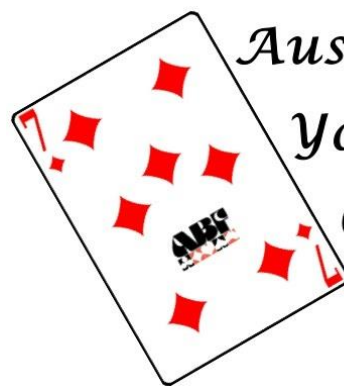


Bulletin 7

Thursday 9th January



Australian Youth Bridge Championships

Session Times Today

Butler 9am-6:30pm
Coaching 9:30am-10:15am
Side Events @ Rex 9:45am-6pm
BBQ @ Park 6pm

Session Times Tomorrow

Butler 9am-6pm
Coaching 9:30am-10:15am
Side Events @ Rex 9:45am-6pm



Competition is heating up in Phase 1 (Butler) of the Australian Junior Selection. At the conclusion of day 2 (of 3) the standing are:

Current Standings after Round 12 of 18				
Rank	Pair	Imps	VPs	W-D-L
1	ALEX GOSS / BERTIE MORGAN	176.75	161.56	9-0-3
2	MATTHEW SIEREDZINSKI / HEATH WATKINS	152.25	159.49	9-1-2
3	JACK LUKE-PAREDI / GEORGE BARTLEY	118.75	156.74	9-0-3
4	SEB WRIGHT / JEREMY REID	14.50	138.36	9-0-3
5	AADHI HARIHARAN / ADRIAN LE	67.75	135.78	5-1-6
6	ZAC ROSS / KATE MACDONALD	-52.50	103.22	3-0-9
7	ANNE DAVEY / FLETCHER DAVEY	-67.75	98.73	3-1-8
8	LAUREN MORGAN / PADDY TAYLOR	-85.75	98.41	5-1-6
9	SEB LANGDON MACMILLAN / TOM LANGDON MACMILLAN	-93.75	90.44	4-0-8
10	MAXWELL ASHURST / ALEXIS WILSMORE	-230.25	57.27	2-0-10

Trans-Tasman Challenge

4 teams of Australian and New Zealand competed in the Trans-Tasman Challenge. Congratulations to Team Australia 1 (**Ellena Black, Darren Brake, Edmond Lee and Alan Stoneham**) narrowly defeating Team New Zealand 1 (**Tamati Greig, Kat Holmes, Leon Meier and Tim Omvig**) in the final by 2 Imps.

Final result:

Team	Score
New Zealand 1	16
Australia 1	18

Suit Combinations Quiz

♥ AKJ1054 ♦ AKJ954 ♣ AKJ854

♥ 32 ♦ 32 ♣ 32

How do you play the above suits for all 6 tricks?
(unlimited entries)

Answers later in the Bulletin.

If you are playing bridge at the Rex, please turn up by 9:30am, play starts at 9:45am.



Daren Brake, Edmond Lee, Alan Stoneham, Ellena Black after scoring up their win in the Trans-Tasman Challenge



Trans-Tasman Challenge in progress

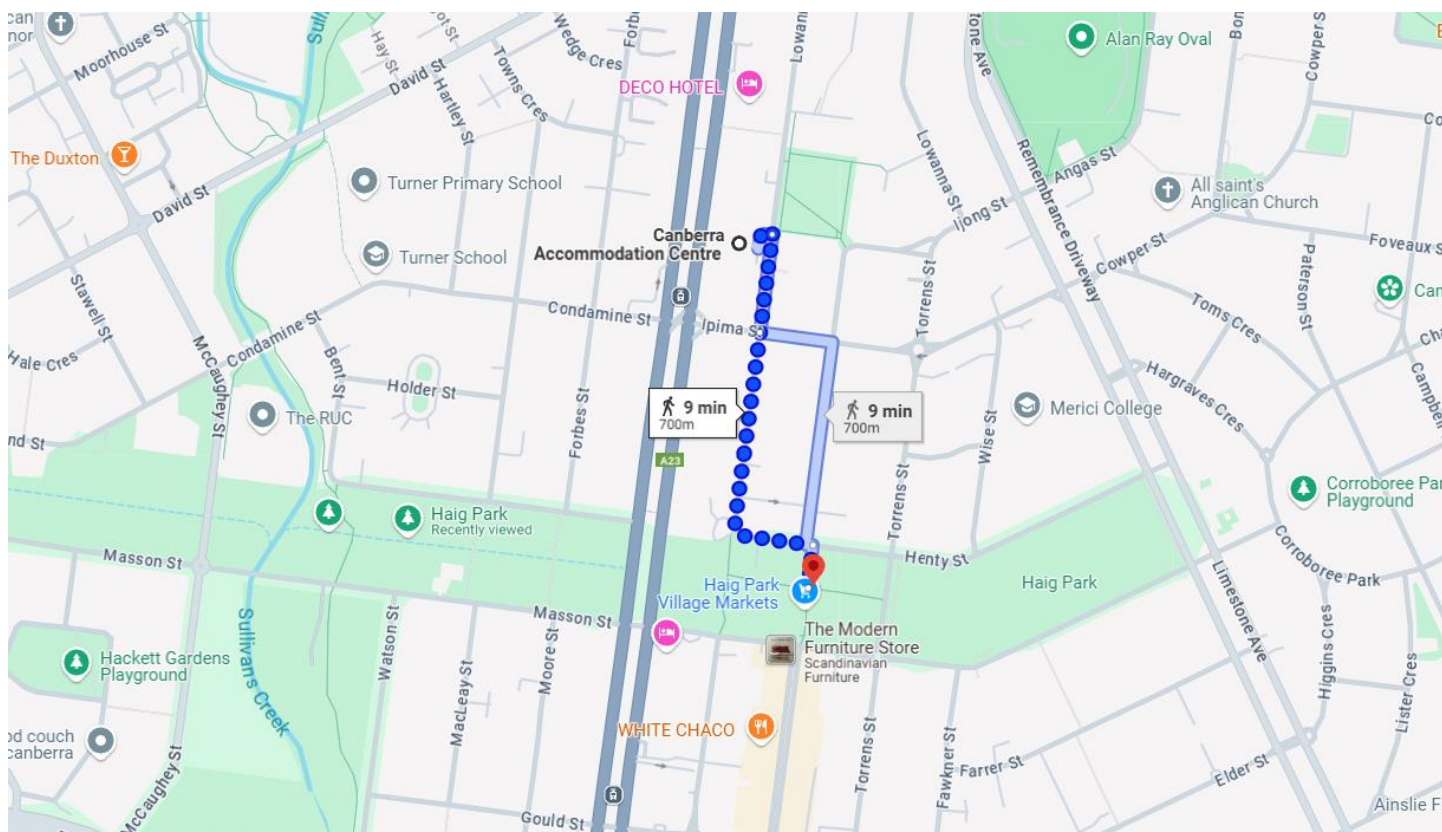
Crazy Pairs Results

Crazy Pairs 2025 (9-Jan-25)					
North-South		East-West			
Place		%	Place	%	
1	ALEX GOSS - EDMOND LEE	68.15%	1	HEATH WATKINS - ALAN STONEHAM	58.63%
2	FLETCHER DAVEY - LIAM MINOGUE	63.69%	2	ANDREW SPOONER - DAMON FLICKER	58.33%
3	JACK JAMES - BERTIE MORGAN	60.42%	3	JEREMY LIN - JACK LUKE-PAREDI	56.85%
4	MARCUS DUDLEY - AADHI HARIHARAN	58.33%	4	TIMOTHY OMVIG - MARIA MILLS	56.55%
5	MATTHEW SIEREDZINSKI - SAM ANGOVE	55.36%	5	ASHLEY MATHESON - LEIGH MATHESON	54.17%
6	PAUL BRAYSHAW - OLIVER BRAYSHAW	53.27%	6	JEREMY REID - GRACE GISSING	53.27%
7	JADE WILKINSON - TAYDON GOLD	52.68%	7	SEB WRIGHT - TOM LANGDON MACMILLAN	52.38%
8	PADDY TAYLOR - GEORGE BARTLEY	50.60%	7	RICKY CARTHEW - JASSY CARTHEW	52.38%
9	KATE MACDONALD - ZAC ROSS	44.35%	9	ALEXANDRA MILLS - EMMA LANGFORD	49.11%
10	LIZZY BRAYSHAW - NOAH KLUGMAN	41.07%	10	TOMER LIBMAN - JEREMY FRASER-HOSKIN	48.21%
11	ELLENA BLACK - ANTHONY MILLS	34.23%	11	ALEXIS WILSMORE - DARREN BRAKE	40.48%
12	SEBASTIAN REDIN - DUNCAN LAI	33.93%	12	ANNE DAVEY - SAMUEL GOSS	38.99%
12	ZARA CHOWDHURY - LAUREN MORGAN	33.93%	13	MACKENZIE RHODES - ADRIAN LE	30.65%

BBQ

At the conclusion of play today (approx. 6pm) there will be our traditional BBQ at the park. **Please note the location is slightly different to last year:**

Note to all walking from Canberra Accommodation Centre to Haig Park – The buddy system applies: Everyone will be responsible for their buddy until they return.



Tales from the Youth (cont'd) – fast-forward to 2025 (by Paul Brayshaw)

Ever seen an endplay and a squeeze on the same hand? No, I'm not talking about a strip-squeeze. Well, after decades of competitive bridge, it's seemingly taken a return to the youth field for a beauty like this to turn up:

♠ AK874
♥ K54
♦ Q103
♣ AQ



♠ 62
♥ A9763
♦ A2
♣ J865

This was Board 5 from Match 7 of the Butler Pairs, a set which was duplicated for the Consolation event where I found myself filling in. Hands have been rotated for convenience. Your LHO opens 2D (weak 2), and partner overcalls 2S with that rather good hand. RHO passes. With a borderline hand, but worried about missing a vulnerable game, you choose the somewhat pushy 3H. Partner raises to 4H, and the Weak Two hand now steps in and doubles you for blood! Enterprising stuff.

The opening lead is CK. Suspecting that your LHO has rather a lot of red cards, you win this with the CA and try a small trump. Not too surprisingly, RHO shows out and pitches a club, so you rise with HA. Now, is LHO's shape 0562 or 1561? You safely test this by leading a spade towards dummy, and LHO follows, confirming the latter. After winning the spade, a bit of a huddle is indicated, and gradually a smile spreads across your face as you realise how nicely this hand is going to play out. West will be endplayed in trumps to cede the ninth trick in diamonds, and then East will be squeezed in the black suits for the tenth trick! You decide to make the assumption that LHO

holds the DK for their Weak Two. As this assumption was correct, the hand was now an open book and all four hands can be revealed:

♠ 3 ♥ QJ1082 ♦ KJ9865 ♣ K		♠ AK874 ♥ K54 ♦ Q103 ♣ AQ ♠ QJ1095 ♥ — ♦ 74 ♣ 1097432
♠ 62 ♥ A9763 ♦ A2 ♣ J865		♠ 62 ♥ A9763 ♦ A2 ♣ J865

The first phase is to execute the endplay, so you start by unblocking the CQ and observing LHO's play. At the table, LHO ruffed and played a trump (but even if they duck, it doesn't matter). Now the endplay is achieved by rising with HK and playing a third trump. LHO chooses to exit with a diamond immediately, and you insert the queen, which holds. Now a diamond to the ace and a fourth trump to LHO. The position is down to this:

♠ — ♥ — ♦ KJ98 ♣ —		♠ K87 ♥ — ♦ 10 ♣ — ♠ QJ ♥ — ♦ — ♣ 109
♠ — ♥ — ♦ KJ98 ♣ —		♠ 6 ♥ 9 ♦ — ♣ J8

At this point, LHO, forced to tap you with a diamond, kindly executes the squeeze against RHO for you at the same time, what a nice opponent 😊 A most fascinating +790!

(The observant among you will note that LHO can exit with DK rather than a small one earlier in the play, in order to mess up your entries in some circumstances. In this case, they must be played for the DJ and a finesse taken for the tenth trick.)

Puzzle Corner

Can you work out the following puzzles (solutions tomorrow):

Arrange all the numbers 1 to 9 into the following grid so that each row, each column and each diagonal all sum to the same total:

Scientists have worked out there is a positive correlation between people's ability at spelling bees and their shoe size. Can you explain why?

Without using a calculator work out the value of:

$$\frac{2024^2 + 2024}{2025} = ?$$

How many letters are in the answer to this question?

Answers to yesterday's puzzles:

- Matchpoint
- Double hook
- Six imps
- Inverted minor

Suit Combinations

by Leigh Matheson

Today we have three very similar layouts and we want to score all five tricks:

♥ AKJ1054 ♦ AKJ954 ♣ AKJ854

♥ 32 ♦ 32 ♣ 32

In all three cases our main chance of making is to pick up Qxxx onside with a simple finesse. How can we improve upon this?

In the first layout, when we have the ♥10 in dummy, we can cater for ♥Qxxx onside. The percentage play is to finesse the ♥J and then finesse the ♥10.

In the second and third layouts, the ♦9 and ♣8 in dummy are effectively worthless. We cannot pick up Qxxx onside, but we can pick up a singleton Q offside. The percentage play is to play off a top card from dummy, cross back to hand and then finesse the J.



Crazy Pairs
Al Fresco