

From the President

This time of year is always big for our club but this year especially so since we had two large events on consecutive weekends and another before the end of the month.

The Easter Congress is anyway our biggest event for the year, but this year was notable for 368 entries (92 tables) which was a big increase on last year. It was extremely well convened by Rhonda Hulshoff and ably directed by Neville Walker and Sandra Hardie. And the following weekend the combined Birthday Party and Thank You to Fiske Warren attracted 32 tables - many of our older members remarked to me they had never seen the club so busy! After a few hiccups in getting started including finding tables and allied equipment to set up in the foyer it went very well. Many thanks to Rachel McRae for standing in to run the catering on this day and to Shane Brown for purchasing all the inputs to the barbecue.



On a less pleasant note, may I draw your attention to the article about Procedural Penalties on page 3. Should you find yourself on the wrong end of these you will not only have been rude or abusive, but you will end up losing a significant portion of your score for the day. All of our current Directors have been instructed on this matter and are ready to take action if required to do so.

Jim Willetts

SPBC Club Birthday Party and Thank you to Fiske Warren

A party for the Club's 45th Birthday, and a Thank You to Fiske Warren took place Saturday afternoon, 11 April 2026, with an outstanding turnout of 23 tables in the Open section and 9 table in the Intermediate section (included so that the less experienced players who have participated in beginners lesson from Fiske over recent years could attend without playing against the more experienced players.) Two tables were set up in the foyer to accommodate everyone!

A delicious cake was provided for afternoon tea, and a sausage sizzle held after the session, giving those who wanted to stay on an opportunity to raise a glass in honour of the joint celebration. The club's birthday was well-celebrated and sincere appreciation was shown to Fiske for his outstanding service to, and support for our club over many years.



Left: Pam Smith was invited to cut the birthday cake since she is our longest serving Life Member. Our President is trying not to look at what's happening!



Right: Fiske Warren with his partner of the day, Elsie Chua, and his partner in Life, Suzette.

ANZAC Day Walk-in Event

The ANZAC Day red-point walk-in event, held on Saturday, 25 April was well attended, with 41 pairs playing the afternoon session in two Open sections. Section A had ten tables and section B had 10 and a half tables. The N/S winners of

Section A were Kimberley Zhou and Hamish McCracken, and the E/W winners were Raji and Maire-Christine El-Hoss. The N/S winners of Section B were Tim Wright and David Schokman, and the E/W winners were Angeline Christie and Chris Mulley. ANZAC biscuits for afternoon tea provided a reminder of the occasion and were appreciated by all.

Events coming up in May

Two **Super-Tuesday-walk-in pairs**, red-point events will be held on **12 May 2026** during the usual Tuesday afternoon and evening sessions. These events provide an opportunity for members to earn red-point while playing in their usual Tuesday sessions.

The SPBC heats of the **GNOT** (*Grand National Open Teams* - a gold point event) will be held over two Friday afternoons, **15 and 22 May**, starting at **12:30pm**. At least 2 members of a team must be financial members of the SPBC to play in the heats at our club. Please enter through MyABF.

The **Australia-Wide Novice Pairs** will be held on Saturday morning, **30 May 2026 at 9:15 am**. This event is for players who have fewer than 100 MPs as of 31 March 2026 and is an excellent opportunity to join in Australia's largest national competition without leaving the comfort of your own club. At the end of the session players receive a souvenir booklet of the hands, with recommended bidding. A more detailed, personalised booklet is available online after the event is concluded nationally. Prizes are awarded to top-ranked pairs, with additional prizes for players under 50MPs. Please put your names in the red book.

Masterpoint Ranking Promotions March 2026

Congratulations to the SPBC members who achieved new Masterpoint rankings at the end of March 2026. A special mention for Bob Prince who reached Silver Grand Master!

Michael Bell	Graduate Master	Gail Wray	Bronze Local Master
Anna Palmer	Graduate Master	Margaret Martin	Silver Local Master
Jane Clements	Bronze Local Master	Paul Fielding	Regional Master
Jenny Cooper	Bronze Local Master	Bob Prince	Silver Grand Master

Kitchen Duty Roster

The May kitchen duty roster calls for those with surnames beginning with **F, J, R, U** and **W** to assist with setting up and clearing away the kitchen before and after the tea break. Please contribute to the smooth running of the tea breaks when rostered on. Instructions are on the wall in the kitchen if you are not sure what needs to be done. Many hands make light work, and if we all do our bit, the inconvenience to those rostered on is small. Thank you for your cooperation.

From the Tournament Committee

Following a couple of incidents recently where players have been rude and abusive to our Tournament Directors, members are advised that Procedural Penalties can, and will, be imposed in the future by our Tournament Directors, without waiting for any outcomes from Recorder reports. These penalties could significantly affect your score for the session. The application of Procedural Penalties and Standards of behaviour expected are covered by Laws 89 - 91 (2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge) plus our own Code of Conduct.

Our TDs are human – they don't always get it right. But that is no excuse for showing bad behaviour towards them. Thank you.

Jeannie Ravn

Volunteer Recognition Award

During the Congress an award was made to Kathy McGregor for her outstanding service to South Perth Bridge Club.

Kathy is always eager to help in the catering of major events and provide support to the House Manager. She also readily took on the role of maintenance of the clubs many trophies and honour boards. Her bubbly, cheerful manner makes all who she encounters at the club feel welcomed. Many thanks Kathy!



Kathy with Jim

Transitioning to different level sessions and club communications

Catherine Carr, who coordinates partnership requests, would like you to notify her by email when you transition from supervised sessions to novice sessions, so that she can add you to the appropriate email list for communications meant for Novice/Intermediate players. This way you will receive emails from Catherine when other Novice/Intermediate players are looking for a partner for a particular session.

Similarly, Catherine would also like to be notified when intermediate members start moving into open sessions, so you can be added to communications intended for the Open members group.

Please let Catherine know if you are moving to different level sessions by sending an email to: cathcarr.cathcarr@gmail.com

South Perth Easter Congress

The **SPBC Easter Congress** was held from **Good Friday, 3 April** to **Easter Monday, 6 April**. The Welcome Pairs was held on Friday afternoon, the Open Pairs on Saturday, the Swiss Pairs on Sunday, and the Open Teams on Monday. Events like these do not just happen! Thank you to the many people who worked hard behind the scenes to make the Congress the great success that it was. Special thanks go to Neville Walker for directing the Friday, Saturday and Sunday sessions, and to Sandra Hardie who directed the Teams event on Monday. It was wonderful to see so many regular South Perth players as well as many visitors supporting the events. A special thank you to Ronda Hulshoff who was the convenor for the weekend and did a fantastic job. Thank you also to Elsie Chua and Dave Munro for taking the many photos. Congratulations to the winners of each of the events.

Welcome Pairs

The Welcome Pairs was won by Ron Cooper and Chris Ingham. In second place were Nick Cantatore and Andrea Peretti, and in third place were Pim Birss and Gwyneira Brahma. Fourth place went to Tony Stevens and Valerie Isle, and fifth place went to Geoff Holman and David Matthews. Best South Perth Pair was Angelique Morin and Simon Orton. Best under 300 MPs were Laura and Rob Breen. Best under 100 MPs were Ryan Sugars and Helen Sugars-Duff. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.



Jim with Chris Ingham and Ron Cooper



Jim with Nick Cantatore and Andrea Peretti



Jim with Gwyneira Brahma Pim Birss



Jim with Valerie Isle and Tony Stevens



Jim with Geoff Holman and David Matthews



Jim with Angelique Morin and Simon Orton



Jim with Laura and Rob Breen



Ryan Sugars and Helen Sugars-Duff with Jim

April 2026

Novice Pairs

The Novice pairs was held on Saturday Morning. It was wonderful to see 20 pairs participating in this section of our Congress. Congratulations to the Winners. In First place were Mike Bennett and Lisa Evans, in second place were Pip Brady and Margaret Van Dam, and in third place were Nat and Jo Wright. Best Super-Novice pair went to Pat Hall and Binni Shah. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.



Mike Bennett and Lisa Evans with Jim



Pip Brady and Margaret Van Dam with Jim



Jo and Nat Wright with Jim



Pat Hall and Binni Shah with Jim

Open Matchpoint Pairs

The Open Pairs held on Easter Saturday saw 36 pairs playing in the qualifying match held in the morning, where the top seven pairs from each of North/South and East/West went through to play off in the Final, the next seven playing in the Plate and the remaining pairs played off in the Consolation. Best N/S pair went to Wendy Driscoll and Shizue Futaesaku. Best E/W pair went to David Schokman and Cynthia Belonogoff. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.

First place in the Final went to Marnie Leybourne and Trevor Fuller. In second place were Daniel Wallwork and Avon Wilsmore, and in third place were Sue Shadbolt and Jay Wongphasukchot.

First place in the Plate went to Chris Ingham and Geoff Holman. In second place were Simon Orton and Mark Mullins, and in third place were David Matthews and Ragi El-Hoss.

First in the Consolation went to Steven and Helen Rogoysky and second place went to Egmont Melton and John Beddow. Best South Perth Pair went to Angeline Christie and Chris Mulley. Best under 300 MPs were Laura and Rob Breen. Best under 150 MPs were Tony McKinnon and Shane Brown.



Jim With Trevor Fuller



Avon Wilsmore and Daniel Wallwork



Sue Shadbolt and Jay Wongphasukchot

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Jim with Wendy Driscoll



Jim with Geoff Holman



Jim with Simon Orton



Jim with Ragi El-Hoss and David Matthews



Jim with Helen and Steven Rogoysky



Jim with Egmont Melton and John Beddow



Jim with Angeline Christie and Chris Mulley



Laura and Rob Breen with Jim



Jim with Tony McKinnon and Shane Brown

Open Swiss Pairs

The Swiss Pairs, held on Sunday attracted 46 pairs. The event consisted of six 9-board matches.

First place went to Martin Doran and Viv Wood, second place to Tony Stevens and Valerie Isle, third place to Geoff Holman and David Matthews, fourth place to Trevor Fuller and Val Biltoft, and fifth place went to Marnie Leybourne and Leone Fuller. Best under 300 MPs were Sandy and Jeff Veling. Best under 150 MPs were Claudia Baker and Derek Dorwood. Prizes were presented by Jim Willetts.



Jim with Viv Wood and Martin Doran



Jim with David Matthews and Geoff Holman



Jim with Tony Stevens and Valerie Isle



Jim with Trevor Fuller



Jim with Marnie Leybourne and Leone Fuller



Jim with Sandy and Jeff Veling



Jim with Claudia Baker and Derek Dorwood

Open Swiss Teams

The Open Swiss Teams, held on Easter Monday, was well attended, bringing together 19 Teams. Six matches, each with 9 boards, were played across the day. First place went to *Team Cooke* (Tuya Cooke, Lilia Male, Kaiping Chen and Beata Bieganski). Second place went to *Team Cooper* (Geoff Holman, Chris Ingham, David Matthews and Ron Cooper). Third place went to *Team Theriault* (Phil Tearne, Joann Theriault, Bruce Fraser and Jonathan Free). Fourth Place went to *Team Wilsmore* (Nigel Zeller, Daniel Wallwork, Tom Lemann and Avon Wilsmore).



Team Cooke: Lilia Male, Beata Bieganski, Kaiping Chen and Tuya Cooke with Jim



Team Cooper: Ron Cooper, Chris Ingham, Geoff Holman and David Matthews with Jim



Team Theriault: Bruce Fraser and Jonathan Free with Jim (absent: Joann Theriault and Phil Tearne)



Team Wilsmore: Nigel Zeller, Daniel Wallwork, Avon Wilsmore and Tom Lemann with Jim