



## West Coast Bridge Club Newsletter - March 2026

### Christmas Party 2025

The Club's 2025 Christmas function was held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. After an afternoon of bridge over 60 members enjoyed the festivities. The Federal Member for Curtin, Kate Chaney, attended and presented the winners of the various Club events with their trophies.



*Julie Feeney and Kayoko Bredemeyer, winners of the 2025 Phil Appleyard Trophy, with Kate Chaney.*

### The opera returns to WCBC

A return visit of Freeze Frame Opera following afternoon bridge on Thursday February 12 was attended by over 100 members and friends. The event was again generously sponsored by Graeme Hillier. Attendees were delighted by the wonderful voices of the group and enjoyed a mixture of operatic arias and popular numbers.



*Baritone Ben Del Borrello from Freeze Frame Opera.*

### 2026 Monday Swiss Pairs (Joyce and Norman Moody Trophy)

The 2026 Monday Swiss Pairs held in January was won by Marleen Medhat and Ray Wood. Michael Smith and Barbara Martin were second followed by Pat Scotford and Joy Jones in third place.

### 2026 Club Championship Pairs (Anton Brazowski Trophy)

Ray Wood and Marleen Medhat once again triumphed in the 2026 Club Championship Pairs. Wence Vahala and Sue Gough were second with Patrick Garnett and Christina Wu / Harold McKnight in third place.



*Marleen Medhat and Ray Wood – winners of the WCBC Championship Pairs 2026.*

## Vale Patricia Farrow, Anton Pol and John Taylor

Sadly the Club lost three well known members in recent months.

Patricia Farrow was a much-loved Club member for many years;

Anton Pol was a state bridge representative on many occasions and winner of several West Coast events;

John Taylor was a regular at WCBC and had a distinguished career as an urologist and urogynaecologist.

## New members

Myrna Suttner, John Suttner, Joan Schneider, Deborah James, Miriam O'Brien, Charles Herring and Arshad Omari have recently joined the Club. Please make them welcome.

## New rankings

Congratulations to the following members who recently received rank promotions: Graduate: Carolyn Jenkins; Local: Di Johnson; Bronze Local: Anne Andrews; Bronze Regional: David Arnold.

## Coming competitions

The following competitions are scheduled for the next three months at WCBC:

- Wednesday Pairs – Wednesday March 11 & 18.
- BAWA Restricted State Championship – Sunday April 12.
- Master / Novice Teams of Three – Tuesday May 12 & 19.
- BAWA Western 60+ – Saturday May 16 & Sunday May 17.

## Master and Novice Teams of Three

This year, in May, the Club is running a new **red point competition** in which three novices (less than 150 masterpoints) are teamed with a 'master' in a two-session teams event. The 'master' will play with each novice member of the team for several hands on both days. If you are a novice please consider entering a three-person team into this fun event.

## An uncommon but useful bid

This unusual bid came up in a recent event. North opened 3S (pre-emptive) and my partner (east) bid 4NT showing a strong hand with two unspecified five-card suits.

**Dlr: North** ♠ AKT9753

**Vul: Nil** ♥ 987

♦ 4

♣ 82

♠ QJ84

♥ J62

♦ KQ85

♣ K4

♠ 62

♥ A

♦ AJT32

♣ AQJ75

♠ Void

♥ KQT543

♦ 976

♣ T963

Normally west bids 5C and east passes with clubs and diamonds or clubs and hearts or bids diamonds to show diamonds and hearts. In this case, because I have quite a nice diamond holding, I bid 5D which makes quite comfortably.

## Need for careful planning in the play

**Dlr: North** ♠ KQT75

**Vul: EW** ♥ KT9

♦ AT

♣ 875

♠ AJ8

♥ J63

♦ J63

♣ KQJ3

♠ 9432

♥ 74

♦ 98752

♣ T2

♠ 6

♥ AQ852

♦ KQ4

♣ A964

South wins the contract in 4H and west leads the AS followed by a diamond. Declarer can see one club trick, three diamond tricks, five heart tricks (probably) and, after the lead, two spade tricks – so the contract looks secure. However there is a danger that declarer may not be able to access their spade tricks. If declarer is careless and takes the first diamond trick in dummy and then pulls all the trumps ending in the south hand they cannot get back to dummy's hand to run the two spades. They will then lose three club tricks and one spade – down one! So declarer needs to ensure that they keep an entry to dummy, either in diamonds or trumps, in order to ensure that two losing clubs can be discarded on the K and Q of spades. 11 tricks!