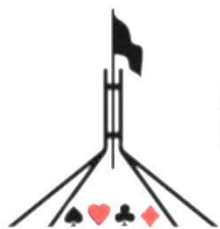




♠♥♦♣ Edition 4, Friday January 10th

Editing team: Leigh Matheson, Mary Elson, Adi Smith, Laura Ginnan (not@abf.com.au)



2025 Canberra SUMMER FESTIVAL of Bridge

Thursday saw the exciting conclusion of many events, with numerous players crowned as well-deserved winners.

A special thank you to The Bridge Shop for generously sponsoring the prizes in the Under 20 and Under 100 Masterpoint Pairs. Your support adds extra excitement to these achievements—congratulations to all!

In this edition

Our Winners (1)

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Under 750 Teams Championship (National Life Masters Teams)

WILLIAMS: Phil Halloran, Daria Williams, Eugene Pereira & Barry Koster





National Women's Teams Championship

TUTTY: Pele Rankin, Jess Brake, Ella Jacob, Jodi Tutty, Dagmar Neumann & Renee Cooper



National Senior's Teams Championship

BLOOM: Martin Bloom, Nigel Rosendorf, Malcolm Carter, & Tony Hutton





Chris Diment Swiss Pairs Winners

Jenna Gibbons & Julian Foster

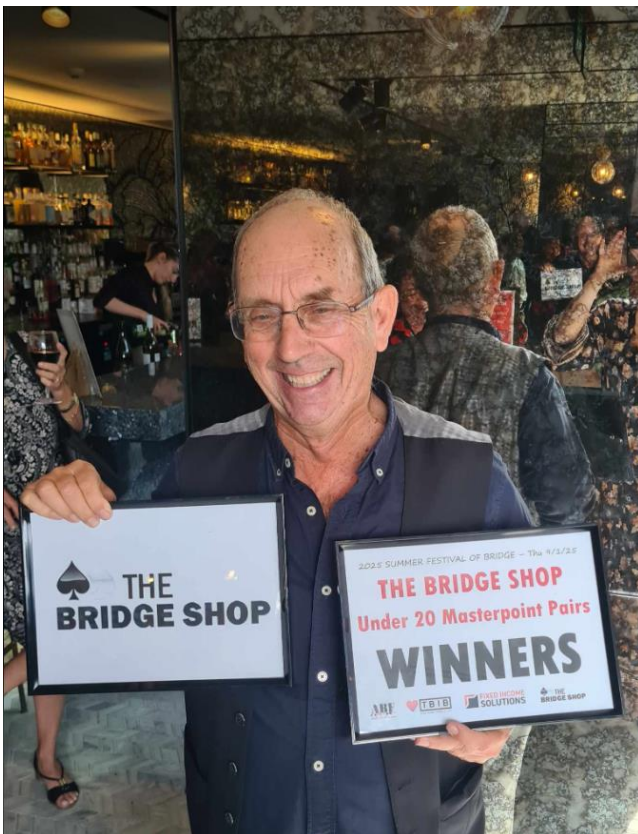




The Bridge Shop Under 100 Masterpoint Pairs
Carolyn Hope & Sharon Michael



The Bridge Shop Under 100 Masterpoint Pairs
Penelope Shilling & Susie Thearle



The Bridge Shop Under 20 Masterpoint Pairs
Robert Longair & Sharon Woodard



The Bridge Shop Under 20 Masterpoint Pairs
Brenda Templeton & Sally Macallan





Thursday Red Point Duplicate

Jenny Brogan & Lyn Turner



Martin Bloom, the Quiet Achiever is 84

"I believe Bridge is the greatest partnership game ever invented. This is one of the strong attractions for me - so many good things happen."

We see Martin Bloom at Monday Night Bridge, all the Nationals and some Congresses. He is the unassuming guy in shorts who is usually chewing Wrigleys gum and recognises a good play by his opponents with a positive remark.

But who is he really... Martin is 84 and has led a full successful life. Since his retirement from business he has devoted his time to becoming a meaningful Bridge player, an intense interest in politics especially American and Australian politics, an obsession with watching alternative Movies, as well as spending his time playing golf twice a week, walking 10,000 steps a day and going to the gym when he is not reading or watching TV. Phew!!! Did I say he is about to turn 85

Martin is very much the quiet achiever in the Bridge World – with over 7,000 masterpoints he is a Gold Grand Master and one of Australia's top 30 players of all time. Martin has won thirteen Australian Nationals including the NOT, ANOT and SNOT.

Internationally he holds two New Zealand National Titles as well as the 2011 Central American Teams in Cuba and was 2nd in the South African Pairs and Teams in 2005.

Martin is a formidable opponent in the NSWBA Monday Nights Events in Sydney – amongst other titles he has won the State Teams six times.

Continues on next page.





**Howling Moon
rooftop bar and
Swan and King
Restaurant
(level 5/6) open daily
after play**



What is Martin's Style of Bridge?

Peter Gill and Ted Chadwick have been Martin's greatest influencers and he bases much of his Bridge on what he has learned from them.

Martin's major interest in the game is bidding which he sees as a language and revels in the judgement involved. He dismisses too many gadgets as he sees the risk of forgetting them under pressure not worth the few times they could be an advantage. Martin also has no interest in esoteric plays.

"I do simple things and do them well... and concentration is key.

I didn't fall in love with any conventions or systems - just learned to use what works. I have a nice Bidding system and stick to it. My partners' understand my bids and can rely on them. I have learned that if you want a good lead, lead boring leads.

Experience has taught me that I am at my worst when I have a flight of fantasy."

One of Martin's greatest strengths is that he is a good partner, a gracious loser, and always enjoys himself.



**RIVER CITY GOLD
MIXED PAIRS 2025**

Hosted by TOOWONG BRIDGE CLUB
22 Roy Street AUCHENFLOWER QLD 4066

Gold Masterpoints and ABF Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP)
Residentially qualified pairs also play for the Queensland Mixed Pairs Title
and the Queensland Novice Mixed Pairs Title

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th May
9.30 am start both days

All ENTRIES and PAYMENTS on



\$180 per entry

Chief Director: Alan Gibson

Tournament Organiser: Janet Lovell

E: tbccompetitions@gmail.com

T: 0409 387 527

- ABF Regulations as modified by the Supplementary Regulations apply
- Green, Blue and Red systems and Brown Sticker Conventions and Treatments
- Swiss Pairs - Matchpoints converted to VPs - 12 x 9 board matches

LUNCH INCLUDED

(Please advise if gluten free - any other dietary needs BYO)

Wellness Guidelines

Players and officials are asked not to attend any event if they are infectious, or if they are supposed to be isolating or quarantining. Those who come to play and, feeling unwell, self-diagnose that they may be infectious, should inform the director and leave the venue.



 **THE
BRIDGE SHOP**





WHAT'S ON TODAY (FRIDAY 10/1)

Fixed Income Solutions Swiss Pairs

Session times 9.45am, conclude by 5.30pm (Great Room)

The Bridge Shop Rookies Swiss Teams

Session times 10.00am, conclude by 5.00pm (Grand Ballroom)

The Bridge Shop Novice Swiss Teams

Session times 10.00am, conclude by 5.00pm (Grand Ballroom)

Australian Women's Team Selection

Session times 9.00, 11.30, 2.30, 5.00, conclude by 7.15
(Canberra Accommodation Centre)

Australian Seniors' Team Selection

Session times 9.00, 11.30, 2.30, 5.00, conclude by 7.15
(Canberra Accommodation Centre)

WHAT'S ON TOMORROW (SATURDAY 11/1)

TBIB Open Swiss Pairs

Session times 9.45am, conclude by 6.00pm (Great Room)

TBIB 750/500 Swiss Pairs

Session times 9.45am, conclude by 6.00pm (Grand Ballroom)

TBIB 300/100 Swiss Pairs

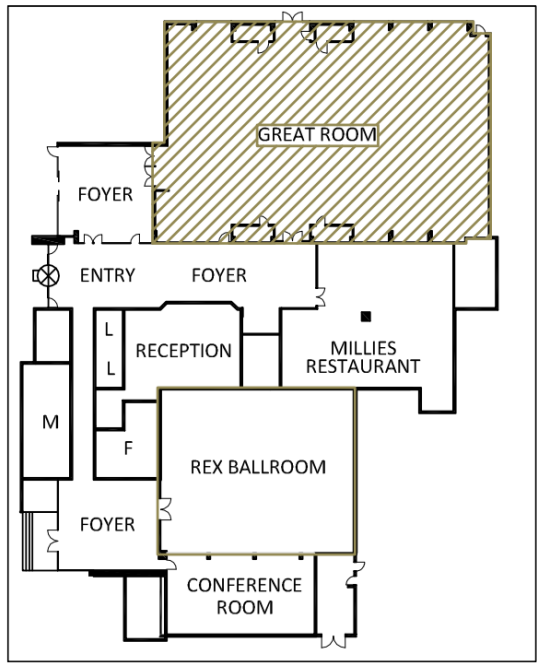
Session times 9.45am, conclude by 6.00pm (Grand Ballroom)

Australian Women's Team Selection

Session times 9.00, 11.30, 2.30, 5.00, conclude by 7.15
(Canberra Accommodation Centre)

Australian Seniors' Team Selection

Session times 9.00, 11.30, 2.30, 5.00, conclude by 7.15
(Canberra Accommodation Centre)



CANBERRA REX HOTEL FLOOR PLAN

Most games will be played in the **Great Room** (straight ahead and to the left as you go into the building) **or in the Ballroom** (to the right as you enter the building).

Female toilets are located in the hallway leading towards the ballroom and the rear of the Great Room.

Male toilets are located in the hallway leading to the Ballroom.

The bars/restaurants are quick lift ride to level 5+6. Be sure to head there after your game to discuss hands in and enjoy in the view.





NEED HELP?

DURING THE GAME

DIRECTORS (RED SHIRTS)

Bridge related matters

CADDIES (BLACK SHIRTS)

If you run out of boards to play

VENUE RELATED + LOST PROPERTY

Rex reception/foyer

EVERYTHING ELSE

Mary Elson Player Experience Specialist

EVENT OFFICIALS

TOURNAMENT ORGANISER

Laura Ginnan

(not@abf.com.au, if urgent 0411 694 248)

CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Laurie Kelso

REVIEWERS

Matthew McManus & Nick Hughes

REVIEW CONSULTANTS

Jonathon Free, Shane Harrison & Jodi Tutty

ABF ON SITE REPRESENTATIVES

Warren Lazer & Liam Milne

RECORDERS

Dee Harley, Phil Markey, Pele Rankin & Marcia Scudder

BIDDING BOXES ARE USED IN ALL EVENTS.

IF YOU HAVEN'T USED A BIDDING BOX

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH A VIDEO](#)

**SYSTEM CARDS ARE REQUIRED AT ALL
SUMMER FESTIVAL EVENTS**

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH A VIDEO](#)

Unpleasant Experience?

The ABF is committed to ensuring that all players compete in a pleasant and respectful environment. To assist in this, we appoint recorders to facilitate the smooth running of bridge events. The role of our recorders is to:

- Receive information (either verbal or written) from individual players as to concerns which may arise from events at the table
- Be available for consultation prior to commencement of play (10 minutes) and at the end of play (20 minutes); and
- Consider the issue/s raised and take appropriate action.

If you require a recorder, simply speak with one of the directors (red shirts).





MEET DANIEL SCHEMBRI & DECLAN CASSIDY



The Summer Festival of Bridge is pleased to be able to enjoy sponsorship for the second time with Fixed Income Solutions, represented here in Canberra by Daniel Schembri, the Responsible Manager, and Declan Cassidy, one of the brokers for the firm. Fixed Income Solutions has been operating in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane since 2016, and is part of the BGC Group which is a global business founded in 1945. Fixed Income Solutions operates as a full service broker in global fixed income markets.

The Fixed Income Solutions sponsorship agreement is like a reverse introduction to the bridge community. FIS works on a cash management, term deposit and bond broking desk – managing bonds and term deposits and has found that many of their clients are bridge players!! There is a constant conversation with clients – many of whom mention, “sorry, can’t talk, playing bridge today!!”.

It became clear that it was time for FIS to give back something to their client base, and they can offer term deposits and bonds – many small regional banks use a group like FIS to offer term deposits for the larger community, at a small charge to the bank, and can manage and offer sales and marketing for small banks. On the bond side of things, people might want to buy bonds for their superannuation funds, or they might have sold a property and want to look at a defensive asset class, FIS are expert managers here.



Daniel began working in the markets back in around 1999 (he was 10 at the time!), largely in the equity side of things – as a broker, but decided there was too much risk involved and so moved to bonds. Educationally Daniel specialised in Economics and Business, with an accent on Superannuation. He is very risk averse and decided that investment advice was not an interest for him, so moved to the Fixed Income area. Work is very busy, managing up to 12 brokers, and another couple of teams outside – a risk team and a credit team – his days are very well occupied, and he enjoys being able to get away regularly. Daniel has a small farm in the Kilmore area and enjoys most weekends there, (however, by his own account not nearly enough) his wife Annalee is a saddler by trade – she enjoys the title of 'tradie for the house', and they run horses on the property - - - there is always a lot to do, and 5 or 6 hours on a mower provides a lot of contemplation time and time to listen to great music!

Declan grew up on the Central Coast of NSW and at 19 moved to Melbourne, while working in the building trade. He had an opportunity to continue in building, moving from residential construction to a commercial shop-fitting role and moved to Melbourne to lead a team there.

After 2 years of apprenticeship and about six years of construction work he enrolled in RMIT to study Maths. (Quite a change) A couple of months in San Diego as an exchange student followed – 'not a lot of study got done in San Diego!!' It was a great time till catastrophe changed everything – in March 2020 the world changed, and he came home.

('It was a holiday that I was loving and then it was taken away from me!!') Declan loves travelling and has spent a lot of time in South America.

After his return and after graduation he moved to get work in markets, construction work paid the bills, but his keen interest in markets led him on. Eventually a mutual friend introduced him to Daniel and work as a broker beckoned. Daniel gave him a shot and now Declan has worked at FIS for a couple of years – he finds it fascinating work but thinks that his boss is terrible!!!!

Both Daniel and Declan have flirted with bridge – they nearly missed their flight to Canberra last January – their first year as sponsors of the Summer Festival, because they were too busy playing bridge on-line. Still in the early stages of playing, one hopes that they will continue.

This sponsorship here is not to sell anything, but to provide contact information for people to gain the skills to manage competently in the market sphere. The firm is into education and provides educational videos and booklets and training to hopefully provide contact and education to ensure clients' needs are fulfilled. FIS are not financial advisers, but financial brokers; fixed income is a defensive asset class – government and corporate bonds. Investors become bank lenders to banks. Clients can self direct investment strategies or have very little personal involvement in an Individually Managed Account (IMA), it is completely up to them.

FIS intends to continue with the sponsorship relationship, and will be at the Gold Coast, Tasmania, and Melbourne in June, so we will be seeing them into the future.

