



March 2017 Newsletter

Easts Bridge Club

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

The March Schedule

Wednesday 1st is at EASTS
Saturday 4th is at RSL
Monday 6th is at EASTS
Tuesday 7th at EASTS (Beginners Classes)
Wednesday 8th is at EASTS
Saturday 11th is at the RSL
Monday 13th is at EASTS **Red Points**
Tuesday 14th at EASTS (Beginners Classes)
Wednesday 15st at EASTS **Red Points**
Saturday 18st is **CANCELLED**
Monday 20rd is at EASTS
Tuesday 21st at EASTS (Beginners Classes)
Wednesday 22nd is at EASTS
Saturday the 25th is **CANCELLED**
Monday the 27th is at EASTS
Tuesday 28th at EASTS (Beginners Classes)
Wednesday 29th is at EASTS

THE "WINDS OF CHANGE" ISSUE

Our talented players - "just love to compete"

In January, at The **NATIONAL SENIORS' TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS**, we had sensational representation in Leigh Foran/Pat Walker placing 29th. Donald Knaggs and Theo Mangos, with their respective partners, all competed creditably, doing our club proud.

Recently, we were represented at the **Gold Coast Congress** by Nick, Nicoleta, Theo and Leigh.

Red Masterpoints were earned on the **Helene K Tour Noumea Cruise** by Jagdish and Lalitha Gupta, Jill Holmes, Freda Knespal, Allan Rosenberg and John and Agnes Stanley.

At the **Trumps Festival** **Red Masterpoints** were earned by Paul Larby and at the **NSWBA WITS Swiss Pairs** by Theo Mangos.

Members who improved their ratings last month

	Rating	Prior	Gain
Bob Knaggs	66.66	59.55	1.11
Agatha Kosa	55.58	54.49	1.09
Eva Last	58.33	57.25	1.08

TWO MAJOR INITIATIVES

1. **SATURDAY BRIDGE** – The Leagues Club simply cannot accommodate the Bridge Club on Saturdays and the RSL is becoming less reliable and problematic. Roger Trudeau, on behalf of your Committee has explored, in an exhaustive fashion, pretty well all possible venues in the Eastern Suburbs and none were found suitable and available. We are fortunate in having been approached by the NSWBA club at 162 Goulburn Street, in the city. There are many advantages for our players joining with players from that club. Minor details such as transport, Directors, table money are still to be worked out. We could have certainty for all but 3 or 4 Saturdays through the year and the luxury of having a comfortable venue set up for our playing pleasure. This is by no means a "done deal" and I am keen for our members to seriously consider playing there on Saturdays, providing we can iron out the details. Please tell me, by email or in person, how you feel.
2. Your Committee has resolved to **TRIAL BRIDGEMATES**. Over the next few weeks we shall see how we can adapt to this technology, with suitable instructions and support from the director. All sections will participate in the trial, over successive weeks, with instructions and support from experienced players and the director. Again, the final decision in adopting Bridgemates has not been made and this is simply a "first step" with considerable discussions still to follow.

ABF Rank Promotions

at Easts Bridge Club for the month of February, 2017

Judy Bahar promoted to "Graduate"

Dawne Cox from "Club" to "Local"

Helene Friedland and Susanne Rodney, both earned a "star" to their "Regional" ranking

Our Chief Director, Nicoleta, is currently discussing with Milos (our web-site host) the **tweaking of Easts Web-site** with a view to make it more attractive and user friendly. Watch this space....

A number of our members are currently in ill health, and in particular, Nellie. We wish them all chicken soup and a speedy recovery.

Vale

We note with sadness the passing of two members of our club.

Gerty Jellinek
Fay Bernstein

We extend sympathy to grieving family members

Charity Begins at the Bridge Table

In the evening of Sunday 30th April there is a duplicate bridge game to raise money for Montefiore Home, an aged care home where several of our members reside.

The game will be held at Kings & Queens Bridge club in Vaucluse, and there are drinks and a delicious light supper from 6pm, with the bridge game starting at 7pm, and coffee and cake later in the evening. There will Open and Intermediate sections, so players of all levels can participate, with great prizes for the winning and runner-up pairs in each section. The cost for the evening is \$35 per player.

In addition, two raffles will be drawn during the evening. One raffle is for a game of bridge with a professional bridge player, and ten of Australia's top players have donated their time to support Montefiore Home. The second raffle is for other prizes such as bridge climb, whisky, towel set, and gift vouchers. Raffle tickets will be available to purchase during March.

If you would like to book to play, or would like more information, contact Allen Rosenberg on 0408628233 or by email at compage@bigpond.com.

There is still time

The next beginners course will commence on Tuesday 7th March at 1:00 pm. The Course is run in conjunction with City East Community College and information can be obtained from the Community College or the Bridge Club. Please encourage your family and friends interested in learning bridge to come along to this excellent value course.

The term 'plotch' is bridge slang for a dreadful mistake, a blunder. After two serious errors, declarer contrived to make yet another mistake. Canberra's Bill Gray, who can spin bridge yarns all day long, was defending and announced : 'Aha. The plotch thickens.'

A Reminder ... the mixed Pairs qualifying events will be played on 5th and 12th April, so players who normally play together with a same sex bridge partner may want to change for these two weeks to be eligible for the NSW mixed pairs final that takes place at the end of May.

The late Keith McNeil was one of the best-known and best-liked characters on the Australian bridge scene. He acquired international fame through his often hilarious, invariably witty Bidding Forum, a regular feature of Australian Bridge magazine. While he was the regular bridge columnist for the Adelaide Daily Mail he recited, tongue-in-cheek, his methods for dealing with players with whom he was not on the best of terms.

1. If you dislike someone, do not write up their good hands.
2. If you really dislike someone, write up their bad hands.
3. If you dislike someone intensely, write up someone else's bad hands but attribute them to the player you dislike.
4. If you absolutely and utterly detest someone, write up their good hands but attribute their fine play to their partner.

'Would you care for a friendly game of cards?'
'No, let's play bridge.'

"Take me to your leader" ... A suggestion from Tournament Director Harry Goldwater that barring obvious consequences, a lead out of turn should generally be accepted. The rationale being that if a player does not know whose lead it is probably does not know the right lead either!

Double Trouble ...

At a regional championship in Ottawa, a local player opened with 1 Diamond and the partner of the visiting expert made a jump overcall of 2 Spades. The third player doubled.

The expert waited for some clarification of the double but none was forthcoming. After stewing for some time, he turned to the opener and complained testily : *'At the clubs where I play, we alert our negative doubles.'*

The opener turned to the expert and replied demurely : *'At the clubs where I play, we don't play negative doubles.'*

Expert and his partner went —800 in 2 Spades doubled.

YOUR COMMITTEE... OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS

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