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## THE TROPICS WEREN'T TOO FAR AWAY LAST NIGHT

Thanks to those of you who made the special effort to dress up for our tropical themed night. Not really sure what happened but I have a sore cheek. I approached a number of ladies and asked for a lei and kept getting smacked across the face! What was that all about?


OUR TROPICAL WINNERS AND JUDGES


PAIRS QUALIFYING SESSION TWO
Barry Rigal
The second session started with a bang, when Howard Melbourne took an excellent matchpoint view. This was the auction at his table:

| Dealer: North | A K 76 |  | West | North | East | South <br> Terry Brown |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: None | - J 43 |  | Melbourne | Kanetkar | Travis |  |
| Brd 1 | -863 |  |  | Pass | 14 | Double |
| Prs Qual Sess 2 | \& 9865 |  | Redbl | Pass | Pass | 20 |
| A 1098 |  | A Q 5432 | Double | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| - A 1086 |  | $\bullet$ Q |  |  |  |  |
| - J 2 |  | - AK 954 |  | Makeab | e Con | acts |
| \& A J 107 |  | \& K 2 | 3 | - | 3 | NT |
|  | A A J |  | 4 | - | 4 | a |
|  | -K9752 |  | 2 | - | 2 | $\checkmark$ |
|  | - Q 107 |  | 4 | - | 4 | $\checkmark$ |
|  | \& Q 43 |  | 3 | - | 3 | $\propto$ |

Melbourne led the spade ten, and Brown cashed his two spade winners and led a heart towards the jack. When Melbourne played low Brown judged to duck, and Travis won her queen, played the top diamonds and gave her partner a ruff. Now Melbourne underled his club ace to let the defenders cash three clubs for +500 .
Sue Picus and Margaret Bourke also collected +500 when Picus opened 1 A and doubled a $2 \vee$ overcall in the balancing seat. Bourke judged very well to play for penalties rather than raise spades, in my opinion. +500 was worth $96 \%$. (+420 would have been a little above average for E/W).


A number of tables managed to make 3NT here when West decided to lead something other than fourth highest from their longest and strongest. But the expert pair that I was watching totally failed to get to grips with the real issue of the hand after a heart lead: how to insure the maximum number of undertricks. After the auction 1NT:3NT West led a heart to East's jack. East knows there are precisely four hearts to cash and unless declarer has the ace-king in both spades and diamonds there is no way declarer can take nine tricks. His best defence is to win the heart jack and lead a low heart to his partner's king, then win the third heart with the ace. If he is going to be able to stay on lead after cashing the fourth heart -- as would be the case here -he should do so; if not he should shift to a spade now.

Notice that if South pitches spades on the run of the hearts, as he rates to do, then the defenders can set up spades and be in position to cash out for down FIVE against 3NT when the club finesse loses. 3NT down five is a $96 \%$ board, while the +100 collected at the table earned E/W a $41 \%$ result -- they cashed four hearts ending in West, and that player did not shift to the spade king -- and you can understand why, since if declarer had $\uparrow A \sim \mathcal{A}$ and $\AA \mathrm{K}$ a spade shift would be fatal. (Indeed in my opinion defenders were lucky to score that well!)

| Dealer: West | ヘ 8732 |  | West | North | East | South |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: None | -K952 |  | Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| Brd 8 | - 95 |  | 4 | - | 4 | - | NT |
| Prs Qual Sess 2 | \& K J 7 |  | 1 | - | 1 | - | $\uparrow$ |
| $\rightarrow$ A J |  | AK65 | 1 | - | 1 | - | $\nabla$ |
| $\checkmark 76$ |  | $\checkmark$ A 83 | 5 | - | 5 | - | * |
| - A Q 872 |  | -K 104 | 5 | - | 5 | - | $\propto$ |
| \& 10965 |  | \& A 843 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - Q 1094 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - Q J 104 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - J 63 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | * Q 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

On the next deal E/W had a chance to recover from the previous deal: after a no-trump opening or rebid by East, raised to three and the defenders led a top heart. Declarer ducked twice and South continued the suit, the play in the suit suggesting that South had led from a four-card suit. How should you play the diamonds?
OK, that was a trick question both at teams and pairs, I believe. You should take a spade finesse while you still have a diamond entry back to hand if it loses, and the defenders break clubs. If you cash diamonds then you are in danger of going down if the suit doesn't break, and even if they do you cannot afford the spade finesse for fear of a club shift. Making 400 was a $39 \%$ result, making 430 an $81 \%$ score.

| Dealer: North | - A 85 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: E-W | $\checkmark$ J 3 |  |
| Brd 9 | - A 1092 |  |
| Prs Qual Sess 2 | ¢A754 |  |
| A 1072 |  | AKJ3 |
| $\checkmark 102$ |  | - A 9865 |
| -K853 |  | - Q 76 |
| \& Q J 93 |  | * K 8 |
|  | -Q964 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ KQ 74 |  |
|  | - J 4 |  |
|  | * 1062 |  |


| West | North | East | South |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| - | 1 | - | 1 | NT |
| - | 2 | - | 2 | $\uparrow$ |
| - | 2 | - | 2 |  |
| - | 1 | - | 1 |  |
| - | 1 | - | 1 | 4 |

Board nine offered some intriguing play in two different partscores. At the first table I watched, play proceeded along something close to double-dummy lines. Peter Gill had declared 1NT after Andrew Peake had overcalled 1 vover $1 *$. Hans led the heart ten: jack ace four. Peake returned the heart eight to the king, and Gill passed the 10 to Peake, who won the queen to exit with the spade jack. Gill put up the queen, repeated the finesse in diamonds, then played the spade ace. Peake unblocked the king to let Hans win the third spade, and Hans exited with a low club to dummy's ace, Peake unblocking again. Declarer played a second club and Hans cashed three clubs and gave dummy the last two diamond tricks. -90 was worth $66 \%$ for East-West.

When Kim Morrison held the South cards he bid 1a over the 1 V overcall, showing four or more spades, and was raised to 2A by Simon Hinge. The V10 lead ran round to the king, and a heart back saw Daniel Krochmalik win the ace and return the nine. Andrew Hirst ruffed in with the ten so Morrison overruffed and led

|  | - 85 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - --- |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 10 \\ & \& 7 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| A 72 |  | AKJ3 |
| - --- |  | $\bullet 8$ |
| - --- |  | - --- |
| \&J 9 |  | \& --- |
|  | A Q 96 |  |
|  | $\vee$--- |  |
|  | - --- |  |
|  | \& 10 |  | a diamond to the jack and king. Back came a top club to the ace and Krochmalik failed to unblock. Declarer played the diamond ace and ruffed a diamond then advanced the VK. Hirst discarded his diamond, and dummy pitched a club. Morrison exited with a club to reach this ending with East on lead:

East's best play is the spade king and another spade. Declarer should get this right but you never know... Instead Krochmalik played a heart, letting declarer pitch his club and ruff in dummy. The spade eight was led to the next trick and when East did not cover Morrison let it run and was in dummy for the trump coup and +140. That was a $77 \%$ result for North-South.

| Dealer: South Vul: None | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A } 975 \\ & \vee \text { Q } 842 \end{aligned}$ |  | West | North | East | South Pass |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brd 11 | - AK 105 |  | 180 | Double | 1NT | $2 \vee$ |  |
| Prs Qual Sess 2 | \& 7 |  | Pass | 36 | Pass | Pass |  |
| A Q J 6 |  | AK1032 | Pass |  |  |  |  |
| $\bullet$ J 10 |  | -K93 |  |  |  |  |  |
| - J 83 |  | - Q 94 |  | Makeab | Con | acts |  |
| \& AKJ 94 |  | -1032 | 2 | - | 2 | - | NT |
|  | A 84 |  | 2 | - | 2 | - | $\uparrow$ |
|  | $\checkmark$ A 765 |  | - | 2 | - | 2 | $\checkmark$ |
|  | -762 |  | - | - | - | - | - |
|  | \& Q 865 |  | 3 | - | 3 |  | $\%$ |

Your opponents don't always defend correctly; it is up to you to make them pay. On board 11 of the second pairs qualifying game Michael Prescott as South found his way to $3 \vee$ after the auction above.
Jacob Tarszisz led a top club and shifted to a top spade. Prescott ducked and won the next spade to ruff a spade, ruffed a club, then played the fourth spade and pitched a diamond from hand. West gave declarer his chance when he pitched a club. Aidan Dorrell played a third club, and Prescott ruffed then played the top diamonds and ruffed a diamond, to reach this ending:


Prescott was fairly sure that West, who had a balanced hand, could not hold the heart king or he would have opened a strong notrump. So he led his last club and pitched dummy's diamond when West produced the king. Success! East was forced to ruff his partner's winner and lead from the heart king for a spectacular +140 for declarer. That was worth $98 \%$ for him.

On the next deal, although E/W can always make 4a because of the incredibly favourable lie of the hearts, the spade partscore is rather hard to play if you can't see through the backs of the cards.

| Dealer: West | - 43 |  | West | North | East | Sout |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: N-S | $\checkmark 853$ |  | Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| Brd 12 | - A 7 |  | 1 | - | 1 | - | NT |
| Prs Qual Sess 2 | \&Q8743 |  | 4 | - | 4 | - | $\uparrow$ |
| A Q 985 |  | A A J 106 | 2 | - | 1 | - | $\checkmark$ |
| - A Q 1076 |  | $\checkmark 4$ | 3 | - | 2 | - | * |
| - 8 |  | -KJ9632 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 9 |
| \& A J 6 |  | -92 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | AK72 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\bullet$ K J 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | -Q1054 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - K 105 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

When Sandra Millner declared 3A after dummy had shown a mini-splinter in diamonds, Nabil Edgtton led a low club. Declarer went up with the ace (yes playing low works far better) and led a diamond from dummy. Del'Monte won his $\forall A$ and played two more rounds of clubs, declarer ruffing in hand to ruff a diamond to dummy and take a spade finesse. Edgtton won and played back a spade. Declarer won in hand, cashed $\forall \mathrm{K}$ and now needed to take the heart finesse to come to nine tricks. When she ruffed a diamond to dummy and cashed the VA she could score only one further trick, for down one. That was $71 \%$ for N/S.

Fiona Brown played 2A on the less challenging diamond lead and trump shift. She ducked, and the defenders won and returned a spade. Brown won in hand and played $\uparrow$ K, diamond ruff, trump to hand and gave up a diamond. The defenders needed to exit with a club to hold her to 140 . When they played a heart she could finesse and claim the balance for +170 and a $63 \%$ score; a sizeable percentage of the field made 420 - and five pairs brought home +450 !

| Dealer: North | - Q 6542 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: Both | - Q 3 |  |
| Brd 13 | $\begin{aligned} & 7632 \\ & \& Q J \end{aligned}$ |  |
| A J 103 |  | A AK8 |
| $\checkmark$ A 10 |  | - J 9765 |
| - AKQ105 |  | - J 9 |
| \& A 63 |  | * K 72 |
|  | ヘ 97 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ K 842 |  |
|  | -84 |  |
|  | \& 109854 |  |


| West | North | East | South |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | - | 5 | - | NT |
| 4 | - | 4 | - | 4 |
| 4 | - | 4 | - | $\uparrow$ |
| 6 | - | 6 | - |  |
| 3 | - | 3 | - | $\&$ |

Only ten pairs bid and made slam here - and only one of them bid the best slam - 6* (well done Ashman and Levin). I'd guess that if playing a weak no-trump East should open one, if playing a strong no-trump East should open 1V and rebid 2NT over $2 \downarrow$. Either way West is worth at least a strong invitation or even a drive to slam. If you do play 6NT the defenders can beat you by repeated club leads, which disrupts declarer's communications. If you are lucky enough to receive a spade lead you win and play a heart to the ten. You can arrange to win the return in hand and play a heart to the ace, run the diamonds and spades ending in hand, and come down to a three-card position where you lead the last spade winner with the VJ and a club in hand and ace-doubleton clubs in dummy. South is squeezed in clubs and hearts.

## BRIDGE AND LIFE PARTNERS

In 2009 John Rogers was playing at the Gold Coast Congress with his team from The Nowra Bridge Club while Margaret Partridge was playing with a team from Peninsula Bridge Club. They played against each other and had a fleeting conversation. The next day John asked Margaret's partner if his assumption that she was "unattached" was correct and it was confirmed that indeed she was "available" having been widowed and so John, also a widower for some years asked for a date.
They started travelling together playing bridge in various countries around the world with the most recent being in Istanbul. After four years of bridge partnership they took the plunge and got married last week at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron in Sydney combining the venue with their other passion, sailing.
Margaret reports that "it's fun being back to where it all started".

## PAIRS FINAL SESSION 1

## Barry Rigal

The first pairs final featured a remarkably low leader score at the end of 27 deals．Bobby Richman and Jeanette Reitzer had a $57 \%$ game and only one other pair were over $55 \%$ ．Maybe I just sat at the wrong table， but the boards did not lend themselves to brilliance where I was watching，and it was more about missed opportunities than anything else．

| Dealer：North | A 6 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul：N－S | $\checkmark$ K Q 1073 |  |
| Brd 5 | －A 106 |  |
| Prs Final Sess 1 | \＆K765 |  |
| A A 2 |  | A Q 10543 |
| －J 986 |  | $\checkmark$ A |
| －J 984 |  | － 7532 |
| ¢Q 84 |  | がJ 109 |

AKJ987
－ 542
－K Q
\＆A 32

| West | North | East | South |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | :---: |
| Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| - | 4 | - | 4 | NT |
| - | 2 | - | 2 | $\uparrow$ |
| - | 5 | - | 5 |  |
| - | 2 | - | 2 |  |
| - | 3 | - | 3 | $\$$ | Chou Loo jumped to $4 V$ ．Travis led a club and Ng won in hand and led a spade，guessing to put in the jack when Travis played low．Melbourne won his ace and returned the club queen to dummy＇s ace． Ng unblocked diamonds and cashed the aK to pitch a club from hand，then ruffed a spade back to hand，on which Melbourne discarded his club，and declarer ruffed with the heart three，a play he would later regret．Now he cashed the $\uparrow$ A to discard dummy＇s club，and led out a high trump．Travis won in this ending．


|  | $\uparrow$ Q 1 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\checkmark$－－－ |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 7 \\ \&--- \end{gathered}$ |  |
| ヘ－－－ |  | A Q 10 |
| －J 98 |  | $\checkmark$－－－ |
| －J |  | － 7 |
| \＆－－－ |  | \＆ 10 |
|  | － 98 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 54$ |  |
|  | －－－－ |  |
|  | ¢－－－ |  |

She could lead her club to let Melbourne over－ruff dummy and exit with a diamond． Declarer had no choice but to ruff in hand， and was unable to overruff in dummy，and thus could no longer take the trump finesse． To make the contract Ng needed to ruff the spade with $\vee 7$ ，leaving himself with the heart three at the critical moment．

Alternatively，he could have won the club lead in dummy to cash the diamonds and play a second club at once，then pitch dummy＇s club and ruff a club．This leaves him playing for overtricks．
I was a little surprised at the matchpoints on board 13：

| Dealer：North | $\rightarrow$ Q 3 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul：Both | －Q J 10876 |  |
| Brd 13 | －J 54 |  |
| Prs Final Sess 1 | －106 |  |
| AKJ5 2 |  | ＾A 98 |
| $\checkmark 3$ |  | $\checkmark$ AK 94 |
| －AK 83 |  | －96 |
| \＆Q 972 |  | \＆K J 85 |
|  | A 10764 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 52$ |  |
|  | －Q1072 |  |
|  | \＆A 43 |  |

You＇d expect the field to play 3NT here，typically by East，and for south to be able to avoid the fatal spade lead．When I was watching Peter Reynolds declare the no－trump game．He won the diamond lead in dummy and knocked out the club ace，ducked the next diamond，then won the third diamond and came to hand with the spade ace to take a spade finesse．This lost，and he now won the heart return and cashed the hearts and clubs，ending in hand．After two spades，two hearts，three diamonds and four clubs，he had reduced to a two－
card ending where South was squeezed in spades and diamonds for the overtrick, and a $70 \%$ board. Perhaps on a heart lead it is more difficult to isolate the squeeze menace in diamonds?

| Dealer: West | AKQJ9853 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: E-W | $\checkmark 95$ |  |
| Brd 16 | $\begin{gathered} J 7 \\ \& \quad 105 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| A A 74 |  | A 6 |
| - K J 1083 |  | - AQ 74 |
| -10952 |  | - A Q 83 |
| ¢ 9 |  | \& AKJ4 |
|  | A 102 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 62$ |  |
|  | -K64 |  |
|  | \& Q 87632 |  |


| West | North |  | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | - | 5 | - | NT |
| - | 1 | - | 1 | 4 |
| 6 | - | 6 | - |  |
| 6 | - | 6 | - |  |
| 2 | - | 3 | - | 9 |

```
-6
K}6
Q87632
```

Reaching slam was the hard part here -- only three of the 14 pairs managed it (and one went down!). One of the successful pairs were Sue Picus and Margaret Bourke. They might not have bid it without some help, but after [3A]:X South raised to $4 \boldsymbol{A}$ and Bourke bid $5 \boldsymbol{v}$. Picus felt she had enough to bid slam and right she was. That goes to show what a bad idea the $4 \boldsymbol{A}$ call was; your ideal auction will see the opponents play $4 \checkmark$ - and they rate to do it if you don't make life easy for them.

The only point to note in the play is that if the defenders do not lead a diamond, you can even survive against both diamond honours wrong. Win the spade lead and ruff a spade, play the trump eight to hand and ruff a spade high, then draw trumps and run the diamond ten. Even if South can win cheaply they will be end-played to lead a minor into dummy's tenace.

| Dealer: East | A Q 5 |  | West | North | East | South <br> 1A |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: N-S | $\checkmark 43$ |  |  |  | Pass |  |  |
| Brd 18 | -KQ10864 |  | Double | 2 | $2 V$ | Pass |  |
| Prs Final Sess 1 | * K 52 |  | Pass | Double | Pass | 2A |  |
| - 84 |  | ヘ10732 | All Pass |  |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ AK6 |  | - QJ982 |  |  |  |  |  |
| - A 972 |  | - 5 | Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| \&A843 |  | \& J 97 | 1 | - | 1 | - | NT |
|  | A AKJ 96 |  | - | 2 | - | 2 | $\uparrow$ |
|  | $\checkmark 1075$ |  | 2 | - | 2 | - | $\checkmark$ |
|  | - J3 <br> -Q106 |  | - | 3 | - | 3 | * |

This deal saw Paul Wyer make a nice play... and get punished for it. He played 2A as South on the auction shown above. 3 might have been painless to manage but $2 \boldsymbol{1}$ does not look in particular jeopardy. John Wignall led a top heart and shifted to a trump to declarer's nine. Wyer advanced the $\uparrow$, ducked all round, and a second diamond was ducked by Wignall again to let Scott ruff. Now the play looks easy; declarer appears to have five spades, two clubs and one diamond. But Scott shifted to the club nine (the correct technical card to surround the eight but also suggesting the ace-jack were wrong). Wyer assumed that was so, and went up with the queen to kill the club suit. Wignall won his ace and continued the suit, and when Wyer finessed Scott took his jack to play a third club. Declarer still had two heart losers and thus had to go down one for a $27 \%$ result instead of a $65 \%$ score.

| Dealer: West | AK7 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: Both | $\checkmark 97642$ |  |
| Brd 20 | -8654 |  |
| Prs Final Sess 1 | -102 |  |
| A A 854 |  | A Q J 10 |
| -KQ 8 |  | - A 1053 |
| -10 |  | - J 32 |
| ¢ AK 875 |  | *Q4 3 |
|  | A 9632 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ J |  |
|  | - AKQ97 |  |
|  | \&J96 |  |



How many matchpoints do you normally expect for missing a cold game -- on a hand where slam your way is on a (losing) finesse? You'd normally not expect to beat average but as David Lilley and Zoly Nagy discovered, sometimes you score matchpoints in odd ways.

Lilley thought about raising four clubs to five, and maybe Nagy should have done more at his last turn. Regardless, when the spade finesse lost, they had avoided the indignity of playing a slam in partscore. But +150 was nonetheless worth $77 \%$ of the matchpoints. Why? Because the field had felt compelled to play the 4-3 heart fit and the 5-1 break and losing spade finesse meant that nine tricks were the limit. Precisely one pair bid to the club game --well done Moran-Francis.

## INTERMEDIATE FINALS SESSION 1

## Brent Manley

A Strong finish: after 13 deals in the first session of the Intermediate Pairs B Final, Jenny Carr and Kees de Vocht of Christchurch, New Zealand, were not exactly setting the world on fire. With about half the boards left to play, they were at $49.84 \%$. Fortunately, results were much better in the second half of the session and they finished in 9th place, not far out of first.


Two boards in the first half kept them from having a real stinker. On the following deal, Carr guessed well to earn an $88 \%$ score. She was South.

| Dealer: South <br> Vul: E-W | - A 2 <br> - A 107 |  | West | North | East | South 1A |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brd 3 | -9874 |  | Pass | 24 | Pass | 2 |  |
| Int Prs Final 1 | \& Q 876 |  | Pass | 3 | Pass | 3NT |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { A Q } 10 \\ & \vee \text { Q } 8653 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \wedge 7653 \\ & \vee 94 \end{aligned}$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |  |  |
| - Q J |  | - 652 | Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| \&J542 |  | * AK 103 | - | 5 | - | 4 | NT |
|  | AKJ984 |  | - | 6 | - | 6 | $\uparrow$ |
|  | $\checkmark$ K J 2 |  | - | 3 | - | 4 | $\checkmark$ |
|  | - AK 103 |  | - | 6 | - | 6 | - |
|  | \% 9 |  | - | 2 | - | 2 | $\%$ |

Just getting to 3NT and making it would have been well above average - most pairs didn't reach game. West led a low heart, won by Carr in hand. She considered her line for a time before playing the $\downarrow$ A at trick two. That brought the queen from West, followed by the $\begin{aligned} & \text { K from Carr. Things were looking good when West had to }\end{aligned}$ play the $>J$, so Carr turned her attention to spades.
On the low spade from South, West played the 10 and Carr won with the ace. When she played dummy's spade to her king and the queen dropped, Carr had 12 tricks. West missed a chance for a deceptive play that might have worked. Had West played the $\uparrow Q$ instead of the $\uparrow 10$, Carr might have finessed against the
presumed $\boldsymbol{A} 10$ in the East hand to try for four tricks in the suit (if East started with five to the queen, three tricks were the limit without giving up the lead, which Carr did not want to do considering the club situation).
On the following board, Carr made another good decision that resulted in a $96 \%$ score.

| Dealer: North Vul: E-W | A A J 96 $\bullet$ J 10 |  | West | North 1NT | East Pass | $\begin{aligned} & \text { South } \\ & 2 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brd 9 | - KJ73 |  | Pass | $2 \vee$ | Pass | Pass |  |
| Int Prs Final 1 | ¢ K Q 9 |  | Pass |  |  |  |  |
| ヘKQ2 |  | A 1054 |  |  |  |  |  |
| -K742 |  | $\checkmark 98$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| -964 |  | - A 102 | Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| \& J 65 |  | \& A 10732 | - | 1 | - | 1 | NT |
|  | - 873 |  | - | 2 | - | 2 | $\uparrow$ |
|  | - AQ653 |  | - | 3 | - | 3 | $\checkmark$ |
|  | - Q 85 |  | - | 2 | - | 2 | * |
|  | \& 84 |  | 1 | - | 1 | - | $\%$ |

Of the 14 North-South pairs who played this deal, 11 ended up in 2NT or 3NT, all but one going down one or more tricks (a low club lead dooms the contract). Carr did well to simply transfer and pass, and de Vocht played well to make it. The opening spade lead went to the queen and North's ace. A diamond to dummy's queen held the trick, and a diamond to the jack and ace left East on lead.

The \&A was cashed before East continued with a spade to West's king. A third round of spades was won by de Vocht's jack, and he ran the VJ to East's king. The club switch was taken in the North hand and the $\mathbf{V} 10$ cashed. De Vocht now ruffed his good *Q to get to dummy to pull trumps. Plus 140 was a tie for top with the enterprising pair who got themselves to spades on the same cards, somehow emerging with nine tricks.
Two more good boards followed, but then the New Zealanders hit a rough patch with four poor boards in a row. Part of it was bad luck, as when the opponents drove to $6 \boldsymbol{V}$ - one of only two pairs to bid the cold slam (and one went down). Carr averted a zero by bidding 64 (de Vocht had opened 3A non-vulnerable). That doubled contract went for 800 , good for $8 \%$. Minus 1430 would have been a zero.
Things started to pick up on board 19 when de Vocht was doubled in 3A and brought it home thanks to a defensive error.

Carr says she and de Vocht cut their bridge teeth playing Acol with four-card major openings, so playing 4-3 fits doesn't terrify them as it does some. That experience helped on this deal (Carr and de Vocht were EastWest in the Howell movement):

| Dealer: West | AK7 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vul: Both | $\checkmark 97642$ |  |
| Brd 20 | - 8654 |  |
| Int Prs Final 1 | \& 102 |  |
| A A 854 |  | A Q J 10 |
| $\checkmark$ KQ 8 |  | - A 1053 |
| - 10 |  | - J 32 |
| \& AK 875 |  | * Q 43 |
|  | ^9632 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ J |  |
|  | - AKQ9 7 |  |
|  | \& J 96 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1\% | Pass | $1{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 2* |
| Double | Pass | 24 | Pass |
| 4a | Pass |  |  |


| Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | - | 2 | - | NT |
| 3 | - | 3 | - | $\uparrow$ |
| 3 | - | 3 | - |  |
| - | 1 | - | 1 |  |
| 5 | - | 5 | - | $\AA$ |

South, Fran Gaunt of Coffs Harbour, started with the $\downarrow$ A. Instead of switching, she continued with another high diamond which proves to be the best defence. When de Vocht ruffed in dummy, Gaunt had more trumps than either opponent's hand. De Vocht played a heart to his ace, Gaunt following with the singleton.
The 110 then went to North's king and he returned a heart (another diamond would have been better), Gaunt ruffing. She continued the assault on dummy's trumps with another high diamond, but de Vocht was in control. He ruffed, cashed the ^A and played a club to his queen. He was able to pick up the trumps and play on clubs. When that suit split favourably he was home with plus 620 and an $88 \%$ score.
Carr added another excellent score on the first board of the last round.

| Dealer: North Vul: E-W | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A } 764 \\ & \text { Q } \mathrm{Q} 76 \end{aligned}$ |  | West | North Pass | East $1 A$ | South <br> Pass |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brd 25 | - K 7 |  | 2 | Pass | 34 | Pass |  |
| Int Prs Final 1 | \& A 972 |  | 3NT | Pass | Pass | Pass |  |
| A 8 |  | A A K Q 1032 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ AK 10 |  | $\checkmark 843$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| -Q86543 |  | - A J 9 | Makeable Contracts |  |  |  |  |
| \& 653 |  | \& 10 | 2 | - | 2 | - | NT |
|  | ヘ J 95 |  | 6 | - | 6 | - | A |
|  | $\checkmark 952$ |  | 3 | - | 2 | - | $\checkmark$ |
|  | -102 |  | 6 | - | 6 | - | $\checkmark$ |
|  | \& K Q J 84 |  | 1 | - | 1 | - | 8 |

That's aggressive bidding from both players to get to the "wrong" contract - a club lead defeats 3NT before declarer can get in - but Carr took advantage of the lead she received (a low heart) to romp home with 10 tricks for plus 630. Inasmuch as 64 is cold, that looked to be a less-than-stellar score, but 10 of the 14 pairs missed game (one played in $5 *$ for plus 600). Carr could have taken the diamond finesse, but she had already avoided a disastrous club lead and found a lucky split in spades, so she judged that it would be folly to risk the contract for overtricks. She was rewarded with an $85 \%$ score. They averaged $58 \%$ in the second half of the session to finish at $54.13 \%$. They were still in the hunt.

## PUZZLE DU JOUR <br> Barry Rigal

Today's deal comes from the semi-final match of the APBF Seniors in Fukuoka where the Japan world champion Yamada squad trailed another Japanese team, Nose, by 11 imps with two deals to go.

| Dealer: South | A $\mathrm{A} \mathrm{J}^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Vul: Nil | $\checkmark$ A 5 |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 9764 \\ \& K \text { Q } 83 \end{gathered}$ |
| A Q 1073 |  |
| - --- |  |
| - A 532 |  |
| \& A 10752 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| 1ヵ | Pass | $1 \downarrow$ | Pass |
| 1^ | Pass | Pass | 1NT |
| Pass | 3NT | Pass | Pass |
| Pass |  |  |  |

Against 3NT would you lead a club or a spade? I'd guess a club is likely to hit partner's shortage, but you decide to lead a low club to dummy's king. At trick two a diamond goes to the jack, king and your ace. What next?

## SOLUTION DU JOUR <br> Barry Rigal

The full deal from yesterday's puzzle was:

|  | A Q J 103 <br> - KJ 107 <br> - J 2 <br> \& Q J 6 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A97542 |  | - 86 |
| $\checkmark$ A 43 |  | - Q 95 |
| -9743 |  | - AK65 |
| \& 5 |  | \& A 1087 |
|  | $\rightarrow$ AK |  |
|  | $\checkmark 862$ |  |
|  | - Q 108 |  |
|  | *K9432 |  |

In one room, playing 3NT, declarer won the spade lead and cashed both spades to unblock the suit, before playing a club toward dummy - perhaps making the position easier to defend than was necessary? East made the critical play for the defence when he ducked this trick, captured the club jack and cleared the diamonds by playing ace, king and a third diamond. When declarer won the diamond queen and played a heart, West climbed up with the VA and cashed out the diamonds for down one.

In the other room when defending 3NT after a spade lead and a club play at trick two, East in the other room fell from grace by winning the first club and returning a low diamond. Declarer won in dummy and unblocked spades, crossed to the club jack and cashed out dummy's spades, then ran the clubs with the aid of the finesse, and had nine tricks.

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HAVE YOU DISCUSSED?

Brent Manley

This actually happened at a bridge tournament. The bidding went
10 Pass 2V Pass

5NT All Pass.
The conversation went:
Opener:
The befuddled responder
Opener
Responder:
Opener

> "You can't pass 5 NT !"
> "What kind of bid is 5 NT ?"
> "I was asking for kings."
> "But you didn't ask for aces!"
> "I didn't have to, I had all four of them."

Just as everyone knows about Blackwood 4NT, everyone knows about Stayman, right? Easy as pie - partner opens 1NT, next player passes and you bid 2* to see if partner has a four-card major. What could be simpler?
Hang on: What if partner bids 2A? Does that deny four cards in hearts? Have you discussed which suit to bid first if opener has both majors? In general, it will be better to bid hearts first, giving responder the opportunity to bid 2n, showing a raise to 2NT (invitational) with four spades. On the occasions when the two hands will make only eight tricks in spades (bad breaks, ruffs.....whatever), you will be happy to have this agreement. You can't have it, of course, if you haven't discussed it.

Nowadays, many partnerships use a direct bid of 2NT as a transfer (usually to diamonds), so they have to go through Stayman to invite game in no-trump. If you are really fond of using 2NT in this way, skip to the next paragraph. If not, consider that over the long haul the opponents will have many opportunities to double $2 \&$ for the lead. These are opportunities they would not have if you played 2NT as simply natural.
Down from the soapbox now.
Okay, what if the bidding goes 1NT: 2s:2v:3NT? Does this promise a four-card spade suit? Logically, it should. Otherwise, why bother with Stayman? You will be more confident if you talk it over to be sure.
Here's another auction: 1NT:2*:2A:3*. What does $3 \star$ mean? Is it forcing? Weak? How about $3 \star$ ?
Well, consider what you would do with this hand after partner opens 1 NT :

A A 7

- QJ85
- 6
\& K Q J 1064
Wouldn't you want to at least explore slam in clubs if partner bids 2 (no major) or 2^ (denying four hearts)? This could be one of those deals where you are cold for 6a and going down in 3NT.
If you have a weak hand with clubs, there are other ways to show it, so logically $3 \%$ should be forcing with slam interest. Same with $3 \diamond$ in that sequence. It's best, of course, not to spring this on partner for the first time in the middle of the auction.
Here's another topic for discussion: Partner opens 1NT and you have 5-4 or 6-4 in the majors and game values. What do you do? Have you and partner discussed the Smolen transfer?
Transfers are used when partner opens 1NT (strong) or 2NT in order to keep the strong hand concealed and to force the opening lead into the strong hand rather than through it. When you have both majors $-5-4$ or 6-4 either way - you could transfer into the longer suit and bid 3NT, but then you might miss your $4-4$ fit. What to do?

The late Mike Smolen devised a solution: bid Stayman and raise to game if partner bids a major. If the response is $2 \downarrow$ (no major), you simply jump in the shorter suit to show four of the suit you're jumping in and five (occasionally six) of the other major. Partner, with only two of the longer suit, can prefer 3NT or, with three of responder's four-card suit, decide to play a 4-3 fit instead. When responder has 4-6 shape, he can transfer to the longer suit over 3NT, assuring that the strong hand will be concealed. For example:

| 1 NT | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 | $3 \downarrow$ |
| 3NT | $4 \downarrow$ |
| $4 \uparrow$ | Pass. This bidding shows that responder has six spades and four hearts. |

As part of your discussion of this convention, be sure to promise each other that it's okay to forget the convention the first two or three times it comes up. The jump sounds so natural that it's easy to forget what it means. Can you guess how I know so much about this part of playing Smolen?


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## GANDHI, MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND <br> (1869-1948)

World-renowned Indian spiritual leader and advocate of the philosophy of active non-violence, not only indulged in occasional games of bridge but even used bridge as a metaphor to illustrate a basic Hindu belief.

Gandhi was trained as attorney in England. During his years as a student, he emulated the British gentleman, taking dancing lessons, learning to play the violin and enjoying sessions of bridge. In fact, "Mahatma" (or "Great Soul," as he came to be called) insists that the very first occasion on which he felt the influence of God in his life came during a bridge game at an English resort.
According to Gandhi, a female member of his foursome began making lascivious advances toward him. The Ionely Gandhi, having left his bride at home in India, was about to succumb to temptation. Then the hand of God stopped him.
As he advanced spiritually, Gandhi never denigrated his bridge playing or other youthful experiences, looking upon them as formative. In fact, when he later developed firm theological beliefs, mostly based upon orthodox Hinduism, he used bridge to discuss the relationship between "kharma" (predetermined fate and "dharma" (man's action). "Kharma is analagous to the hand dealt at bridge; Dharma is how man plays the hand. Man is not bound to a predetermined destiny because he may play his hand well or poorly. It is ultimately up to him whether he wins or loses. The final result of a man's life develops from his learning, striving and skill -- not just from the hand he is dealt.



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| BRIDGE FOR THE IMPROVERRon Klinger |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dealer: South | North | West | North | East | South |
| Vul: N/S | A A Q 742 |  |  |  | 1* |
|  | $\checkmark 73$ | Pass | 14 | Pass | 2NT |
|  | -86 | Pass | 34 | Pass | 3NT |
|  | \& 7432 | Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

## South

A 63

- AK5 2
- AK 43
\& A J 5
West leads VQ. Plan your play.


## YOU NEED A GOOD DUCKING

You have six tricks on top and need three more. The only reasonable place to search for those tricks is in spades. You will need to be lucky and must hope for the $\uparrow$ K onside and a 3-3 spade break.

Win trick one and duck a spade. Win any return and play a low spade to the queen. This is the kind of layout you hope exists.

AA Q 742
$\checkmark 73$

- 86
\& 7432

```
AK 98
- QJ 108
- 10752
*K 9
```

ヘ」 J 105

- 964
- Q J 9
\& Q 1086
A. 63
- AK5 2
- AK 43
*AJ5

| Rookie Novice Pairs - Sunday |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| North-South |  |  |  | East-West |  |  |  |
|  |  | \% | MPs |  |  | \% | MPs |
| 1 | Suzi LEDGER - Barbara SIMPSON | 62.73 | 0.43 | 1 | Rob OLANDER - Rick WEBSTER | 60.91 | 0.43 |
| 2 | Peter GOLDMAN - George GIBB | 61.59 | 0.30 | 2 | Joan CADE - Dianne NORRIS | 58.86 | 0.30 |
| 3 | Tom LYONS - Gail PERRY | 55.00 | 0.18 | 3 | Beatrice D-V WAGENHOFF - Frank DYER | 57.95 | 0.22 |
| 3 | Geoff WILSON - John WILSON | 55.00 | 0.18 | 4 | Alison BANNAH - Alison DAVIS | 57.05 | 0.14 |
| 5 | Peter ALLINGHAM - Neil SADLER | 52.73 | 0.11 | 5 | Leonie ELPHINSTONE - Lyn TRACEY | 54.09 | 0.11 |
| 6 | Mark STELLAR - Rose WORAHAEMA | 50.45 | 0.09 | 6 | Michelle BEHRENS - Jim SKEEN | 53.86 | 0.09 |
| 7 | Helen BLAIR - Anthony MARSLAND | 49.55 | 0.07 | 7 | Beverley NORTHEY - Dianne THATCHER | 51.59 | 0.07 |
| 8 | Clare GLEESON - Gillian KINSELLA | 48.86 |  | 8 | Jan FLANIGAN - Bevley D'AQUINO | 51.36 |  |
| 9 | Nili WOOD - Sheena SIMMONDS | 48.41 |  | 9 | Petronella PROKOP - Rita VON LIESHOUT | 50.00 |  |
| 10 | Graeme TAYLOR - Sue TAYLOR | 45.68 |  | 10 | Ivy MONTEIRO - Robyn SEET | 44.32 |  |
| 11 | Lorraine KASZAS - Christine MCLARDY | 44.77 |  | 11 | Lavinia NAPIER - Audrey NAPIER | 41.82 |  |
| 12 | Lynn KELLY - Gregory BARBE | 44.77 |  | 12 | Dominique TRELOAR - Ming SHU YANG | 41.36 |  |
| 13 | George BEYROUTHI - A CUMPSTON | 40.45 |  | 13 | Carol MACKENZIE - Eunice SETON | 40.00 |  |
| 14 | Elaine GILLIES - Moya DEW | 40.00 |  | 14 | Kim ReEDER - Sue Jones | 36.82 |  |


| Open Pairs Finals After 2 Sessions of 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Leading Scores Open Final A | S1 | S2 | Avge |  | Leading Scores Open Final B | S1 | S2 | Avge |
| 1 | Bob Richman - Jeanette Reitzer | 57.35 | 56.70 | 57.03 | 1 | Barry Jones - Jenny Millington | 51.99 | 64.25 | 58.12 |
| 2 | Barbara Travis - Howard Melbourne | 50.44 | 63.11 | 56.77 | 2 | Ralph Parker - Arran Hodkinson | 57.69 | 57.83 | 57.77 |
| 3 | Choon Chou Loo - Kelvin Ng | 54.05 | 56.32 | 55.19 | 3 | Hugh Grosvenor - Ann Paton | 48.72 | 66.10 | 57.41 |
| 4 | David Lilley - Zolly Nagy | 54.65 | 55.41 | 55.03 | 4 | Bruce Neill - Frank To | 60.68 | 50.57 | 55.63 |
| 5 | Fiona Brown - Hugh Mcgann | 50.99 | 57.09 | 54.04 | 5 | Allen Tan - Hua Poon | 57.69 | 52.28 | 54.99 |
| 6 | Tony Nunn - Paul Wyer | 54.10 | 53.01 | 53.56 | 5 | Mike Doecke - William Jenner-O'Shea | 52.85 | 57.12 | 54.99 |
| 7 | Terry Brown - Avinash Kanetkar | 50.64 | 55.84 | 53.24 | 7 | Kim Morrison - Simon Hinge | 54.70 | 52.99 | 53.85 |
|  | Leading Scores Open Final C | S1 | S2 | Avge |  | Leading Scores Open Final D | S1 | S2 | Avge |
| 1 | Nathan Van Jole - Paul Gosney | 65.38 | 61.25 | 63.32 | 1 | John Luck - Ivy Luck | 56.55 | 62.96 | 59.76 |
| 2 | Anthony Burke - Peter Gill | 62.68 | 56.84 | 59.76 | 2 | Siegfried Konig - James Wallis | 56.98 | 55.70 | 56.34 |
| 3 | Tony Lenart - Kate Davies | 62.96 | 56.13 | 59.55 | 3 | Bridgitte Lecoutrier - Jean-Henri Grigi | 55.84 | 56.13 | 55.99 |
| 4 | Jin Li - Michael Chen | 55.13 | 59.83 | 57.48 | 4 | Phil Gue - Bill Hirst | 53.42 | 57.41 | 55.42 |
| 5 | Dennis Zines - Chris Sundstrom | 53.99 | 60.83 | 57.41 | 5 | George Smolanko - Jane Dawson | 50.57 | 58.97 | 54.77 |
| 6 | Andrew Tarbutt - Alister Stuck | 58.55 | 53.42 | 55.99 | 6 | Barry Palmer - Glenis Palmer | 48.86 | 58.97 | 53.92 |
| 7 | Beverley Stacey - Kim Frazer | 63.96 | 46.44 | 55.20 | 7 | Yvonne Kilvert - Neven Burica | 53.70 | 51.99 | 52.85 |
|  | Leading Scores Open Final E | S1 | S2 | Avge |  | Leading Scores Open Final F | S1 | S2 | Avge |
| 1 | Jane Skipper - John Skipper | 61.47 | 59.95 | 60.71 | 1 | Ella Pattison - Andi Boughey | 62.96 | 59.83 | 61.40 |
| 2 | William Powell - Janet Brown | 51.06 | 68.37 | 59.72 | 2 | Stephen Gray - Lindsey Guy | 55.13 | 62.82 | 58.98 |
| 3 | Gerry Daly - Viv Wood | 58.39 | 57.00 | 57.70 | 3 | Judy Valentine - Jessica Mortess | 53.85 | 58.12 | 55.99 |
| 4 | John Luoni - Karl Hayes | 55.75 | 56.28 | 56.01 | 4 | John Tredrea - Phil Rains | 49.86 | 61.68 | 55.77 |
| 5 | Lyndall Shaw - Peter Shaw | 56.26 | 55.16 | 55.71 | 5 | Ian Price - Bruce Tier | 63.68 | 46.44 | 55.06 |
| 6 | Cevat Emul - Serhat Ozenir | 54.28 | 56.47 | 55.38 | 6 | Pam Schoen - Phil Hale | 51.42 | 55.13 | 53.28 |
| 7 | Roy Nixon - Bernard Waters | 56.26 | 54.24 | 55.25 | 7 | Pam Morgan-King - Leigh Thompson | 53.70 | 51.99 | 52.85 |
|  | Leading Scores Open Final G | S1 | S2 | Avge |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Eva Samuel - Jeff Fust | 60.34 | 62.65 | 61.50 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Rene Sharp - Barbara Krost | 63.73 | 54.32 | 59.03 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Christina Macquarrie - Steven White | 55.09 | 60.80 | 57.95 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Noel Woodhall - Moss Wylie | 59.41 | 55.56 | 57.49 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Brian Ashwell - Susan Stephens | 51.85 | 57.56 | 54.71 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Owen Camp - Anisia Shami | 44.75 | 64.51 | 54.63 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Meta Goodman - Wynne Webber | 58.18 | 49.69 | 53.94 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seniors Pairs Finals After 2 Sessions of 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Leading Scores Seniors Final A | S1 | S2 | Avge |  | Leading Scores Seniors Final B | S1 | S2 | Avge |
| 1 | Richard Brightling - Kathy Boardman | 52.99 | 65.59 | 59.30 | 1 | Ian Clayton-Cynthia Clayton | 56.27 | 65.25 | 60.76 |
| 2 | Johan Roose - Judith Roose-Driver | 49.72 | 63.52 | 56.62 | 2 | Andrew Janisz - Trevor Robb | 55.98 | 60.71 | 58.35 |
| 3 | Eva Shand - Les Varadi | 50.85 | 60.21 | 55.53 | 3 | Paul Chalmers - Carol Shennan | 58.26 | 55.28 | 56.77 |
| 4 | Neil Perry - Elly Urbach | 54.99 | 55.77 | 55.38 | 4 | Peter Grant - Tony Marinos | 56.84 | 56.13 | 56.48 |
| 5 | Tony Hutton - Chris Dibley | 51.42 | 57.55 | 54.49 | 5 | John Lanham - Peter Randall | 49.86 | 60.61 | 55.24 |
| 6 | Ron Clark - Tony Jackman | 55.13 | 53.75 | 54.44 | 6 | Jim Fitz-Gerald - Ellie Fitz-Gerald | 56.70 | 51.64 | 54.17 |
| 7 | Martin Bloom - Nigel Rosendorff | 56.70 | 51.89 | 54.30 | 7 | William Westwood - Roger Januszke | 55.84 | 51.21 | 53.53 |
|  | Leading Scores Seniors Final C | S1 | S2 | Avge |  | Leading Scores Seniors Final D | S1 | S2 | Avge |
| 1 | Marilyn Chadwick - Toni Sharp | 64.02 | 60.85 | 62.44 | 1 | David Harris - Timothy Ridley | 61.42 | 58.02 | 59.72 |
| 2 | Sonia Young - Dorothy Kemeny | 59.52 | 60.85 | 60.19 | 2 | Anne Small - Ronald Smith | 61.42 | 57.72 | 59.57 |
| 3 | Malcolm Martin - Jennifer Rothwell | 56.08 | 61.38 | 58.73 | 3 | Val Brockwell - Gytis Danta | 47.72 | 63.89 | 55.80 |
| 4 | Lorraine Inglis - Judy Plimmer | 59.52 | 51.06 | 55.29 | 4 | Lilli Allgood - Gordon Shinewell | 53.27 | 56.79 | 55.03 |
| 5 | Anita Kite - Patricia Giles | 59.26 | 50.00 | 54.63 | 5 | Jenny Date - Ros Lucas | 52.53 | 56.48 | 54.51 |
| 6 | Malcolm Allan - Stephen Stening | 54.50 | 46.83 | 50.66 | 6 | Frank Kovacs - David Mcrae | 49.51 | 52.16 | 50.84 |
| 7 | Bente Hansen - Madge Myburgh | 46.56 | 49.74 | 48.15 | 7 | Elizabeth Grieve - Judith Perry | 58.97 | 42.59 | 50.79 |



|  | Leading Scores Novice Final C | S1 | S2 | Avge |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Paul Haley - Lance Coffey | 60.65 | 51.85 | 56.25 |
| 2 | Helen Gault - Rob Gault | 58.56 | 52.31 | 55.44 |
| 3 | Susan Walters - Odette Mayne | 55.32 | 55.09 | 55.21 |
| 4 | Caroline Carey - Jenny Hudson | 53.01 | 55.32 | 54.17 |
| 5 | Mark Mathews - Alison Heathcote | 54.17 | 53.01 | 53.59 |
| 6 | Earl Waddington - Graeme Twaddell | 46.99 | 59.03 | 53.01 |
| 7 | Margaret Ziffer - Rob Ziffer | 51.39 | 53.01 | 52.20 |


| Weekend Matchpoint Swiss Pairs |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rank | Pr | Names | Total | Rank | Pr | Names | Total |
| 1 | 1 | WILLIAMS \& EDGTTON | 163 | 53 | 71 | LORRAWAY \& DOONER | 120 |
| 2 | 105 | MALIWAT \& DYKE | 160 | 55 | 4 | LITTLER \& CRANE | 119 |
| 3 | 67 | MANGOS \& FORAN | 157 | 56 | 103 | HAWKINS \& TOWNEND | 117 |
| 4 | 63 | ASKEW \& HURLEY | 156 | 56 | 27 | BIRO \& BIRO | 117 |
| 5 | 55 | RIDGWAY \& ROBBINS | 152 | 58 | 74 | STYLES \& FERREIRA | 116 |
| 6 | 52 | MOTT \& ZETS | 150 | 58 | 106 | BARCLAY \& BARCLAY | 116 |
| 7 | 47 | STRASSER \& HUNG | 147 | 58 | 65 | STRONG \& STRONG | 116 |
| 8 | 7 | ANDREW \& KING | 146 | 61 | 78 | MULLIN \& MULLIN | 114 |
| 8 | 44 | RAAPHORST \& KIRALY | 146 | 61 | 18 | ROSE \& CRABTREE | 114 |
| 10 | 5 | LIVESEY \& THOMAS | 145 | 63 | 98 | ABBENBROEK \& AIKIN | 113 |
| 11 | 35 | BYRNES \& MACLEOD | 142 | 63 | 85 | LEMON \& NG | 113 |
| 12 | 40 | HEALY \& HEALY | 141 | 63 | 9 | WHITAKER \& MONKS | 113 |
| 13 | 73 | JOHNSON \& STEINWEDEL | 139 | 66 | 68 | MARCHANT \& CORKHILL | 112 |
| 13 | 87 | GILFOYLE \& ARNETT | 139 | 66 | 95 | STRUIK \& RISZKO | 112 |
| 15 | 57 | RICHMAN \& RICHMAN | 138 | 66 | 101 | SLOANE \& RUTTER | 112 |
| 15 | 83 | HOENIG \& SCHOUTROP | 138 | 66 | 90 | STEVENS \& LUBY | 112 |
| 17 | 49 | WATSON \& WATSON | 137 | 70 | 102 | EARLY \& CROWLEY | 111 |
| 17 | 100 | BARNETT \& GREEN | 137 | 70 | 21 | BURROWES \& FERGUSON | 111 |
| 17 | 41 | WILSON \& NORTH | 137 | 70 | 38 | BRAKE \& BRAKE | 111 |
| 20 | 50 | KLASSEN \& BRISCOE | 135 | 73 | 69 | CLARKE \& CLARKE | 110 |
| 21 | 22 | BINSTED \& SCHOLFIELD | 134 | 73 | 15 | MAYO \& MAYO | 110 |
| 21 | 75 | PRINCE \& COLLETT | 134 | 73 | 84 | BOGATIE \& SEGAL | 110 |
| 21 | 33 | MOLLOY \& GILCHRIST | 134 | 73 | 94 | GUILFORD \& SPENCER | 110 |
| 21 | 13 | WOOD \& HOWARD | 134 | 73 | 12 | BOURKE \& JA | 110 |
| 25 | 36 | LI \& LU | 133 | 78 | 51 | MORRISON \& BUTLER | 108 |
| 25 | 6 | BAKER \& HADFIELD | 133 | 78 | 19 | STEINWEDEL \& HENNIG | 108 |
| 25 | 91 | THOMPSON \& BUTTROSE | 133 | 80 | 45 | PAULL \& SALTER | 106 |
| 28 | 56 | GUNNER \& WAGNER | 132 | 80 | 32 | HIRSCHOWITZ \& ROSENBERG | 106 |
| 29 | 3 | EVANS \& FARANDA | 131 | 82 | 24 | CARR \& VARGA | 105 |
| 30 | 30 | GRAY \& BEST | 130 | 83 | 60 | CORBETT \& BREMNER | 104 |
| 31 | 66 | MOFFITT \& MOFFITT | 129 | 84 | 61 | NORDEN \& LONERGAN | 103 |
| 32 | 77 | PRINCE \& HOLLOWAY | 128 | 84 | 72 | BROWN \& SZOLLOS | 103 |
| 32 | 99 | HOUGHTON \& HOUGHTON | 128 | 86 | 76 | MORONEY \& BUSH | 102 |
| 34 | 82 | AVUNDUK \& AVUNDUK | 127 | 86 | 14 | MCDONALD \& VACHON | 102 |
| 35 | 25 | BLACKHAM \& TREDINNICK | 126 | 88 | 16 | HUTSON \& SENDER | 100 |
| 35 | 43 | FLYNN \& PERCIL | 126 | 89 | 58 | WHIGHAM \& WULFF | 99 |
| 35 | 97 | RODGERS \& STAGG | 126 | 89 | 20 | YOUNG \& COOPER | 99 |
| 35 | 11 | WILLIAMS \& LINCOLN | 126 | 89 | 54 | MCGLASHAN \& MCGLASHAN | 99 |
| 35 | 93 | LYNN \& PIERCE | 126 | 92 | 62 | HAVERCROFT \& HAVERCROFT | 96 |
| 35 | 37 | POWER \& JOHNSON | 126 | 92 | 42 | PEACOCK \& WOODS | 96 |
| 35 | 26 | SCHMIDT \& SCHMIDT | 126 | 94 | 28 | LAWRENCE \& HAMILTON | 95 |
| 42 | 39 | MA \& WILLIAMS | 125 | 95 | 81 | ALLEN \& ALLEN | 94 |
| 42 | 29 | COLMER \& COLMER | 125 | 96 | 8 | FREDERICKS \& FREDERICKS | 93 |
| 42 | 104 | DYER \& KELLERMAN | 125 | 97 | 88 | ASHMORE \& ANDREW | 92 |
| 45 | 70 | COSBY \& LLOYD | 124 | 98 | 79 | KELLY \& MOTTERAM | 91 |
| 45 | 46 | MELLINGS \& SPURRIER | 124 | 98 | 92 | HOPKINS \& LIDL | 91 |
| 45 | 34 | NASH \& MCAULEY | 124 | 100 | 59 | WEATHERED \& BAILEY | 89 |
| 45 | 17 | EVANS \& TRELOAR | 124 | 100 | 80 | CUMMINGS \& CUMMINGS | 89 |
| 49 | 23 | PRESCOTT \& JANOR | 123 | 102 | 86 | PARMENTER \& O'SHEA | 85 |
| 49 | 89 | RADKE \& BROOKES | 123 | 103 | 10 | ROBERTSON \& EFINGER | 81 |
| 51 | 31 | SCALES \& TURNER | 122 | 103 | 96 | BALL \& CLARK | 81 |
| 52 | 48 | STORR \& YAO | 121 | 105 | 2 | BOLLES \& SMITH | 69 |
| 53 | 64 | SANDERSON \& SPILSBURY | 120 | 106 | 53 | FISHER \& FALKINER | 66 |



Difficult Calcudoku


Hard Sudoku

| 2 |  |  |  | 7 |  |  |  | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 1 |  |  |  | 9 |  | 4 |  |
| 1 |  |  |  | 6 |  |  |  | 5 |
|  |  | 6 | 4 |  | 8 |  | 7 |  |
| 7 |  |  |  | 1 |  | 3 | 6 |  |
|  | 9 |  | 7 |  |  |  | 8 |  |

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT - YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Difficult Calcudoku


Hard Sudoku

| 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| 7 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 8 |
| 8 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 5 |

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?
WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'
ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?
WITNESS: My name is Susan!
ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?
WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.
ATTORNEY: Are you sexually active?
WITNESS: No, I just lie there.
ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?
WITNESS: Yes.
ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?
WITNESS: I forget..
ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?


Jeff Chen's book Bridge Crosswords will be available in March 2013 from The Bridge Shop (02 9967 0644) and Paul Lavings Bridge Books (02 9388 8861)

## Across

1. Irving protagonist (4)
2. Q.E.D. word (4)
3. Maori figurines (5)
4. "Hold it right there!" (4)
5. Fish also called blue jack (4)
6. "Yes we can" sloganeer (5)
7. Life story (abbr.) (4)
8. Briefcase fastener (4)
9. 1996 Madonna role (5)
10. Giant lizards with deeply forked tongues (13)
11. Digression of sorts (5)
12. Like molasses (4)
13. Native American ceremonial sauna (10)
14. Single malt scotch brand (4)
15. Today, in Tijuana (3)
16. Take back, for short (4)
17. Oral Roberts University site (5)
18. Last name in horror (3)
19. "The coast is clear!" (7)
20. DSL purveyor (3)
21. Esau's father (5)
22. Sch. for youngsters (4)
23. Big fat zero (3)
24. Between, briefly (4)
25. Mishmash (10)
26. FBI figures (1-3)
27. Part of TWA (5)
28. Declarer play technique, and a hint to the circled letters (13)
29. "A Room with $\qquad$ " (5)
30. Ellen DeGeneres's role in "Finding Nemo" (4)
31. Marc Antony's love, for short (4)
32. Temporary tattoo dye (5)
33. Venomous "monster" (4)
34. Fourth-best, often (4)
35. Congregation members (5)
36. Opening scene? (4)
37. Orphaned Brontë heroine (4)

## Down

1. White house letters before 16 across (3)
2. Sashimi serving (3)
3. It's a first in baseball (10)
4. Taiwanese temple (6)
5. Trump $\qquad$ (count signal) (4)
6. Main drag, e.g. (4)
7. "I get it," facetiously (4)
8. Head honcho $(3,3)$
9. Translucent mineral (5)
10. "Pretty please with a cherry on top?" (7)
11. Big name in corn syrup (4)
12. "That's my cue!" (4)
13. Lacking, in Lyon (4)
14. System adopted by much of the world (6)
15. Pre-schoolers? (3)
16. Fireplace receptacle (6)
17. Nike's logo (6)
18. Service infraction (3)
19. Special $\qquad$ (3)
20. Gave, as an $\operatorname{Rx}$ (5)
21. Dead end $(5,5)$
22. Pass out (6)
23. View from Vesuvius (6)
24. Tantalizes (6)
25. Math subj. (3)
26. Overdue penalty (3)
27. Enhance (7)
28. Possessive pronoun (3)
29. Keyed up $(2,4)$
30. "The $\qquad$ of Omaha" (Warren Buffett) (6)
31. Signature tune for Sinatra (5)
32. "James and the Giant Peach" author Roald (4)
33. Colored part of the eye (4)
34. 2004 iPod debut (4)
35. Hand feature sometimes shown with a splinter (4)
36. Mystery writer $\qquad$ Stanley Gardner (4)
37. All-time strikeout king (4)
38. Musical aptitude, so to speak (3)
39. Tribute in verse (3)
