

# Northern Suburbs Bridge Club



## Newsletter

February 2019

[www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org](http://www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org)

President: Andy Slater

Editors: Jeannette Wyman & Thora Pease

### From the President

By now most of us are over the holiday and festive season and back to a regular routine of bridge without interruptions. Hooray for that, although I did notice that the Easter push started in January.

The bathroom renovations have been completed and the feedback has been very positive. We had hoped to get taller pedestals put in but unfortunately that didn't happen. However, the disabled toilets do have a taller pedestal.

Our Beginners' Lessons have started; we have 15 on the Tuesday and 12 on the Wednesday. Most of our beginners have come from friends who already play, so thank you to those who were good enough to introduce someone into the game. Peter Fagan has been the liaison person and Peter is in the process of contacting those who couldn't make it this time around.

Quite a few players have asked me about lessons for those who have been playing for up to a year and wish to 'upgrade' their skills. I am looking at the Tuesday mornings between semesters, and I will put something out in the next newsletter. I am intending some overseas travel later in the year so there are many dates to juggle!

Also on the learning front, semester two will see our Rookie and Mentor Program (RAMP) get underway again. If you have been playing for a while and would like some mentoring, please see me and I will put your name on the list.

One thing our club has to do is to try to bring more directors into the fold – none of us are getting younger and we have to look to the future. Directors do not have to be qualified in the sense of sitting for accreditation – it is quite ok to direct with a basic knowledge of laws and movements. For example, most of the time a director is called it is because of a call out of turn, a lead out of turn, a play out of turn, and the dreaded revoke.

A Director's (basic) Inservice day will be on Saturday April 27, run by Greg Gosney/Albert Loh, with Andrew Gosney to talk about Bridgemate issues. I would urge any player who is keen to find out more about the basic rulings to come along on that day, and hopefully, in the future, help the club by having a go at directing, under a watchful eye initially.

If you haven't yet paid your annual subscription, please do so asap because it will save people running around to chase it up. Our Treasurer, Pat Shine, has decided to hang up her calculator and cheque book, and Andrea Parkins has kindly stepped into the role. Thank you Pat for a job well done these past few years. It has indeed been a pleasure working with you.

Nomination forms for Committee are on the Entry/Exit bench if you wish to nominate.

In closing, I would like to wish all our players who are attending the Gold Coast Congress the very best of luck. It is a fabulous tournament, and you will thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere and seeing many of Australia's top players. To our novices, it can be a bit scary at first, but the GC Tournament organisers do everything they possibly can to make you feel at ease.

And there's plenty of time to enjoy a wine at the end of the day.

Regards, Andy Slater

## NSBC Members' Recent Competition Place Results

### Congress Results

#### Summer Festival of Bridge Canberra January 2019

**Novice Teams:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Eugene Pereira, Rex Meadowcroft, Vesna & Voyko Markovic

**National Novice Pairs:** 3<sup>rd</sup>: Eugene Pereira & Rex Meadowcroft

#### NSBC Open Teams January 20



1<sup>st</sup> A: Dennis Sullivan, Ann Smith, David Lehmann, Pam Horton



2<sup>nd</sup> A: Sunil Mukherjee, Eva Kowalczyk, Gheorghii Belonogov, Geoffrey Toon



1<sup>st</sup> B: Annette Hyland, Andrew Gosney, Abigail Wanigaratne, (Peter Stride)



2<sup>nd</sup> B: Margaret Williamson, Dorothy Coker, Joan Bannah, Kerry Malt



1<sup>st</sup> C: Gary Gibbards, Peter Gruythuysen, Margaret Jennings, Debbie Gibbards



2<sup>nd</sup> C: Gloria Ward, Carolyn McKinnon, Graham White, Era Palit

### Gold Coast Congress

The Gold Coast Congress begins on Friday, 15th February and finishes on Saturday, 23rd February. Information about the Congress can be found on the Queensland Bridge Association website.

### NSBC Club Competition Results

#### Tuesday Pairs AM – February 5 & 12

1<sup>st</sup> : Peter Stride & Annette Hyland

2<sup>nd</sup> : Julie Jeffries & David O'Gorman

## Upcoming Club Competitions

President's Tray – March 11 & 18 a.m.

## Upcoming Congresses

NSBC Gnots – March 2 & 3

QBA Mixed Teams Noosa March 9 & 10



## 2018 in Review

Listed below are the achievements of Home Club Members of NSBC over the past twelve months.

The top 10 masterpoint earners for 2018 were:

1	Abby Wanigaratne	108.67
2	Geoffrey Toon	107.12
3	Greg Gosney	102.68
4	John Scrivens	95.43
5	Andrew Gosney	93.26
6	Yolande Coroneo	90.49
7	Joan Mills	88.81
8	Margaret Plunkett	82.05
9	Gordon Gemmell	79.52
10	Sunil Mukherjee	78.31

The highest masterpoint earners in each of the ranking categories are as follows.

### Grand and above

1	Andy Slater	70.91
2	Helen McLauchlan	55.80
3	Elizabeth Gibson	39.68

### Gold Life

1	Geoffrey Toon	107.12
2	John Scrivens	95.43
3	Joan Mills	88.81

### Silver Life

1	Greg Gosney	102.68
2	Margaret Plunkett	82.05
3	Sunil Mukherjee	78.31

### Bronze Life

1	Yolande Coroneo	90.49
2	Alan Boyce	62.57
3	Jane Farquhar	59.49

### Life

1	Robyn Burnage	33.42
2	Patricia Clouston	26.34
3	Margaret Williamson	25.52 =
	Gary Mitchell	25.52

### \*\*National

1	Robert Wilkinson	41.34
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### \*National

1	Andrew Gosney	93.26
2	Albert Loh	54.68
3	Dennis Sullivan	46.09

### National

1	Abby Wanigaratne	108.67
2	Jacqui Fardoulis	39.56
3	Margaret Baker	24.47

### \*State

1	Chris Thomas	29.73 =
	Bob Thomas	29.73
2	Kerry Malt	26.50

### State

1	Sumant Hanta	30.60
2	Catherine Flowers	14.54
3	Patricia Hume	13.74

### \*Regional

1	Jennifer Adam	13.73
2	Anthony Grant-Smith	12.11
3	Sylvia & Barry Shackell	11.02

### Regional

1	Robert Ross	25.39
2	Raelene Kell	24.68
3	Margaret Munro	18.08

### \*\*Local

1	Lyndel Hewitt	24.45
2	Graham White	18.28
3	Keith Hawken	17.21

### \*Local

1	Pam Cash	18.81
2	Vad Furminger	14.73
3	Yvonne Flanagan	13.62

### Local

1	Rosemary Porter	19.41
2	Glyn Stickland	8.85
3	Neil Benson	7.97

### Club

1	Rex Meadowcroft	45.16
2	Eugene Pereira	44.15
3	Margy Roskam	17.21

### Graduate

1	Carol Jelley	8.10
2	Arthur Ponting	7.00
3	Keith Roskam	5.91

## Nil

- 1 Carolyn McKinnon 11.40
- 2 Anne Higgins 7.11
- 3 Barbara Andre 4.88

During 2018, NSBC home club members received a total of 125 Ranking Promotion Certificates. Congratulations to all.

*Margaret Plunkett*

## Promotions 2019

Since the last Newsletter, the following home club members have achieved Masterpoint Ranking promotions. Congratulations.

### Life

Abigail Wanigaratne  
Dennis Sullivan

### State\*

Sumant Handa

### Local\*\*

Don Jobbins

### Local

Alana Pelly  
Jan Capper  
Lesley Peek  
Julie Forster  
Satish Sethi

### National\*

Dorothy Coker

### State

Rex Meadowcroft

### Local\*

Jayne Lansdown  
Joan Watkin  
Club  
Judith Carfrae  
Peter Fagan  
Julie Navruk  
Anne Ball  
Donagh Lytras  
Ian Greenwood  
Judith Campbell

### Graduate

Vanessa Wells  
Helen Baran  
Merrilyn Gavin  
Sandi Pirozzo

Carol Fincham  
Mary Northfield  
Judy Laubscher

## 70% Club

Shelley McCreedy & Raelene Kell 76.4%  
Joan Mills & David Lehmann 71.4%  
Alan Smith & Robyn Clayton 70.7%  
Bruce Carroll & Paul Roberts 70.8%

## Beginner Lessons

These have commenced on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and will be followed by eight weeks of Help with Play from 9.30 a.m. Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and 7.30 p.m. Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March

## New Members 2019

Rose-Marie Freeleagus  
John Rivers  
Peter Schmidt

We welcome our new members and wish them all a long and happy association with the club. Please give them your encouragement and support.

## Reminder

**2019 Subscriptions** are now overdue and need to be paid promptly..

Of those who have paid, there are currently **6 unidentified** payments. If you are unsure whether you have identified yourself clearly with your payment, please check with Margaret Plunkett.

## NSBC AGM – Saturday 13 April

Nomination forms are available on the bench by the front door if you wish to nominate anyone for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary or a Committee member.

The meeting will start at 10.30 a.m. Bring your lunch and stay for bridge – it's a Red Point day.



## DVD Exchange & Bookcase

The Committee would like to implement a DVD Exchange to be run on similar lines to our Book Exchange. Members are invited to donate DVDs of reasonable quality or genre, which can be exchanged on a one for one basis with DVDs on the shelves (- which at present we don't have! If anyone has a bookcase gathering dust and which they may wish to donate, please talk to Margaret Pilgrim or a Committee member).

## Vale

**Sonia Mckaron** passed away 18.1.2019  
Sonia was a long-time hardworking Life Member of our club.

**Beth Wilson** passed away 18.1.2019

## Charity Work

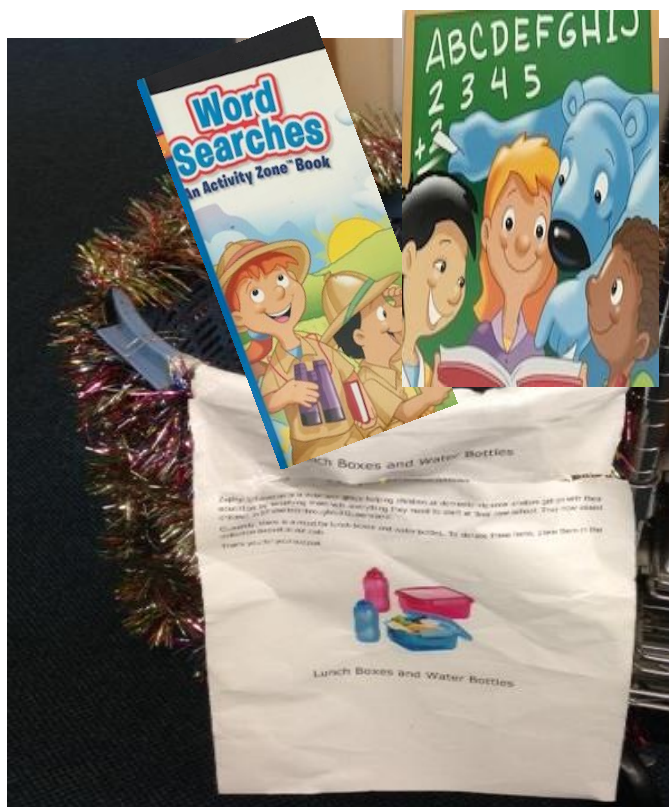
### Donations to Zephyr Foundation

Dear Mr President Andy & Mr Secretary Greg,

I messaged Greg to thank him for the stunning generosity of your members and the collection of so many wonderful items for the 'Zephyr kids'. We have made a big dent in your much appreciated donations already.

Greg tells me that Northern Suburbs members are right behind Zephyr, and I would like you to pass on to them how much it is appreciated. Of course, nothing would happen without those of you who initiate these events - including Elizabeth Gibson's driving them all over to QCBC for me. I know how much effort goes into promoting and managing these collections.

The bridge community remains one of our largest and most loyal group of supporters. Yesterday we took on our 74th Shelter in Queensland, bringing the total we support to 83 (7 in Tasmania and our first 2 in W.A.). We are, as always, extremely grateful for both the financial and moral support which spurs us on.



Warm regards  
Carmel Martin,  
Treasurer, Zephyr Education Inc.

Your ongoing help and support is hugely appreciated and valued - DONATE button available:

[www.zephyreducation.com.au](http://www.zephyreducation.com.au) or transfer directly to Zephyr Education Inc BSB 084 004 acc 15629 0526

### Winners of the Christmas Raffle



Kath Berger is now the proud owner of a very large teddy bear, and Ian Broadley (Arana), won the hamper. Other prize winners included Pat George, Marie Baker, Guy Horsley, Warren Brown, Antonia Pyers, Ros Frost, Bernadette Fleming, Tracy Kennedy, Jo Brannelly, Keith Smith, Maria and Martin - who shared his gift with the club

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The Holiday Crossword clue, 21 down –  
nom de plume - was dedicated to

G U Y

## How does Team Scoring work?

Generally, a teams' competition will be divided into Categories A, B and C depending on the number of teams. The grading will be based on the total masterpoints of the members of the team. You will only play against opponents in your Category. Some competitions are not graded, in which case you may be drawn to play any team for the next match.

There are two components to a teams' competition. Firstly you play against another team in a match of generally 8 to 11 boards to decide which of the teams is the winner. This process is decided using International Match Points or IMPs.

For the next match the computer will draw you to play against a team whose performance is fairly close to yours. At each stage you will be basically playing against your peers.

Suppose you and your partner are playing NS, then your team members will be playing EW at the opposition table. The scores from your NS and EW are added together. If the total is negative then you have lost that board to the other team.

Suppose your team consisted of 4 members called Home North, Home South, Home East and Home West. Your opponents were called Opposition North, Opposition South, Opposition East and Opposition West. The following results were from Match 2 of 7 matches. Each match comprised 8 boards.

Home Table				Away Table				
<b>Home North</b> <b>Home South</b> vs Opposition East Opposition West				Opposition North Opposition South vs <b>Home East</b> <b>Home West</b>				
Board No	Contract	Result	Score	Contract	Result	Score	Net Score	Net IMPs
9	2♥E	9	-140	4♥E	11	650	510	11
10	3♦N	10	130	2NT W	5	-300	-170	-5
11	4♣E	10	-130	3♠N	9	-140	-270	-7
12	1NT E	5	100	2♥E	8	110	210	5
13	4♥E	13	-710	4♥W	13	710	0	0
14	4♠E	9	50	3♥N	7	100	150	4
15	3NT E	10	-430	4♥E	11	450	20	1
16	6♠E	11	100	4♠W	10	620	720	12
							<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>

IMP Scale							
Margin	IMPs	Margin	IMPs	Margin	IMPs	Margin	IMPs
0 - 10	0	220 - 260	6	600 - 740	12	1750 - 1990	18
20 - 40	1	270 - 310	7	750 - 890	13	2000 - 2240	19
50 - 80	2	320 - 360	8	900 - 1090	14	2250 - 2490	20
90 - 120	3	370 - 420	9	1100 - 1290	15	2500 - 2990	21
130 - 160	4	430 - 490	10	1300 - 1490	16	3000 - 3490	22
170 - 210	5	500 - 590	11	1500 - 1740	17	3500 - 3990	23

/Over

On Board 9, your opponents bid 2♥E making 9 tricks for a score of -140. On the same board your friends bid 4♥E making 11 tricks for a score of 650. The two scores were added together to give a net score of 510, which was an excellent board for your team. This was next converted into an International Match Point (IMP) score by referring to the next table. This gave you an IMP of 11.

For Board 10 your bid was 3♦N making 10 tricks for a score of 130. Your friends were in 2NTW making 5 tricks for a score of -300. This translated into a net score of -170, not good for your team. The IMP would be -5.

In a similar fashion you would have to work through the other 6 boards. The IMP for each board was added up to give you a grand total of 21, a positive score meant it was in your favour. You won that match against your opponents. *IMPs allowed comparison between two opposing teams.*

The IMPs between the two teams were next converted to Victory Points (VPs) which allowed comparison across the room in your Category. You and your opponents would share a total Victory Points of 20. Your total net IMP of 21 would now convert to a VP of 16.68 to you and 3.32 to your opponents. Anything above 10 represented a win for that match. However, 9.8 to about 10.2 was usually classified as a draw. A match needed to be classified as a win or draw in order to award red or gold points to the individual members depending on the nature of the competition.

The overall ranking for the team was based on the accumulation of your VPs. The team with the highest total VPs would be the eventual winner. *VPs allowed for comparisons of teams across the room.*

8-Board Continuous VP scale							
IMPs	VPs	IMPs	VPs	IMPs	VPs	IMPs	VPs
0	10.00 - 10.00	11	14.09 - 5.91	22	16.90 - 3.10	33	18.83 - 1.17
1	10.44 - 9.56	12	14.39 - 5.61	23	17.11 - 2.89	34	18.97 - 1.03
2	10.86 - 9.14	13	14.68 - 5.32	24	17.31 - 2.69	35	19.11 - 0.89
3	11.27 - 8.73	14	14.96 - 5.04	25	17.50 - 2.50	36	19.24 - 0.76
4	11.67 - 8.33	15	15.23 - 4.77	26	17.69 - 2.31	37	19.37 - 0.63
5	12.05 - 7.95	16	15.50 - 4.50	27	17.87 - 2.13	38	19.50 - 0.50
6	12.42 - 7.58	17	15.75 - 4.25	28	18.04 - 1.96	39	19.62 - 0.38
7	12.77 - 7.23	18	16.00 - 4.00	29	18.21 - 1.79	40	19.74 - 0.26
8	13.12 - 6.88	19	16.23 - 3.77	30	18.37 - 1.63	41	19.85 - 0.15
9	13.45 - 6.55	20	16.46 - 3.54	31	18.53 - 1.47	42	19.95 - 0.05
10	13.78 - 6.22	21	16.68 - 3.32	32	18.68 - 1.32	43+	20.00 - 0.00

As a matter of interest, a team with a 7 – 0 – 0 performance (7 wins, no draws, no losses) could still lose to a team for instance with a 5 – 0 – 2 performance (5 wins, no draws, 2 losses). The former could have scored 7 narrow wins which did not rate particularly highly on the VP scale. The latter could have scored 5 huge victories resulting in high VPs and 2 narrow losses with VPs just under 10. Hence their aggregate VP was superior, crowning them as the victors. They would be awarded the biggest prize money.

Albert Loh  
February 2019

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## To Alert or not to Alert, that is the Question

### Pre-Alerts.

If you have any unusual agreements that may surprise the opponents, tell the opponents about them when they sit down to play.

### During the Bidding phase

#### Bids that **DO NOT** have to be Alerted

All doubles, redoubles, cue bids (a bid of the opponent's suit) and bids higher than 3NT, are self-alerting. This means that by the very nature of the bid it has a particular meaning.

#### Bids that **DO** have to be Alerted

The general principle is to alert bids that the opponents may not fully understand, or may reasonably misinterpret. Simply say, "Alert" and circle partner's bid.

**BUT** before you automatically ask, "What does this bid mean?" read the following...

**IMPORTANT 1:** Because a bid is alerted, **DO NOT ASK** what the bid means if it will make no difference to what you are going to do. If you are simply going to pass for example, it just wastes time if you seek an explanation when you don't need one. You can always ask at the end of the bidding what the alerted bid meant.

**IMPORTANT 2:** If you are going to seek an explanation for an alerted bid, **WAIT YOUR TURN** to bid and then ask. Your partner may get clues by your premature enquiry.

### After the Bidding phase

At the end of the auction, the declaring side should draw attention to anything unusual in the bidding. The defending side does not have to give any delayed alerts

#### Examples of Bids that should be Alerted

- Relay Bids e.g. When partner makes a 2D waiting bid after a 2C opening
- Transfer bids
- Transfer acceptances ONLY if the receiver has different ways of accepting a transfer e.g. super accepts
- Bids that show 2 suits even if one of the suits is shown e.g. Opening bid of 2S showing spades and minor
- All responses to a Stayman ask, except 2H / 2S when Simple Stayman is being used
- Jump responses that are weak and non-forcing e.g. 1D – 2H
- A "pass or correct" bid
- Other less common examples – 4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing / Jacoby style responses / a natural NT bid that may not promise a stopper in the immediate seat / Pass-out seat 1NT bid (commonly used as showing 10-14)

#### Examples of Bids that do not have to be Alerted

- Giving a suit preference even if the bidder may not have a natural holding in the suit  
e.g. 2NT by partner showing the minor suits is alertable. However, a 3C by you preferring clubs over diamonds is not an alertable bid because it just shows more Clubs than Diamonds – you may have two clubs and a singleton diamond
- A jump response that is strong and forcing
- Natural weak 2-level or higher opening bids or jump overcalls where only the actual suit is shown

*Andy Slater*





## Library News from the Bookworm

The Bookworm is a fan of Mike Lawrence as an author. Some of his material is a bit heavy going and quite detailed, but if you are prepared to persevere, you will be rewarded as he brings a full insight into his topics. Beginners and advancing players should try “How to read your opponents’ cards” or “Opening Leads”.

If you really want to improve your game, try one of these:-

- Complete Book on Overcalls
- Complete Book on takeout doubles
- Dynamic Defence
- Hand evaluation in Contract Bridge
- The Complete guide to contested auctions

If you can go the distance, I guarantee you will not be disappointed and that your game will improve.

In doing a recent audit of the library, I found a real gem of his titled “How to Play Card Combinations”. Don’t get turned off by the title because it does not give an endless list of card combinations to remember. What it does do is give you 52 hands played by Lawrence and a detailed explanation of how he planned the play and his reasoning behind the line of play he chose. Try it as it is guaranteed to improve your declarer play and your analytical processes.

If you are really keen to become expert at declarer play, why not try Guy Leve’s “Encyclopedia of Card Play Technique at Bridge”. This 420 page tome (we have two in the library) shows all the coups, squeezes, gambits, finesses and other manoeuvres you would ever need in your armoury to become an expert. There is also some space devoted to defence. Recommended for the inquisitive and super keen bridge players!



The Committee would appreciate it if the following books, missing from our Library, could be returned as soon as possible, by putting them into the Returns box.

The books are for the education of all members and, as such, cannot be borrowed for ever.

Thank you for your co-operation.

*Andy Slater*



Author	Title
Klinger & Kambites	Guide to better ACOL bridge
Klinger	Guide to better card play
Klinger	Guide to better duplicate bridge
Klinger	Guide to better bridge
Klinger	Winning bridge trick by trick
Lawrence	How to read your opponents’ cards
Marston	The language of bidding
Seagram & Bird	25 bridge conventions you should know
Squire	A guide to bridge conventions

## Grandparents' Day

January 9, 2019 saw 26 children and their grandparents arrive at the Northern Suburbs Bridge Club for an afternoon of enjoyment, playing cards.

The majority followed Andy Slater into the Elizabeth Gibson Centre to learn some of the basics of assessing the value of a hand in bridge, collectively deciding which pair had the better combined hands to make a contract, and then playing the determined contract. Andy had prepared booklets for the children to take home, outlining what was covered in the afternoon. Young and old thoroughly enjoyed the session.



Another group of youngsters stayed with Daina Geise in the Club room and were instructed on how to play a number of card games including – Go Fish, Old Maid, Basic Gin Rummy, Uno, Solitaire and Crazy Eights. One group started to play a game of Speed, which relied on very fast reflexes.

The groups stopped for afternoon tea mid-way through the session and the cordial, dips, vegetable sticks, cheese, crackers and honey joys went down well.

The grandparents were very appreciative of the afternoon spent with their grandchildren playing cards and expressed the hope that, next year, the club would consider holding another Grandparents' Day.

*Daina Geise*



## Solution to Holiday Crossword (in the December Newsletter)

1B	R	I	2D	G	E	3M	A	4T	E	5S		
			I			I		R		E		
			A			6C	O	U	N	T	E	7D
8D	U	M	M	Y		H		M				O
A			O			A		P				N
V			N			E				9S		T
I			10D	U	11P	L	12I	C	A	T	E	
D		13R			L		M			A		
		A			A		P			Y		
		14G	R	A	N	D	S	L	A	M		15G
		S								16A	C	E
				17D	E	U	18C	E		N		R
			19V				O					B
20E			O		21G		L		22J			E
23A	N	T	I	Q	U	E	D	E	A	L	E	R
S			D		Y				C			
24T	E	N	S			25D	U	C	K	I	N	G

### Across

- Useful friends 11
- Winners & losers should be 7
- There's one at every table 5
- Double bridge session? 9
- Tennis games? 5-4
- Top card 3
- Often the 4<sup>th</sup> best 5
- Veteran board filler 7-6
- Honours 4
- Evading 7

### Down

- Valuable card 7
- Copy cat bidder 7
- U.S. winner? 4
- 4 bridge players 3
- A kind of interference 4
- Bookworm 5
- It takes 8 points to stop him 7
- It's just a wish without this 4
- Cheeky competition players 4

- Low spots 4
- Who has the Aces? 6
- Chilly game 4
- Avoiding is partly useful 5
- Oriental bridge players 4
- Nom de plume 3
- This card sings 4

*(All clues/answers are bridge related)*

Welcome to our new sponsor – The Clayfield retirement community, by Aveo.

The Clayfield is located on the previous site of St Columban's college. With over 150 residents residing in the beautiful apartments and enjoying the landscaped gardens, restored heritage buildings such as Highlands House and community spaces, it truly is a beautiful community.

The beautiful gardens and buildings are maintained by the team onsite. No need to worry about maintenance of a large home or garden, let the onsite team do the work! This means that you will have more time to do the things you love to do – like Bridge!

The Clayfield also has an exceptional restaurant with a qualified and experienced chef offering a delectable à la carte menu.

To support your health and wellbeing, residents have easy access to health services and there are a variety of activities to do including swimming, billiards, Tai Chi and more. You will also have peace of mind knowing that care & support is available 24/7.

Find out more at [www.theclayfield.com.au](http://www.theclayfield.com.au) or Call 13 28 36 to book a tour today.



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\*Price correct at 23/08/18. Image is of apartment S403



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