youth bridge and encourage young people to take up and continue playing this game that we all love. Restricted players, too, will have BAWA events run for them to serve as an introduction to the fun of larger bridge tournaments.

As always, it has been a busy start to the bridge year, particularly on the National stage, with the annual Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra and the legendary Gold Coast Congress. Sadly, this is the last year of the Gold Coast, at least for

the time being. Hopefully it will return soon, as it has always been very popular with Western Australian bridge players.

BAWA's cycle of selection events for our State Teams has commenced. Whilst the Open is now past the point of no return, you should still have time to enter the Women's and the Seniors' selection events if you wish to and are eligible to do so. The ANC is being held in Brisbane this year and should, as always, be a fabulous event.

All the best with your bridge this year and I hope to see many of you at the bridge table.

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# Around the Clubs

By: Helen Rogoysky

## City of Melville Bridge Club

By Ken Bownes

### January-February

Our first red point event for the new year was our annual Australia Day Walk-in Pairs and sausage sizzle. The event was as popular as ever, as has been our First Sunday of the Month open walk in pairs sessions. As the only Sunday event south of the river it shows people are keen to find a game all days of the week. Or perhaps it is the party pies provided at break?



### Australia Day Sausage Sizzle

Our first bridge classes for the year commenced in February. We had 45 aspiring bridge players turn up on the first day of classes conducted by Eugene McClorey, assisted by volunteer mentors. The popularity of classes is increasing each time they are run which is encouraging for the future of the club. The Committee is looking at ways to encourage the graduating beginners to become regular members by holding additional workshops and adding Rookie sections to run alongside open sessions. Results in terms of additional numbers have been encouraging.

The club's annual members only Swiss Pairs Championship is currently under way. Thirty pairs have played the first day of the competition, an increase of 10 pairs on last year's competition. They will be coming back on the last Friday of February for the final day. Winners' photos will appear in the next Focus.



### Congratulations

Melville members Ian Clark and Dave Parham have won a major event at the Gold Coast Congress – Australia's biggest bridge event. They won the Bobby Richman Pairs Championship in the Intermediate Division (Under 750 Australian MPs). Our heartiest congratulations!

### Coming Events

We invite you to the coming events which are open to all players.

#### City of Melville Bridge Club Congress:

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March (Swiss Pairs <150MP all day starting 9.30am) and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March (Open Swiss Pairs 9.30am).

**ANZAC Day Open Walk-in Pairs** with 30% more Green Points: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm. A sausage sizzle is being organised beforehand at 11.30am. Check the website (details below) for final arrangements.

#### First Sunday of the Month Walk-in Pairs:

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm.

Please note our Sunday Walk-in Pairs will not be held in April due to the BAWA interstate seniors selection trials occurring in our clubrooms.

See the club website for event details:

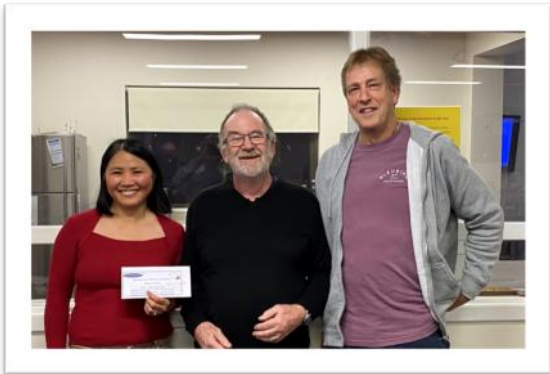
[www.melvillebc.org](http://www.melvillebc.org).

# Mandurah Bridge Club

By Ian Jones

The 2024 Alan Crevald trophy for the most improved player was awarded to Trish Christy. The Alan Mason award for the most Masterpoints gained last year was presented to Roz Trend.

Congratulations to Kimberley Zhao and Alan Cransberg, winners of the Daytime Pairs Championship. Runners up were Lyn Clarke and Ann Kelly.



The Restricted 0-300 Red Point pairs event was won by Trish Christy and Gary Watkins, ahead of Colleen Web and Ann Kelly.



At our annual Charity Day event in January, \$1000 was raised by Club members in support of Peel Community Kitchen, a charity organisation that provides up to 1000 meals per week to people in need.

Congratulations to the winners of Tuesday's Best 3 out of 4 event, Doug Hardman and Denise Sampson; runners up were Les Cowcill and Chris Gilford.

## Summer Congress

Congratulations to the following winners:

Welcome Pairs – Christine Leather and Carole Hazelden

Pairs Final – Tom Lemann and Kimberely Zhao, runners up Tuya Cooke and Tad Bieganski.



Pairs Plate – Cynthia Belonogoff and Cassie Morin, ahead of Trish Anderson and Florence Maltby.



Pairs Consolation – Jenny Skinner and Judy Havas, followed by Denise Sampson and Corrie Davis.

The Best Country Pair were Bob and Heather Fergie. Best Home Club pairs were Christine Bacon and Sandra Hardie. Best East/West pair were Joann Theriault and Jonathon Free.



In the Congress Teams, the winning team was comprised of Geoff Holman, Chris Ingham, Tracy Kudelka and David Matthews. Chris and Tracy were also the Best Datum pairs.



In second place were Jan Blight, Wendy Driscoll, Cassie Morin and Cynthia Belonogoff. Team Broome, with Martin and Valerie Broome, and Richard and Sue Grenside, were placed third.

The Best Country Team was Bob and Heather Fergie, and Brian Wade and Colleen Skipsey. The Best Restricted Team was comprised of Gary Watkins, Lyn Clarke, Colleen Webb and Nada Clastres.

## West Australian Bridge Club

*By Martin Doran*

Welcome to 2025. How are all those New Year's resolutions going?!

### Around the Club

The five Wednesday nights in January saw the running of the Charles Pearce Cup with a pair's best three scores determining the overall positions. The winners were Gwyneira Brahma and Stella Steer from John Aquino and Steve Pynt. The best Regional Master and Below was Megan Jefferies and Juliana Westlake.

The Birthday Congress all day Swiss Pairs was won by Maura and Rick Rhodes, who were unbeaten, from David Schokman and Tim Wright. The afternoon Anniversary Pairs saw 70 pairs playing in three seeded sections with Janice Olevson and Jeff Salant winning from Rosemary Rear and Nat Wright. There was



an enormous birthday cake and an abundance of cupcakes that disappeared leaving only a few crumbs by the end of the day.

The all day WABC Mixed Swiss Pairs Congress

was won by Pauline Collett and Martin Doran from Kaiping Chen and Sue Gammon. These two pairs had quite a break on the rest of the field.

The Wednesday Night Swiss Pairs was won by Gwyneira Brahma and Stella Steer from Brenda Campbell and Jonathan Free.

### Over East

A number of club members travelled to the Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra as well as the Gold Coast Congress in Broadbeach. Some clearly played good bridge in between the parties, dinner dates and sightseeing. Others perhaps got side tracked. Jonathan Free made the Seniors Semi Final in Canberra.

At the Gold Coast Brenda Campbell and Sally Savini won Final E in the Restricted Section. Eve Clarkson, Sandy Veling, Jeff Veling and Jamie Luxton were runners up in the Restricted Teams. Jennifer Andrews and Meredith Goodlet won the Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs for under 500 Masterpoints.

It can be worth watching some of bridge on BBO with your bridge partner and discussing what is going on and, of course, how you would have done better!

The club is still advertising for a new club professional or teacher but in the meantime lessons in 2025 start on 10 March 2025 with Jodie Basham taking the Beginner's Course and there has been a lot of interest.

## Maylands Bridge Club

By Ilana Meyer

### Calling all directors!

The Maylands Bridge Club is looking for directors who are interested in some ad hoc directing work, to cover us when our own directors are unavailable.

We play at the RA Cook Pavilion, Gummery St, Bedford on Mondays from 1pm to 4pm, Wednesdays from 10 am to 1:30pm and Thursdays from 1pm to 4pm.

Of course, players are expected to be seated 10 mins before start time and directors need to be there in time to set up the computer etc.

We average about 9 tables and pay \$60 for the first 9 tables plus \$7 for each additional table or half table. We are happy with a playing director for green point events.

At the moment, we are looking for a director for Mondays in May. From time-to-time other opportunities arise.

If you are interested contact Linley on 9328 5349 or use our email [maylandsbridge@gmail.com](mailto:maylandsbridge@gmail.com)

## Bunbury Bridge Club

By Brian Hanson

### 70 Years Married!

Bunbury players Alexander & Pam Balloch were married on 29th January 1955.



On their anniversary this year they received congratulation cards from many sources including King Charles III and Queen Camilla, the Prime Minister of Australia, the Premier of Western Australia and other dignitaries.

Alex started playing bridge during his lunch breaks at work and convinced Pam to attend a meeting of interested bridge players wishing to help form a Bridge Club in Bunbury. Since then, the club has grown and currently has 110 members. They attend on average, twice a week

and play.

### Bunbury players at the Gold Coast Congress 2024

Five Bunbury Bridge Club members attended the GC Congress. Patrick Smith, Debbie Salathiel, Di Taylor, Chris Hollingsworth and Gwen Clarke.



All report having had a brilliant time and the club was pleased to hear that Chris and Gwen finished 1st in the '0-50 MP Butler Swiss Pairs' event and that Di and Deb finished 13th out of 73 on the Tuesday '0-50 MP Pairs session.

## Bridgetown Bridge Club

By Jan Burgess

We are delighted to welcome back Tom Wheatley to the Club which he and his late wife, Mary, established and nurtured well over 35 years ago. Many of the people they introduced to the game are still playing.

The atmosphere was convivial when players arrived for our weekly session on a Wednesday afternoon early in February to find Tom waiting and ready for his first game of bridge in

Bridgetown for many years. It was, as usual, a very hot summer afternoon and the small air conditioner and two ceiling fans in the old church hall where we play struggled to cope ..... all of which would have reminded Tom that he was indeed 'back home' in the country!

Tom played with our President, Patricia Rodgers, and together they blitzed the field of 3 ½ tables, with a whopping score of 70%! Well done - we look forward to Tom joining us regularly.

And if anyone is visiting Bridgetown, and would like a game of bridge – it's 1pm, on Wednesdays at St Paul's Church Hall. See you there.

# Undercroft Bridge Club

By Sharon Dyball

Our Red Point Events continue to attract many enthusiastic competitors, highlighted by the attendance at our Alan Doig Swiss Pairs. We were privileged to have Alan competing in the event, in a room full to capacity with members keen to play their best game.

## New Year Swiss Pairs

1st: Gwyneira Brahma and Dave Munro



2nd: Stella and James Steer  
3rd: Helen Kemp and Chris Jenkins  
Best Restricted: Sharon Dyball and Bernie Plath



## Syd Noakes Trophy

1st: Stella Steer and Sharon Dyball



2nd: Gwyneira Brahma and Dave Munro

## Alan Doig Swiss Pairs

1st: James Steer and Jan Kochmanski



2nd: Stella Steer and Noriko Sakashita  
3rd: Louise and Terry Collins  
Best Restricted: Magda and Mike Lawes



Best Novice: Lisa Evans and Mike Bennett



Alan Doig Award: Maria Millington and Cherene Johns



## Fremantle Bridge Club

By Jennifer Langridge

The first of the Fremantle Bridge Club 2025 red point trophy events – the President Pairs – took place on Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations went to the overall winners of Marion Jefferson and Claire Weston on 61.16%. However, the President Pairs trophy was won by Aruni Bandarage and Cliff Collinson (58.93%) followed by Se-Moi Loh and Sarita Singh (57.81%) in third place.



Back row: Director Eugene Wichems, President Sue Simper Front row: Marion Jefferson and Claire Weston

## VALE Jorgen Fugl



Members of Fremantle Bridge Club gathered on Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup> to share in a memorial service to Jorgen – one of the club's newer members. Irene Percy, Sue Simper and Jody McNeill all gave eulogies of a unique fun-loving, cat-loving, world-travelling man who only joined the club in April 2022 yet there was still ongoing fond debate on the pronunciation of his name two years later. His premature and totally unexpected death at only 69 left many members saddened – yet richer in experiences for having met him.



## Northern Districts Bridge Club

By Ann Hooper

The first Red Point of the year was held on Monday 3 February 2025. We had a great afternoon and an extra special afternoon tea. Winners N/S were Trevor and Ann Burr with 64.42% and E/W Gary Wood and Roslyn Varkevisser with 60.42%



Pat Stapledon who turned 90. Sadly, Pat passed away suddenly a few days later. We have also sadly farewelled Susan Sharland and Wendy Baillie recently and Dion Francis and Merle Howden some time ago. Our thoughts are with their families and friends.



Please check our website [ndbc.bridgeaustralia.org](http://ndbc.bridgeaustralia.org) if you plan to visit our Club. You will find all the information you will need.

A special birthday cake was shared to congratulate Barbara Hendrie who turned 80 and



## West Coast Bridge Club

By Hilary Heptinstall

Results of Club Competitions

### Summer Teams 2025

1st: Anton Pol, Wence Vahalla, Ray Wood, Marlene Medhat.



2nd: Peach Partis, Shirley Bloch, Maureen Phillips, Cathy Slaughter

3rd: Annette Newton, Chris Ruffle, Michael Smith, Barbara Martin

### Freeze Frame Opera Visit February 12.

After our Wednesday bridge session on Graeme Hillier organised a wonderful visit from Freeze Frame Opera to the Club. This was to celebrate

his birthday and to provide a wonderful occasion for West Coast Bridge Club members and friends to enjoy. We were treated to drinks and nibbles, and beautiful singing performances, from Sarah Mcliver, Caitlin Cassidy and Vin Trikeriotis.



A big thank you from all of us to Graeme Hillier.

## Willetton Bridge Club

By Richard Harris

Whatever peace and goodwill remained from the holiday season quickly evaporated in the cut and thrust of the summer championships, a handicapped, red point event.

We all arrived early, some to help set up the room, were even earlier on a hot, sultry day to find that the computer was playing up and we couldn't start on time.

When we finally got going, some 45 minutes late, tempers were starting to fray. Mistakes were made that wouldn't normally happen. The champions were the people who made the fewest mistakes in these trying circumstances.

Red Point winners were:

Patricia Moore - Alan Byrne, 0.9

Charles Westcott - Margaret Pember, 0.63

Nick Taylor - Peter Miller, 0.45

William Carnell - Sam Zurub, 0.3

Colin Griffin and Arun Sahgal raised eyebrows when they started like lions, scoring 100% in each of their first three boards against seasoned opponents.

Phil Harrison and Philomena Whitton clobbered their opponents in one board, taking them down four tricks in 4S vulnerable, for 100%.

Towards the end of the day, one declarer opened 1H to be overcalled immediately 1S. His partner bid 2H, and the bidding proceeded to 5H with Graeme Thompson and Eileen Davies raising to 5S. The opener doubled, and Eileen re-doubled. She made the contract for a whopping 1200, leaving the opposition speechless. It was that sort of a day.

Fortunately, the festive board was excellent. Colleen Oehme had made some scones with jam and cream. They were a delight.



William Carnell with Alan Byrne and Sam Zurub



# Thursday Boards

By: Di Brooks

Board 8, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb '25; West opened a weak 2H. North passed with a 13 count and no long suit to bid. East passed. South bid 2S. West passed, North bid 3NT. All Pass.

What would you do with South's hand?

S	KQJ87
H	VOID
D	K9765
C	K72

I would consider bidding 4D as South has a void. I played in 3NT, down 2. Yet 6D is there. No one bid it!

Many E/W in the field bid 4H and got doubled going down 500 and 800, but these scores are not a patch on 6D!

**Board 8**  
West Deals  
None Vul

<p>♠ 5 3 ♥ K Q J 7 4 3 ♦ 4 2 ♣ J 8 3</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   S   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   S   E	S	<p>♠ 9 6 ♥ A 10 6 ♦ A J 10 3 ♣ A 10 9 4</p>	<p>♠ A 10 4 2 ♥ 9 8 5 2 ♦ Q 8 ♣ Q 6 5</p>
N						
W   S   E						
S						
		<p>♠ K Q J 8 7 ♥ — ♦ K 9 7 6 5 ♣ K 7 2</p>				

A similar hand was given to E/W. Although North held a very weak 2S, didn't bid. East opened 1NT. Pass from South.

West transferred Opener to 2H. The final bid: 4H

**Board 17**  
North Deals  
None Vul

<p>♠ K 4 ♥ K Q 8 4 3 ♦ 6 ♣ A 10 9 6 4</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   S   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   S   E	S	<p>♠ J 9 8 7 3 2 ♥ 10 9 2 ♦ K 4 ♣ Q 5</p>	<p>♠ A 6 5 ♥ A J ♦ Q J 2 ♣ K J 8 7 3</p>
N						
W   S   E						
S						
		<p>♠ Q 10 ♥ 7 6 5 ♦ A 10 9 8 7 5 3 ♣ 2</p>				

West has a two-suiter and a 5-loser hand. East holds 15-18HCP. There has to be a trump fit and 12 tricks.

So if you hold a hand that has 5-5 and points enough to open the bidding, but partner gets to bid a '1' of something, think about whether you have game or slam.

Happy bridging.

## SATURDAY BRIDGE—WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER

Nigel Dutton is writing a weekly column, it doesn't matter what level your game is this will be informative, educational and instructive and at times tongue in cheek!

### May 2025 Deadline

April 25th is the deadline for inclusion in the May Focus.

### EDITING OF MATERIAL

Contributors should note that the right to modify submitted material is retained by the Editor.



# Counterplay

By: Ron Klinger

www.RonKlingerbridge.com Improve Your Bridge Online

South dealer. Both vulnerable

Dealer: South			
West	North	East	South
			1C(1)
PASS	1H(2)	PASS	1S(3)
2C(4)	3D	PASS	3NT
PASS	PASS	PASS	

- (1) 3+ clubs
- (2) 4+ spades
- (3) 3 or 4 spades
- (4) Natural overcall

What would you lead as West from:

S	A10
H	K973
D	82
C	AJ1072

In practice, West began with the H3 and dummy appeared:

S	9754
H	42
D	AQJ9763
C	VOID

Trick 1: H3: two – jack – queen. South played D5: eight – queen – king. East returned the H8. South won with the HA and played the CK, taken by West. What next?

**Solution page: 15**

Want to improve your bridge?

Go to the

**RonKlingerBridge.com**

website

There are deals with questions and solutions and commentary from actual bridge tournaments Monday to Friday each week.

Cost: Just \$49 per annum, less than 20c per deal.

Visit the website to view some sample deals.



**Two Saturdays:**

**10th May - 10am and 1:30pm  
24th May - 1:30pm (one session)**

**ENTER on MyABF or in the book at the Club**

- **GOLD POINTS** and
- **A CHANCE TO WIN A TRIP TO THE NATIONAL FINAL**
- **GOOD TEAMS BRIDGE**
- **\$100 per team for 3 sessions**

**ORGANISE YOUR TEAM NOW!!**

**One member of the team MUST be a member of Nedlands Bridge Club.**





# Who's Who In WA Bridge!

By Helen Rogoysky

Some of you may have played a game or two against this wonderful player, however, for all of you that haven't I thought this column would be a great way to introduce you to our new BAWA president, Chris Mulley.

Thanks for answering my questions Chris.

## When did you start playing?

I learnt the rules at a music camp in 1988.

I started playing at clubs in 1990.

## First home club:

West Coast Bridge Club

## Current home club:

Nedlands

## What system do you use?

I call it 'Non-Standard American'. It's vaguely based around 2/1, but I've done so much tinkering with it that it's no longer recognisable.

## What made you interested in learning/playing the game?

I was a chess player when I was younger. My parents owned an Indian restaurant (Shoba) which was a favourite of the top WA bridge players. One of those people (Ron Cooper) is a former State Chess Champion, and my parents thought that bridge would be a more social activity for me than chess. My cousin then married an American who was looking for a bridge partner, and my fate was sealed.

## What do you like most about bridge?

It is a game which constantly throws up different problems for you to solve. It is also a game where it is a constant struggle not to make stupid mistakes. Finally, no matter who you are and what your level, putting any amount of time in to the game will improve your game.



## If you're not playing bridge what else do you like to do with your time?

I still do a bit of work as a lecturer in law, and I listen to music a lot. As some of you might know, I also enjoy taking long drives, usually with a bridge tournament at the end.

## Most memorable bridge moment?

Playing in the World Youth Junior Championships in Hamilton, Canada in 1997. It showed me how far I still had to go to even be considered as competent at the game.

## Most faraway place you've played bridge?

As anyone would tell you, Geography is not my strong suit. Given I mentioned Hamilton, Canada above, I'm going to guess that playing a club session at the legendary Chelsea Bridge Club with Matthew Raisin in London in 1998 is further away.

## Most memorable hand that you have had?

This may shock many people, but I don't tend to remember bridge hands. Unfortunately, one that I do remember was in a Youth ANC where we got a mis-explanation of a Symmetric Relay auction which ended in 6NT and, for reasons that I still don't completely understand, I decided that leading the Jack of Clubs from J9xx was the way to go. Naturally, Dummy tracked with AKQTxxx, which was opposite a singleton, and this was the suit that Declarer needed to play for 7 tricks.

## Favourite convention?

I really like the version of Turbo that Paul and I have landed on, but my style is much more to make a list of popular conventions that I do not like ...

## Advice to new player?

Everyone is bad at this game when they start, so don't get discouraged. The trick is to recognise that no matter how good you are at the game, you should never stop improving, and the best way to

improve is by playing against players who are better than you are.

**Do you play online?**

I really try not to.

**What did/do you do for work?**

I did teach High School maths for a year, but mostly I worked as a Law Lecturer.

**Is there anything else you would like to share with us?**

I'll pass on to you some of the best advice I ever received about how to play this game. It came from Geoff Pocock, who was one of our Team Captains when we were on WA and Australian Youth Teams. He said that he wanted our opponents to say the following after playing against us: "They were really nice. They ripped our arms and legs off, but they were very pleasant to play against."

Being aggressive and nasty at the bridge table does not make you a better player.

## ARCHIVE DEEP DIVE—from September 2011

### The Great Claim Robbery by Ian Baily

Although most people in the wide world are basically honest, and some are even nice to know, there are still thieves and vagabonds lurking in the shadows ready to pounce on something they see that is not rightfully theirs. This can even happen at the bridge table, and the following tale recounts a case that can be considered daylight robbery.

The hand shown in the diagram came up in a club session. The bidding is rather interesting and we could have an animated discussion about it. But that is not what we are looking at just at the moment. You can indulge in your own contemplation on what clever action you would have taken.

West Deals  
None Vul

<p>♠ — ♥ A K ♦ A Q J 9 5 4 ♣ K Q 6 5 4</p>	<p>♠ K Q 7 6 5 4 2 ♥ — ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ 10 9 8</p>	<p>♠ 9 8 ♥ 8 7 6 ♦ K 7 3 ♣ A J 7 3 2</p>
--------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------

Dealer: West			
West	North	East	South
2NT	3S	4C	4H
5C	5S	PASS	PASS
6C	PASS	PASS	6S
7C	PASS	PASS	PASS

South was required to lead and regarded it was her duty to lead her partner's suit. The ace of spades appeared on the table. East trumped this and North followed with a spade whereupon East laid her hand on the table and said, "I claim all the tricks".

As you can imagine, North was a little put out by this and called the director. This is correct procedure; since once a claim has been made play ceases. The laws do not allow anyone to say anything like, "Play the hand out", with or without a please. Many players try to do this, but the book of laws says that anyone who tries this is a rapsallion.

Now when you look at the hand, you will soon work out that even Donald Duck under the influence of Daisy could make all 13 tricks by drawing three rounds of trumps and cashing out. There are even tricks to spare, but opponents are often reluctant to allow you to score more than thirteen tricks. So what did the director rule? He ruled one trick to the defence.

This may seem rather harsh, so let's look at the reason for this decision. There is considerable space in the laws spent on in the case where there are outstanding trumps. Lets' face it, East plays even better than Donald Duck and we can be sure that she would draw trumps before attending to the side suits. The statement in the laws runs, "Where a trick can be lost to an outstanding trump by careless or inferior play,

but not irrational, then that trick is lost". To my mind, playing side suits before attending to trumps is so far beyond inferior it can be discounted. In fact, this is almost beyond careless, and verges on suicidal. But maybe not quite superbly careless, so we can grudgingly agree with the director.

Of course, North could have been gracious and said, probably through gritted teeth, "Okay, I'll allow the claim". I admit that in Club Bridge, this is what I would do, and have my teeth fixed up later, but this attitude is not universal. And you must admit that there are suicidal declarers around. Now we can reflect on what East should have done. The laws actually require the claimer to make a full explanation of their play of the hand. East failed to do this so it was the director's responsibility to determine the outcome. The director indulged in significant contemplation but

eventually decided that there was a slim possibility that the declarer was feeling suicidal enough to venture a heart before tackling trumps so gave a trick to the defence. So, one down.

That's a lot of meandering, so now let's get back to East's actions. A full explanation would be along the lines, "I draw trumps, and play diamonds, discarding losing spades". The abbreviated version would be, "I draw trumps and claim the rest".

Well, this second statement sounds fine, but there is one fly in the ointment. You could conceive the possibility that declarer plays a low diamond from both hands. Now what would the director decide if the claim is contested? If it were me, I would allow the claim as playing a low diamond from both hands would be irrational; in my view anyway. One point can be mentioned here, in that the laws say that when declarer instructs dummy to run a suit, this is to be done from the top. This gives support to allowing the claim. The outstanding trumps have gone and even Donald Duck would find it difficult to mess this one up.

The primary lesson from this is that you **MUST** make a statement about any outstanding trumps when making a claim.



## Calling for Submissions!

When you're playing do you wish you had a lifeline where you could phone a friend, ask an expert, get some advice?

You look at your 13 cards and your gut is telling you what you should do however you aren't sure of the best way to bid it? Well, we are here to provide some expert options for bidding and play.

If you email ([bawafocus@hotmail.com](mailto:bawafocus@hotmail.com)) the board in question, I will ask an expert to analyse the board and include the analysis in a future edition.



### GERALDTON BRIDGE CLUB INC

#### GERALDTON CONGRESS 2025

26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September



Venue: Geraldton Bridge Club Room at Eighth St, Wonthella

JUST BEHIND THE WONTHELLA BOWLING CLUB

Director – David Burn Mob: 0409 661 010

Day	Date	Time	Event	Cost*	Included
Friday Evening	26th	6.30 pm	Welcome Pairs	25.00 per/p	Drinks and nibbles
Saturday Morning	27th	9.30 am	Pairs qualifying round	25.00 per/p	Light lunch – soup and sandwiches
Saturday Afternoon	27th	1 pm approx.	Pairs finals	25.00 per/p	
Sunday	28th	9.30 am	Teams – 2 sessions	50.00 per/p	Light Lunch

\* **Payment:** Please make payments direct to Club Bank.

BSB 633 000 Acct No: 224 451 625

Tea and coffee served all weekend

Enter on-line via ABF website or email

**Convenor:** Maureen Knight

**Email:** [nullba@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nullba@yahoo.co.uk)

**Phone:** 0499 555 647



# Counterplay - Solution

By: Ron Klinger

www.RonKlingerbridge.com Improve Your Bridge Online

The deal comes from an international match played on BBO:

South dealer: Both vulnerable

South Deals	♠ 9 7 5 4		
Both Vul	♥ 4 2		
	♦ A Q J 9 7 6 3		
	♣ —		
♠ A 10		♠ K Q 8 2	
♥ K 9 7 3		♥ J 8 5	
♦ 8 2		♦ K	
♣ A J 10 7 2		♣ 9 8 5 4 3	
	♠ J 6 3		
	♥ A Q 10 6		
	♦ 10 5 4		
	♣ K Q 6		

Suppose West leads CJ against 3NT. South wins. What next? A diamond to DA works, but with spades open, why would South forego the percentage play (diamond finesse)? If South did

finesse in diamonds, the defenders win DK, 4 clubs and 3 spades (four if South pitches a spade from dummy) to take 3NT four off.

After West led the H3, South captured East's HJ and finessed in diamonds. East won and returned the H8. South took the HA and played the CK. West won and returned . . . the D2?? South claimed 9 tricks, North-South +600.

South would not play CK without the CQ. West can thus count South for 2 hearts, 6 diamonds and 1 club, 9 tricks. The only chance is to play East for good spades. Switch to the SA, followed by the S10. That will put 3NT one off.

At the other table, it went 1D : Double : 4D, all pass. West led the H7 and declarer finished one light, -100 and -12 Imps.

*No matter how much you push the envelope, it will still be stationery .*

## UNDERCROFT BRIDGE CLUB MID YEAR CONGRESS

At Undercroft Bridge Club, Percy Doyle Reserve,  
20 Ron Chamberlain Drive, Duncraig

Swiss Pairs Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 9.30am

Swiss Teams Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am

(For Sunday there will be 2 sections: Open and Novice)

*BYO LUNCH*; morning & afternoon tea provided.

*Prize pool approximately 50% of nett takings*

Entry Fee: \$40 per person per day

Director: David Burn 0409 661 010

Convenor: Debbie James 0400 420 339



Maximum 34 tables

Entries via <https://www.myabf.com.au/>

or Contact myABF Co Ordinator

Peter Stephenson 0412 715 546



## Bunbury Bridge Club Annual Congress (42<sup>nd</sup>)

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Bunbury Bridge Club

49 Balgore Way, Carey Park, Bunbury

Saturday 26th	Duplicate Pairs (Matchpoints) Two sections for Open (13 tables) and Novice (5 tables). Under 100 MP Seated by 9:45 for 10:00 start	\$40 per player
Sunday 27th	Swiss Teams (IMPs to VPs) Two sessions – 6 x 9 board Matches Seated by 09:15 for 09:30 start	\$40 per player

Should entries fill early, please contact the convenor to be placed on a waiting list.

Lunch is not provided but orders will be taken.  
Refreshments will be provided on both days.

Director: Neville Walker 0418 944 077

Convenor: Norm Hoskin 0455 628 149

[norm953@bigpond.com](mailto:norm953@bigpond.com)

Entries: MyABF website



# Undercroft R3 B26

By David Schokman

This deal is from the Alan Doig Swiss pairs at the Undercroft club, and most of us got it so wrong, my partner and I included.

<b>Board 26</b>		♠ 7	
East Deals		♥ 10 9 3 2	
Both Vul		♦ K 9 7 3	
		♣ A 8 5 2	
♠ 8 5 2		♠ K Q 4	
♥ Q J 7 6 5		♥ K 8 4	
♦ 4 2		♦ 8	
♣ J 10 9		♣ K Q 7 6 4 3	
		♠ A J 10 9 6 3	
		♥ A	
		♦ A Q J 10 6 5	
		♣ —	

East opens the bidding with 1C. You are South, what do you bid? A double springs to mind, or even 1S, bids that were made at the table. 1S has an element of risk that it may be passed out. Let us consider what could happen with the most popular bid that was used at the table. The double. I know that some very brave players in the West seat bid 1H over the double. That shut North up. East bids 2C, and it is back to you with your monster. What can you bid to convince partner that you almost certainly have game in your own hand, without much help, and is just a question of finding the right spot. I would not use the double myself, but we will use it today as the majority used it. Tim Wright says that, if he had doubled, that he would then bid 3C over 2C. Certainly forcing and says choose between spades and diamonds. Even 3NT makes as, on a club lead, the club 8 becomes a second stopper. Ben Thompson says that he would prepare a good apology for doubling in the first place and bid 3C too. But I must go with Ron Klinger. Ron's choice was 4C.

4C would almost certainly be saying sorry about that silly double (MY WORDS) as I really have a huge two-suiter so I should probably have made a different bid. So now you can choose whatever you suit you want in spades or diamonds. Now any bridge player with modicum of courage, and some bridge knowledge, will surely bid 6D. But that is for another day, as the question is now what should South have bid, in the first instance, to indicate what type of hand he or she held.

The answer comes down to using two-suited overcalls. There is the Blue Club overcall and Michaels's cue bids. I will not go into detail as that is a choice that you have to make. My personal choice is the Blue club, which when simplified says, E. L.O. 'E' is for the extremes: 'L' is for lower and 'O' is for others. Really quite simple. So over 1C your bid will be 2C, showing spades and diamonds. 2NT will be showing hearts and diamonds and 3C will be spades and hearts. Many of us use 2D over 1C, showing the majors. and that is probably a better choice particularly if your values are less. So, on this deal over 1C- 2C - North will bid 3D as 2D is far too weak a bid. Now South can cue bid with 3H or use Exclusion with 5C. 6D is an excellent contract and do not be sad that you missed out on bidding 7D.

Only three pairs found their way to 6D. Jan Kochmanski/James Steer, Beata Bieganski/Bruce Penhey and Lynne Errington/Anthony Eardley. Five pairs got to 5D while three reached 4S. 12 pairs missed calling to game and that is shameful under-bidding! One pair even allowed the opposition to play in 4H, undoubled. We all needed to lift our bidding game. On this hand the double was the popular option, but the results showed that too many of us got it very wrong.

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# Upcoming Events

March	
Saturday 23rd—Sunday 24th	Melville Congress
Thursday 27th, Saturday 28th— Sunday 29th	BAWA Interstate Women's Selection @ Melville **Monday if required
April	
Sunday 6th	BAWA Interstate Seniors Selection Round 1&2 of 6 @ Melville
Sunday 6th	BAWA Restricted Championship @ West Coast
Saturday 12th—Sunday 13th	BAWA Interstate Seniors Selection @ Melville
Friday 18th—Monday 21st	South Perth Easter Congress
Saturday 26th—Sunday 27th	Bunbury Congress
May	
Saturday 3rd—Sunday 4th	Undercroft Mid-Year Congress
Thursday 8th	BAWA Pairs Championship 1 of 3 @ Undercroft
Saturday 10th	Kendenup Congress
Thursday 15th	BAWA Pairs Championship 2 of 3 @ Undercroft
Saturday 17th—Sunday 18th	TBIB Western Pairs 60+ @ Melville
Thursday 22nd	BAWA Pairs Championship 3 of 3 @ Undercroft
Saturday 24th May	Kalamunda Restricted Pairs Congress
Sunday 25th May	Fremantle One Day Swiss Pairs Congress
Fri 30th May—Mon 2nd June	WABC Winter Congress
<b>Note:</b> Times and venues are subject to change: substitutes must be confirmed by the director: read conditions of entry for the event on the BAWA website.	

## 70% Results—Random Search

### Bridgetown BC

71% Bronwyn Mitchell and Jana Mayhew  
70% Patricia Rodgers and Tom Wheatley

### Rockingham BC

75.7% Steve Rogoysky and Helen Rogoysky  
74% Nia Parker and Helen Rogoysky  
73.5% Mike Fulwood and Nicky O'Connell

### Albany BC

72.6% Tim Wright and Kay Thompson  
70.4% Vivienne Davis and Alison Gunton  
70.4% Murray Webber and Kate Boston

### Mandurah BC

72.5% Merle Proudfoot and Beverley Ford  
71.4% Denise Sampson and Doug Hardman  
70.2% Alan Cransberg and Kimberley Zhao

### Bunbury BC

76.5% Colin Saunders and Esther Saunders  
70.5% Colin Saunders and Esther Saunders

### Nedlands BC

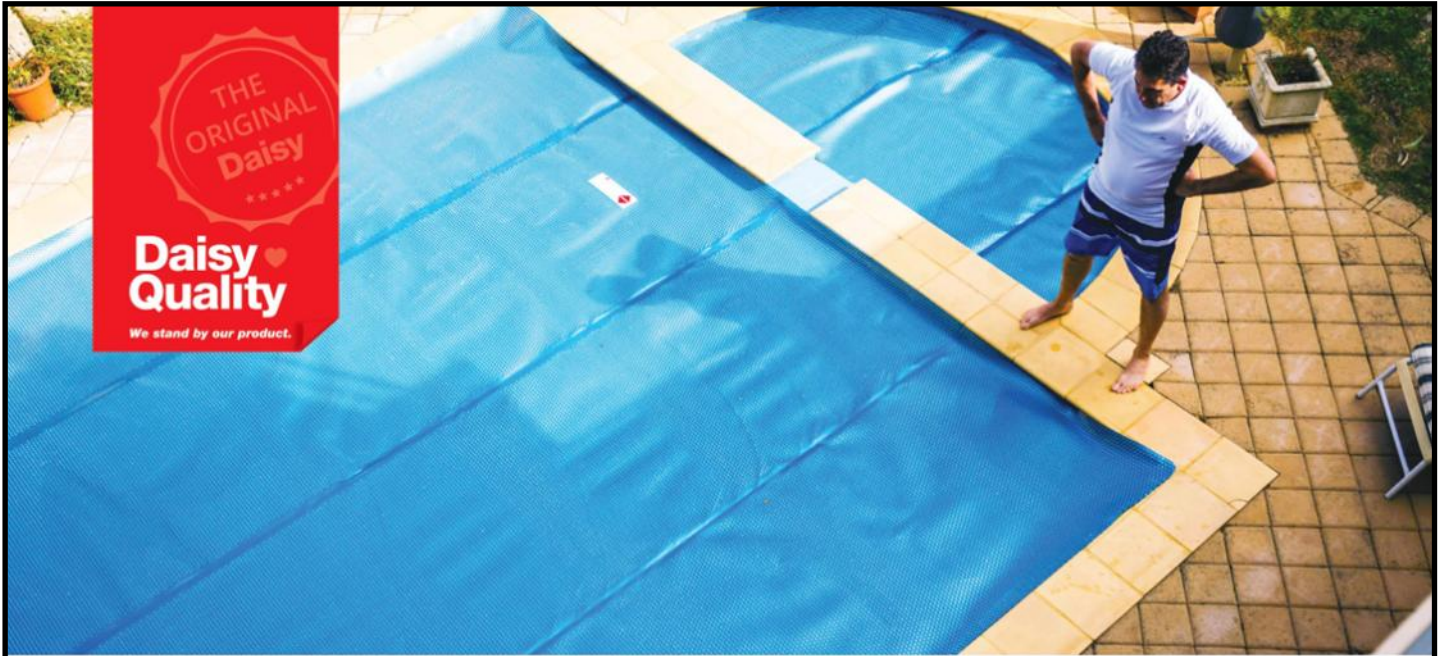
71.7% Fiske Warren and Margarita Hughes  
70.6% Gill Gavshon and Chris Cullen

### West Coast BC

72.2% Graeme Hillier and Shirley Drage

### Undercroft BC

75.6% Brian Fensome and Liz Gray  
71.5% John Beddow and Peter McCann  
71.3% Terry Bausor and James Bausor  
71.1% Liz McTaggart and Sally Woods  
70.8% Joanna Tennyson and David Fowler  
70.8% Jenny Skinner and Connie Coltrona



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