

May 29, 2021

Bridge with Richard Ward

Bridge players can be a generous lot especially when asked to raise funds for a good cause. In recent years, Queensland clubs raised tens of thousands of dollars for bushfire victims and, prior to that, for drought relief. Last Sunday was the turn of the Zephyr Foundation [zephyreducation.com.au] which helps children affected by domestic violence get back to school with all the clothing and equipment that they need. It was a productive day generating a most welcome \$10,000.

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| NORTH | | |
| ♠ | J 10 9 5 | W/ EW VUL |
| ♥ | A 8 3 | |
| ♦ | 6 4 2 | |
| ♣ | 7 5 2 | |
| WEST | | EAST |
| ♠ | A K Q 8 2 | ♠ 7 6 4 3 |
| ♥ | 6 | ♥ 7 4 |
| ♦ | K 10 7 | ♦ J 9 8 3 |
| ♣ | J 8 6 4 | ♣ K Q 10 |
| SOUTH | | |
| ♠ | - | |
| ♥ | K Q J 10 9 5 2 | |
| ♦ | A Q 5 | |
| ♣ | A 9 3 | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 1S | PASS | 2S | 4H |
| PASS | PASS | PASS | |

West started proceedings with the obvious ace of spades. Declarer could count nine tricks and, if the diamond king was well placed, that would make ten. But, noticing that dummy had three entries (can you see them?), South could see a better chance. She ruffed with the king of spades then led the queen of spades to dummy's ace. Next came the jack of spades on which she threw a losing club. West won and switched to a club: 4-2-Q-A. Crossing to dummy again in hearts: H5-S2-H8-H7, she played the ten of spades throwing the last club. Now that the nine of spades was high, declarer triumphantly led the heart two to dummy's three, cashed the spade winner and finally took the losing diamond finesse for a possible eleventh trick. Had West been clairvoyant she would have led a club at trick one, destroying South's opportunity for brilliance, but such leads only happen in bridge books.

ZEPHYR CUP TEAMS: 1 Charlie Lu / Watson Zhou / Neville Francis / Patrick Bugler; 2 Ivy & John Luck / Ralph Parker / Alan Smith; 3 John Morris / Neven Burica / Agnes & Barry Kempthorne; **B** 1 Kim & Ray Ellaway / Charles Page / Simon Fleming; 2 Murray Perrin / Wendy Cuthbert / Margaret Plunkett / Greg Gosney; 3 Roberta Tait / Annette Hogan / Lex Ranke / Jack Rohde.
