



Editorial

The past month has been particularly busy on the local bridge scene. First, there was the State Seniors event at Gosford, then the Newcastle Congress. Closer to home, we have had GNOT qualifying events at our club and at Gosford, and a Country Teams qualifier held at our club.

It has been pleasing to see the return to face-to face congresses so far this year. The Coffs congress entries were filled very quickly, even though the event is not till August. The Newcastle congress also filled, and our own congress, which is coming up soon, is also full.

We would encourage newer members to consider entering some of these events, which often have Novice sections. It can be a lot of fun, and will certainly help to develop your bridge skills.

AGM – Change of Date

The Committee have advised that the BWBC AGM advertised for 8th September will now be held a week earlier on **Monday, 1st September**. The AGM will coincide with the clubs 50th anniversary. Some special things are in the planning pipeline.

Save **THE** date

Player Promotions

Last month 4 of our members moved up the bridge ranking scale. Congratulations all. May all your finesses come off.



BRISBANE WATER BRIDGE CLUB		
NAME	RANK	TOTAL MPs
Hume, Elaine	Bronze National	207.15
Hume, Peter	Bronze National	203.26
Mackey, Alison	State	93.07
Hasemore, Qi	Local	15.47

Results - Club Special Events

♦ President's Cup (10th June)

13 pairs competed in the event. The final results were amazingly close, with the top 7 pairs separated by only 2.2%. Winners and placegetters were

1st	Sylvia Foster and Barry Foster	54.44%
2nd	Susan McCall and Pamela Joseph	54.07%
3rd	Jorgen Boettiger and Deborah Guthrie	53.70%

♦ Novice Pairs Championship (18th – 25th June)

The event was contested by 14 pairs, over two days. Winners and placegetters were

1 st	Carolynne Mucharsky and Caroline Nichols	63.00%
2 nd	Denyse Stephens and John Drew	57.53%
3 rd	Spider Redgold and Wendy Byrne	57.36%

Rookie Champions

Jude and Michael Hall	49.86%
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Results – Further Afield

♦ State Seniors Championship (27th – 30th May)

The event was held over four days at Gosford. A number of BWBC members entered, and all enjoyed competing in a strong field. Notable results include

Pairs	♣ 3 rd	Pauline Caust and Alan Bustany	54.6%
	♣ 4 th	Di Coats and Jan Clarke	54.0%
	♣ 6 th	David Adams and Elaine Hume	53.9%

Teams	♣ 4 th	Team Matthews (Stephanie Matthews, Gary Heying, Donelle Foate, Christine Hadaway) (4,0,2)	73.77VP
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♦ Newcastle Congress (14th – 15th June)

A few of our members travelled to Newcastle for their annual congress, held at their clubrooms at Broadmeadow. Top third finishes include

Pairs	♣ 4 th	Di Coats and Jan Clarke
	♣ 9 th	Stephanie Matthews and Gary Heyting
	♣ 10 th	Stephen Calcroft and Shan Lawson
	♣ 12 th	Sally Clarke and Sharon Mayo
Teams	♣ 1 st	Clarke (Sally Clarke, Sharon Mayo, David Weston, Julian Foster)
	♣ 4 th	Bodycote (Di Coats, Jan Clarke, Paul Weaver, Terry Bodycote)
	♣ 6 th	Foster (Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Barry Foster, Jim Routledge)
	♣ 7 th	Cotton (Roy Cotton, Pam Townsend, Marcelle Goslin, Kevin Hughes)

**Particular congratulations to the Cotton team,
who finished well above their seeding of 15th.**

Coming Soon to a Club Near You

Saturday, 5th July, Winter Teams – 12:30 start – Pre-entry required

Sat/Sun, 19th – 20th July, BWBC Super Congress

Wednesday, 30th July, Club Championship for Novice Teams 12:30 start (1)

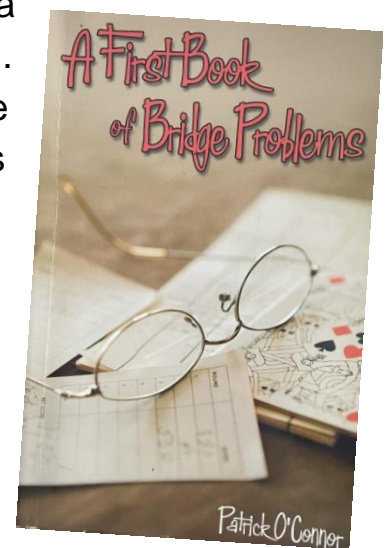
Wednesday, 6th August, Club Championship for Novice Teams 12:30 start (2)

From the Library

A ***'First Book of Bridge Problems'*** is, as the title suggests, a book full of bridge problems. Each problem takes up 2 pages. The reader is presented with a problem, an analysis by the author and finally a solution. Importantly, each problem contains a Key Point which is basically a tip for great Declarer play.

The following are some examples of Key Points:

- ♣ Develop tricks in suits where you hold more cards than your opponents.
- ♣ Play honours from the short side first to avoid blocking the suit.
- ♣ In general lead towards a high card if trying for a finesse.



The book also goes into planning the play.

Planning the Play in Notrumps

- ♣ Count your winners
- ♣ Decide whether you need to develop tricks
- ♣ Don't be afraid to give up the lead.
- ♣ Establish your extra tricks before cashing sure tricks
- ♣ Plan your entries.

Planning the Play in a Suit

- ♣ Count your losers
- ♣ Decide whether you need to develop tricks
- ♣ Draw trumps first unless you need to quickly dispose of losers.
- ♣ Plan your entries.
- ♣ Don't be afraid to give up the lead.

There's no need to read the whole book. Do half a dozen problems or the lot. Your game is sure to improve.

At the Bridge Table – By Jaan

I thought these two hands from the recent Newcastle Congress might be of interest to readers. The first is on bidding, the second on cardplay.

Hand 1. (match 2, board 14)

	North S – AKT63 H – 983 D – JT6 C – 73	
West S – 8542 H – T54 D – AQ9 C – K52		East S – 9 H – AKQ72 D – 875 C – AQJT
	South S – QJ7 H – J6 D – K432 C – 9864	

You pick up the nice East hand and open 1-heart. Partner raises to 2 hearts and there is no opposition bidding. Clearly, game is a possibility and you might invite with a 3-heart bid, which partner, with a nice 9 points, would accept. What if partner had a weaker hand, say without the diamond Q. In situations like this, it is not only high cards that are important but also how well the hands combine. There is a useful bidding convention, the 'help-suit trial bid' (discussed in the great book by Seagram and Smith '25 Bidding

Conventions You Should Know') which can help. After partner's raise to 2-hearts East bids 3 diamonds. This says to partner, 'I have a good hand, and think there is a good chance of game, but I am worried about diamond losers. If you have a sound raise, and can help with the diamond suit, raise to game'.

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The following situation comes up fairly often.

	North S – Q5 H – JT32 D – KJ3 C – T743	
West S – A H – Q5 D – QT8754 C – AQJ8		East S – JT8643 H – A97 D – A C – K62
	South S – K972 H – K864 D – 962 C – 95	

I was sitting East and ended up in a 4-spade contract, which should make, but I missed the best and winning line. Before reading on, consider how you might play the hand. The opening lead was the heart 4. Clearly you must play the Q on the first trick, and hope for the best. It holds! You have no losers in the minor suits, but still have a heart loser and an unknown number of trump losers. The heart loser could go on a winning club, but you need to draw trumps first. At trick 2 I played the spade Ace, which

fetches only small cards, and then came to hand with a diamond. So far, so good. To continue drawing trumps, I next played the spade J. This was a bad mistake, and the contract can no longer be made. The correct play is a small spade which, for some reason, seems counter-intuitive. If you think it through, the reason for a small trump

rather than the J becomes clear. If the opponents' remaining trumps had been split 2-2, it wouldn't matter which trump you played, as you will only lose two trumps and will make your contract. If, as is more likely, the outstanding trumps split 3-1, with a remaining singleton K or Q in either hand, your J will be wasted and there will be no way of avoiding 3 trump losers, plus a heart.

Four declarers played in 4-spades, and all made only 9 tricks. 3NT was a more popular contract and made at some tables, although Deep Finesse says there are only 8 tricks available.

Retirement

Christine Hadaway has decided to retire from her job as Chief Director. Christine has worked tirelessly over many years fulfilling the various tasks attached to the post with enthusiasm and diligence. Christine will continue with her other jobs within the club. Thanks Christine for your service to the club.



At a Directors' meeting it was decided that Sylvia Foster should take over the Chief Director's duties.

BWBC Congress



We're close to a full house in both the pairs and teams!

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- ♣ We need helpers for the congress set-up on Friday afternoon and to pack up on Sunday afternoon (No heavy lifting)
- ♣ Also helpers are needed in the kitchen and to make yummy treats.
- ♣ If you can help out please add your name to the list on the notice board.

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

