Trumps Bridge Centre March Teams

4 MARCH 2018 (SUN)

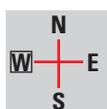### A Post-code Hand

by Derrick Browne

The Trumps Teams on 4 March was won by Peter Jeffery, Axel Johannsson, Wayne Zhu and Yumin Li. Pictured after the event is Axel with Karen "Kate" McCallum - an American world bridge champion visiting Australia – who was on another team. Asked for an interesting deal either of them had played in the day's teams competition, they instead revealed that they had partnered each other the previous day for a game at the Kings and Queens club, where this was their first deal:

Board 4
Dealer W | Vul All

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                ♠ KJ82
                ♥ QT54
                ♦ T982
                ♣ A
    ♠ A                       ♠ 9654
    ♥ AKJ3          N         ♥ 872
    ♦ KQJ6      W  ✦  E       ♦ A
    ♣ 9752          S         ♣ KQJ86
                ♠ QT73
                ♥ 96
                ♦ 7543
                ♣ T43
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```
        10
   18  [  ]  10
        2
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W	N	E	S
1C	X	XX	?

would you bid to escape or pass to let partner decide?

West elected to open 1♣, over which Axel made an aggressive takeout double on the North cards. East redoubled to show 10+ points. Rather than reply 1♠ (or 1♦) to the double, Kate decided to pass, leaving it to partner to escape from 1♣ redoubled. However, Axel thought perhaps Kate wanted to play in clubs, and 1♣ redoubled became the final contract, making 12 tricks, giving Axel and Kate a score of -2230 for their first board!

Also playing in the Trumps teams was another world champion, Ashley Bach, formerly of New Zealand, winner of the 2016 World Open Pairs with Mike Cornell, making them New Zealand's first and only world bridge champs. Australia has never won a world bridge championship, although Aussie Fiona Brown has won for England, where she now lives.

Why is Karen McCallum more commonly known as Kate? She is also an artist and would sign with her initials KT, and her husband took to calling her Katie, and ever since then she has taken a liking to the name, referring to herself as Kate.

Axel Johannson and Kate McCallum.

Enough trivia. More importantly, agree with partner what pass means, after 1-of-a-suit has been redoubled, and save yourself a loss of truly world champion proportions!