Trumps Bridge Centre Festival of Bridge

26 DECEMBER 2015 – 3 JANUARY 2016

The schedule:

26 December (Sat)
Swiss Pairs

27 December (Sun)
AB Teams

28 December (Mon)
Open & Restricted Pairs
1-session Pairs

29 – 30 December (Tue – Wed)
Bridge Shop Teams

30 December (Wed)
Gourmet Pairs

31 December (Wed)
Gourmet Pairs

1 January (Fri)
Gourmet Pairs & Individuals

2 January (Sat)
Festival Pairs

3 January (Sun)
Festival Teams

Four off vulnerable... and 5 IMPs in

The annual Trumps Festival of Bridge runs from Boxing Day to the new year, and over its three-decade history has developed into a Sydney institution.

This year's final event was the Festival Teams on 3 January. On the eve of the event, Lynn Baker and Peter Robinson mentioned they would like to play, and were matched with Alex Kemeny and son Max. This scratch team rose to fifth place by the second last round, and the Kemeny duo found themselves against a pair playing the unusual Fantunes system, whereby 2-level openings may contain up to 14 points, and 1-level openings are forcing and can be very strong:

West opened a Fantunes 1C, showing 2+ clubs and over 14 points. Max Kemeny, North, bid 2C, intending it as natural, and East passed. Alex was South, and thought that 2C in this situation was Michaels (two-suited in the majors), so he bid 2S.

West was constrained by system to pass (double would be for takeout). No doubt he hoped that East would double for takeout, which he intended to pass for pleasure. But North and East both passed. So South became declarer in the unlikely contract of 2S!

Board 10
Dealer E | Vul Both

	♠ Q42 ♥ 983 ♦ Q3 ♣ AQJ72	
♠ AK75 ♥ AQ5 ♦ AK9 ♣ 653	N / W E / S	♠ J9 ♥ KT72 ♦ T862 ♣ KT8
	♠ T863 ♥ J64 ♦ J754 ♣ 94	

11
20 7
2

W	N	E	S
		P	P
1C	2C	P	2S
P	p	p	

Fantunes 1C = 2+C and 14HCP+

Took partner's 2C as Michael's

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	–	–	–	–	–
S	–	–	–	–	–
E	3	5	4	3	4
W	3	5	4	3	4

West started with the ♦A. Declarer is always able to take two clubs, one spade and one diamond trick. Four off; minus 400. At the other table, Lynn Baker and Peter Robinson bid to 3NT and made nine tricks, for +600 and a 200 point pickup.

That board was worth +5 IMPs, enough to push the team to second place going into the last round. That proved a mixed blessing, for they were then up against the winning team of Michael Courtney, Terry Brown, Sue Ingham and Jeanette Reitzer (pictured) who inflicted a maximum defeat to end their fairytale.

Announcing the results of the event, director Nick Hughes pointed out that the winners were so far ahead of the other teams that even if there was a round still to go, they could claim their prize and not bother playing the last round!

Photo Gallery

The winning Festival Teams – Michael Courtney, Terry Brown, Sue Ingham and Jeanette Reitzer.

Celebrating the festive seasons with bridge.

Swiss Pairs winners Egon Auerbach & Davorah Lees

The playing room.