



Over for another year

The Open Butler was tight all the way, with the winners averaging just 17.3, defending the crown they won in Melbourne. See you in Adelaide next year for Australia's toughest event.

Active ethics

Here's a bidding problem faced by Cathy Mill, reported by Rena Kaplan:

Stage 3, Rd 8, Bd 22 (rotated)

♠ A 8	♠ —
♥ A Q 8	♥ 10 9 4 3
♦ A Q J 8 5 3	♦ K 7 6 4
♣ A 2	♣ K 10 9 7 3

Lachman	Mill
2♣	2♦
3♦	4♣ splinter
5♣	?

2♣ was game force, 2♦ negative. Mill thought grand slam was still a chance. (Opposite the actual West hand it's on 3-3 clubs or the heart finesse) One thought is to bid 5♣ to show that the splinter was in fact a void. Or maybe just give up on the grand and bid 6♦.

Thing is, partner had agonised for a full minute before bidding 5♣. Why? May she needed to work out whether 4♣ was a cue agreeing diamonds, or natural – weak with a 7-card suit.

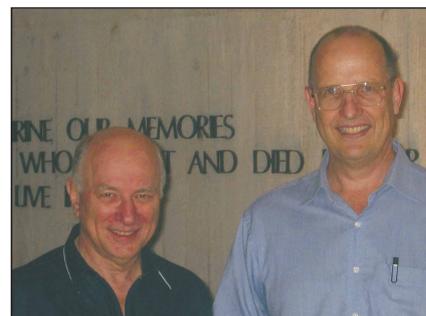
That seems to make it very risky for Mill to bid 5♣ but that's exactly what she did! As she feared, 5♣ was passed out but she had done the right thing. Partner's long pause suggested that 6♦ was prudent, so Mill was legally and ethically bound to try 5♣.



Therese and Sue won the Women's.



Magnus & Neville will represent us in Melbourne in March.



Ron & Bruce successfully defended their title. Bruce was also convener.

Butler – Final results

The top 6 of 14 get Playoff Points. (Note the big drop from 3rd to 4th) 1st & 2nd in the Open will represent Australia in Commonwealth Games Bridge Championships, next March in Melbourne. The third pair will be the winners of the Youth Butler in Canberra in January.

Open		PQPs	
1st	Bruce Neill & Ron Klinger	226	65
2nd	Neville Francis & Magnus Moren	222	60
3rd	Peter Gill & Martin Bloom	216	55
4th	Richard Jedrychowski & Paul Wyr	216	35
5th	Arjuna De Livera & Ian Robinson	215	30
6th	Michael Chen & Jun Li	213	25

Women's

1st	Sue Lusk & Therese Tully	235	65
2nd	Rena Kaplan & Paula Shroor	230	60
3rd	Cathie Lachman & Cathy Mill	222	55
4th	Judy Snow & Helen Borman	217	35
5th	Wendy Driscoll & Deidre Greenfeld	216	30
6th	Marcia Scudder & Inez Glanger	209	25

Seniors

1st	Margaret Bourke & Eric Ramshaw	254	65
2nd	Ross Stuart & Gary Lane	235	60
3rd	Barry Noble & George Bilski	208	55
4th	Robert Gallus & Michael Dilks	207	35
5th	Graham Atkinson & Janet Kahler	206	30
6th	Leslie Lowe & Peter Kahler	206	25

ANC Swiss Pairs

1st	Konrad Araszkiwicz & Krzysztof Buras	233
2nd	Jacek Kalita & Krzysztof Kotorowicz	231
3rd	Warren Lazer & Pauline Gumby	226
4th	Griff Ware & Daniel Geromboux	205

The top two are Polish Juniors. They are part of the team that won the recent European Junior Championships. With that form and this preparation, they will be hard to beat in Homebush.