



# NOVEMBER, 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 November

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> is **CANCELLED**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> is **at the RSL**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – **NO BRIDGE** – Melbourne Cup

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> is **at the RSL**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> is **at the RSL** [Beginners' Class](#)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> is **at the RSL**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> is at Easts - **Red Points**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> is **at the RSL** [Beginners' Class](#)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> is **at the RSL**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> is at Easts

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> is at Easts [Beginners' Class](#)

**"Cheese and Wine" party celebrating conclusion of the "October Class of 2019"**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> is at Easts - **Red Points**

**AGM followed by "End of Year Celebration Party" and Prize Giving** -

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> is **at the RSL**

The **OCTOBER BEGINNERS COURSE** is well under way, with 6 tables of rapt beginners "soaking up" the knowledge. The Committee (and others from the Bridge Club) look forward to mingling with our newest members at the "After Party" on the final day of the course, the 26<sup>th</sup> November.

The notice of **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, (Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 3:45 pm), and of **Refreshments served following the meeting** have been amply provided over the past months.

**Please Note:-** (1) It is anticipated that there will be a vacancy on the Committee and you are encouraged to put yourself forward in this regard. (2) There have been two "Items of Business" received. These are as follows:-  
"Commencement of Session Times be at Noon" Proposer Judith Rychter, seconder, Nellie Puterflam.  
"Allen Rosenberg be accorded Life Membership of Easts Bridge Club" proposed by Thomas Karsai and seconded by Ted Popper  
Make sure that you attend and have your say!

*The results of the AGM will be included in the December Newsletter*

There are **two major bridge congresses** early next year that players of all levels, including "Novice" and "Restricted" players can participate in and enjoy. The Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra (January) and the Gold Coast Congress in February. These are opportunities for earning those elusive "Gold" masterpoints! Details are on the ABF website or you can talk to your director.

**AND WHAT ABOUT DECEMBER?** all Saturdays are booked at the RSL. No information as to cancellations during December. (Expect to be few)

The **OVERALL WINNERS** in sessions for the month of October.

Ave. of best 3 scores

Mondays: Agnes Stanley & Paul Larby **55.07%**

Tuesdays: Jane Satterford & Steve Mitchell **67.73%**

Wednesdays: Leah Rona & Robert Vadas **67.40%**

### Improved Ratings in Oct.

	Prior	New	Gain
1. David Woodsmith	61.38	61.99	0.61
2. Thomas Karsai	53.68	54.21	0.53
3. Pamela Dunsford	43.68	44.21	0.53
4. Lis Moller	53.89	54.36	0.47



### The Melbourne Cup

- The horserace that stops the Nation (and also, our bridge game on Tuesday)

### MELBOURNE CUP PARTY ... (with Bridge)

A number of our members will be attending the Melbourne Cup celebration bridge game at Wollstonecraft Bridge Club (**details from Nicoleta**) but there are other celebratory bridge games at Sydney Bridge Centre, Kings and Queens Bridge Club and at the Grand Slam Bridge Club. Details of these are available on their respective web sites.

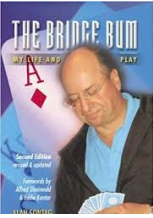
*A reminder that Membership Fees (and signed forms) were due by the 30<sup>th</sup> October. If you have not renewed, please do so at your earliest convenience*

A policeman in the big city stops a man in a car with a miniature horse in the front seat. "What are you doing with that horse?" He exclaimed, "You should take it to the farm." The following week, the same policeman sees the same man with the horse again in the front seat, with both of them wearing sunglasses. The policeman pulls him over. "I thought you were going to take that horse to the farm!" The man replied, "I did. We had such a good time we are going to the beach this weekend!"



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## Celebrity Profile ALAN SONTAG



**Alan M. Sontag** (born May 2, 1946) is an American bridge player and writer. Although he is a six-time world champion in contract bridge, winning the prestige Bermuda Bowl twice, Sontag is best known as the author of *The Bridge Bum*, a book "on everybody's list of the top ten bridge books ever written".

Sontag was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame in 2007

Widely regarded as one of the fastest players in the world, he is known by his nickname "Sonty".

From "The Bridge Bum" ... Sontag recounts a funny story concerning Terrence Reese (one of the all-time bridge greats), and Boris Schapiro. Reese had no sense of humour. Boris Schapiro had said as much. Reese had gone to Schapiro's apartment a few years earlier to pick up many trophies he had won, which he was storing with Schapiro. Reese loaded them all in a scruffy bag and headed for his own home. He was dressed in the manner of most bridge players – badly – and a bobby stopped him and inspected the scruffy bag. "What have we here?" the bobby asked, pulling out Reese's World Championship trophy and turning it over in his hands. "That's mine," said Reese. "Sure it is," said the bobby. "You're Her Majesty the Queen and these are the Crown Jewels." "Look, you thickhead, I can prove they are mine." The outraged Reese led the bobby back to Schapiro's apartment. "Tell him, Boris," Reese said. "Tell this bloody copper that these trophies are mine!" "Who is this man?" Schapiro asked. "What is the meaning of this? Why are you bringing a madman to my home?" Reese spent the night in jail and did not think the incident the least bit funny.

The "Bridge Bum" makes a point which many of Easts players may learn from. "Old time bridge players may disagree, but players are better today than they were thirty years ago. The bidding is much more sophisticated. But thirty years ago you could have made the same statement, and it would have been equally true. Being at the tip of any sport is an ongoing struggle to stay current; the race cars of 1973 would have no chance against today's technology, and the same applies to bridge. In 1965 a match was played between the "Scientists", a group using modern bidding methods, and the "Traditionalists", a team using an earlier style of bidding. The "Scientists" – Al Roth, Tobias Stone, Sam Stayman, Vic Mitchell, Robert Jordan, Arthur Robinson – won easily. Similar matches in 1990 and 1992, again featuring word-class players on both teams, saw the same result – the newer methods were superior."

Dan Rom, in his "Things your Bridge Teacher Won't Tell You", exhorts "Play for the sheer love of the game. Solving the innumerable challenging problems that bridge presents should be reward enough. If you don't enjoy yourself when you play bridge, find another hobby".

**Easts Bridge Club** ran a 9 tables session as part of a national event, the "Australia Wide Restricted Pairs" for players having less than 300 masterpoints.

The winners in our Club were:-  
NS **Thomas Karsai & Lis Moller** 64.40%  
EW **Ruy de Menezes & Ruth Glezerson** 59.10%

We also ran a qualifying two session event for the **State Open Pairs Final** (to be played at NSWBA on November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>)

The top 3 pairs were:-

	Total
1. <b>Alan Cooper &amp; Paul Larby</b>	67.8 61.3 129.1
2. <b>Theo Mangos &amp; Leigh Foran</b>	63.7 62.0 125.7
3. <b>Geoffrey Hill &amp; Kerry Hill</b>	59.3 60.6 119.9

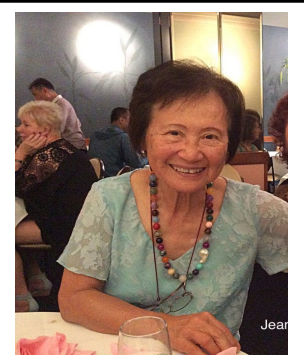
## You're never too young -

A number of Easts players played in the Spring Nationals with mixed success.

Allen Rosenberg played in the Restricted Pairs with a friend from Melbourne - Albert Altit. They hadn't played together since Albert moved to Melbourne six months ago, and were a bit rusty but finished a credible eleventh in a field of thirty.

One memorable match was against Bianca Gold and Taydon Gold. Taydon is ten years old and was playing with his mother. His father, Leigh Gold, is a top player who has played with Bill Gates and Warren Buffet.

Taydon plays solid bridge with the exuberance of a ten-year old, exclaiming "yeah" loudly when a hand was won, and apologizing to his mum when things didn't go so well. He has just been selected, as a ten-year old, in the Australian under-16 team.



## Vale

### We grieve the passing of Jeannette Lam-Po-Tang

Jeannette was a regular feature in the Tuesday Supervised games. She was much liked by all at the Club, was both a neighbour and good friend of Lizzie Moller. She will be missed by all at Easts who knew her and who played bridge with her on Tuesdays.

## YOUR COMMITTEE... OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS

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### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:-

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