

# Northern Suburbs Bridge Club

www.northernsuburbs.bridgeaustralia.org

# Newsletter

March 2017



President: Elizabeth Gibson



Editor: Greg Gosney

## From the President

As this will be my last comment in the Newsletter I have given way to persuasion and included my speech at the Official Opening of the Teaching Centre. I hope it expresses adequately my sentiments towards this Club and its Members.

“Ladies and gentlemen on behalf of Northern Suburbs Bridge Club, I would like to welcome you all here this morning to help us celebrate the opening of our new teaching centre.

I am delighted to be standing here before you today, because today marks the end of what has been a long, and oftentimes frustrating journey.

20 years ago there was already a perceived necessity for extension. That notion has now become a reality. The building behind me is a milestone in our club’s almost 60-year history, and one that is set to lead us into a new era as a successful bridge centre.

Any organisation, if it wishes to remain viable, must move with the times and continue to grow. A bridge club grows its membership through its teaching programme.

We now live in a “digital age” and teaching methods have significantly changed – the “blackboard and the whiteboard” are almost obsolete and future generations of Learners will expect “Starboards, Computers, iPads and even Document Cameras”.

We embraced technology with the introduction of the dealing machine and then the bridgemate, it is now time to introduce technology to our classrooms.

This centre is a great example of how a small club, when sufficiently enthusiastic and with a solid goal in mind, can work together.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the many, many people and organisations who were a part of the drive over the past 10 years to get this teaching centre built, fitted out and open for business.

Like any club, we are a community of like-minded people. We enjoy the challenge of the game and take pleasure in each other’s company – and, like any community, we must work together to reach our aims, and to lean on our neighbours, partners and supporters when we need them.



Keith Macdonald (QBA President), Elizabeth Gibson and Tim Nicholls (State Member for Clayfield)

My reference to 'neighbours' is much more relevant to us in the case of this building than its use as a simple generic term to refer to those people who live and work in our community.

For us, it is a very real acknowledgement that without the help and co-operation of our neighbours, we would not have this building today. The land on which we stand once formed part of the baseball club. A mutually satisfactory deal was negotiated, the land was released and attached to the NSBC lease by the Brisbane City Council.

I would like to formally thank the Baseball Club today and ask AllStars President, Jodie Moore, to pass on our heartfelt thanks to her committee and members for their generosity and willingness to comply with our request.

I should also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our neighbour on the other side, the Qld. Museum. Museum manager Brian Flynn made his driveway available to builders NF Corbett and Sons for deliveries and construction vehicles. This was of vital importance as access to the site was limited.

Thank you Brian, for your understanding and co-operation during a period that must have been a little difficult for you.

It is my hope that the spirit of Friendship and Helpfulness linking us to these Neighbours will be a legacy for future committees.

Which now brings me to the people inside the Club who made up the building committee.

Anybody in charge of a building project could do no better than having this group of retired Professionals on a committee tasked with getting a building underway.

They come from all walks of life but, perhaps with some design, those different walks of life gave them experience in every attribute we needed to plan, finance, construct and fit-out a building of this magnitude.

The Building Committee was chaired by Kevin O'Donnell whose experience as a civil engineer was invaluable. Unfortunately

Kevin could not be with us today and sends his apologies.

He was more than ably assisted by Warren Brown, another civil engineer, in bringing the plans to life and giving us a building that will serve the club well for many years.

Our Electrical Engineer, Neil Gibson, designed the wiring and made sure this centre has the best available and modern media, to provide a 21st century learning experience to up and coming bridge players.

And of course, our "financial whiz" Merv Eastaughffe, his fiscal knowledge and responsibility ensured everything we spent was accounted for, and everything we built was close to budget.

John Myerscough and David Lehmann undertook the myriad jobs that have to be done when the structure is finished. They patiently moved and re-hung when I suggested that perhaps this might look better over there and that piece of furniture needed to move a little to the right. After all they have both been married for a long time and are probably used to it. They turned a building into a bridge club.

No building committee would be complete without a representative of the Legal Profession. John Scrivens has been an advisor and a friend. My thanks John for the unstinting help you have always given to me and to this club.

Expenses don't cease with the completion of a building.

Grants from The Federal Governments Stronger Communities Programme, the State Governments Gambling Community Benefits Fund, the Brisbane City Council Access and Inclusion Fund and the BCC's Lord Mayors Initiative Fund contributed towards the fit-out, the new gardens, the electric doors, the fire door, the toilets and the wheel chair access path and helped to keep the building "debt free" and the Treasurer happy.

Thank you also to David O'Leary, the Grants Guru, his professionalism and patience with my never ending requests for

help, went a long way to achieving success in these applications.

Our Sponsors also helped to ensure that future Committees were not left with a debt to service.

Steve Weil, Tony Bemrose Insurance Brokers, for all your insurance needs.

Bill Basham, Airforce Air conditioning - Bill always sends his best looking and most helpful young men to service our air conditioners.

Ian Harrison, Harrisons Menswear - A shop for men and women who shop for men.

Lauren Walker, Joli Boutique – Australia's largest stockist of German fashion.

Ben Connors, Gallopers Sports Club for his many dinner vouchers.

And last but by no means least our own Guy Horsley, The house sold name in real estate, who provides us (and every other souveniring bridge player in Brisbane) with a never ending supply of excellent bios.

Thank you, not just to the people I have mentioned, but to all the NSBC Members - the committees who over the years have shouldered the management of the club and the volunteers who give freely of their time. Each and every one of you has helped us undertake what at one time seemed an insurmountable task.

I hope you all take as much pride in this achievement as I do and in the realization that after more than half a century NSBC remains committed to the promotion of the sport and the betterment of the game.”

Elizabeth



## New Members

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

### December

Alex Shearer	Ross Shardlow
Barbara Holmes	Warren Holmes

### January

Lynley Mason	Ian Broadley
Joyce Maris	Sue Norton
Beverley Anderson	Natalie Bloch
Rhonda Robertson	David Cook

### February

Julie Jeffries	David O'Gorman
Peter Ryan	Gayle Carter
Jenny Douglas	

### March

Sue Keys	Margaret McNea
Alex McWilliam	Annette Morgan
John Davies	

## Promotions

The following home club members achieved Masterpoints Ranking promotions in December, January and February. Congratulations and well done.

### Graduate Master

Shauna Kiernan	Janis McGuire
Margot Perrett	Cathy Clem
Bruce Stephens	

### Club Master

Julie Forster	Lesley Peek
Pamela Varcoe	Marie Lincoln

### Local Master

Yvonne Flanagan	Rosemary Porter
Margaret Pilgrim	

### \*Local Master

Shelley McCready	Lyndel Hewitt
Rosemary Nosovitch	Janet Cook
Lori Sexton	

### \*\*Local Master

Barbara Moni	Andrea Parkins
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### Regional Master

Brian Vernon

### \*Regional Master

Pat Gibbes	Pat Eather
Jean Single	

### \*State Master

Camille Henry

### Life

Pat Clouston

## NSBC Competition Results

### NSBC Open Teams (Sun 22 Jan)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter Evans, Tony Treloar, Alison Dawson, Maureen Jakes
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Roberts, Bruce Carroll, Donna Krosch, Gayle McCarthy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Agnes Kempthorne, Charles Howard, Barry Kempthorne, Kerry Wood
- 4<sup>th</sup> Kuldip Bedi, Gary Malinas, Larry Moses, John Gough
- 1<sup>st</sup> B John Scrivens, Sunil Mukherjee, Dennis Sullivan, Peter Moffatt
- 2<sup>nd</sup> B Geoff Olsen, Chris Palmer, Arch Morrison, John Morris
- 3<sup>rd</sup> B Chris Snook, Denise Hartwig, Cheryl Stone, Joanna Bratko
- 1<sup>st</sup> C Lee Roger, Laurie Skeate, Denise Rogers, Kathy Marchant
- 2<sup>nd</sup> C Peter Nilsson, Dawn Benes, Barbara Holmes, Warren Holmes



1<sup>st</sup> - Tony Treloar, Peter Evans, Maureen Jakes and Alison Dawson



2<sup>nd</sup> - Gayle McCarthy, Paul Roberts, Donna Krosch and Bruce Carroll



2<sup>nd</sup> B - John Morris, Arch Morrison, Geoff Olsen and Chris Palmer



3<sup>rd</sup> - Barry Kempthorne, Agnes Kempthorne, Kerry Wood and Charles Howard



3<sup>rd</sup> B - Denise Hartwig, Chris Snook, Joanna Bratko and Cheryl Stone



1<sup>st</sup> B - Peter Moffatt, Sunil Mukherjee, Dennis Sullivan and John Scrivens



1<sup>st</sup> C - Denise Rogers, Laurie Skeate, Lee Rogers and Kathy Marchant

"I used to think that the brain was the most wonderful organ in my body. Then I realized who was telling me this."

-- Emo Philips

Three blokes stranded on a desert island find a magic lantern containing a genie, who grants them each one wish. The first bloke wishes he were off the island and back home. The second bloke wishes the same. The third bloke says "I'm lonely. I wish my friends were back here."



2<sup>nd</sup> C - Warren Holmes, Barbara Holmes,  
Dawn Benes and Peter Nilsson



1<sup>st</sup> C - Arana Teams - Peter Moffat, Dennis Sullivan,  
Jo Neary and Bill Hanlon

### Tuesday Pairs (Tue 7 & 14 Feb)

- 1<sup>st</sup> David Lehmann & Bert Luchjenbroers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Gibson & Neil Gibson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann Smith & Dennis Sullivan

### NSBC GNOTS (Sat 4 Mar & Sun 5 Mar)

#### Qualifying Teams

- 1<sup>st</sup> Richard McLauchlan, Helen McLauchlan,  
Bert Luchjenbroers, David Lehmann
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lex Ranke, Jack Rohde,  
David O'Gorman, Julie jeffries
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Gibson, Neil Gibson,  
Yolande Coroneo, Jacqui Fardoulys
- 4<sup>th</sup> Paul Roberts, Bruce Carroll,  
Margaret Plunkett, Andrew Slater

### President's Tray (Mon 13 Mar & 20 Mar)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Margaret Plunkett & Lex Ranke
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bert Luchjenbroers & Errol Miller
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Gosney & Greg Gosney

### Members' Achievements

These are successes by home club members playing in external Congresses since our last newsletter.

#### Arana Swiss Teams (Sun 12 Feb)

- 1<sup>st</sup> C Dennis Sullivan, Peter Moffat,  
Jo Neary, Bill Hanlon

#### QCBC Novice Imp Pairs (Sun 15 Jan)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wendy Casey & Barbara Moni

#### Toowong Novice Imp Pairs (Sun 12 Mar)

- 1<sup>st</sup> B Wendy Casey & Barbara Moni

### James O'Sullivan Award Winners

Each year the Queensland Bridge Association issues the James O'Sullivan Award for masterpoint achievement. Abigail Wanigaratne received the James O'Sullivan Award for \*Local Master in 2016.



Abigail with her James O'Sullivan Award

Away members Annette Hyland and Fay Jeppeson also received a James O'Sullivan Award, Annette for Life Master and Fay for \*State Master. Congratulations Abigail, Annette and Fay.

**Reminder** - Our club's Annual General Meeting is to be held at the club on Thursday, April 6 commencing at 8:00 am.

## Gold Coast Congress 2017

Home club members who finished in the top half of their events at this year's Gold Coast Congress are shown.

### Under 50 Masterpoint Pairs – Tuesday (28 tables)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> NS Don Jobbins & Michael O'Rourke
- 5<sup>th</sup> EW Jill Lukin & Robyn Church
- 6<sup>th</sup> NS Georgina Blum & Paulette Bourke
- 9<sup>th</sup> NS Ros Francis & Helen Harkin
- 11<sup>th</sup> EW Shelley McCready & Glyn Stickland

### Under 50 Masterpoint Pairs – Wednesday (62 pairs)

- 11<sup>th</sup> Jill Lukin & Robyn Church
- 14<sup>th</sup> Wendy Casey & Barbara Moni
- 15<sup>th</sup> Tiffany Mair & Raelene Kell
- 20<sup>th</sup> Pat Eather & Lyndel Hewitt
- 24<sup>th</sup> Claudia Gibson & Graham White
- 30<sup>th</sup> Georgina Blum & Paulette Bourke

### Thursday Rookie Pairs (70 pairs)

- 4<sup>th</sup> Maxim Wilson & Bruce Stephens

### Friday Novice Pairs (70 pairs)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Maree Huxley & Karen Hansen
- 16<sup>th</sup> Wendy Casey & Barbara Moni
- 35<sup>th</sup> Claudia Gibson & Trish Hart

### Weekend Matchpoint Pairs - Open (158 pairs)

- 44<sup>th</sup> Helen McLauchlan & Richard McLauchan
- 67<sup>th</sup> Andrew Slater & Geoffrey Hart

### Pairs Championship – Restricted (138 pairs)

- 4<sup>th</sup> Andrew Gosney & Jack Luke-Paredi - (Best Queensland Pair and free entry to the Restricted Pairs at the ANC)

### Pairs Championship – Intermediate (108 pairs)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Greg Gosney & Margaret Plunkett
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Paul Roberts & Bruce Carroll

### Teams Championship – Restricted (90 teams)

- 8<sup>th</sup> Andrew Gosney, Jack Luke-Paredi, Chris Larter, William Brazier, Alec Gillespie - (Best Same Sex Team)

### Teams Championship – Intermediate (88 teams)

- 17<sup>th</sup> Paul Roberts & Bruce Carroll, Donna Krosch, Gayle McCarthy

### Teams Championship – Open (214 teams)

- 51<sup>st</sup> Andrew Slater, Richard Touton, Paul Collins, Ian Afflick
- 78<sup>th</sup> Abigail Wanigaratne, Nikolas Moore, Val Roland, Michael Stoneman

### Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs – Restricted (90 pairs)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Gosney & Jack Luke-Paredi
- 26<sup>th</sup> Dennis Sullivan & Albert Loh

### Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs – Intermediate (94 pairs)

- 10<sup>th</sup> David Lehmann & Bert Luchjenbroers



## Events for Novices

The events listed below are suitable for novice players (generally less than 100 Masterpoints). All are Red Masterpoint Congresses. Some of the events are exclusively for novices. Others are graded and will be divided up in to separate sections based on players' rankings. In a graded event you only play against other players within the section you are allocated to.

### Novices Only

Apr 01 Surfers Paradise Novice Pairs  
Apr 09 Redland Novice Teams  
May 21 Toowong Novice Pairs  
Jun 04 Darling Downs Novice Pairs

### Graded Events

Apr 09 Redland Restricted Teams  
Apr 16 BBC Graded Pairs  
April 17 BBC Graded Teams  
May 28 BBC Graded Pairs  
Jun 11 QCBC Graded Teams  
Jun 17 Gold Coast Graded Pairs  
Jun 18 Gold Coast Graded Teams  
Jun 25 Toowong under 150mps Pairs

## Coming Events

Coming events for the next few months are as follows (excludes Novice events):

Apr 2 Toowoomba Butler Pairs  
Apr 8-9 Caloundra Teams  
Apr 16 BBC Graded Pairs  
Apr 17 BBC Graded Teams  
Apr 25 Anzac Day Teams (QCBC)  
May 13 Surfers Paradise Teams  
May 20-21 QBA Mixed Pairs - Toowong  
May 20 Stanthorpe Pairs  
May 28 BBC Graded Imp Pairs  
Jun 3 Arana Imp Pairs  
Jun 4 Arana Teams  
Jun 11 QBA Graded Teams (QCBC)  
Jun 15 Noosa Imp Pairs (Thursday)  
Jun 17 Sunshine Coast Imp Pairs  
Jun 18 Sunshine Coast Teams  
Jun 17 Gold Coast Imp Graded Pairs  
Jun 18 Gold Coast Teams

Jun 24-25 Goondiwindi Pairs  
Jun 24 Moreton Bribe Pairs  
Jun 25 Moreton Bribe Teams  
Jun 25 Toowong Imp Pairs

### Sudoku

			1		9			
	5	7		3			6	2
4								
	4						7	8
		2		1		6		
5	7						3	
								6
6	9			5		1	2	
			9		6			

## Articles from Members

### Negative Doubles

(by Greg Gosney)

Negative Doubles are one of the most commonly used conventions in bridge. They are very useful when there is an overcall by the opponents as Negative Doubles help to describe your hand to partner. This article is primarily for players who are not familiar with the convention or are still a little unsure on when or how to use them.

### Negative Doubles at the One-Level

Here is a common situation - your partner opens 1♦, the opponent on your right bids 1♠ and you have the following hand:

♠ 86  
♥ QJ76  
♦ Q83  
♣ K976

With 8 points you have enough points to bid at the one-level, but no higher. How do you let partner know you have at least four hearts? With Negative Doubles it is simple,



just double to show four or more hearts – the other major.

Here is another example - your partner opens 1♣, the opponent on your right bids 1♦ and you have the following hand:

♠ K976  
♥ QJ76  
♦ Q83  
♣ 86

Using Negative Doubles you can show both majors immediately simply by a double after the 1♦ interference.

A Negative Double may be made at the one-level with at least 6 points. There is no upper limit on the strength of the hand. Bidding sequences for Negative Doubles after a natural overcall at the one-level are listed below:

1♣ – (1♦) – dbl	Usually 4-4 in the majors.
1m – (1♥) – dbl	Exactly 4 spades.
1m – (1♥) – 1♠	5 or more spades.
1m – (1♠) – dbl	4 or more hearts.
1♥ – (1♠) – dbl	At least 4-4 in the minors.

Notice that after a 1♥ overcall the Negative Double shows exactly 4 spades. With 5 or more spades bid the spade suit.

If partner opens one of a major, a Negative Double normally denies support for partner's major.

The Negative Double is forcing but partner may pass to convert it to a penalty double.

### Negative Doubles at the Two-Level

If there is an overcall at the two-level you will need about 8 points to make a Negative Double. It has the same meanings as a Negative Double at the one level with one exception – when partner opens 1♦ and your right hand opponent overcalls 2♣ (the other minor), the Negative Double shows one unspecified 4-card or longer major, rather than both majors. You may in fact have both majors.

The major shown by a Negative Double at the two-level can be more than four cards in length because you may not have enough points to bid the major at the two level. For example, after a 1♦ opening by your partner

and a 2♣ overcall, make a Negative Double with the following hand as it is only 8 HCP:

♠ Q6  
♥ AQ986  
♦ 983  
♣ 9762

However, the following hand has 11 HCP so respond 2♥:

♠ Q6  
♥ AKQ96  
♦ 983  
♣ 9762

Bidding sequences for Negative Doubles after a natural overcall at the two-level are listed below:

1♦ – (2♣) – dbl	4 or more cards in an unspecified major.
1M – (2m) – dbl	4 or more cards in the other major.
1♠ – (2♥) – dbl	At least 4-4 in the minors.

### Weak Hand with Six-Card Suit

Opposite a 1♦ opening responder would bid 1♥ with the following hand:

♠ 76  
♥ KQJ762  
♦ 853  
♣ 86

When opener rebids 1♠ or 1NT, a 2♥ rebid with this hand by responder shows a weak hand (about 6-9 points) with six hearts and is a sign-off to play.

As responder, what would you do with the hand when the opponent on your right overcalls 1♠? Easy, make a Negative Double first and if the opportunity arises you can rebid 2♥ just as in standard bidding.

If you make a Negative Double and then an unforced rebid of your suit at the two-level then it is usually a weak six-card suit.

### How High?

How high is really up to you and your partner. On the front of your system card there is a place for you to write how high Negative Doubles are bid.

As a guide, it is common at club level for players to have through 2♠ or 3♠. However,

several bridge writers recommend higher levels as they believe in most instances a Negative Double is preferable to a penalty double. If you choose to adopt their advice, you may wish to try as high as 4♦, 4♥ or 4♠.

### Further Information

Just search for Negative Doubles on the internet and you will find plenty of good information and advice from professional bridge players and writers.

### Andy Hung's Lesson - Overcalls

(by Greg Gosney)

On Saturday 18 March, along with 32 other participants, I attended one of Andy Hung's lessons held in the club's new building. The topic was "Bidding - Expert Thoughts on The Modern Day Philosophy of Overcalls", or put simply - Overcalls.

So, how was it? Andy started with the basics of overcalling and covered the many reasons why we might want to make an overcall. He displayed a variety of hands and discussed the reasons for overcalling or not overcalling on each individual hand. While many were straight forward a few did surprise. He explained how strength, shape, suit quality and distribution of high card values must be considered when deciding on whether to overcall.

His lesson covered overcalls at the one-level, two-level and strong overcalls (hands with at least 16 points). Comprehensive lesson notes were provided. Without doubt, the people who attended gained knowledge and understanding which will help them to better decide when to overcall or not at the bridge table.

Over the past few years I have attended some of Andy's lessons and found them to be of high quality and very beneficial. Andy's next lesson at our club is on the topic "Declarer Play – Should I Draw Trumps? Or Delay Drawing Trumps? The common problem that we always face!" to be held on Saturday 20 May from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. Don't we all struggle with that decision sometimes when we are declarer? Hmmm. May be a good idea to attend Andy's next lesson on this topic.

### Free ½ Hour Lessons

(by Andy Slater)

I am conducting some short half-hour lessons every third Tuesday for the afternoon players, but of course anyone is welcome.

There is no charge for these lessons, which are held in the new teaching building, at the now re-scheduled time 12:30 till 1:00 pm.

The topics were decided by a player survey late last year.

The full program is as follows:

- (L1) Mar 21: Tips on Defence
- (L2) Apr 18: Law of Total Tricks
- (L3) May 16: Review of Takeout Doubles
- (L4) Jun 20: Review of Negative Doubles
- (L5) Jul 18: Improving Your No Trump Bidding
- (L6) Aug 15: Opening Leads
- (L7) Sep 19: Pre-emptive Bidding
- (L8) Oct 17: Tips on Declarer Play
- (L9) Nov 21: Player's own choice

I am also doing a Hand Analysis session the second and fourth Thursday of each month, for the session just completed that morning. The time for this is approximately 1:00-1:15 pm, depending on the time the session is finished.

Again, anyone is welcome to come along. The feedback has been extremely positive so far; players have especially appreciated the explanations of how the right contracts can be reached with the correct use of doubles.

From April onwards, the dates for these would be:

Apr 13/27, May 11/25, Jun 8/22, Jul 13/27, Aug 24 (away on the 10th), Sep 14/28, Oct 12/26 & Nov 9/23

It is great to see our Tuesday and Thursday players getting so much benefit from these sessions. If you haven't been yet, why not give it a go, we'd love to have you along.

Regards, Andy Slater

## Membership Update

(by Margaret Plunkett – Masterpoints Secretary)

Some of you may have seen data from the February 2017 ABF Masterpoint Centre Newsletter which showed home club membership numbers for December 2016 and compared this data with the December 2015 figures. As at December 31 2016, NSBC had 611 home club members – 4 less than at the same time in 2015.

Club members who choose not to renew membership for any reason can only be removed as active members of the ABF at the end of March each year. Consequently the numbers on April 1 are the lowest for the year.

As the end of March approaches, data from payment of annual subs and new memberships indicates that our numbers on April 1 should be 564 home club members and 106 away members – giving an overall total membership of 670. These numbers are similar to those as at April 1 2016 when NSBC had 567 home club and 101 away members.

## An Easy Grand Slam

(by Greg Gosney)

<p>♠ 109 ♥ J9 ♦ 7652 ♣ AKJ76</p> <p>♠ AK ♥ AKQ643 ♦ AKQJ9 ♣</p> <p>♠ Q8762 ♥ 752 ♦ 3 ♣ 10843</p>	<p>♠ J543 ♥ 108 ♦ 1084 ♣ Q952</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: N-S</p>
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Shown above is a hand from a recent club game. I was sitting west and opened 2♣. My partner bid 2♦ which is a waiting bid and I duly bid 2♥. Partner raised to 4♥ which is to play (Don't bother analysing my partner's bid

– it is just what he chose to bid at the time). My thinking was “There must be 12 tricks at least in my hand alone and with my partner supporting hearts then I should make all the hearts and all five diamond tricks.”, so I bid 7♥. Yes, it made 13 tricks.

At the time the bidding seemed straightforward, nothing difficult. Later, when I looked at the hand on the internet I noticed that almost half the East-Wests did not bid it to slam. I was a little surprised by that. Look at west's hand – two tricks in spades, at least five tricks in hearts surely, and five tricks in diamonds for a total of twelve tricks. You would have to be extremely unlucky not to make slam on the west hand with its 26 HCPs, void in clubs and solid honours in the other three suits, even with zero support from partner's hand.

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*“A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kick boxing.”*

-- Emo Philips

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## From the Editor

Thanks to everyone who has contributed and provided assistance. If you have any comments or would like to contribute to the next newsletter, you can email me at [gigosney@bigpond.com](mailto:gigosney@bigpond.com) (that's a j not an i) or bridge club at [nsbc4011@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nsbc4011@optusnet.com.au).

Greg

Sudoku Solution

7	8	3	6	4	9	5	1	2
4	2	1	7	5	3	8	6	9
6	9	5	1	8	2	4	3	7
1	3	4	2	9	8	6	7	5
9	5	6	4	1	7	2	8	3
8	7	2	3	6	5	1	4	9
3	1	8	5	7	6	9	2	4
2	6	9	8	3	4	7	5	1
5	4	7	9	2	1	3	6	8

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