# Tuesday 10 - Sunday 22 January, 2023 

Bulletin 3, Thursday 12 January

## Results

Submissions to Editor, Stephen Lester

## Dr Ian McCance

A man of great integrity, whose intelligence and humour will be much missed

8 May, 1927 - 5 January, 2023
I had planned to feature lan's extensive history as a bridge player in the 2023 Gold Coast Bulletin, as his win in the 1975 Gold Coast Pairs with Wally Scott made him the earliest living champion.

Now that baton passes to Paul Lavings, who in 1978 won the coveted Gold Coast Pairs with Don Evans.
"Spanning a period of 65+ years at the top, lan McCance represented his country at world level as well as winning many national tournaments. In collaboration with Robert Smart, he devised Specific Trump Cuebids, described in The Bridge World in 1981. For many years he wrote a weekly newspaper column in The Age.
From longtime partner and friend Di Smart: ‘
"Among his numerous talents, I particularly recollect his clever wit - which was always generous too. When playing with Bill Jacobs, he remarked as Bill singlehandedly bid to the six-level with a big

1 Thursday, January 12
two-suiter - "looks like I caught him red handed!" We all enjoyed this immensely. He was a wonderful, top-level player and a very generous partner, sharing his wisdom and unfailingly understanding of his partner's sometimes dubious actions.

He'd say "oh, that's interesting" in a truthful way so that you felt supported, not criticised.
Felicity (Beale) and I benefited greatly from his wisdom. As captain of a Victorian Women's Team he once said to us all - "remember, whatever happened at the other table happened with the best of intentions". It has always stayed with me."

Here's a "Letter to the Editor" snippet that lan wrote for The Age:

MY VOTE for the most over-used adjective is "vibrant".

Ian McCance, Mount Waverley

## And:

Labor: the party that threw out the baby to conserve the suds.

Ian McCance, Mount Waverley

## Some of his many top results:

Victorian Mixed Pairs many times, with Felicity Beale from 1974 to Di Smart in 2008.

From 1933 both parents, Dorothy and Norman McCance spearheaded the Victorian Open Teams. Ian's sister Ailsa Tandy was also a force in women's bridge from the early 1960s.

Mother Dorothy was multiple winner of the ANC Women's Teams as late as 1946. Ian became a member of Open Teams, from 1956, in a team captained by the indomitable Victor Champion. 2011 was his 20th time, 17 of them had been as a player, three as npc.

So lan had been a state representative in each of seven consecutive decades! In total, he had five wins and his team were runners-up four timesa wonderful record, only just surpassed by Victor Champion himself.

## THE BRIDGE SHOP

## Solution to double dummy problem 1

South cashes $A$ and $\uparrow$, discarding $\&$ from dummy. West can afford a club and a diamond, and East two clubs. Then J. Now a diamond to dummy finishes off both defenders, who cannot guard both suits.


South to lead at notrumps - NS to win five of the remaining six tricks.

Solution in tomorrow's bulletin.
This problem is taken from A Compendium of Double Dummy Problems by Hugh Darwen, available from The Bridge Shop here.

| Tim Bourke's daily Test Your Play problems Solutions overleaf |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3. EVASION <br> North deals, all vulnerable |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| North |  |  |  |
| - 8 |  |  |  |
| - K 52 |  |  |  |
| -K983 |  |  |  |
| - A Q 1096 |  |  |  |
| South |  |  |  |
| - KQ 52 |  |  |  |
| - AQ4 |  |  |  |
| - A 102 |  |  |  |
| \& J 75 |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South <br> 1NT |
| pass all pass | 34 | Pass | 3NT |
| Partner's leap to 34 promised a singleton or void in spades, three hearts and at least 4 diamonds and 4 clubs. |  |  |  |
| West leads a fourth highest $\mathbf{\$}$. East covers dummy's $\uparrow 8$ with $\uparrow 10$. How do you propose to make nine tricks? |  |  |  |

Honoured with naming of McCance Seniors Pairs at the VCC from 2006.
$2^{\text {nd }}$ in first Open Butler, 1967 with Fred Altman
Npc 1980 Open Team, npc Commonwealth Nations Open Bridge Team, 2006
npc 1978 Venice Cup Team
npc winning Victorian Youth Team at the ANC, 1984 (team was Jon Free, Simon Henbest, Bill Jacobs, W Kirby, Andrew Mill, Ian Thomson)
npc 1996 Victorian Seniors' Team
Life Member VBA 1985

The Setting Trick by lan McCance
This is just one of the 100 problems from The Setting Trick, the first bridge book by one of the Goliaths of the Australian bridge scene, Dr lan
McCance. All are defensive problems and, as the title implies, you need to use the
 available information to take the setting trick, be it the fourth trick against a major suit game, the second trick against a slam and so on.
East deals, NS vulnerable

- 10932
- QJ 92
- 94
- 754

- A 64
- A 52
- 102
- 98632

You are East, defending 3NT after South opened 2NT (20-22) and then denied either a four- or fivecard major. Your partner leads $\uparrow 7$, you win $\uparrow \mathrm{A}$, and declarer follows with $\mathbf{~}$. How do you plan to beat 3NT?

The hands mostly come from actual play where Dr McCance was at the table, and the difficulty level ranges from not too tough to very hard.

Have you thought about the hand above yet? Good defensive technique is like detective work what do we know? West can't have $₫ K Q J$, so declarer has either two or three spades to an honour. That means you can only score at most three spade tricks. Looking at your hand and dummy's, it's more likely declarer has long diamonds, so that leaves clubs or hearts as a source of defensive tricks - and dummy's hearts suggest a switch to clubs is more urgent, and probably can't cost.

The full hand:

## SOLUTION to Tim Bourke's Test Your Play SOLUTION

If spades are 4-4, nothing will prevent you making nine tricks. As West is likely to have led from spade length, the main threat to this contract is when K is with East and West has five spades. Suppose the full deal is something like this:

|  | ¢ 8 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | -K5 2 |  |
|  | -K983 |  |
|  | \& A Q 1096 |  |
| ¢ A J 963 |  | ¢ 1074 |
| - J 973 | $w^{N}$ E | -1086 |
| - J 4 | $W_{S}{ }^{\text {E }}$ | -Q765 |
| - 83 |  | \& K 42 |
|  | ¢ KQ 52 |  |
|  | - A Q 4 |  |
|  | - A 102 |  |
|  | ¢ J 75 |  |

The way to make 3NT here is to let 10 hold at trick one by playing low from hand. When East continues with the seven of spades you must play a low spade for the second time, discarding a low heart from table. West can do no better that play the jack and ace of spades next (as you have the three winners in hearts plus $\$ 10$ and $\$ 9$ the defenders cannot attack a red suit successfully).

After you gain the lead, you will lead J and run it (unless it is covered). On this layout East will win $\pm K$. That will be the fourth defensive trick while you will have nine tricks: one spade, three hearts, two diamonds and four clubs.


- 10932
- QJ 92
- 94
$+754$
- K J 87
- 1083
-A 763
\& K J

|  | - A 64 |
| :---: | :---: |
| N | - A 52 |
| $\mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{s}} \mathrm{E}$ | -102 |
|  | +98632 |
| - Q 5 |  |
| - AK4 |  |
| -KQJ 85 |  |
| - A Q 10 |  |

"Play a high club, and partner should get the message that you worked out there was no rush to take your spade tricks immediately. Dr McCance doesn't rate, rank or sort the problems by difficulty (that would be giving away too much information, wouldn't it?), but he does address the critical issues on each hand that you as defender need to look out for and consider."

Ian was a pupil at Melbourne Grammar School, as was former VBA President and current President of Zone 7, Ben Thompson. In a speech where Ben lauded the contribution to bridge of former grammar pupils, Ian was included:
"I had the great pleasure to play with Dr McCance for many years, representing Victoria several times."

## Great minds think alike

Seniors Teams Round 2,
Board 15, South deals, NS vulnerable

- A 109
- KQ975
- J 1062
- 10

- K J 872
$\bullet 10$
- 93
-KQ986
- 6543
- 6432
- K Q 5
- 54

Neil Ewart related this deal, where his actions as defender from the North seat were exactly the same as Chris Quail, North at the next table.

The auction at the EWART table:

| West | North | East | South |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | pass | ¢ J 82 |
| 12 | 17 | 14 | pass | ヤKJ64 |
| 2 | pass | 29 | pass | - J 96 |
| 2NT | pass | 3NT | all pass | \& K J 2 |

Board 9, North deals, EW vulnerable

|  | -9753 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - AQ9 3 |  |  |
|  | -K |  |  |
|  | - A 653 |  |  |
| - J 82 |  |  | $\triangle \mathrm{A} Q$ |
| -KJ64 |  |  | $\bullet 752$ |
| - J 96 | $W^{N}{ }_{\text {E }}$ |  | - A Q 10742 |
| - K J 2 |  |  | -108 |
|  | - K 1064 |  |  |
|  | - 108 |  |  |
|  | - 853 |  |  |
|  | 2 Q 974 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Bock | Burgess | Emul | Lorentz |
|  | 1 - | 2 | pass |
| 2NT | pass | 3NT | all pass |

EMUL played LORENTZ in this round, with Richard Douglas-Bob Sebesfi NS, and Paul Lavings—Robert Krochmalik EW for LORENTZ.

Stephen Burgess and Gabby Lorentz play a strong club system, which normally include fivecard majors. Opening 1 with a singleton king, often the systemic answer in a big club system is never a comfortable fit with me, so I totally approve of the $1>$ bid.
With his soft values, Stephen Bock had a marginal 2NT bid over Emul's 2 bid, which succeeded due to a friendly lie of the cards. Stephen Burgess stayed away from the only winning lead, a club, opting instead for a spade.

Gabby Lorentz won $\uparrow$ Q with the king and switched to $\uparrow 10$, covered with Bock's $\uparrow J$ and won by Burgess with the queen.

Burgess switched back to spades, and Bock, in with $\uparrow \mathrm{A}$, and worried about entries, laid down $\downarrow \mathrm{K}$, dropping the singleton king. Now \& 10, ducked to Burgess' ace meant nine tricks. Bock was the only declarer in 3NT, +600 and 10 IMPs.

At the other table, system requirements saw North declaring 1 with the singleton king - still, only 50 ( -150 .)

The main interest for me was the appearance of the intra-finesse. On a low club to the eight and nine, won by declarer with $\boldsymbol{J}$, the defence is in

| RonKlingerBridge.com |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Problem 2 |  |  |  |
| What do you lead? |  |  |  |
| East deals, EW vulnerable |  |  |  |
|  | North |  | South 3NT |
| dbl |  | all pass |  |
| West to lead from: |  |  |  |
| - 95 |  |  |  |
| - A Q J 732 |  |  |  |
| - 965 |  |  |  |
| -43 |  |  |  |

control. When in with $\uparrow$, South can continue $Q$, pinning East's 10 (it makes no difference if $\$ 10$ is played at trick one.

Board 13, North deals, all vulnerable

- A 865
- QJ 83
- Q 10
- AJ5

| @ J 9 72 |  |  | - Q 103 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -K ${ }_{\text {w }}{ }^{\text {N }}$ | $2{ }^{\text {w }}{ }_{\text {S }} \mathrm{E}$ |  | -10965 |
| - AK8762 s |  |  | - --- |
| - Q 4 |  |  | -K108732 |
| - K 4 |  |  |  |
| - 742 |  |  |  |
| - J9543 |  |  |  |
| +96 |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Bock | Burgess | Emul | Lorentz |
|  | $1 \mathrm{NT}^{1}$ | pass | pass |
| dbl | pass | 32 | pass |
| 3 | pass | 34 | dbl |
| 3NT | dbl | all pas |  |

1. 13-15

This deal was disastrous for EMUL. Bock decided to come in via a double, intending to bid $2 \diamond$ over Emul's 2id. Emul, however, with his six-card suit tried 3*, and when that passed unscathed, Bock would have done well to leave bad enough alone. He converted to $3 \star$, however, and Emul tried $3 \uparrow$. Now the doubling started, and EW ended

in a hopeless 3 NTx , down three, -800 . This did not go well with the $3>$ contract at the other table.

Despite Deep Finesse confirming nine tricks in hearts are possible NS, not having X-ray vision meant down three, -300 and 15 IMPs away.

## Women's Teams, Round 5



This round saw TRAVIS take on the powerhouse McCALLUM squad, with Kate McCallum and Sally Brock EW against Barbara Travis and Candice Ginsberg, and Renee Cooper-Jovi Smederevac NS against Diana Smart—Elizabeth Havas.

Some background on McCALLUM:

## RonKlingerBridge.com

## What do you lead?

## Solution to Problem 2

The deal comes from Stage 1 of the 2008 Australian Open Teams Selection.

West elected to start with $『$ Q. This was not the winning decision, as the full deal reveals:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { \& J } 43 \\
& \text { \& } 65 \\
& \text { } 32 \\
& \text { K K } 9852
\end{aligned}
$$

| -95 |  | - AKQ 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - AQJ732 | $w^{N}{ }_{\text {N }}$ | -10984 |
| - 965 | $\mathrm{w}^{\text {s }}$ | - Q |
| -43 |  | 2 J 1076 |
|  | - 10862 |  |
|  | - K |  |
|  | - AKJ 10874 |  |
|  | * A |  |

$\Upsilon Q$, or any lower heart, gives declarer his ninth trick. 3NT redoubled making was +800 and 14 IMPs against the datum of EW 610. A minor suit lead should hold declarer to eight tricks. A spade or $>$ A lead can give the defence nine tricks. Five down redoubled would be +2200 and +17 IMPs, just a swing of 31 IMPs on the choice of lead!


Sally Brock has been at the forefront of women's bridge in England since the mid-1970s.

She has partnered some of the icons of women's bridge - Nicola Smith, Sandra Landy, as well as our own Fiona Brown, with whom she won the silver medal at the Venice Cup in France, 2017 and the McConnell Cup, USA in 2018.

Jovi Smederevac is also world class. She has visited Australian shores before, playing the Gold Coast Congress in 2020.

Kate McCallum we all know, and we love her for making Australia her home, enriching our bridge scene and giving her time in support of improving women's bridge. She is a true champion of the game, and a pleasure to watch at the table.

The fourth member of the team, Renee Cooper is an incredibly talented young player, coming from a bridge-playing family. She has had a wealth of experience with a variety of partners in her short bridge career.


TRAVIS were doing OK until Boards $10-14$ saw the IMPs flowing into the out column.

Board 10, East deals, all vulnerable

|  | - Q 942 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - 32 |  |
|  | - K 10 |  |
|  | +A6532 |  |
| - A 10 | N | AK863 |
| -K9875 | $\mathrm{w}^{\text {E }}$ | - AQ 764 |
| - 73 |  | - J 32 |
| - KQ 84 |  | - 7 |
|  | - KJ865 |  |
|  | - Q 4 |  |
|  | - Q J 92 |  |
|  | + 107 |  |

Travis - Ginsberg, NS, did not take a bid, allowing Brock - McCallum a clear run at $4 \vee$, which cannot be beaten. I suspect a five-card $2 \boldsymbol{4}$ caused the damage in the other room, with 4 undoubled two down and 9 IMPs to McCALLUM.

Board 12, West deals, NS vulnerable

|  | - AK 32 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - QJ875 |  |  |
|  | - 108 |  |  |
|  | +K4 |  |  |
| - J 4 |  |  | - Q 109 |
| -1093 | $w^{N}{ }_{s} \mathrm{E}$ |  | $\checkmark 42$ |
| -Q975 |  |  | - AKJ4 3 |
| - A 762 |  |  | - 1085 |
|  | - 8765 |  |  |
|  | - AK6 |  |  |
|  | -62 |  |  |
|  | * Q J 93 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Brock | Travis | McCallum | Ginsberg |
| pass | 17 | 2 | dbl |
| 4* | 44 | all pass |  |

It is a sign of an effective partnership when you can push your opponents around a little. Here, McCallum's thin $2 \diamond$ bid caused problems for Ginsberg, who could double for takeout or make a limit raise in hearts. She chose to make the takeout double.

Brock forced Travis to make a decision with her $4 \diamond$ bid, and Travis chose 4@, unfortunate in that there were four losers in spades but only three in
hearts, with 10 coming down in three rounds and allowing the spade losers to disappear. -720 on the deal and 12 IMPs to McCALLUM.

Board 13, North deals, all vulnerable

- 1094
- 108
-K 1094
*KJ84
- 72
- KJ95
- A 865
- A 93


AK863 - AQ764

- J 32
- 7

A A Q J 5

- ---
- Q
- Q 10

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Brock | Travis | McCallum | Ginsberg |
|  | pass | pass | pass |
| $1 \downarrow$ | pass | $1 ष$ | dbl |
| $2 \downarrow$ | $3 \&$ | $4 \downarrow$ | all pass |

When Ginsberg failed to open in third seat, impetus got Brock - McCallum to the heart game.
On the face of it, it appears North cannot get in to push a spade through, but this does not matter, as there are only nine tricks-as long as $\boldsymbol{~} \mathrm{K}$ does not win a trick.

McCallum won the club lead, and thought about the play. She started by eliminating clubs, using entries to dummy in trumps. When hearts were 2-2, she cashed $\forall A$ and played a second diamond, ducking Travis' 9 in this ending:


At this stage declarer has won six tricks, so needs four more. There are two trump tricks in dummy, so giving a ruff and sluff will only give one more trick.

Ginsberg, endplayed with $\downarrow$, cashed $A$ and played $\uparrow$ Q. That meant McCallum could win $\uparrow \mathrm{K}$ for nine tricks and ruff a diamond for the $10^{\text {th }}$ trick. "Never give a ruff and sluff", I remember a long ago partner yell at me. He was sometimes wrong!
Board 14 continued the negative trend, with Travis - Ginsberg bidding a good heart slam, one down when trumps didn't break, while at the other table, the NS pair stayed safely at the five-level, 11 IMPs away.

McCALLUM won Set 5 by 46 IMPs, and a small win in Round 6 saw TRAVIS in tatters, some 33 VPs behind the runaway leaders.

Going into the last day of the Swiss, the top three teams in each field are:

Seniors: Lorentz, 89.6 VPs, Buchen, 86.78 VPs and Watson, 80.99 VPs

Women: McCallum, 98.08 VPs, Packer, 77.03 VPs and Dawson, 76.00 VPs.

## Online bridge discussion

The ABF has set up the Online Bridge Committee to investigate all aspects of on-line bridge in Australia. It is acknowledged that both in-person and on-line bridge are important for the future of our game. The Committee is very interested in hearing from all stakeholders in our bridge community.

An online survey is being prepared which will be sent out shortly, but while we are together in Canberra, we are also organising a face-to-face discussion session on Tuesday January 17, in between sessions at the venue. If available, please come along to participate in this session.

The session will be held in the break room adjacent to reception in the Rex, commencing at 12.15pm.

## Jenny Thompson, <br> Online Bridge Committee

## Interstate collaboration

Queensland women's pair Fay StantonGabrielle Elich enlisted the assistance of the Partnership Desk to find a pair for the Women's Teams and were matched with ACT pair Tamara Cutcliffe—Gill Tidey.

Fay and Gabrielle are Sunshine Bridge Club members. Tamara and Gill have been enjoying the chance to play against strong opposition.


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Would You Bid
(or wouldn't
you?)
by Joan Butts
From the ABF Mixed Team Playoff, December 2022

Many interesting
 and exciting hands came up in the Mixed Playoff in Canberra, which I played with Sydney expert Michael Courtney.

Try these deals yourself, and then read what happened in the playoff. Who knows, maybe you'll be part of the Mixed Team next year?

## Example 1

Board 9, Set 1, North deals, EW vulnerable


- 653
-A9654
\& K 852
You're first to bid. Do you pass or does your system have a bid for this hand?

You are North at favourable vulnerability. If you pass, the bidding will start:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | pass | 19 | pass |
| 24 | $?$ |  |  |

Your turn again...do you come into the auction now or stay out? After all you only have the minors, but you're at favourable vulnerability.

What happened:

|  | ヘ --- |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\checkmark 63$ |  |
|  | - A 9654 |  |
|  | -K8752 |  |
| - A 43 |  | - Q J 10952 |
| - J982 | N | - AKQ 74 |
| -KQ10 | s | - 2 |
| - 1064 |  | \& J |
|  | - K 876 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 10$ |  |
|  | - J 873 |  |
|  | - AQ9 3 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ware | Edgtton | McManus | Ashton |
| pass | 14. | 1NT | pass |
| $2{ }^{1}$ | $3{ }^{*}$ | 4 | 58 |
| pass | pass | dbl | pass |

54 all pass
If you pass throughout, the bidding will go:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | pass | $1 \uparrow$ | pass |
| $2 \boldsymbol{2 a}$ | pass | $4 \boldsymbol{a}$ | all pass |

4a will make 10 tricks for +620 , losing one spade, one diamond and one club.

The playoff results were:
5 (East) +100 NS
5\& X (South) - 100 NS
4- (East) - 650 NS
54 (West) +100 NS
All four tables passed at first, but two tables came in with 2NT (minors) at their next turn to bid. At both these tables South bid $5 \boldsymbol{*}$, once playing there doubled, and the other managing to goad their opponents into 54.

At the other tables, one pair reached 5 without interference, and the other table was left alone in 4.

My view:
I don't think it's a good idea to enter the auction at all, as there's a lack of suit quality in the North hand. But bidding seemed to work here...

But...how do you know how far EW are planning to go? Bidding to show the minors would seem to help the opponents know the layout of the NS hands.

## What do you think?

Please send your opinion to me (Joan Butts) via the editor at sleksix@gmail.com

## TASMANIAN FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

## 23-26 March 2023


#### Abstract

It will be four years since the last Tasmanian Festival of Bridge in Hobart and this year it will be held in a spacious, comfortable and well-equipped new venue, MyState Bank Arena, about 15 minutes from the Hobart CBD.

The Swiss Pair events are for players of all levels including Rookies ( 25 or less masterpoints on 30 September 2022)


For entries and more information go to myabf.com.au/events/view/424

## Or contact

Hugh Grosvenor, Entries Co-ordinator hugh.grosvenor@gmail.com (m) 0447044141
or
Katherine Marsden, Event Organiser kmarsden26@gmail.com (M) 0418135618

## Entry Fees

An early bird (EB) discount will apply for entries received by $28^{\text {th }}$ February 2023.
Entries close on Monday $20^{\text {th }}$ March 2023

| TFoB Restricted Swiss Pairs $\$ 220$ per pair | EB $\$ 200$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs: $\$ 220$ per pair | EB $\$ 200$ |
| Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs: $\$ 220$ per pair | EB $\$ 200$ |
| TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs: $\$ 230$ per pair | EB $\$ 210$ |
| TFoB Rookie Swiss Pairs: $\$ 90$ per pair | EB $\$ 80$ |

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## TASMANIAN FESTIVAL of BRIDGE



## MyState Bank Arena, Glenorchy Thu $\mathbf{2 3}^{\text {rd }}-$ Sun $\mathbf{2 6}^{\text {th }}$ March 2023

## Thursday/Friday

TFoB Restricted Swiss Pairs
Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs - PQP event
Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs
Saturday/Sunday
TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs - PQP event
Sunday
NEW
TFoB Rookie Swiss Pairs for players with < 25 MPs

## Saturday Evening Dinner

NEW
Bookings by $20^{\text {th }}$ March essential

## Entries now open on myabf.com.au

or for entries and other enquiries contact
Entries Co-ordinator: hugh.grosvenor@gmail.com 0447044141
or Event Organiser

