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## PROFILE: AUDREY AND ARTHUR PORTER

Our heartfelt congratulations go to Audrey, 94, and Arthur Porter, 98, who celebrated their 75th (platinum) wedding anniversary in January this year. They are the oldest members of Glenelg Contract Bridge Club, and possibly the oldest couple still playing bridge in Australia.

Audrey and Arthur would have to be the most well known and loved couple at Glenelg Bridge Club.

Audrey was born in 1924 in Croydon, South Australia, one of three children, who, at the age of 13, moved with her family to Wollongong, NSW in search of work during the Depression years. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, the WAAF, in 1942 and was posted to the RAAF base at Richmond, NSW.

Arthur was the 6th of 7 children and was born in 1920 in Laura, in the mid-north of South Australia. He was a good student and enjoyed learning. He completed 4 years at Gladstone High School, quite an accomplishment in those early years. He related an interesting story of how he made some extra money in 1937 sewing wheat bags in his holidays. He was paid 1½ d a bag, 12/6 for 100 bags and one day his record was 150 bags for 18/, working from 6am to 7.30pm. He was a very tired and sore boy that day!

Arthur began his 46 years at the Tramways in Adelaide in 1938, going from a junior clerk to the Finance Manager when he retired.

During the war he was in the Paratroopers and was stationed at Richmond RAAF base when he met Audrey in 1943. They married in January 1944 in Sydney and in December of that year their first child, Arthur, a long-time President of our club, was born.

Arthur was in Darwin when the Japanese started bombing in February 1943. Ships in the harbour and the post office and the aerodrome were bombed. Strategically, the camps were not bombed. He was in the Army for just under 5 years and did 13 jumps in total. Arthur went back to the Tramways after the war and worked there until 1983, when he retired.

Audrey has been a tireless volunteer throughout her life, working with Meals on Wheels for 35 years, making sandwiches at St Andrews Church for 20 years and she was involved with church basketball for 35 years. She received the Paul Harris Fellowship from the Rotary Club for outstanding service to the community.



She was also Treasurer at Glenelg Bridge Club for 11 years. Arthur was Club President for one year. Audrey and Arthur began playing bridge in earnest after Arthur retired, with Audrey having played for 29 years and Arthur longer. They are both National Masters with 2 stars, a great achievement.

They are very proud of their son and daughter and their 4 grandchildren. During their retirement, they have enjoyed many cruises, especially bridge cruises. Audrey and Arthur are very happy and enjoying life together.

They say the highlight of their life is their 75 years of marriage.

Thank you to Audrey and Arthur and happy anniversary!

*June Hammond, Glenelg CBC*



*This is your Newsletter. It would be great if other clubs would send in profiles or stories about special club members.*

*Thanks,  
Barbara (Editor)*

# SUCCESSFUL SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SUMMER

Twelve South Australians entered the National Seniors' Teams (in three teams) at the Summer Festival of Bridge, held in Canberra in January.

In what must surely be a 'first', all 12 players qualified for the Semi-Finals of the NST! The final was between SMOLANKO (2 South Australians) and DE LUCA (6 South Australians). SMOLANKO prevailed, but the DE LUCA team made a remarkable recovery in the final set, to fall short by 5.1 IMPs.

The National Women's Teams final was between TRAVIS (1 South Australian) and TUTTY, with TRAVIS winning by 51.1 IMPs.

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS

I really liked this 'lesson' hand from a qualifying round:

Dealer North	♠ Q 8 5		
All Vul	♥ Q 7 4		
	♦ K J 9 8 6		
	♣ A Q		
		♠ A K 10 6	
♠ 9		♥ A J 10 8 5	
♥ K 6 3 2		♦ 10 2	
♦ A 7 4		♣ 7 3	
♣ 10 9 8 5 4			
	♠ J 7 4 3 2		
	♥ 9		
	♦ Q 5 3		
	♣ K J 6 2		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1NT (14+-16)	2♣ (Majors)	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

Personally, I would never bid only 2♥ with the West hand – you have 4-card support for one of partner's two suits, a singleton in the other and an outside Ace. Bidding 4♥ is probably an overbid, but I'd rather do that than bid 2♥.

When responding to a two-suited bid, it is important to think about partner's hand. Hands like West's should be thinking of bidding at least 3♥, although two other options exist. The first option is to respond 2♦, ostensibly showing equal length in the Majors. Then, if East shows longer hearts, you may jump to 4♥, knowing there is a 9-card fit. The other option is to respond 2NT which should be some sort of enquiry (by agreement). Again, when you find longer hearts, you should head to game.

Neither player made 10 tricks, but this is a hand to draw inferences at trick 1. Sitting North, I led the ♦6 – 2 – Queen – Ace.

I love hands where someone has opened 1NT. You have a head-start to one hand's HCP.

I also love hands where I am missing all the honours in a suit. You can draw so many inferences when the suit is not led. On this hand, West should start by realising that North is unlikely to hold the ♠A-K or the ♣K-Q because North led a different suit. That means that South has the ♣K.

Therefore, you have already found at least 5 of South's HCP. At this stage, you can be almost certain that North has the ♥Q, and play the hand accordingly.

You need to trump two spades in your hand, and draw trumps. So, having won the ♦A at trick 1, lead a spade to the ♠K, trump a spade, finesse a heart to the ♥10, and trump another spade (with the ♥K). All that remains is to lead your other heart towards dummy, finessing the ♥J – and you have 5 trump tricks, 2 spades, 2 spade ruffs and the ♦A.

Kate McCallum's talk during the SFoB was about "Thinking at Trick 1". This hand occurred later that day, and we talked through the hand – it is all about stopping and thinking at trick 1, drawing inferences from the opening lead, and counting.

In the Women's Final there was a 'classic' 5-level auction:

Set 3, Board 10

Dealer East	♠ K 6 5		
All Vul	♥ Q J 10 7 5 3		
	♦ A J		
	♣ 9 6		
	♠ A J 10 4	♠ 8 2	
	♥ A 8	♥ 6 2	
	♦ 8 3	♦ 7 6 4	
	♣ A K Q J 8	♣ 10 7 5 4 3 2	
		♠ Q 9 7 3	
		♥ K 9 4	
		♦ K Q 10 9 5 2	
		♣ void	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Brake</i>	<i>Travis</i>	<i>Humphries</i>	<i>Ginsberg</i>
		Pass	1♦
Double	Redouble	2♣	2♦ (weak)
3♦ (big)	3♥	Pass	4♥
5♣	Double	All Pass	

The ♦K lead was overtaken with ♦A, so that the ♥Q could be led, won with the ♥A. Declarer exited with the ♦8 – ♦J – overtaken with ♦Q. South cashed the ♥K, and we just waited for our spade trick. 5♣ had proved to be a decent save, conceding 500 (against the vulnerable game we could make). But, at the other table...

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1♦
2♣	2♥	Pass	4♣ (splinter)
4♣	4NT	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

After this strong, distributional auction by both South (the splinter being an overbid) and West, North didn't realise to stop. David Beauchamp has a theory that you should never be the second person bidding freely at the 5-level. This 'rule' won't always be right, but it's probably a good starting point! Why be the second pair guessing?

Anyway, 5♥ went down one. The auction had guided Kate McCallum to the killing lead – the ♣8. Vanessa Brown won the ♠A and returned a spade to dummy's ♠Q. A small heart was led from dummy, but Vanessa flew with the ♥A to give Kate her heart ruff. Declarer then had the rest of the tricks.

There were three interesting slams in the Women's final (perhaps more in the Seniors' final, though we played the same hands). Jon Hunt has written up one of them.

Here is one that Candice played very nicely.

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3♣ (Puppet)	Pass	2NT (20-21)
Pass	3♣ (4♥s)	Pass	3♦ (no 5 M)
Pass	6NT	All Pass	3NT (4♠s)

West led the ♦2 – leading from J-x-x-x is unwise against a No Trump slam, so Candice did not draw any conclusion. As it happens, with East holding the 10-8 in diamonds, the slam can be made by running the ♦9, making the ♦Q-7 into two winners.

Candice found a better line, as did David Lilley in the Seniors' final, though their end-positions differed. At trick 2, Candice led a spade to dummy's ♠K, which held. If West held the ♠A and four diamonds, the contract was now secure. She cashed four rounds of hearts, discarding a spade from hand, as West discarded a club. Next, she cashed her three clubs, so now West had to discard a critical card – either the ♠J or a diamond. Either discard would give declarer the contract. Our West discarded a diamond, so now Candice took three more diamond winners. David Lilley's West discarded the ♠J, so now David cashed his ♦A, led the ♦9 – winning, then exited with a spade to West's now singleton ♠A. West had to lead the diamond to dummy's ♦Q.

Both lines were excellent – a joy to watch at the table, and probably just as nice to watch on BBO.

This hand was played in 6NT, East, at both tables in the Women's final:

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

It looks like a hand where you should take the heart finesse twice – and go down. At our table, declarer embarked on this line, but correctly decided that North had been squeezed on the run of the diamonds. I had tried to keep the situation 'hidden' by discarding carefully. (All too often defenders discard an 'easy' suit first, i.e. spades, but that reveals that North holds 5 spades immediately.) Early on, I had discarded down to the ♥K-J doubleton!

Kate McCallum, sitting East, found a superior line of play. On a diamond lead, North's first discard was a spade (so Kate already knew she started with at least 5 spades!). Kate cashed five diamonds, with North discarding 1 spade, 1 heart and 3 clubs.

Now Kate was ready – she cashed two top clubs, and North discarded one heart, then the three top spades. Finally, she exited her fourth spade to North. North was now on lead, having to lead a heart from the ♥K-J around to dummy's ♥A-Q – 2 heart tricks, together with 3 spades, 2 clubs and 5 diamonds, and a very safely played hand.

Our team for the NWT was Candice Ginsberg – Barbara Travis, Kate McCallum – Vanessa Brown. Kate is a seven-time world champion who is in Australia for five months and may well be moving here! She is now coaching the Australian Women's Team and interested top women players, and is an amazing teacher!

*Barbara Travis*



NATIONAL SENIORS' TEAMS CHAMPIONS 2019:  
 Stephen Lester (Vic), George Smolanko (SA), Nigel Rosendorff (NSW), Simon Hinge (Vic),  
 plus [separate photo] David Lilley (ACT) and Zolly Nagy (SA)

*This team was never photographed together, since only four players were in attendance each time photos were taken.*



NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONS 2019:  
Candice Ginsberg (NSW), Vanessa Brown (NSW),  
Kate McCallum (USA), Barbara Travis (SA)

## SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC TEAMS

Two teams with South Australians qualified for the final 8: the Appleton team, with Howard Melbourne and Joe Haffer playing, lost their match; George Smolanko's team easily won their match, but lost their Semi Final by a mere 2.1 IMPs!

Dealer East     ♠ K 3  
NS Vul         ♥ A 10 8 4 3 2  
                   ♦ 9 4 3 2  
                   ♣ 8

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

West	North Travis	East	South Ginsberg
		Pass	1♦
Double	2♥*	3♣	3♦
Pass	3♥**	Pass	4♥

This hand was ideally suited to fit showing jumps, which show a decent 5-card suit plus 4-card support for opener's suit. We play fit showing jumps in competition (i.e. the opposition have overcalled), when we intervene, and after an opposition takeout double. 2♥ therefore showed 5 hearts

and 4 diamonds. After Candice rebid 3♦ with her good suit and a known fit. I was happy to compete to at least 4♦ with my distributional hand, so I rebid 3♥ to indicate that I held 6 hearts and 4 diamonds. Now we were able to bid this excellent game with minimal values.

My other offering relates to the opening lead. You hold:

♠ K 8 2  
♥ A 8 6 5  
♦ Q 10  
♣ K 9 6 5

You have to find a lead after this unrevealing auction:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

You have a decent hand and four 'reasonable' trumps. That tends to indicate that you should make a long suit lead rather than a short suit lead. The reason for this is: (a) you cannot expect too many values in partner's hand, and (b) you want to try to gain trump control of this hand, which you can only do by leading a long suit and making declarer ruff.

I led the ♠5. Here's the hand and what happened:

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

Partner won the ♠A and continued clubs, declarer ruffing. Declarer led the ♥Q, which I allowed to win. [My defensive plan was to win the third round of hearts, leaving dummy with no hearts, and to keep leading clubs. Since declarer had already trumped once, now I would have the only remaining trump.] A second heart was led to dummy's ♥K, as hoped. Now declarer tried the diamond finesse to his Jack and my Queen. I cashed the ♥A, then continued clubs. Declarer now had no trumps left and, better yet, no re-entry to hand. I was able to trump the third diamond, and we scored another club and two more spade tricks. Declarer took 4 heart tricks (including the ruffs), 1 spade and 1 diamond – 4 off!

*Barbara Travis*



The De Luca team finished 2nd in the National Seniors' Teams:  
(L to R): Attilio De Luca, Peter Chan, Roger Januszke, Phil Gue, John Zollo, Jon Hunt (all from SA)

# MINOR-FIELD! by Jon Hunt

*This article is not difficult or challenging...*

The Minorwood convention, or as a friend of mine refers to it "Minor-field", seems to divide even the very best Bridge players; some who absolutely swear by it and others that have totally sworn off it. This is hardly surprising though given the disasters that sometimes accompany its use!

When we have a hand with a fit and sufficient values for slam (a critical first requirement), we also need to check that we have sufficient first or second round controls. Otherwise the opponents may be able to cash two tricks before we can take our tricks.

With a Major suit fit we can use 4NT as Roman Key Card Blackwood, asking partner to tell us how many of the key cards (ie the four Aces and the King of the agreed trump suit) they hold. The possession of the Queen of Trumps can also be determined. Then, if we have slam values and we are not missing more than one key card, we can take a swing at a small slam. If we discover we lack the necessary controls, we can stop short of bidding slam and try to make 5♥ or 5♠.

Importantly, with a Major suit, we are often able to use cue-bidding at the 4-level before trotting out the 4NT key card ask, and that may allow us to stay in 4♥ or 4♠ when we are missing controls.

When exploring the possibility of minor suit slam however, using 4NT as the asking bid is not nearly as comfortable; partner's response can easily take us past the safe level of 5♣ or 5♦ when we don't have the necessary controls.

Enter the Minorwood Convention, whereby a bid of an agreed minor suit at the 4-level (4♣ or 4♦) is used to ask for key cards. Asking with 4♣ or 4♦ gives you the space to bail out in 5-minor if you don't have the necessary controls. On the negative side, adding Minorwood generally removes the option to cue-bid. There are a couple of solutions to this but they bring their own complexities.

The order of the step responses to 4♣ (or 4♦) is the same as you would prefer for responding to 4NT Keycard Blackwood. That is, for example, the first step shows 0 or 3 key cards, the second step shows 1 or 4 key cards and so on.

So, why does the convention get such a bad rap?

It is because unless you have air-tight agreements, you and your partner can be on totally different wavelengths as to the meaning of a 4♣/4♦ bid. Is it Minorwood or is it something else? Take this recent example:

Suppose you've agreed to play the convention and hold this hand:

♠ A  
♥ A Q 10  
♦ Q J 9 8 3  
♣ 9 6 4 3

You open the bidding, your left-hand opponent bids a weak 2♣, and partner makes a negative double, RHO passes and you bid 3♣. Now partner raises to 4♣, back to you. Is that an invitational bid or is it an ask for your Keycards?

The hand is from the final of the recent National Seniors' Teams Championship. At one table West, Nigel Rosendorff, assumed it was an invitational bid, passed and made 12 tricks, missing the slam that George Smolanko was certainly about to bid. Minus 14 IMPs.

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

*Rosendorff*

♠ A  
♥ A Q 10  
♦ Q J 9 8 3  
♣ 9 6 4 3

*Smolanko*

♠ K 10  
♥ K 9 8  
♦ A K 7 6  
♣ A J 10 2

♠ 8 4 3  
♥ 7 5 4 2  
♦ 5 4 2  
♣ K Q 5

*Rosendorff*

1♦  
3♣

*North*

2♠  
Pass

*Smolanko*

Double  
4♣

*South*

Pass  
All Pass

At the other table, we had an uninterrupted auction:

*De Luca*

1♦  
3♣  
5♣ (3)

*Hunt*

2NT (1)  
4♦ (2)  
6♦

- (1) 16+ HCP with a fit in diamonds
- (2) The jump to 4♦ left no doubt that it was Minorwood
- (3) 2 key cards + the ♦Q

The slam is about a 75% chance assuming North holds at least one club honour. As the cards lie, North needs to lead a club at trick 1 into the 3♣ bid - not an attractive proposition - to beat the slam. On any other lead, as when Attilio De Luca played 6♦, declarer draws trumps in three rounds, pitches one club on the ♠K, eliminates the major suits, and leads a club to the ♣10 to endplay South regardless of their club holding.

I only include this bidding accident from our opposition to highlight the need to have clear understandings. George and Nigel not only went on to win this final - the National Seniors' Teams Championship - but also were within a few IMPs of qualifying for the final of the 2019 National Open Teams the following week - a terrific performance.

The principle of asking for key cards is a sound one and so, if you don't already play Minorwood and would like to add it into your partnership agreements, you need those air-tight agreements.

Start simply with only a few rules and fewer exceptions:

- Don't play Minorwood in contested auctions.
- Any jump bid of 4♣ or 4♦ in support of partner's minor is Minorwood.
- A bid of 4♣ or 4♦ showing support for partner's minor for the first time with a non-jump bids is not Minorwood.

Undoubtedly as your experience and confidence with the method grows, you will want to add bits and pieces but at least limiting its usage as above means that you and your partner are less likely to go stepping on any unexploded mines.

If you ask George Smolanko as to when a 4-minor bid is or isn't Minorwood, his standard reply is, "It's **always** Minorwood, **always!**" and then, after about 30 seconds, he says, "with just a couple of exceptions!" I agree.

*Jon Hunt*

## A SPECIAL AUCTION by Jon Hunt

### DIAMONDS ALL THE WAY

Playing with Sheila Bird in the SABA Mixed Pairs last year we had an auction full of science and meaning although it might not have appeared that way to the casual observer.

Translated into English, our uninterrupted bidding conversation went as follows:

Sheila: I have an opening hand with at least 4 diamonds

Jon: I have a pretty good hand, no Major suit but some diamonds as well.

Sheila: Well, my hand is a minimum, and looks as if it will play better in a suit contract, rather than No Trumps

Jon: OK, tell me how many key cards you have or, if you think it appropriate, you can ask me about my key cards instead.

Sheila: No, I've pretty well described my hand, so I'll just tell you about my 2 key cards and the ♦Q.

Jon: Looks like slam in your suit is a fair bet.

Here are the hands:

<i>Sheila</i>	<i>Jon</i>
♠ 10 7 6 3	♠ K Q
♥ A 8	♥ K 9
♦ K Q 9 8 2	♦ A J 10 4
♣ K 5	♣ A Q 8 3 2

As you can see, we only had one top loser (the ♠A) and Sheila's losing spades were easily taken care of after drawing trumps. One being ruffed in my hand, and the other being pitched on the Queen of Clubs. A good result - worth almost all the matchpoints in our section - but what made this my favourite auction for the year was the symmetry we had produced.

<i>Sheila</i>	<i>Jon</i>
1♦	2♦
3♦	4♦
5♦	6♦

Never before have I seen this auction - although it does resemble one from a beginners' class!

*Jon Hunt*

## Directors Forums

### For all new and current Directors in S.A.

The SABF is pleased to announce that **John McIlrath**, the ABF National Director Development Officer is returning to Adelaide to give two Director's Forums at SABA.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 10am – 4pm**

For new directors or those wishing to learn about directing.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 10am – 4pm**

For current directors.

The Forums are free and there will be a lunch break around 12.30pm each day.

All current and potential directors are urged to attend.

Please contact David Parrott

Email: [yadi.david@bigpond.com](mailto:yadi.david@bigpond.com) Phone: 0417727082

if you wish to attend either or both sessions.

### ARE YOU A SCHOOL TEACHER?

If you are a bridge-playing school teacher (or you know a teacher who plays bridge), we would love to hear from you.

We would like to try to bring bridge into your school, ideally for Upper Primary to Lower Secondary students. (Bridge lessons and bridge games are free for full-time students.)

Please send your contact details to Justin Williams, SABF Youth Coordinator:

Email: [sayouthbridge@gmail.com](mailto:sayouthbridge@gmail.com)

Phone: 0407 979 610



This all-South Australian team finished 3rd in the National Seniors' Teams, losing to SMOLANKO.  
Team HARMS (left to right): Jeff Travis, Judy Hocking, Kevin Lange, Russel Harms.

## YOUTH WEEK SUCCESSES by Lauren Travis

After our success at the 2018 ANC, Jamie Simpson and I agreed to play the Australian Youth Championships together in Canberra in January. Throughout the Youth Pairs and Teams, Jamie repeatedly told me he was terrible at bridge because I kept giving him lessons (after each round or match, of course). In fact, Jamie was playing well, and it was rewarding seeing him implement my advice in subsequent matches. The most remarkable example of this was in the Youth Butler Championship, which also serves as the trials for the Australian Under 25 team.

	♠ 10 7 ♥ 9 7 6 5 2 ♦ 2 ♣ J 10 8 7 4		♠ 8 5 ♥ Q 4 3 ♦ K Q 7 6 ♣ K Q 9 3
	♠ A J 9 6 4 2 ♥ A 10 ♦ J 10 9 4 ♣ 6		
<i>West</i> <i>Jamie</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Lauren</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
X	2♥	Double	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Jamie was excited to have recognised my 3♠ bid as a stopper ask, and I was about to be more excited by his declarer play.

He received the ♣J lead, which he won with the Ace then played another club to the 10 and dummy's King. This was followed by a small heart, won by South who returned another heart. Jamie could have made life easy for himself by crossing to dummy and leading towards his spades twice, but instead played the ♠K out of his hand. South won, leading a spade back to Jamie's ♠Q. He now cashed two more clubs and one more heart, forcing South to discard four times. This was the position when the final club was led from dummy:

	<i>North</i> <i>irrelevant</i>
♠ 3 ♥ -- ♦ A 8 5 3 ♣ --	♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ K Q 7 6 ♣ 9
	♠ J ♥ -- ♦ J 10 9 4 ♣ --

South was squeezed - if he discarded his ♠ J then Jamie's ♠ 3 was high; if he discarded a diamond then my fourth diamond would come good. He opted for a spade pitch... and unfortunately, so did my partner! After the hand, I told him he had just squeezed the opponent, and he was surprised. Having only learnt bridge in 2017, Jamie understood how squeezes operated but had never executed one and didn't realise that he had unintentionally done so on this board. We agreed to discuss squeezes before the next match. However, a few boards later, that suddenly didn't seem necessary...

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

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
2NT	3♣ (Puppet Stayman)
3♦	3NT

Jamie played this board impeccably. He received the ♥8 lead, which ran around to his ♥10. He immediately played a diamond to the Queen and South's King, and received a heart return, won with the Jack. He paused for a moment, then began cashing heaps of tricks - 4 spades and 2 more hearts, discarding 2 clubs and a diamond from dummy - and I jokingly said to South, "Do you think he's trying to squeeze someone?", but stopped joking when South showed me his hand. Here was the position on the final heart:

	<i>North</i> <i>irrelevant</i>
♠ -- ♥ A ♦ 8 ♣ A 5 4	♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ A 10 ♣ K 9 8
	♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ J 9 ♣ Q J 10

Once again, South had been squeezed! A diamond pitch would mean dummy's ♦10 became a winner, but a club pitch would result in Jamie taking the last trick with his third club. Luckily, Jamie had planned this one and knew what to do when he saw the ♠10 discard. He made 12 tricks for a 1 IMP gain (but it would have been an outright top at matchpoints). Well done Jamie!

I had dinner that night with my mother and a couple of her friends, including Kate McCallum, seven-time world champion, and excitedly told them about the two hand. When Jamie sat down to do the BBO Vu-Graph at Kate's table in the Women's Teams Semi Final the next day, she introduced herself and congratulated him on his squeeze the previous day!

We finished 4th in the Youth Butler, which was a great effort for Jamie's first-ever Youth Week, and was actually a better placing than two of the three pairs who qualified for the Under 25 team. (Unfortunately, my youth career expired last year.)

Congratulations to David Gue who, with his partner Bec O'Reilly (from WA), qualified into the Australian Youth Squad to be trained by a mentor in preparation for future international youth endeavours.

*Lauren Travis*

# TRUMP PROMOTIONS FROM THE PLAYOFFS by Barbara Travis

In the Semi Final of the Women's Playoff this hand arose:

♠ J 7 6 3  
♥ 7 6  
♦ Q J 6  
♣ K Q 10 7

♠ A 2  
♥ A K Q 10 5 3  
♦ 10 3  
♣ J 6 5

♠ 10 8  
♥ 9  
♦ 9 8 5 2  
♣ A 9 8 4 3 2

♠ K Q 9 5 4  
♥ J 8 4 2  
♦ A K 7 4  
♣ void

West	North	East	South
2♥	3♥ (1)	Pass	1♠
All Pass		Pass	4♠

(1) 3♥ was a cue raise, showing 3+ card spade support and 10+ TP, making it easier for South to rebid 4♠.

West led the ♥A, then ♥K, finding East's singleton. Knowing South held four hearts and most of the outstanding HCP, West continued with a small heart, hoping to promote a high trump in East's hand. Declarer ruffed with the ♠J, so East discarded a diamond.

If South had been alert to the danger, she should now have led the ♠K, hoping to use dummy's top club to discard her last heart. Instead, she led a spade to the King and Ace, but West continued with another heart, and East's ♠10 had become a winner and the setting trick.

This line of defence (and play) was found at one table in each of the Women's and Seniors' Semi Finals. At least one declarer was aware of the danger, and led the ♠K – Ace – ruffed at trick 4, then took the necessary heart discard on the ♣Q, to make the contract.

Some trump promotions require the defenders to cash their winners in a specific order. This was the case on my second offering, which occurred in the Women's Final. (It was the fourth set of the day, so not played in the Seniors' match.)

♠ A J 6  
♥ J 8  
♦ A Q J 8 5 3 2  
♣ 2

♠ 10 8  
♥ A K 6 4 3  
♦ 9 4  
♣ A 10 6 4

♠ Q 9 7 2  
♥ 10 7 5 2  
♦ K 7 6  
♣ K Q

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

West	North	East	South
Double	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	Redouble (1)	2♥	Pass
3♥	3♦	Pass	Pass
	All Pass		

(1) This redouble, known as a Support Redouble, shows specifically 3 card spade support. North then planned to show her long diamonds.

South led the ♦10 to North's ♦A, and North returned the ♦Q – King – ruffed. South led the ♠3 to North's ♠A, but there was no longer anything the opponents could do. If North now led another diamond for South to trump high, hoping to promote a trump trick, I could just discard dummy's remaining spade. Instead, North returned the ♠J – Queen - King, but now the ♥A and ♥K drew the opposition trumps and the contract was safe. It was important to cover the ♠J though, so that South had the lead; if North had been left on lead at trick 5, another diamond lead allows the trump promotion again.

Assuming the ♦Q was a suit preference signal, then North had asked for a spade lead. That means that South would have done better to lead the ♠K at trick 3, then a spade to North's ♠A. Now another diamond establishes the trump promotion again – South trumps with the ♥9 (or ♥Q) and North's ♥J will become a winner.

Another hand from the Playoffs that appealed to me was the first board of the Semi Final. Our opponents' auction was:

West	North	East	South
2♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
	All Pass		

Candice Ginsberg, South, was on lead with:

♠ A 10 9  
♥ A 2  
♦ J 8 4  
♣ Q 9 5 4 2

She led the ♥A and followed with another heart. I thought she had led the trump because three suits had been bid, so a heart lead is recommended to reduce the trumping power of the hand. Afterwards, she admitted that she had led the ♥A to look at dummy and, on seeing the diamond shortage, she knew to continue the suit. After the two trump leads, the hand was challenging to make, requiring a 'double dummy' line:

♠ Q 7 6 3  
♥ 10 6 3  
♦ Q 10 3 2  
♣ 10 6

♠ J 5 4  
♥ K Q 9  
♦ 9 7  
♣ A K 9 7 3

♠ K 8 2  
♥ J 8 7 5 4  
♦ A K 6 5  
♣ J

♠ A 10 9  
♥ A 2  
♦ J 8 4  
♣ Q 9 5 4 2

On a non-trump lead, our team-mate should have made 4♥.

## RESULTS: SENIORS' TEAMS

The SMOLANKO team (containing George Smolanko and Phil Gue) lost a very close Semi Final to the NEILL team, by 10 IMPs. NEILL (Bruce Neill – Avi Kanetkar, Pauline Gumby – Warren Lazer, Andy Braithwaite – Arjuna De Livera) won the Final by 17 IMPs, to become the Australian Seniors' Team for 2019.



## RESULTS: WOMEN'S TEAMS

The GILL team (with Sue Emerson – Therese Demarco) lost their Quarter Final to PITT.

The BIRD team (containing Sheila Bird) won a very close Quarter Final against HUMPHRIES by 9 IMPs, only to be chosen by TRAVIS (with Barbara Travis) in their Semi Final. That Semi Final was reasonably close for the first day, but TRAVIS drew clear during the second day of the 128 board match.

The LUSK team (containing Sue Lusk) lost a hard-fought Semi Final against PITT by 27 IMPs, but trailed by only 3 IMPs heading into the final 16 board set.

TRAVIS met PITT (Helene Pitt – Helena Dawson, Rena Kaplan – Lorna Ichilcik, Giselle Mundell – Avril Zets) in the Final, and trailed throughout after a 0-37 first set. PITT won the Final by 22 IMPs, to become the Australian Women's Team for 2019.

*Barbara Travis*

## DEFENCE - WHAT'S GOING ON?

*This article, by Mike Lawrence, appeared in Australian Bridge (magazine), Feb-March 2006.*

Consider the following layout:

Dealer West ♠ J 7  
Nil Vul ♥ K 6 4 2  
♦ A Q 8 3  
♣ K 10 4

♠ A K 8 6 4  
♥ A 8 7  
♦ 9  
♣ J 9 7 5

West	North	East	South
1♠	Double	2♠	4♥
All Pass			

You lead the ♠K and East plays the ♠9 (playing natural signals). Is East saying he likes spades or is it a suit preference signal for diamonds? What is your plan? Why?

In defence there are three messages you can give your partner.

- You can give an attitude signal, saying you like or dislike what he is doing.
- You can give a count signal telling him how many cards you have in a particular suit.
- And you can give a suit preference signal telling him indirectly which suit you would like him to shift to.

Here is a useful rule which should help you sort out what is going on: a suit preference signal takes a back seat to BOTH of the other signals. If a signal can be interpreted as attitude or count, it is so interpreted. A suit preference signal is always the last interpretation.

Partner's ♠9 is therefore encouraging, showing the ♠Q.

Remember the bidding? Partner raised spades. He is not showing a doubleton spade. Your plan, therefore, is to lead your singleton diamond next, and then put partner in with the ♠Q for a diamond ruff.

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

♠ A K 8 6 4  
♥ A 8 7  
♦ 9  
♣ J 9 7 5

♠ Q 9 5 3  
♥ 9 5  
♦ J 2  
♣ Q 8 6 3 2

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

Once you think of it, the winning defence isn't too hard to find. The key is not to lose track of the bidding. If you remember that partner raised spades, you will realise that the ♠9 can't be a doubleton.

Following the rule above, the ♠9 can only be an encouraging card telling you he has the ♠Q.

Note that partner would also play the ♠Q at trick 1 if he wanted to show possession of the ♠J. If East has ♠Q-J-5, he will play the ♠Q, which shows the Jack. The Queen will be interpreted as suit preference only when West can tell that East doesn't have the Jack. On this hand, the Jack is in dummy so East could play the ♠Q and be sure of getting the diamond shift if he needed one.

Try this one: ♠ A Q 10 7  
♥ A Q 5 4  
♦ 8  
♣ A K J 9

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

West	North	East	South
4♦	Double	5♦	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

After a hectic auction, West leads the ♦4 against 6♠. You win the ♦A and declarer drops the ♦10. What do you do now? Are you sure or are you guessing?

The correct play is clear. It is not a guess. West is ruffing clubs and you should know it. How do you know?

You know because of partner's lead. West opened the bidding with 4♦. Whatever else West has, he has a fistful of diamonds. What, therefore, is the ♦4?

Is it fourth best? It can't be. If it were fourth best, the Rule of 11 tells you there would be seven diamonds higher than the ♦4 in the other three hands. You are looking at the Ace and dummy has the ♦8. That would mean declarer has five diamonds higher than the four. Nonsense!

The ♦4 is a suit preference signal (lead). You come to this conclusion because it can't be accounted for any other way. All reasonable interpretations are impossible. By default, the only thing left is suit preference.

You might for a moment think you have a club trick coming anyway if partner is really void, but there is a chance, even a likelihood, that South will be able to get rid of that club loser on dummy's hearts.

Return a club and spare partner from further anguish.

*Mike Lawrence*

# BOOK REVIEW: HAND OF THE WEEK

## HAND OF THE WEEK

by Joel Martineau

Playing against sound opponents, with only their side vulnerable at matchpoints, you have this dicey auction to find yourself declaring 2♣:

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

A rather weak dummy comes down with a few trumps:

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

After West leads the ♠2, how would you plan the play of the hand in 2♣?

Joel Martineau's *'Hand of the Week'* loosely covers the author's most instructive hand of each week during a year of his bridge play, often with his bridge students. Martineau writes in a style that turns each hand into a story (similar to the Terence Reese classic, *'Play These Hands with Me'*) rather than presenting each hand as a dry problem. Nevertheless, industrious readers will not find it hard to stop at the key point and take a moment to work out what the best play is, so the book also works well as a quiz book.

The focus is firmly on card play, both as declarer and defender. The bidding receives brief attention, but the commentary on the auction is always sensible. I found the auctions to be solid and always comprehensible; any deviations from 'standard' were usually justified.

What I enjoyed most about 'Hand of the Week' was the author's constant reinforcing of the 'bread and butter' skills that come easily to experts but are patchier amongst improving players. There is an emphasis on using all the available information to come up with the best play. Following his thought processes as he navigates each of the 52 deals is instructive, especially because of Martineau's career as a bridge coach.

The level of the problems will suit the majority of the readers: they are difficult enough that they do not solve themselves, yet there are always enough clues to find the winning play. Frequently, each story leads to a discussion about a wider theme in card play that can be applied to other hands. Although experts might find some of the hands too easy, I enjoyed reading Martineau's take on most of the 52 hands.

Usually, the highlighted play is more about 'practical' aspects of play (often card-reading) as opposed to pure technical knowledge. In the example problem above, the author shrewdly works out that for his opponents not to have competed further with their combined 23 HCP, diamonds must be 5-3 and the points are likely to be split 13-10 (otherwise each opponent might have bid again).

With a reasonable hand, East's most likely reason for not competing over 2♣ was that he was a 4-3-3-3 shape.

With the objective of worrying the opponents about a potential cross-ruff, the right play is to win the lead and advance the ♥8. When East wins the ♥Q and switches to clubs, declarer wins in hand to lead another heart. After West wins the second heart and continues with a trump, dummy wins the ♣Q and leads a third heart, ruffed low. As expected, the hearts break 3-3 and declarer draws the last trump, claiming +110 and a great matchpoint score.

Finally, a bit of colour is provided by the author's sensible non-cardplay advice. One quote I enjoyed:

*"No matter how unlikely your line, embark as though you have a solid plan and look for ways to increase your chances. A reminder: When partner tables dummy never, ever say anything except 'Thank you, partner!'"* Advice we would all do well to follow!

*Liam Milne*

## THINKING AHEAD

### BY BOTH DEFENDER AND DECLARER

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

West	North	East	South
3♥ (weak)	4♣	1♥	1♠
		All Pass	

West led the ♥Q. Knowing that West also held the ♥J, East overtook this with the ♥K to switch to the ♦2. His plan involved winning the ♠K, crossing to West's ♥J and getting a diamond ruff.

This switch looked suspiciously like a singleton, so declarer stopped to plan what he could do to prevent the diamond ruff. Playing the ♠A and another trump would work if trumps were 2-2, but if East held three trumps including the ♠K then the defence would take a trump trick, 2 hearts and a diamond ruff.

So declarer decided to try to cut the transportation between the defenders' hands. He won the diamond shift in dummy with the ♦J and led a low club, finessing the ♣J. When the finesse worked, declarer cashed the ♠A, then led a low trump to dummy's ♠A to play the ♣Q. East covered that with the ♣K but, instead of ruffing, declarer threw his ♥8 on East's club, severing the defence's ability to each West's hand. Declarer could trump the heart lead, then lead the ♣Q. East won the ♣K but, since East had no way to reach West's hand, South was able to regain the lead and draw trumps. He took his 10 tricks by way of 5 trumps, 2 clubs and 3 diamonds.

This hand is a wonderful example of a the thrust and counter thrust involved in playing a hand; a defender planned ahead and declarer had to find a line to thwart the defence's plans.

# A GAME AT THE CLUB by Barbara Travis

Try these hands from a recent game.

Here's a warm-up hand. The auction has been 1NT (weak) – 3NT by the opponents and you are on lead with:

♠ 10 9  
♥ K 9 7 2  
♦ 10 8  
♣ Q J 9 8 2

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

What would you lead? I know a lot of people would lead a club (the ♣Q being superior), but on these auctions you really should consider leading a major suit. LHO has denied a major, and quite often has a long minor – which could even be clubs! Long-term it is winning bridge to lead the ♥2. On this hand, it's the killing lead:

♠ 6 3 2  
♥ A  
♦ A Q J 6 5 2  
♣ 10 6 4

♠ 10 9  
♥ K 9 7 2  
♦ 10 8  
♣ Q J 9 8 2

♠ K J 8 5  
♥ Q J 6 5 4  
♦ K 9 7  
♣ 7

♠ A Q 7 4  
♥ 10 8 3  
♦ 4 3  
♣ A K 5 3

The heart lead removes dummy's entry. When declarer leads a diamond towards dummy, East should duck – even when holding K-x. Duck smoothly, and declarer will return to hand and finesse the diamond again – failing by many tricks when declarer has a doubleton diamond.

Sitting East, you hold:

♠ K J 2  
♥ K J 9 7 4  
♦ A Q 8  
♣ Q 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♠	2♥	?	

Despite being vulnerable v. non-vulnerable, as East I decided to Pass and hope partner would re-open with a double, which I planned to pass for penalties – even with the spade fit. The auction continued:

Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	3NT	3♣
			All Pass

Partner's pass of 3♣ was forcing, given I had penalty passed 2♥ X. If partner couldn't penalty double 3♣, then it was better for us to play game, so I bid 3NT – despite the spade fit – because I felt sure that any spade contract would suffer at least one heart ruff.

This was definitely a hand where my (East) hand needed to be declarer rather than West, avoiding any heart ruff and also protecting the ♠Q from the lead. 3NT made 12 tricks.

By the way, 2♥ X was making only four tricks, so we'd have scored 800. Remember to look for these penalties, even when the vulnerability doesn't necessarily seem 'right'. North had made a very undisciplined bid:

Then there were a couple of hands that required careful declarer play. Here's one of them:

♠ Q J 5  
♥ 10 6 2  
♦ A Q J 9 2  
♣ Q 9

♠ A 7 4 3  
♥ K Q 7  
♦ 10 5  
♣ A 10 8 5

North played in 3NT, and East (me) had shown both majors. The ♥4 was led, which makes it more likely that the opening leader holds longer hearts. Declarer chose to run this to his ♥10, unwise but successful, then decided to take the spade finesse.

On this hand, declarer needs to think about entries – the defenders' entries. The first finesse that should be taken is the diamond finesse, because it is towards my hand. If it fails, that removes the diamond entry for the long hearts.

When the spade finesse failed, partner returned a heart, but I still had my diamond entry to the long hearts. Try it for yourself – try the spade finesse first, then try it by taking the diamond finesse first.

♠ Q J 5  
♥ 10 6 2  
♦ A Q J 9 2  
♣ Q 9

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

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

♠ A 7 4 3  
♥ K Q 7  
♦ 10 5  
♣ A 10 8 5

Would you and your partner bid to 7NT on these cards? Only two pairs in the room bid to 7NT.

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

1♦	2♣
2♥ (1)	4NT (2)
5♦ (3)	5♠ (4)
6♦ (5)	7NT

This is not an ideal auction, but it was practical.

- (1) Partner reversed with her 2♥ rebid, showing 16+ HCP with 4 hearts and longer diamonds.
- (2) I chose to set hearts as trumps (!!) and used RKCB.
- (3) 3 key cards – the ♥A, ♥K, ♦A.
- (4) The ask for the trump Queen.
- (5) Showing the ♥Q and showing the ♦K.

At this stage, I could count 5 diamond tricks, 3 heart tricks, 4 black tricks – and hopefully an extra trick with a black suit lead...

Of course, dummy was a delight with loads of extra values and tricks, and I could claim 16 tricks on the spade lead at trick 1.

If you play Blackout after Reverses, then you can also bid:

1♦	2♣
2♥	3♦ (GF)

If this was 'my' auction, as West I would now bid 4♦, setting diamonds and showing slam interest.

East now takes over with	4NT
5♠ (1)	5NT (2)
7♦	7NT

- (1) I reverse the 14/30 responses when a minor suit is trumps. It is mainly relevant when clubs are trumps, but this means that 5♠ shows 0 or 3 key cards.
- (2) 5NT guarantees all the key cards. If you jump to slam here, West will conclude that a key card is missing! By bidding 5NT you say you are interested in a grand slam. West should therefore bid 7♦, which East can now correct to 7NT – the Pairs contract.

### CHANGE OF CLUB NAME

The St. Vincent Contract Bridge Club Inc would like to notify you that we have changed our name to Christies Beach Contract Bridge Club Inc so as to better reflect where we are located.

Our address remains the same:  
Rotary Hall, Brixton Street,  
Christies Beach.

We hope to have our website done as soon as possible.

*Elsa Pitman, Secretary*

My final offering relates to overcalls, in particular overcalls at the 2-level. These should show a good suit. Not only that, when your partner is a passed hand, they should show a decent hand.

I played in 3♥ after North had overcalled 2♣:

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

South led the ♣J – Queen – Ace – 4. North returned a diamond which ran to South's King. I won the spade return with my ♠K and stopped to picture the hand (see Jon Hunt's article in the December Newsletter).

I had now seen 4 HCP in South's hand, leaving North a very minimal overcall (especially in terms of suit quality). This meant that North had to hold the ♥K. Since I hate taking finesses that I know will lose, I led a heart to the Ace, dropping the King. I returned to hand with a spade ruff, then finessed South's ♥J.

Take heed – sub-standard overcalls, especially opposite a passed partner, do not help your side. They help good declarers. (Special kudos to another friend who is still mastering counting out hands. On this hand, not only did she bid to 4♥, but she made it because of North's silly 2♣ overcall.)

*Barbara Travis*



**LORI SMITH:**

winner of the McCutcheon "National Master" category.

To relax after bridge, Lori paints - she is posed in front of one of her artworks.

# THE BEST OF TRUSCOTT

From *Australian Bridge* (magazine), December 1992  
[www.australianbridge.com.au](http://www.australianbridge.com.au) (1 year subscription costs \$59)

One of the first things a beginner is taught, quite rightly, is that he should aim to have at least eight trumps in his and his partner's hands. If no such fit is found and a game is to be attempted, it is almost automatic to play 3NT.

It is true that there are some hands that play best in a suit game with only seven trumps, and good bidders will sometimes land deliberately in a 4-3 fit, usually because one suit is hopelessly weak for No Trumps. But when the declaring side is out-numbered in the trump suit, it is safe to assume that something has gone wrong with the bidding.

It is excusable to play in, say, a 4-2 fit at the 1-level, because there may be no opportunity to find a more sensible resting place; but to play a slam contract in a 4-2 fit is almost sure to lead to a lively post-mortem. In the deal shown below, North-South had some excuse for arriving at the unlikely contract of 6♣: the bidding had been crowded for them by West's preemptive 3♥ opening.

♠ 10 8 7 ♥ A K 10 7 6 4 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ 8	♠ K 6 ♥ void ♦ A Q 7 5 2 ♣ K Q J 6 4 3	♠ J 9 4 3 ♥ Q ♦ K J 10 4 ♣ 10 9 7 5	♠ A Q 5 2 ♥ J 9 8 5 3 2 ♦ 8 ♣ A 2
West 3♥ All Pass	North Double	East Pass	South 6♣

North had an immediate problem over the opening bid. The theoretically desirable bid would be 4NT, an 'Unusual No Trump' to ask for the minor suits, but North was afraid that this might be misinterpreted. A 4NT bid, if correctly interpreted, would have forced South to bid his doubleton club suit.

North's actual double seemed to meet the situation. He expected a response of 3♣, in which case he could bid 4♣, implying a desire to play in a minor and leaving the next move to South. But South was Paul Trent, one of the most imaginative and aggressive of New York's young stars. He felt sure that North held a shortage in hearts and a spade suit: a take-out double of hearts strongly suggests a spade contract, but unfortunately this was an exceptional case. As South held a good spade suit and first or second-round controls in every suit except hearts, which was surely controlled by North, it seemed reasonable to jump to slam.

West led the ♥K and slam seemed to be less reasonable when dummy went down, revealing to Trent that he was playing in a modest 4-2 fit with a splendid 6-2 fit available in clubs. But he wasn't giving up easily, so he ruffed the heart lead in dummy, cashed the ♠K, and entered his hand with the ♣A. Two more high trumps left East with the master trump, and South continued clubs.

On the fifth round of clubs East suddenly found himself in difficulty. If he ruffed, he would be forced to lead away from his ♦K into dummy's ♦A-Q. He therefore discarded, and discarded again for the same reason on the sixth club. It was then simple for South to cash the ♦A and ruff a diamond with his remaining trump, making 12 tricks and his contract.

East-West were speechless with indignation at the injustice of it all, and their temper was not improved by North's comment. "They would have beaten you with any other lead," he pointed out correctly. "If you had bid it a bit more slowly we could have played in 6♣, which is much better."

"How do you think you would make that contract against a heart lead, or a spade lead, or a club lead?" enquired South icily. North still does not quite believe it, but there does not appear to be any way of making the natural contract of 6♣.



MICK KOZIOL, from Gawler Bridge Club,  
 winner of the McCutcheon "2-star National Master" category

## NEW "DAILY BRIDGE COLUMN"

The ABF plans to start a Daily Bridge Column, though its website: [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au)

The Column will be subscription only, the cost being \$52 per annum, for 7 columns a week. Each day's column will have a different journalist. The columnists will be:

- Ron Klinger (Australia)
- Andrew Robson (UK)
- Phillip Alder (USA)
- John Carruthers (Canada)
- Mike Lawrence (USA)
- Barry Rigal (USA)
- Barbara Travis (Australia)

The first six are all world-renowned bridge journalists/authors, so I think that \$52 would be very well-spent if you are interested in reading and learning more about bridge.

The targeted start date is **Friday 1st March 2019**, so keep an eye on the ABF website for any further information.

# COACHING



## CPD Day 1: Competitive Bidding

A free professional development workshop for bridge teachers who wish to update their skills for intermediate to advanced lessons.

Presented by National Teaching Coordinator Joan Butts, this new workshop will cover everything teachers will need to deliver a five-lesson course focused on Competitive Bidding.

The workshop will use the new Competitive Bidding Teacher Resource Pack materials and cover:

- Overcalls & Responses
- Two-Suited Overcalls,
- Overcalls over their 1NT
- Takeout Doubles
- Responding to Takeout Doubles

Participants are eligible to receive 10 accreditation points for attending this workshop.

**Saturday, 6 April 2019**  
10am - 2:30pm

**South Australian Bridge Association**  
243 Young St, Unley, South Australia

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Register online at

[www.abf.com.au/education/workshops](http://www.abf.com.au/education/workshops)

Event Organiser: David Parrott  
yadi.david@bigpond.com or 0417 727 082



Presenter:  
Joan Butts  
ABF National Teaching  
Coordinator

The workshop is  
funded by



South Australian  
Bridge Federation Inc



## CPD Day 3: Two Over One Game Force

A free professional development day for bridge teachers who wish to update their skills for intermediate to advanced lessons.

Two Over One Game Force is a bidding style that will refine parts of Standard. It doesn't mean you change your whole system, you just make it better. It's quite easy to teach, even to new players, and is less complicated than parts of Standard. Even if you don't play it yourself (yet), the newest addition to the Continuing Professional Development Day program, will help you learn more about 2/1 which has become very popular around the world.

Participants will receive 10 points towards accreditation.

**Sunday, 7 April 2019**  
10am - 2:30pm

**South Australian Bridge Association**  
243 Young St, Unley, South Australia

Morning tea, and lunch will be provided.

Register online at

[www.abf.com.au/education/workshops](http://www.abf.com.au/education/workshops)

Event Organiser: David Parrott  
yadi.david@bigpond.com or 0417 727 082



Presenter:  
Joan Butts  
ABF National Teaching  
Coordinator

The workshop is  
funded by



South Australian  
Bridge Federation Inc



## Two Bridge Workshops

**Thursday, April 4, 2019**

**Workshop 1 10am - 12pm**

**FOURTH SUIT FORCING AND SLAM BIDDING**

It's important to work with partner to make the most of two strong hands. Using the best conventions as tools is the way to go.

**Workshop 2 1pm - 3pm**

**OPENING LEADS AGAINST SUITS AND NO TRUMPS**

It's best to follow standard lead suggestions, because partner needs to know what you've got, and how many cards you have in various suits.

**Glenelg Contract Bridge Club**  
**SA Sea Rescue Squadron,**  
**Barcoo Rd, West Beach.**

Cost: \$20 per session or \$35 for both sessions.  
Includes morning and afternoon tea.  
Lunch is not included.

TO REGISTER CONTACT:

**Arthur Porter**

[portab1812@gmail.com](mailto:portab1812@gmail.com) or 0467 513 423



Presented by one of Australia's best known bridge teachers, Joan Butts, these workshops are multi-level and suitable for players of all abilities. Come with or without a partner.

## COACHING WITH BARBARA TRAVIS

**BEAUMONT BOWLING CLUB**  
71 Devereux Road, Beaumont

**TUESDAYS, 2.30pm to 4.30pm**  
starting 12th February 2019  
(7 weeks)

### SLAM BIDDING

Roman Key Card Blackwood  
Splinter Bidding  
Jacoby 2NT (and Delayed Game Raises)  
Control Cue Bidding  
Slam Bidding after No Trumps  
RKC Expanded

All welcome, with or without partner,  
no need to book

\$15 per person, per session

Email: [barbara.travis@hotmail.com](mailto:barbara.travis@hotmail.com)  
Phone: 0437 919 928

## MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS (1st February 2019)

### **BRONZE LIFE MASTER (400+ MPs, 240+ red, 40+ gold)**

Mark Fairlamb

### **LIFE MASTER (300+ MPs, 180+ red, 30+ gold)**

Ingrid Cooke

### **STATE MASTER: 1-Star (100+ MPs, 50+ red/gold)**

Robert Martin

### **STATE MASTER (50+ MPs, 25+ red/gold)**

Ian Lock

### **REGIONAL MASTER (50+ MPs)**

Carolyn Daniels

Leonie Rasch

Fran Francis

Veronica Knauerhase

Ursula Dahl

### **LOCAL MASTER: 2-Star (35+ MPs)**

Sue Mann

Wendy Holloway

Heather Duke-Campbell

### **LOCAL MASTER: 1-Star (25+ MPs)**

David Campbell

Lynne Cotton

John Clay

### **LOCAL MASTER (15+ MPs)**

Robyn Le Doeuff

Jill Braithwaite

### **CLUB MASTER (5+ MPs)**

Jenny Opie

Jenni Bailey

Peter Solomon

Ann Matison

Renate Burns

Jenny Kemp

Tex Morton

Warren Flavel

Leonie Nancarrow

### **GRADUATE MASTER (2+ MPs)**

Jill Kidman

Heather Miatt

Dori Jones

Peter Morrison

Maggie Low

Graham Ratcliff

Jean Meertens

Julie Montgomery

Michelle Tamblyn

Marilynn Weydling

David Duffner

## **GAWLER BRIDGE CLUB INC**

### **GRADED PAIRS CONGRESS**

**SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019**

(Please register by 4<sup>th</sup> March)

**9.30 am – 5 pm**

Venue: The Gawler Elderly Centre, 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Gawler

**Director – David Anderson**

**\$60 per pair (to be paid on the day)**

(Includes Light Lunch, Tea & Coffee)

Registration may be:

- recorded on the SABF website, in the Coming Events section  
<http://www.sabridgefederation.com.au>
- emailed to [moira5606@gmail.com](mailto:moira5606@gmail.com)

Contact Moira Smith 0452208998 for more details.

Or email – [gawlerbridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:gawlerbridgeclub@gmail.com)

## THE DARK STRANGER

*Reprinted from Australian Bridge, June 1995*

Father O'Loughlin hastened to his regular game. It was impossible to be late in the true sense in this bedevilled existence, but if your arrival failed to coincide with the other three players you were... well, you certainly weren't on time.

He arrived at the table to find his place occupied by a mysterious dark stranger, dressed in dark robes with his dark features hidden behind an equally dark cowl.

Since it was evident that this dark stranger had cut Paxacotl for the first deal, it became equally evident that he was not about to vacate the priest's seat at the table. Small, claw-like hands reached out for the cards. To Father O'Loughlin's surprise, the creature did not even bother to sort his cards.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sir Richard</i>	<i>Paxacotl</i>	<i>The Imp</i>	<i>Dark Stranger</i>
	1♦	1♠	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

The bidding was a classic misunderstanding. North's 4NT was quantitative, but the Dark Stranger clearly took it as an ace ask. Paxacotl knew that 5NT was now a total waste of time so he did what he was best at: he bid a bad slam.

Sir Richard led his highest spade. The Dark Stranger emitted a soft noise which sounded more like a sob than a thank-you as Paxacotl revealed the dummy.

Without apparent thought, the Dark Stranger called for the ♠8, winning East's ♠9 with his bare Ace, and led a diamond, dislodging the Imp's Ace. The Imp returned the ♠Q to dummy's ♠K. South now cashed the top clubs in dummy and run diamonds to reach this position:

	♠ 10 ♥ K 5 ♦ 9 ♣ J		
♠ <i>immaterial</i>		♠ Q	
♥		♥ Q J 7	
♦		♦ void	
♣		♣ Q	
	♠ void ♥ A 10 9 8 ♦ void ♣ 9		

With the tempo of play never slackening, the hooded creature

called for the ♦9. The Imp, on his right, emitted a howl of rage as he writhed in the grips of a triple squeeze. He parted with the ♠Q, but declarer simply repeated the process with the now high ♠J. The Imp threw his cards to the four winds and sat petulantly, with smoke emanating from his ears and nostrils.

"That was brilliantly played, Mr er...", Father O'Loughlin proffered.

Only at that moment did the stranger turn to him. The hooded cowl hid non-existent features. To the priest, it was like looking into a dark cave. Only two burning specks revealed the windows to the soul. As these red coals burned at him, Father O'Loughlin sensed unutterable sadness. The stranger shrugged, rose from the table without effort and floated away into the mists of the Astral Plane.

The others said nothing as Father O'Loughlin took the vacant place, picking up the cards the Imp had dealt him. He later sought an explanation from Olaf.

It seems the Dark Stranger was a promising warlock and an accomplished bridge player. After a successful calling, he challenged the Devil to a high stakes rubber game: his soul for immortality.

"On the final hand, the Dark Stranger triple-squeezed the Devil in a poor 6NT," continued Olaf. "Being the sore loser that he was, the Devil reduced him to what you saw and offered him a choice between the Astral Plane or a worse immortality."

"Worse? What could be worse?" the priest asked, mystified.

"His alternative was an eternity in a supervised duplicate. Naturally the Dark Stranger didn't choose that! But he didn't count on the Devil's ultimate revenge."

"And what revenge might that be?" was the enquiry, although Father O'Loughlin had already begun to guess.

"Whatever happens, whatever he does, he gets dealt the identical hand to the one with which he beat the Devil. It never changes, so he hardly ever plays."

*David Lusk*



**DAVID GUE:**  
Winner of the McCutcheon "1-star State Master" category.  
David now manages the Adelaide Bridge Centre.



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*This article, by Gary Brown, appeared in Australian Bridge (magazine), Feb-March 2006*

Dealer South    ♠ Q 9  
 Nil Vul        ♥ 8 6 4 3  
                   ♦ 9 8  
                   ♣ A K Q 6 2

♠ A 4 2  
 ♥ A Q 2  
 ♦ A 7 6 5 3  
 ♣ 9 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

East leads the ♠J against your 3NT. You try dummy's Queen and it holds. With seven sure tricks, where will you find two more?

If clubs break 3-3 there is no issue as nine tricks come home. If you cash the top clubs first to 'see what happens', you will go down when clubs break 4-2 (which is more likely than a 3-3 division).

Play: You should take the heart finesse immediately. The result of this finesse will let you discover how to play the club suit. If the heart finesse fails, you will need clubs to be 3-3, so you play clubs from the top. If the finesse succeeds, you will need only four tricks in clubs, so you should duck the first round. By taking the heart finesse first, you can discover how you should play the clubs.

*Key Points:* Sometimes you will have two lines of play to choose between or will need a combination of both. In this case, we have two lines of play which, when combined, will produce the best chance of success. However, you have to determine which line to try first. If clubs break 3-3, they will always break 3-3, so taking the heart finesse will not hurt. If you play the clubs from the top first, you will fail if they break 4-2. If you duck a club and they do break 3-3 all along, you fail when the heart finesse is failing.

The full deal:

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

On this deal, you succeed when you play correctly – take the heart finesse and, when it works, duck the first round of clubs. 2 spade tricks, 2 hearts, 1 diamond, 4 clubs.

*Gary Brown*

## RESULTS

### STATE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1st    Attilio De Luca  
 2nd    Angela Norris  
 3rd    John Leenders

### STATE TEAMS FINAL

*Correction: Last edition I did not realise the Final was only half completed and reported the result incorrectly.*

**DE LUCA** 122        *defeated*        **ZOLLO** 109

Congratulations to Attilio De Luca, David Lusk, Peter Chan, David Gue and Phil Gue.

## 2018 McCUTCHEON AWARDS

The McCutcheon Trophy is awarded to the person who earns the most masterpoints during a calendar year:

### OVERALL

1st	Peter Gill	515.35
2nd	Pauline Gumby	499.71
3rd	Warren Lazer	493.59

Category awards are also collated, based on your rank at the start of the year. South Australian 'achievers' (top 10 in a category) in 2018 were:

### SILVER GRAND MASTERS (and above):

10th	Justin Williams	323.49
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### LIFE MASTERS:

7th	George Evans	92.78
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### \*\* NATIONAL MASTERS:

1st	Mick Koziol	74.22
8th	Sally Luke	58.48

### \* NATIONAL MASTERS:

4th	Bill Bradshaw	148.44
10th	Ceda Nikolic	113.39

### NATIONAL MASTERS:

1st	Lori Smith	182.61
2nd	Ingrid Cooke	135.93
5th	Bevan Brooks	90.52

### \* STATE MASTERS:

1st	David Gue	90.91
2nd	Joanne Bakas	80.86

### STATE MASTERS:

4th	Peter Dieperink	80.82
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### REGIONAL MASTERS:

7th	Josie Cock	36.91
8th	Len Bell	35.80
9th	Julie Clark	35.30

### \* LOCAL MASTERS:

4th	Kathleen Smith	35.10
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### GRADUATE MASTERS:

7th	Jan Hughes	17.56
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## INTERNATIONAL EVENT IN AUSTRALIA, 2020

In April 2020, Perth will host the Asia-Pacific Bridge Congress. This is an international event open to all bridge players, with the main competition being teams-based, but some pairs-events will also be programmed. See the preliminary flyer below:

**ASIA PACIFIC  
BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
Open Event

**The Joseph Greenfeld Congress**

APRIL 15-22 2020

Perth Convention Centre  
Western Australia

**ABF**

**PERTH CONVENTION BUREAU**  
Driving Business Tourism  
in Western Australia

### COMING CONGRESSES

<b>SABA SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS</b>	SABA	Sunday 10th February 2019
<b>GRADED PAIRS CONGRESS</b>	Gawler	Sunday 10th March 2019
<b>SABA PAIRS CONGRESS</b>	SABA	Sunday 17th March 2019
<b>GOLDEN BUNNY TEAMS</b>	Marion	Friday 19th April 2019

### COMING SABF EVENTS

<b>SABA GNOT QUALIFYING</b>	Thursdays 14/3/19, 21/3/19, 28/3/19, 4/4/19, 11/4/19
<b>WOMEN'S TRIALS QUALIFYING</b>	Sunday 17th March 2019
<b>SENIORS' TRIALS</b>	Friday 22nd March to Sunday 24th March 2019
<b>WOMEN'S TRIALS</b>	Friday 12th April to Sunday 14th April 2019
<b>ANC RESTRICTED TRIALS</b>	Sunday 14th April 2019

# THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PAIRS AND TEAMS

When you are playing Match Point Pairs, you need to consider what might be happening at other tables as much as what is happening at your table, because your score is being compared with every other pair sitting in your direction, whereas at Teams you are in a head-to-head battle with only one other team (score).

This means that at Pairs we have to make as many tricks as possible, but at Teams you have to ensure the safety of your contract first, even if that costs you an overtrick.

## PLAYING A HAND DIFFERENTLY

Consider the following hand:

♠ K 5 3  
♥ K 9 5 3  
♦ 5 4  
♣ K J 5 3

♠ A Q J  
♥ A J 8 2  
♦ Q 10  
♣ A Q 10 2

You are playing in 4♥ and the opponents cash the first two diamonds, then lead a spade. How many tricks you take depends on the trump suit. How would you play?

The answer depends on whether you are playing Pairs or Teams.

At Pairs, you should play the ♥K, then finesse the ♥J on the way back. This will succeed whenever there is a singleton ♥Q, or when hearts break 3-2, and if you pick hearts correctly you will make an overtrick.

However, you would go down if West held the ♥Q-10-x-x. Therefore, in a Teams match, where the safety of the contract is paramount, you would tackle the hearts differently. With this combination of trumps, to allow for any 4-1 break (but not 5-0), you should first cash the ♥A (counter-intuitive), then lead low towards the ♥K-9-5. If West follows suit, you simply cover whatever card he plays (i.e. play the ♥9 if he plays a low heart). This allows for West to hold the four remaining hearts. On the other hand, if West shows out, you win the ♥K and lead back towards your ♥J-8, losing only to the ♥Q.

You may end up sacrificing an overtrick, but you have lost 1 IMP in order to make sure of your contract, and if the trumps break 4-1 you will occasionally gain 12 IMPs when your opposition declarer is unaware of their trump safety play.

The above hand illustrates that Pairs is about maximising your score, whereas Teams is about ensuring you achieve a positive score, especially in your game and slam contracts.

## BIDDING A HAND DIFFERENTLY

Here is another hand to think about:

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

With everyone vulnerable, your RHO opens 2♠, you pass and LHO jumps to 4♠. Your partner doubles 4♠, which is essentially a takeout double. RHO passes and now you have to decide what to do. Your decision should be affected by whether you are playing Teams or Pairs.

At Teams, your first concern should be to get a positive score. In all likelihood, you have game making your way (4♥ or 5♣ depending on partner's hand), but the opponents are pushing you higher.

Let's consider the various scenarios:

- They could go down two in 4♠ X, giving you 500, when you can make 11 tricks at the 5-level.
- They could be down one or two in 4♠ X, for 200 or 500, when you cannot make any 5-level contract.
- They could be down one in 4♠ X, and you can make 11 tricks at the 5-level.
- They could be down three (or more) when you can make game. (You are unlikely to bid a slam after this high-level start to the auction).

### AT TEAMS

Taking those options in order:

- If they go down two, you score +500, instead of +650 (if 5♥), which means you lose 4 IMPs.
- If they go down one, you score +200, but would go down in anything, so you should be happy to get whatever plus score you can.
- If they go down only one (+200), and you can make game (+650), you will lose 10 IMPs.
- If they go down three, you score +800, against a game worth 650, so you gain 4 IMPs. If you can't make a game, you are gaining 13 IMPs or more.

The small gains and losses are insignificant, so we consider the large swings instead. On the whole, it is better to Pass and take your plus score.

### AT PAIRS

At Pairs (Match Points), the decision on this hand is far more difficult. Collecting 500 instead of scoring 650 could be a bottom score. You have to think about what will be happening at other tables across the field, and whether others will be facing the same decision as you are. On this hand, many pairs will have had a similar auction, so it's important to make the right decision. Being consistent with your decision-making will help you to 'win'. Some people will always Pass and take their defensive plus score; others will always bid 5♥, hoping to score 650.



PLAY YOUR CARDS **RIGHT**

**TONY BEMROSE  
INSURANCE BROKERS**

[www.tbib.com.au](http://www.tbib.com.au)



# Autumn Nationals 2019

Ridley Centre, Wayville Showgrounds

Thursday 2 & Friday 3 May - Swiss Pairs  
(Open, Seniors, Women, Under Life Master)

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May - Teams  
(Open, Under Life Master)

Monday 6 May - Consolation Teams and Pairs  
(and Teams final)



All events attract Gold masterpoints

PQPs awarded in all events except Consolation and Under Lifemaster

Entry fees: Pairs \$260, Teams \$540

(Special discount where entry fee paid in full in one transaction by credit card or EFT by 3 April)

Consolation \$10 per player



Tournament Organiser Jinny Fuss  
04 740 740 05

ANOT.Organiser@gmail.com

Entries open 1 January

See website for full details - [www.abfevents.com.au/events/anot/2019](http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/anot/2019)

## SABF CONTACTS

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Ethics	David Cherry		
Appeals	Rex Whitford		
Counsel	Phil Markey		
Sponsorship/Promotion	<i>vacant</i>		

Committee Members: David Gue (Adelaide Bridge Centre), John Smith (SABA), Jeanette Lunnie (Glenelg), Jill Allanson (Barossa), Sue Phillips (Bridge in the City), Jinny Fuss (Christies Beach), David Anderson (Reynella), Barbara Travis (Beaumont), David Parrott (SABA), Moira Smith (Gawler), John Elliott (Alexandrina), Jim Coffey (Whyalla)