

Sydney Bridge Centre

September 2013 Newsletter

Welcome to the First Newsletter of the Sydney Bridge Centre!

On Monday Night September 9th, Vanessa and Will hosted a “Club Warming Party” for all members and regular players at the club. We had over 100 happy, hungry and thirsty bridge players eating and drinking from 6pm and we took over the entire downstairs of the Writers’ Centre. As well as a substantial dinner, plenty of drinks and some delicious desserts, we announced a big change – a new name for the club: “**Sydney Bridge Centre**”.

As well as the new pens, scoresheets and table numbers, our new website should be up and running by the time you read this. Check it out and bookmark www.sydneybridgecentre.com.

Here are the winners of the Party Pairs:



NS Winners
Peter & Archie



EW Winners
Gerry & Ken



NS Rated Winners
Margot & Shirley



EW Rated Winners
Lynn & Jan

A lot of fun was had by all!

A special thank you to Johnno Newman for helping direct the Party night. Also, a big thanks to Vanessa’s sons, Oscar, who poured a lot of wine, and Archie, who took all the photos on the night and also helped to design our new Club logo.

Also a huge thank you to everyone who took a plate of food home from the party. We didn’t follow the golden rule of catering (apparently you decide how much food you need *and then halve it*), so we ended up with way too much food, but with everyone taking some home we managed to end up with *no leftovers!* Hopefully you all enjoyed the party as much as we did.

Behind the scenes, we are setting up a new email system, so if you haven’t been receiving an occasional email from us (usually once each month with what’s going on) then please pass your email address on to Vanessa or Will.

Happy bridging. May all your finesses work!

Vanessa & Will

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Will: 0415 181 901 will@sydneybridgecentre.com



The Sydney Bridge Centre Cake!
Delicious! And no leftovers.

Bridge Challenges to test your Bidding and Play!

Suit Combination Quizzes

How do you play these suits for the most number of tricks? You can lead from any hand to begin with, and you have entries to both hands.

- 1) ♠ K8532 (Dummy)
 ♠ AJ764 (You)
- 2) ♥ A1083 (Dummy)
 ♥ KQ975 (You)

Answers inside.

Balanced Hand Bidding Quiz

What do the following auctions show?

- | | | | | |
|----|---------|-------|-----|-------|
| 1) | Partner | (Opp) | You | (Opp) |
| | 1♦ | 1♥ | 1♠ | P |
| | 1NT ?? | | | |
| | | | | |
| 2) | Partner | (Opp) | You | (Opp) |
| | 1♦ | 1♥ | 1♠ | P |
| | 2NT ?? | | | |
| | | | | |
| 3) | Partner | (Opp) | You | (Opp) |
| | 1♦ | 1♥ | 2♣ | P |
| | 2NT ?? | | | |
| | | | | |
| 4) | Partner | (Opp) | You | (Opp) |
| | 1♦ | 1♥ | 1♠ | 2♥ |
| | 2NT ?? | | | |
| | | | | |
| 5) | Partner | (Opp) | You | (Opp) |
| | 1♦ | P | P | 1♥ |
| | 1NT ?? | | | |

Answers inside.

Bidding and Card Play Quiz

Your partner opens 1♣ and this is your hand, what would you bid?

Your Hand:
♠ JT985
♥ KQ3
♦ AT85
♣ 3

You bid 1♠ and now partner bids 2♦, your call?
Answers inside.

On an excellent auction, you end up in 3NT and they lead the ♣T, here is the full hand, how do you plan the play?

(Dummy)
♠ JT985
♥ KQ3
♦ AT85
♣ 3

Lead:

♣T
♠ Q6
♥ AT
♦ K632
♣ AKQJ2
(Declarer)

Answers inside.



Maryann Campbell at the party
"I'm regretting my first drink ...
when I was 14"
– overheard during a tough auction.

Tuesday Night Lessons Competitive Bidding 7:30pm – 10pm

Tuesday September 3rd: Support Doubles

Opener can use a Double to differentiate three- and four-card support for responder's suit. Learn when to use these Doubles and how they apply to be a better competitive bidder.

Tuesday September 10th: Using Redoubles

Learn to use the least-used call in the game. Redouble can have a variety of meanings, this lesson describes the most common uses.

Tuesday September 17th: Competitive Raises

To make it hard for your opponents to bid, use Weak Jump Raises in a competitive auction to cut them out. Learn to use Cue-Raises to show stronger hands. Also, adjust your contested bidding when you are the opening or overcalling team.

The lessons will be held in the Judith Wright Room (Front Room) at the New South Wales Writers' Centre, Rozelle.

Space will be limited, so bookings are required.

Please let Vanessa or Will know if you are coming to any or all of the lessons. You don't need a partner to come to the lessons, although the topics do involve partnership bidding.

Costs:

Lessons \$20 each for members or visitors (\$15 Concession)



The ABF, has arranged a travel insurance package available to all ABF members. A number of Sydney Bridge Centre members have taken advantage of the offer.

The period of insurance is until March 31st, 2014. For more details check out the ABF website, or go straight to the TBIB website at: <http://tbib.com.au/abf-travel-insurance.php>



*Peter Campbell, Bob Berg and Diane Graham
at the party*

Balanced Hand Bidding Quiz ANSWERS:

What do the following auctions show?

1)	Partner	(Opp)	You	(Opp)
	1♦	1♥	1♠	P
	1NT ??			

ANSWER: This shows 12 – 14 Balanced, with a Spade stopper.

2)	Partner	(Opp)	You	(Opp)
	1♦	1♥	1♠	P
	2NT ??			

ANSWER: This shows 18 – 19 Balanced, with a Spade stopper.

Here is the balanced hand structure:

With 15 – 17 Partner would **open 1NT**.

With 20 – 22 Partner would **open 2NT**.

With 12 – 14 Partner opens a suit, and then makes a minimum rebid in No-Trumps.

With 18 – 19 Partner opens a suit, and then makes a jump rebid in No-Trumps.

3)	Partner	(Opp)	You	(Opp)
	1♦	1♥	2♣	P
	2NT ??			

ANSWER: This was a minimum rebid, and so this shows 12 – 14.

The bidding is at the two-level, but *you* responded at the two-level, forcing partner up to 2NT. **Note that you did not Jump, partner forced the bidding at the two-level.**

4)	Partner	(Opp)	You	(Opp)
	1♦	1♥	1♠	2♥
	2NT ??			

ANSWER: This one is interesting!

Partner hasn't made a jump bid, although she has gone to the two-level when you were only responding at the one-level.

This shows 18 – 19.

If partner only has 12 – 14 points in this auction, then she can PASS!

Bidding 2NT on 12 – 14 opposite a possible 6 point hand would be a little too ambitious.

5)	Partner	(Opp)	You	(Opp)
	1♦	P	P	1♥
	1NT ??			

ANSWER: This one also shows 18 – 19.

If partner has 12 – 14 then she should PASS. You have denied having 6 points.

New Members of Sydney Bridge Centre:

The following players became members of Sydney Bridge Centre in August. If you see them around, please make them feel welcome.

- ◆ Angharad Anderson
- ◆ Ross Barbagallo
- ◆ Celia Berry
- ◆ Sarah Carradine*
- ◆ Alistair Clarke
- ◆ Viv Cooper
- ◆ Tennille Cummings
- ◆ Suzanne Davidson
- ◆ Greta Davis
- ◆ Karen Flynn
- ◆ Diane Graham
- ◆ Murray Godwin
- ◆ Margaret Hagar
- ◆ Rachel Hann
- ◆ Joy Harris
- ◆ Meryl Harry
- ◆ Susan Herridge
- ◆ Brian Hickman
- ◆ Sue Johnson
- ◆ Marge Johnston
- ◆ Emi Kaiwa
- ◆ Gwen Macpherson
- ◆ Patricia Morony
- ◆ Joan Morrison
- ◆ Peta Moore
- ◆ Belinda Mutton
- ◆ Margaret Nurse
- ◆ Roger Nurse
- ◆ Jenni Sant
- ◆ Cecilia Senior
- ◆ Bill Ure
- ◆ Ursula Ure
- ◆ Michael Veysey
- ◆ Richard Wulff
- ◆ Shirley Zions

*From one of our newest members, Sarah ...
"Margaret, an 85-year old, goes to the doctor for her annual check-up. After examining her, the Doctor says 'You are very sharp, do you do anything to keep you mentally active'. 'Oh yes, I play bridge' says Margaret. 'Excellent,' says the Doctor, 'Bridge is a fantastic way to keep your brain active. Use it or lose it! And how about Physical activity, what do you do for exercise?' 'I always sit East-West'."

Suit Combination Quiz ANSWERS:

How do you play these suits for the most number of tricks? You can lead from any hand.

1) ANSWER: You must start with the King and keep the trap (tenace) intact.

1) ♠ K8532 (Dummy)

♠ AJ764 (You)

Most of the time the suit will divide nicely (2-1) and you will mop them all up with the Ace and King. However, you need to consider the occasional 3-0 breaks. If West has all three missing Spades, then she will surely score a trick. If East has all three then you can catch the Queen *so long as you keep the trap (Ace-Jack) intact*. If you play the King and both opponents follow suit, then the suit was 2-1 all along so it didn't matter.

2) ANSWER: In the unlikely event that Hearts split 4-0 you need to keep a high-honour in each hand to catch the Jack, whoever has it. You must play the King first.

2) ♥ A1083 (Dummy)

♥ KQ975 (You)

This solid looking Heart suit is very good if the trumps split 2-2 or 3-1. The Ace, King and Queen will mop up all the opponent's trumps. If both opponents follow suit, then you can easily draw trumps, but if either opponent shows out then you need to finesse the Jack. Luckily you have kept a high honour in each hand just in case!



*Lorraine Hecker and Patricia Sparks
at the party.*

*Lorraine and Patricia also topped the Rated session for Wednesday Night in August. Lorraine also topped the Rated session on Monday Morning.
See the back page for more details.*

Feel free to turn up without a partner to all sessions or lessons at Sydney Bridge Centre.

At Sydney Bridge Centre we always welcome players to come without partners.

At most of our sessions we have players turn up without partners, and usually Vanessa and Will are both available to fill in if required.

We also have players looking for partners regularly or temporarily while their partners are away on holidays.

Always feel free to turn up without a partner, you are very likely to be solving a sit-out, and we would love to see you!



Cecilia Senior and Kathie Fairley at the party.

Speaking of turning up without a partner, we are delighted when you do, but Vanessa does have a question to everyone.

Vanessa brought a book to several of the sessions throughout August, just in case there was no-one needing a partner.

Every time she brought her book, we had an odd number of players and she happily played and had a great time.

Every time she left her book at home we had an even number of players and she had to sit around all night without her book to read!

Her question is, how do all of you know when Vanessa brings her book with her!?

Bidding and Card Play Quiz ANSWERS:

Your partner opens 1♣ and this is your hand, what would you bid?

Your Hand:

♠ JT985
♥ KQ3
♦ AT85
♣ 3

You bid 1♠ and now partner bids 2♦, your call?

Partner's 2♦ bid is a reverse, so she should have 16+ points. You have 10 points, so game is certainly there! The question is, which game? And is there a slam?

If you bid 2NT over a reverse, partner can PASS.

If you bid 3♦, she can PASS.

You should probably bid 2♥, Fourth-Suit Artificial Game Forcing.

Partner will now describe her hand further, and everything is forcing until we get to game.

Partner now bids 2NT, which shows a stopper in Hearts and denies having three Spades and tends to be fairly balanced.

You should now bid 3NT.

Everyone passes, and you get the ♣10 lead. Here are both hands, how do you plan the play.

(Dummy)	(Declarer)
♠ JT985	♠ Q6
♥ KQ3	♥ AT
♦ AT85	♦ K632
♣ 3	♣ AKQJ2

You have nine sure tricks (4 Clubs if they split badly, 2 Diamonds, and 3 Hearts), and you might score a trick with the ♣2 or the other Diamonds. The best source of additional tricks is probably Spades – your weakest suit!

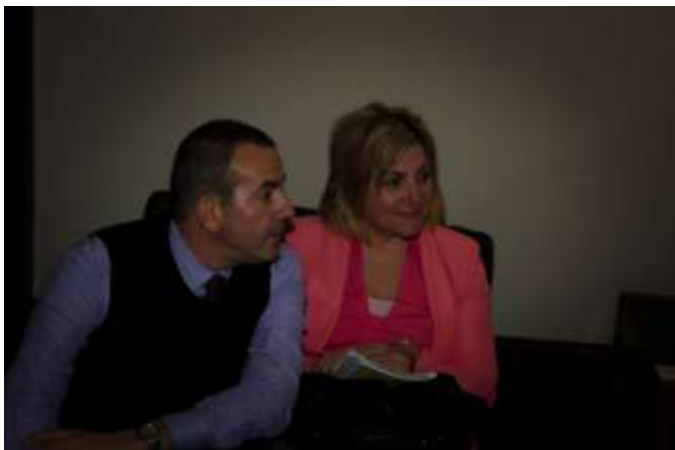
I would lead out the ♠Q and then ♠J to knock out the Ace and King. You will then make two or three extra tricks there, and make 11 tricks.

Even if the Clubs or Diamonds split well, you stand to lose a Club, or a Diamond and two Spades if you play out the minor suits.

Playing the Spades will generate extra tricks for sure, and you will only lose the ♠A and ♠K, making 11 tricks. Top score!



Michael Goh and Libby Tonkin at the party.





Results Recap for August:

The "Average of best 3 scores" is calculated by taking the average of your three best sessions played with the same partner in the same session over the month. If a session has 4 or 5 weeks, then you get to drop one or two of your scores in the calculations. The Ratings score is calculated over 3, 4 or 5 weeks and is a handicap style system of comparing results. More information to come in the next month or two!

Monday Morning

Average of best 3 scores: Helen Carmody & Jean Schroeter..... 64.23%
Best scores based on Ratings: Kathie Fairley & Lorraine Hecker +0.68

Monday Night

Average of best 3 scores: Vicky Cahill & John Moen..... 59.07%
Best scores based on Ratings: Gerry Hanna & Ken Cahill +0.51

Wednesday Morning Supervised

Average of best 3 scores: Heather & Warwick Birch 58.90%
Best scores based on Ratings: Heather & Warwick Birch +0.42

Wednesday Night Supervised

Average of best 2 scores: Collette Joseph & Paul Roach..... 54.95%
Best scores based on Ratings: Lorraine Hecker & Patricia Sparks +0.14

Thursday Night Pairs

Average of best 3 scores: Anthony Ruello & Derek Bolton..... 63.30%
Best scores based on Ratings: Vicky Cahill & John Moen..... +0.57

Thursday Night Australia Wide Pairs

NS Winners Kathryn Hawke & Faye Morris..... 65.50%
EW Winners Anthony Ruello & Derek Bolton..... 62.00%

Saturday Afternoon

Average of best 3 scores: Malcolm Haggerty & Mary Anderson..... 62.50%
Best scores based on Ratings: Malcolm Haggerty & Mary Anderson..... +0.68

Most Improved Player of the Month:

This is calculated by taking your Rating at the start and end of the month and seeing whose has improved the most.

Most Improved for August: ... Terry O'Callaghan +4.19

Outstanding Player of the Month:

This is calculated by taking every score from every session played at Sydney Bridge Centre and comparing your best 6 sessions, with any partner. We then calculate your average score to determine the Outstanding Player of the Month.

Outstanding Player:..... Anthony Ruello Averaged 63%

Upcoming Events Summary (more details inside):

- ◆ Wednesday Morning and Night Lessons for September: **Defence**.
- ◆ Wednesday Morning and Night Lessons for October: **Responding to 1NT**.
- ◆ Thursday Night September 26th **September Teams**. Bookings required.
- ◆ **Tuesday Night Lesson** on September 17th: **Competitive Raises**. Space is limited, so bookings are required.

