

From the President

We are counting down to our biggest congress of the year, the Easter Congress! I wish all entrants the very best of luck - and skill - in their endeavours in the congress, whichever of the events you participate in. And a reminder to please treat your opponents and your partner with respect, even when things go badly wrong.

Results for the Browning Cup are published below. I know there is some comment about the handicapping system, but it must be said that the overall winners did very well on any level, beating their own averages by a sizeable margin. We will be reviewing yet again whether anything can be improved prior to the next handicap event but any handicap system has advantages and disadvantages. And if you can beat your own average score by 10% or so on both days, you should probably be in the prizes anyway.



Coming up soon we also have a special Saturday afternoon session combining the club Birthday Party and a big Thank You to our erstwhile principal bridge teacher Fiske Warren. This is on Saturday April 11, and there are lists for entering (since we expect we will have to limit numbers) at the club. We expect to run both Intermediate and Open movements on this session.

Jim Willetts

SPBC Club Handicap Championship

The Club Handicap Championship, also known as The Browning Cup, is a two-session red-point event that was held over two Tuesdays, 10 & 17 March. The handicap for this event was determined by players' ABF masterpoint ranking. This meant all players, whether grand masters or graduate masters could compete in the one event with a more level playing field. The two sessions were well attended. It was wonderful to see 44 pairs across the range of experience come along and enjoy the opportunity.

There are two sets of results for the event: one with the handicap applied and one without the handicap. The winners of the Browning Cup, awarded with the handicap applied, were Max Petrich and Clive Youdell. In second place were Ovidiu Calcan and Bob Mitchell, and in third place were Simon Orton and Mark Mullins. Fourth place went to Janet Jackson and Alan Bolands, and in fifth place were Angela Howlett and Sandra Hopkins. Max and Clive also won outright (before the handicap), with scores for both weeks above 66%. In fact, pairs in the first three positions all beat their handicap by so much that they retained their positions after handicap. Outstanding performances! Prizes were awarded by Jim Willetts.



Clive and Max with Jim



Bob and Ovidiu with Jim



Simon with Jim



Janet and Alan with Jim

An interesting historical anecdote from Max Petrich about the Brownings: *Don and Marion Browning lived just down the road in Thelma Street and played bridge at the Canning Districts Bridge Club which, in the 70s, was based at a small church hall in Bentley. I was friends with Don and Marion and played some bridge with Marion in the mid-70s. They were bridge enthusiasts and social bridge at their home was quite common. Marion was a bundle of energy and enthusiasm, and was the driving force behind formation of the South Perth Bridge Club.*

Events coming up in April

The **SPBC Easter Congress**, proudly sponsored by TBIB Insurance, will take place from **Good Friday, 3 April** to **Easter Monday, 6 April**. The Welcome Pairs will be held on Friday afternoon starting at 1 pm; Open Pairs (all day) and Novice Pairs (morning only) on Saturday, commencing at 9:30 am; with Swiss Pairs commencing at 9:30 am on Sunday; and Open Swiss Teams on Monday, also commencing at 9:30 am.

The Club Birthday Party and a **Thank you to Fiske Warren** will be take place **Saturday, 11 April** at **1:30 pm**. This will be a red-point event with cake provided for afternoon tea. Winner's names will be placed on the Dora Wilson Trophy. There will be **two sections** - an **open** and an **intermediate** - so that the less experienced players who have participated in beginners lesson from Fiske over recent years can attend if they wish. There will also be a sausage sizzle after the session for those who'd like to stay on. For catering purposes, if you intend to be there, please add to your name to a list that is by the Director's desk. Please also add any dietary requirements.

New members

Welcome to new members: Jenni Christie, Prudence Muncton, Jane Bwye, Marie O'Sullivan, John Ivey, Rodney Tilt, Geoff Cross and Helen Syme whose applications were approved at the March Management Committee meeting.

Masterpoint Ranking Promotions February 2026

Congratulations to the SPBC members who achieved new Masterpoint rankings at the end of February 2026:

Judith Baverstock	Graduate Master	Andrea Counsel	Local Master
Stephanie Myers	Graduate Master	Sandra Hopkins	Local Master
Susan Bryant	Club Master	Lynne Smithies	Local Master
Paul Platt	Club Master	Henk Meydam	Silver Local Master
Jenny Sage	Club Master	Sue Howe	Silver Local Master

Kitchen Duty Roster

The April kitchen duty roster calls for those with surnames beginning with **C, G, I and N** 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.

Defibrillator Volunteers List

A big thank you to those who have volunteered to stay on or be added to the Defibrillator Volunteers List, which is now displayed near the Director's desk in the playing room. This is a very important service that we hope we never need to use. However, it is very reassuring to know that there are people who know what to do, should the situation occur. We greatly appreciate those who have put their hands up as defibrillator volunteers.

The defibrillator itself is kept in a prominent position just behind and above where the Director sits and everyone should be aware of it, just in case anyone does need it in a hurry.