

Newsletter April 2026

Welcome everybody, including all our new members and those who recently graduated from our Tuesday Lessons, held by our Chief Director Nick Hughes. A special thanks to Nick. A quick reminder that Nick is selling the books by Derrick Browne that continue on from the lessons. There is so much more to learn after you graduate from the beginners lessons, so don't stop reading and learning. I strongly believe for all the Tuesday players, you need to continue reading and learning to improve and move out of the supervised class. The Derrick Browne series include: -

1 Beginners Bridge

2 Improvers Bridge

3 Intermediate Bridge

4 Advanced Bridge- Uncontested Auctions

5 Advanced Bridge – Contested Auctions

6 Flipper Book (Cheat sheet) Five Card Majors

NEW WEBSITE- COMING SOON

Please note in the next few weeks we shall be going live with our new website. For those that haven't been online lately, make an effort to have a quick look at the current website (easts.bridge-org) so you can appreciate the effort the committee has gone to in creating the new one.

As you are aware we have also established a new library with the wonderful assistance from Sonia. Please note it is a honour system, so write your name in the book registry, and only ONE book at a time can be borrowed. Once again I thank Max Chiert for donating money for the purchase of new books which have been sourced by Theo. These will be available in the coming weeks when Sonia our Librarian returns from her much deserved holiday.

New books purchased for the library include :-

- **The Principles of Card Play – Paul Marston**
- **The Language of Bidding -Paul Marston**
- **Introduction to Declarer Play -Eddie Kantar**
- **Introduction to Defence-Eddie Kantar**
- **The Big Pay Off (Slam Bidding) -Bill Treble**
- **Roman Keycard Blackwood – Eddie Kantar**

FIRE & SAFETY

I was informed that on Monday (whilst I was enjoying a day off bridge at the Royal Easter Show) the Fire Alarm went off at the end of the session, although everybody evacuated apparently there was NO real evacuation procedures or instructions for everyone to follow.

Please note, I have contacted the Easts Group and have requested as a matter of urgency, the clubs important Emergency and Fire and evacuation policy and procedures. I shall be making announcements and distribute this important information to all, as soon as I receive them, and note **EVERYONE MUST FOLLOW AND ABIDE BY THESE.**

There was a note in our suggestion box re First Aid and a Defibrillator. Whilst we have several Doctors, Nurses and qualified first aiders amongst our members, we have been informed by Easts Group that we must immediately contact and take advice from the clubs Duty Manager, if first Aid is required. The club does have a Defib Machine in case of emergency.

With winter fast approaching, I would like to ask all members to use hand sanitizer and wear a face mask if they are showing any signs of flu like symptoms.

CONGRATULATIONS

I'd like to congratulate the 3 mixed pairs chosen from our 3 week period to represent Easts Bridge Club at the NSW mixed pairs competition.

Theo and Leigh

Sam York and Beverley

Hao and Tamara

SAVE THE DATE – 20th April

Someone very special is turning 100, so please come along Monday to celebrate **Agi Stanleys** birthday, and our newest **LIFE MEMBER**, so let's enjoy a special day of fun, cake, wine and of course bridge.

The Agnes Stanley Story

Agi, as she is affectionately known, was born 1926, in Budapest Hungary. At 19 she married John and migrated to Australia in 1947. She started work as a dress designer, and her husband John found work in the electrical industry.

In 1953 Agi started a clothing factory. She led the operational side of the business, whilst John performed the marketing, sales and finances. This successful business ran for over 40 years.

Her daughter Gini arrived in November 1957, after they moved to Vacluse. Gini attended Kambala Anglican school.

Gini had 2 sons, Agi's grandsons are Stephen 27 and Daniel 22 who she loves and takes great pride and pleasure in.

Agi lived in Vaucluse for nearly 50 years before moving to Bondi Junction in 2013. John sadly passed in 2018.

Agi learned bridge at the young age of 40 and since then it has been and still is a very important part of her life.

Agi has achieved tournament successes with Peter Nuffield, who she partnered, from 1990 – 2006. They played many times in the Canberra and the Gold coast congresses. Agi now days is partnering with her good friend Paul Larby, and they are regularly coming at the top of the scoring.

Agi has made many friends through bridge and wishes to acknowledge the love and support from the wider bridge community, but especially from the hundreds who, over the last dozen years, she has known and played with (and against) at the Easts Bridge Club her "spiritual" home.

Once again, on behalf of all the members of the Easts Bridge Club, I wish Agi all the best for a very Happy birthday and congratulations on becoming a LIFE MEMBER of Easts Bridge Club.

Also Monday 20th April, I have invited Paul Dalley to our club, who will be giving a half hour presentation prior to bridge at **12.15** promoting his new website, **BRIDGE CHAMPIONS**. It's an educational website where you learn by doing, and with topics including but not limited to :-

- Bidding
- Declarer Play
- Defence
- How to count
- Matchpoint bidding and much more.

Paul is young, passionate and enthusiastic. He has won dozens of national competitions and represented Australia multiple times. So please come along on Monday. The 20th at 12.15

I have asked our **Chief Director Nick** to include in the newsletter each month, a sample hand to bid, practical tips, bridge quiz or advise on where people can improve. We can all look forward to this new segment

Thanks Nick.

I hope you are all enjoying your bridge and please remember if you have any friendly advice and or suggestions, please write it down and place it in our suggestion box. All ideas will be presented to and discussed by our committee.

Fridays Social Bridge

For those of you that haven't come along to the **FREE** Friday social bridge, we play from 1 -3pm either in the Bondi room as usual or the room next adjacent **Arties bar**.

This week we had 6 full tables.

The games are non competitive and casual. We have a wide range of players from beginners to the experienced player. We simply bid and play as usual, BUT then if you want, you can display and talk about the hands. There is no director and no scoring, so we simply play for fun with friends and gain valuable card playing experience.

I'd like to thank Nicoleta who came this Friday 10/4 and gave a very good lesson on how to stop and plan your play as soon as the lead card is placed on the table. We had several organised practice hands dealt by Nicoleta which we all played and learnt something new.

Thanks again Nicoleta.

For those that were hungry we even supplied Pizza and lollies.

Social Media

For those that aren't on our **WhatsApp social** you are missing out on information about whats going on. If youre interested see me or Nicoleta and we can add you to the chat group.

We also have a separate **WhatsApp Matchmaking** Chat group for anyone that requires a partner, for Monday-Wednesday. Please try and join this group instead of phoning Theo. Everybody should try and find their own partners.

Lost property

There is a large collection of glasses on the big trolley that have been left behind and there for ages. Please have a look if you are missing a pair. If they are still there after 2 weeks they shall be donated to charity.

I also appreciate all the kind words of encouragement and support, and have enjoyed my first 6 months as your new president. I also value all the negative comments because by taking note of these we can improve as a committee and a club as a whole.

On Behalf of the Committee

Enjoy your bridge

Best Regards

Terry Simmons