



Editorial

The main event during the past month has been our 2025 Super Congress, which has just been held. A strong field of both local and visiting players ensured tough competition over both days. On behalf of readers, we thank all of our club members who helped in countless ways to make the event a success. It is not possible to name every individual, but special thanks must go to the Congress Convenor, David Bowerman, whose careful planning ensured that everything ran smoothly. Our Director, Ronnie Ng, ran the event with his usual efficiency. A separate Congress Report has been sent to our readers.

AGM

Monday, 1st September. Lock in the date.

The AGM will coincide with the clubs 50th anniversary. Some special things are in the planning pipeline.



Coming Soon to a Club Near You

Thursday, 21st August, Eric Gibson Pairs

Saturday, 23rd August, Club Championship for Open Pairs – 12:30 start

Saturday, 30th August, Club Championship for Open Pairs – 12:30 start

Monday, 1st September, – AGM – 11:00 start

– 50th Anniversary Pairs – 12:30 start

Thursday, 4th September, Interclub Teams Bateau Bay – 9:30 start

Best Wishes

This month three of our BWBC regulars are leaving the area. Farewell and best wishes to Marcelle Goslin and Hope & Tom Tomlinson.

In her time at the club **Marcelle** has helped in all sorts of ways including (but not limited to) directing, high level computer support, board dealing, teaching and more. Marcelle is moving to Adelaide and is sure to be a force in local Bridge. (sorry no photo)

Hope and Tom Tomlinson have poured energy into the club for 18 years. They have supported all our activities and are one of the first to put their hands up when the call goes out for help. **Hope** was club Secretary whilst still a novice. She organised two of our most



memorable Christmas parties and contributed to all our special days. **Husband Tom** is what's known as a silent achiever. Tom dug out a space under their house to store all our congress equipment (60 tables, 200+ side tables and other stuff I can't think of). He stored the items for over a decade bringing them out as needed for the congress, Christmas party etc. Tom also restores our bridgmates to working condition. He's been responsible for building the shelving holding the boards, dishwasher installation and the grey storage cupboards under the notice board. The Tomlinsons are moving to Hallidays Point near Forster/Tuncurry. They have already joined the Great Lakes BC where they will play with daughter Robyn.

Supervised Play

Our Friday morning time slot has now been converted to **Supervised Play**.

- ♣ Time: 9:30 – 12:30. ♣ Normal table fees apply.
- ♣ Come by yourself or bring a partner.
- ♣ Scored with reduced masterpoints.



Club Championship for Novice Teams - rescheduled

Sadly, due to circumstances, we had to postpone our Novice Teams Championship. Here are the new details...

Club Championship for Novice Teams

When: Wednesdays, 27th Aug & 3rd Sept Cost: \$15 each

Time: Play commences at 12:30

Inquiries: Peter 0416 138 698



Results - Club Special Events

♦ Winter Teams – (5th July)

Eight teams competed. Winners and runners-up were

1st	Martin Johnson, Christine Hadaway, Barry Foster, Hope Tomlinson –	54.48VP
2nd	Jim Routledge, Karen Ody, Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa –	51.50VP
3rd	Joan Walsh, Jorgen Boettiger, Elaine Hume, Peter Hume –	46.07VP

♦ BWBC Super Congress (19th – 20th July)

A total of 64 pairs competed in the Swiss Pairs on the Saturday, with 36 pairs in the open section and 28 pairs in restricted/novice. Strong results from local players include

Open pairs:	Chris Williams and Helen Milward –	4 th
	Wendy Mitchell and Henrietta Hohnen –	10 th
	Stephanie Mathews and Gary Heyting –	11 th

Restricted/Novice:	Elaine Hume and Peter Hume –	8 th
	Caroline Nichols and Connie Lewis –	10 th
	(2 nd Novice pair)	

On Sunday there were 24 teams in the Open Section and 8 in Restricted/Novice. Strong local player results include

Open:	Louise Lewis, Vic Pietraszkiewicz, Stephanie Mathews, Gary Heyting –	3 rd
	Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Terry Bodycote, Catherine Zhang –	5 th
	Wendy Mitchell, Eunice de Vries, Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman –	7 th

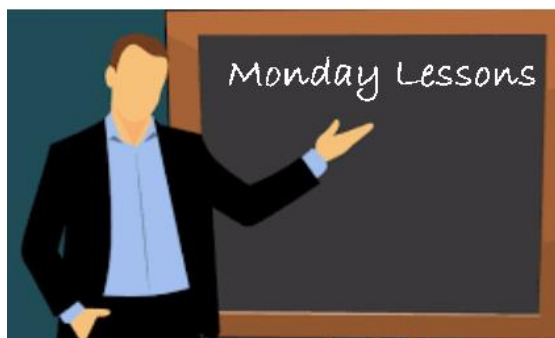
Restricted/Novice:	Caroline Nichols, Denyse Stephens, Connie Lewis, John Drew (top novice team!)	2 nd
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Others, including your Editors, finished down the field, but enjoyed the competition. We'll do better next year!

Monday Lessons

David Adams and volunteers are running lessons on various topics on Monday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30. All welcome; no need to bring a partner.

Cost :\$5



At the Bridge Table – By Jaan

BOARD 16						
BD: 16		♠ 653		Dir: W Vul: EW		
		♥ 97542				
		♦				
		♣ 97532				
♠ 98				♠ AKQJT4		
♥ AJ8				♥ K6		
♦ AQJ965				♦ K8		
♣ AK				♣ QJ6		
		♠ 72				
		♥ QT3				
		♦ T7432				
		♣ T84				
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	
N						0
S						19 19
E	5	7	5	6	7	2
W	5	7	5	7	7	

It is not often that 7NT can be confidently reached in two bids. It is even rarer that, when dummy comes down, declarer can count 16 top tricks. This hand came up in the Open Teams event at our recent Congress.

I was sitting East, and picked up this very nice 19 point hand. While wondering what to bid, when it came round to me, I heard my partner, Sylvia, open 2NT. We play a simple natural system, where this shows 20-21 points, usually fairly balanced. It is then easy to bid 7NT directly, as we cannot be missing more than a Queen, at the outside. The play was straightforward.

I expected this to be the contract at every table in the room but, surprisingly, a grand slam was only reached at 9 of the 24 tables. Two tables did not even reach a small slam. Some Wests apparently did not open 2NT and their bidding systems must have gotten in the way, somehow.

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BOARD 17					
BD: 17		♠ Q94		Dir: N Vul: None	
		♥ 65			
		♦ K9653			
		♣ 842			
♠ T8				♠ AKJ5	
♥ A983				♥ KQ4	
♦ AJT87				♦ 4	
♣ T7				♣ AKQ63	
		♠ 7632			
		♥ JT72			
		♦ Q2			
		♣ J95			

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	7	5	6	6	7
W	7	5	6	6	7

	5	
9		22
	4	

Here is a hand from a club game, which I was shown recently and which I thought was interesting, for several reasons.

West ends up as declarer in 6NT, and receives an opening lead of diamond 5, from a holding of K9653. How would you play the hand for 12 tricks? In fact, Deep Finesse says 13 tricks can be made against any defence. Can you find a way to make 13 tricks? It is not straightforward, even with open cards. I'll discuss the play in the August newsletter.

Meanwhile, what do you think of the opening lead? Putting it kindly, I would say it was unwise. Wait a minute, you say, what about '4th highest from your longest and strongest suit', which you were taught. It depends on your goal. The diamond 5 would be a recommended lead against a contract of 3NT, where your hope is to establish 5 tricks. Against 6NT you only need 2 tricks. What's more, your partner will have at most say 5 points, against 30 or so for the opponents. Where is the

diamond Q likely to be – surely in the East or West hands. The lead is very likely to give away a trick. As it turns out, partner had the Q, so the lead did not cost on this occasion. A passive lead of a heart or club looks much safer.

Welcome to BWBC

New Memberships approved in recent times. I trust you will enjoy the happy, friendly atmosphere that comes with playing Bridge at BWBC.

Welcome to Denise O'Connor, Annette Bonnici and Janis Livingstone.



Stay safe out there – Cheers Barry and Jaan

