



Editorial

Did you know that April is officially designated as Stress Awareness Month? Neither did your editors, until one of us happened to Google 'April'. Stress is, regrettably, a factor in playing Bridge. A little stress may be useful but too much stress (like too much of many other things that come to mind) is harmful. Let's try to keep stress levels low at our club. Just because we do something silly at the table, or our partners do, shrug it off as something that just happens from time to time.

Player Promotions

Last month 3 of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations. May all your finesses come off.

AWESOME

BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
Raj Mal, Matt	Silver National	312.25
Byrnes, Trish	National	229.77
Fisher, Helen	Graduate	2.58

Lessons

Beginners Lessons

- ♥ Cost \$50 for 7 lessons includes all materials etc.
- ♥ Lessons commence
 - ♥ Monday, 12th May at 10am
 - ♥ Tuesday, 13th May at 7pm.
- ♥ For more information and to book your place phone Christine 0488 194 737



Results - Club Special Events

◆ Club Open Teams (5th April)

This is one of our club's premier events, and also serves as a qualifier for the next round of the State Country Teams Championship. The winners and placegetters were

1 st	Donelle Foate, Christine Hadaway, Gary Heyting and Stephanie Matthews	138.3 VP
2 nd	Felicity Fane, Elaine Hume, Matt Raj Mal, Jorgen Boettiger	127.20VP
3 rd	Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Karen Ody, Jim Routledge	112.96VP

◆ Teams of Three (16th April)

Ten teams took part in this fun event. Winners and place getters were

1 st	Robin Vaughan, Kevin Hughes, Carolynne Mucharsky, and John Drew	46.51VP
2 nd	David Adams, Connie Lewis, Beryl Lowry, Caroline Nichols	37.89VP
3 rd	Chris Hasemore, Edith Marshall, Wendy Byrne, and Judith Lambkin	37.78VP

◆ Easter Pairs (21st April)

The winners and runners-up were

NS	1 st	Karen Ody and Jim Routledge	59.95%
	2 nd	Judy Wulff and David Adams	58.62%
EW	1 st	Shirley Crockett and Linda Brown	63.19%
	2 nd	Hope Tomlinson and Barry Foster	56.89%

◆ Quarterley Pointscores

An incentive to play regularly : details were announced in a previous newsletter. A tally is kept of attendance for every playing session in the quarter. Pairs who play in over half of the eligible sessions can be eligible for extra Masterpoints.

Quarter 1, 2025 winners were

- ♣ Mondays : Christine Hadaway & Donelle Foate
- ♣ Tuesdays : Chris Hasemore & Jim Routledge
- ♣ Wednesdays : Christine Hadaway & Jacqui Wilson
- ♣ Thursdays : Hilary Owen & Lynne Rainford
- ♣ Saturdays : Deborah Guthrie & David Adams

Results – Further Afield

◆ Port Macquarie/Hastings Congress (29th - 30th March)

Stephanie Matthews and Gary Heyting finished 8th in the A section of the Swiss pairs.

◆ **Bridge NSW Interstate Women's Team Selection (28th - 30th March)**

These were held on RealBridge over 3 days, with 12 matches of 12 boards. Jan Clarke and Di Coats had a great result, finishing 2nd and thus qualifying for the NSW women's team, to play against other states later in the year.

Congratulations to Jan and Di on this great achievement!

◆ **Newcastle Novice/Restricted Teams (6th April)**

The Hume team (Peter and Elaine Hume, Kevin Hughes and George Connell) finished 8th (of 22) with 3 wins.

◆ **Central West Festival, Orange (10th - 13th April)**

Open Swiss Pairs

Anne Grayden and Julie Saddler	17 th (of 68)
Di Coats and Jan Clarke	25 th
Chris Williams and Ian Lincoln	31 st



Restricted Swiss Pairs

Elaine and Peter Hume	5 th (of 32)
-----------------------	-------------------------

From the Library



25 Ways to be a Better Defender is a great book to get you thinking about your defensive play. For this review I'd like to focus on **Chapter 8 'Should you cover an honor lead?'** Pages 67 – 76.

I'm not into reading whole books so one chapter of ten pages is just right. The authors describe 4 times when to cover or not cover. For example, **'Don't cover when the lead is from touching honors'**. Each concept is fully treated with examples to illustrate

the theory behind it all. The authors suggest that the old adage **'always cover an honour with an honor'** is wrong more often than not!

For seasoned bridge players the chapter will provide some timely revision. For our novices... make sure you're the first to to soak up this vital reading.

The book is one of many by Barbara Seagram and David Bird. We have the full collection of their books in our club library.

For information about any books in our library collection have a chat with Librarian Karen Ody who will be pleased to point you in the right direction.

From the Directors Chair – by Matthew McManus (Australian Director)

Just because you expect partner to pass your sign off, you can't write the contract on your personal score card before she has bid. Nothing more to say!



Coming Attractions

- ◆ Club Championship for Mixed Pairs – Wed., 30th April – 12:30 start – Session 1
- ◆ Club Championship for Mixed Pairs – Wed., 7th May – 12:30 start – Session 2
- ◆ Interclub Teams at BWBC – Monday, 5th May – 9:30 start.
- ◆ Rookie Pairs Championship
 - ♣ This is a new championship event on the BWBC Calendar.
 - ♣ Pairs under 15 masterpoints are invited to play over two Wednesdays 14th & 21st May.
 - ♣ Pre-entry is requested, club noticeboard or BWBC website, look for pre-entry link.
 - ♣ Note that there will be a side game for non-rookie players on these days if sufficient interest.
- ◆ Autumn Pairs – Thursday, 22nd May – 12:30 start – **Red Points**
- ◆ BWBC GNOT Qualifier – Saturday, 24th May – 9:30 start
- ◆ Presidents Cup – Tuesday, 10th June – 12:30 – **Red Points**
- ◆ **BWBC Super Congress – Entries Open**
 - ♣ This club congress is on 19th July (Pairs) and 20th July (Teams).
 - ♣ Entries are open and already 5 teams and 7 pairs have entered ... don't miss out as there is a limit of 32 tables each day.
 - ♣ Entry and details via MyABF.
 - ♣ As the congress dates approach we will be asking for volunteers to make/donate cakes etc. Also help will be required for setting up the playing area.
 - ♣ Inquiries to convener David Bowerman ... 0420 295 758 or [email david42b_a1@gmail.com](mailto:david42b_a1@gmail.com)
- ◆ **BWBC – 50 years**

Brisbane Water BC was founded in September 1975. The club has been granted permission to run an additional **red masterpoint event** to celebrate - Anniversary Pairs to be played after the 2025 AGM on Monday 8th September.



At the Bridge Table – Moysian Fits – By Jaan

A 'Moysian fit' is a 4-3 trump fit, at either partscore or game level, usually in a major suit. The name is from Alphonse Moyses, a leading American player of the 1940's. It seems that he was well known for his skills in playing such hands.

Moysian fits were probably more common in earlier times, when it was usual to open with 4-card major suits. These days, with most people opening 5-card majors, they are less common. Nevertheless, they still occur for time to time – sometimes deliberately, other times through a bidding 'accident'.

Playing in a 4-3 trump fit is often tricky, as there is a real danger of losing trump control. The missing trumps are almost twice as likely to divide 4-2 than 3-3, in which case one of the opponents will have as many trumps as declarer. Many examples and articles can be found on the internet. Here are some personal thoughts and hints for newer players. First and foremost, don't panic.

♣ If you happen to have the top four trumps between you, and all other suits well stopped, you might just draw trumps and play in notrumps. This is rare.

♣ If your trumps are not as good, say AQxx opposite Jxx, you might be able to quickly establish a side-suit and use that suit to protect against losing trump control.

♣ If you have quite a few winners in side-suits you might try to cash them first, before touching trumps, and try to make your small trumps by ruffing in either hand.

Here are a few examples.



BOARD 13						
BD: 13		♠ AJ3			Dir: N	
		♥ AQT9			Vul: ALL	
		♦ KJ42				
		♣ Q4				
♠ QT98				♠ 652		
♥ K4				♥ 8732		
♦ 96				♦ 73		
♣ J9862				♣ AKT3		
		♠ K74				
		♥ J65				
		♦ AQT85				
		♣ 75				
		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT				
N	1	5	5	3	2	17
S	1	5	5	3	2	6 7
E						10
W						

This hand was played recently at the club. N/S bid to the good contract of 4-hearts by North. East took the first 2 tricks with the top clubs, and switched to a small diamond. South won with the Ace (why is this better than winning with the Q ?) South then ran the heart J and continued with the 6. When the K appeared, South was able to draw all of the trumps, and take 11 tricks. A number of declarers made 3NT but, as you can see, the defenders should be taking the first 5 tricks in clubs.



BOARD 12						
BD: 12		♠ 94			Dir: W	
		♥ Q985			Vul: NS	
		♦ AQ75				
		♣ Q53				
♠ KJT83				♠ 52		
♥ K432				♥ AT6		
♦ JT4				♦ K82		
♣ T				♣ AJ764		
		♠ AQ76				
		♥ J7				
		♦ 963				
		♣ K982				
		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT				
N						10
S						8 12
E	1	1	2	2	1	10
W	1	1	2	2	1	

This is also from a recent club game. West found herself declarer in a contract of 2-hearts, and North led the trump 5. This was allowed to run to the J and K. Declarer then ran the diamond J, covered by the Q and won in dummy with the K. A small spade from dummy was covered by the Q and won in hand with the K. Declarer then led the spade J from hand, won by South. Declarer was then able to make 5 more tricks by a crossruff. Deep Finesse says 8 tricks can be made in either hearts or spades. Players in NT made only 6 tricks.

This is a constructed hand.

West S – xx H – KQJxx D – xx C – JTxx	North S – Kxx H – x D – KQxx C – Qxxxx	East S – QJxx H – xxxxx D – Ax C – xx
	South S – Axxx H – Ax D – JTxxx C – AK	

You find yourself in 4 spade contract, as South. West makes the normal lead of the heart K. The trump suit is decidedly flimsy. Declarer will win the opening lead, and must immediately force out the diamond Ace. Declarer can then ruff the small heart in dummy, draw 2 rounds of trumps with the A and K, and then play the established diamonds. East will be forced to ruff with one of the winning trumps, but South will be in control, and will only lose 3 tricks. Timing is AK crucial on hands like this. If you make the mistake Of playing a third round of trumps, East will win, draw you last trump, and the opponents will cash their 4 established hearts. You will only make 6 tricks.

Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

