



# APRIL, 2019 NEWSLETTER

## EASTS BRIDGE CLUB

*We encourage the game of bridge in an environment where players compete and develop with enjoyment and mutual respect*

### Bridge in April

Monday 1st is at Easts

Tuesday 2nd at Easts Supervised & Beginners

Also, a CHEESE & WINE PARTY to WELCOME GRADUATES on final session of their course

Wednesday 3rd is at Easts

**MIXED PAIRS** 1<sup>st</sup> session - **RED POINTS**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> is **CANCELLED**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> at Easts Supervised

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

**MIXED PAIRS** 2<sup>nd</sup> session - **RED POINTS**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> is at the RSL

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> is at Easts Supervised

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> is at the RSL

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> is at Easts

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - is at the RSL Supervised

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

*There may be last minute changes to some week-day events due the Venue being booked for external functions*

A **WARM EASTS WELCOME** to you, graduates of the February "Beginners' Course". **Gary Jacobs; Lisa Taylor; Paula Storey; Susan Park; Ian Brodie; Riva & David Toitz; Irene Ferster and Hadi Kozemi**

### "Take your Partners"



The **Mixed Pairs** event is being played over the first two Wednesdays in April. Find a partner now for this **Red Points** event at which you can qualify to play in the State Championships



**Use your brains on** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May and save some Brains by taking part in the "**Bridge for Brains Challenge**" and contributing, (within your means), to this worthy cause.



**We miss you!** - To those members who have been absent through illness or injury for an extended time, *Leigh Foran, Garry Jenner and some others. We are looking forward to your return to the bridge table.*

**Your President speaks out!** In the main, players have co-operated and assisted in the folding of our new table-covers at end of session. Recently, this has not happened at 5 tables. I am disappointed. Directors and Committee Members are not your servants. I put all members on notice that the table cloths will not be used if this persists.

### Improved Ratings in March

	Prior	New	Gain
1. Tola SHMERLER.	47.66	48.95	1.29
2. Ella GROJNOWSKI	35.72	36.90	1.18
3. Rena SCHULDIENER	47.21	48.32	1.11.

### The **MOST IMPROVED** in sessions for the month of March

	Ave. of best 3 scores	Impact
Mondays: Tola SHMERLER & Rena SCHULDIENER.	49.67.	+ 0.38.
Tuesdays: Brenda COHEN & David NATHAN.	59.10	+ 0.54
Wednesdays: Lis MOLLER & Thomas KARSAI	54.13	+ 0.33
Saturdays: Insufficient tables.		

### **A Further Reminder. The rules relative to "Free Game Vouchers" as they appear in our Policy Manual**

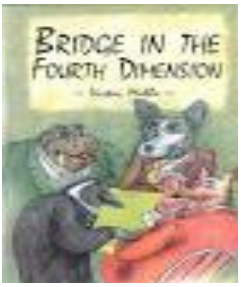
"A free Game Voucher will be awarded to the first placed pairs in terms of percentage, both North/South and East/West when there are 20 tables or more. Free Game Voucher will be awarded only to the highest of these pairs if there be less than 20 tables.

No free Game Vouchers will be awarded when the game is played at a venue away from Easts Leagues Club, at which venue a hire fee is to be paid." These rules are strictly adhered to.

**"I Claim!"** – **LAW 68 C** states, "**Clarification Required**". A claim should be accompanied at once by a clear statement of the line of play or defence through which the claimer proposes to win the tricks claimed, including the order in which the cards will be played. The player making the claim or concession faces his hand.



Celebrity Profile. ....  
**Victor Mollo**



**Victor Mollo** was born in St Petersburg into a rich Russian family. When he was eight, the October Revolution occurred and his family fled Russia, travelling on a train, purchased by his mother for the purpose, with forged Red Cross papers, crossing into Finland, then on to Stockholm, Paris and finally London. There he neglected his studies and devoted himself to bridge. As an editor in the European service of the British Broadcasting Corporation, he began to write books and articles on the game. After his retirement in 1969, he started to write even more extensively, and from then until his death in 1987 he wrote thirty books and hundreds of articles. He was also active in developing bridge cruises, mostly in the Mediterranean.

His lifestyle was unusual. He would play rubber bridge at his club each afternoon, enjoy dinner and wine with his wife ("The Squirrel") and then work all night until 6 am, when he would take a nap. While he occasionally competed successfully in the major duplicate bridge tournaments, winning four national titles, he preferred rubber bridge.

He is best known for his *Bridge in the Menagerie* series, which started with the book of the same name, first published in 1965. The series featured Hideous Hog, by far the club's best player but also an insufferable shark who seeks to humiliate opponents for their mistakes, Rueful Rabbit, a small timid man who can barely hold his cards together and can't always tell diamonds from hearts, but has such incredible luck that even when the cards he accidentally drops (several at once, occasionally) become the right ones, Molly the Mule, the lone recurring female character, who is always certain she is right and is as stubborn as the proverbial mule.

One of the series is titled "Diamonds are a Hog's Best Friend"

In the foreword to "Card Play Technique or the Art of Being Lucky", co-authored by Victor Mollo and Nico Gardener, the two are described as having a "symbiotic relationship". Born within a year of each other in Russia and Latvia respectively, they had an amazing amount in common. They both were polyglots, speaking 10 languages between them, both were Jewish, both fled their home-land and both were married (not at the same time) to the same woman. Victor's marriage to Pat lasted 7 years before an amicable divorce. He found love again with his Jeanne (known as "the Squirrel"), whom he met at the BBC while Pat did the same with Nico.

When Nico suffered a heart attack, Victor rushed to his bedside, whereupon Nico said, "Victor, you smoke more than I do, you eat more than I do, how come I had the heart attack?" A week later, after Victor had his own heart attack, they were convalescing together in Brighton.

Whilst Victor was married to Pat, she bought a watch from Harrods that never worked. He returned the watch to the store with this note: "This timepiece, throughout its' inglorious career, has rushed forward at a giddy pace and languishley (sic) behind but has always maintained its lofty contempt for time!" Harrods rewarded him with a new watch and a case of wine.

**THE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

will be contested on Wednesdays 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of May. These are **Red Point** events and are a highlight of the calendar



**Winners are Grinner**s – Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third placegetters and presented at a social event towards the end of the year. **First Prize** is a small trophy plus a \$50 gift card, second receives a \$30 gift card and a \$20 gift card for third.

*We cater for all levels playing at Easts, not just our strong and experienced cohort. **The AUSTRALIA WIDE NOVICE PAIRS CHALLENGE** is a competitive opportunity for any of our players with less than 100 masterpoints—there are **Red Points** aplenty on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May**, when it is played at Easts, our home-club.*

**YOUR COMMITTEE... OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS**

**President:** Thomas Karsai 0417 213 893 [thomas@thomaskarsai.com](mailto:thomas@thomaskarsai.com)  
**Vice President:** Theo Mangos 0411 337 539 [theosauto2@bigpond.com](mailto:theosauto2@bigpond.com)  
**Honorary Secretary:** Andrew Bell 0402 048 033 [abell0054@gmail.com](mailto:abell0054@gmail.com)  
**Honorary Treasurer:** Allen Rosenberg 0408 628 233 [allenrosenberg5@gmail.com](mailto:allenrosenberg5@gmail.com)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:-**

**Helen Van Dam:** (Admin. Voucher System) 0438 747 452 [lenny104@gmail.com](mailto:lenny104@gmail.com)  
**Halina Drwecka:** 0413 306 119 (Welfare of Members) [halina@jand.com.au](mailto:halina@jand.com.au)  
**Ted Popper:** 0410 162 503 (Marketing & Promotions) [tepopper@gmail.com](mailto:tepopper@gmail.com)  
**Terry Anne Maunsell** 0419 266 641 [terry.maunsell@gmail.com](mailto:terry.maunsell@gmail.com)

**Matchmaker:** Theo Mangos 0411 337 539 [theosauto2@bigpond.com](mailto:theosauto2@bigpond.com)

**Chief Director:** Nicoleta Giura 0414876175 [nicoleta@tpg.com.au](mailto:nicoleta@tpg.com.au)

**Where have they gone?**

Many of our elderly players move into retirement homes and are no longer able to play at our Club. For example, on Thursday afternoon the residents of Montefiore Home Randwick play bridge with the support of volunteers. There are five tables of bridge, mainly made up of former Easts players. At least three of the players are over 100 years old and most of the other players exceed 90.