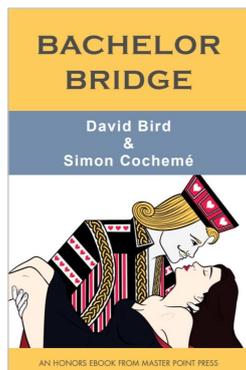


Book Reviews by Paul Lavings

Bachelor Bridge

A most enjoyable book



Bachelor Bridge

By David Bird & Simon Cochemé (An Honours Book from Masterpoint Press, Toronto, Canada, 2020, soft cover, 153 pages)

\$29.95 post-free from paul@bridgegear.com, 0408-888-085 or 02-4295-0870

OR

\$27.00 from the book stall at NSWBA

I first read Bachelor Bridge—the Amorous Adventures of Jack O’Hearts when it was published in 1994 and thought it a little risqué with lots of excellent hands. The 2020 reprint is an enhanced version with a few extra deals for good measure.

There are twenty-six chapters each with two or three hands and featuring a girl or woman that crosses Jack’s path. His attitude towards the opposite sex is perhaps questionable by today’s standards, political correctness was not an everyday concept in 1994.

This deal is from the Chapter on Randy:

Dealer E | Vul Nil

♠ 872	♠ T3	<table style="border: 1px solid gray; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AQJ4
	N											
W			E									
	S											
♥ 97	♥ T86542		♥ AKQJ3									
♦ 83	♦ AK5		♦ QJ97									
♣ KT9862	♣ 74	♣										
	♠ K965											
	♥											
	♦ T642											
	♣ AQJ53											

W Keith Swann	N Jack	E George Waites	S Randy
		2C	3C
DBL	//		

Randy ruffed the heart lead, crossed to ♦A and led a spade. East rose ♠A and played a top heart, declarer ruffing with her remaining low trump. Randy now cashed ♠K and ruffed a spade in dummy and cashed ♦K. To make the contract she would need three more tricks from this position with the lead in dummy:

♠	♠	<table style="border: 1px solid gray; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ QJ
	N											
W			E									
	S											
♥	♥ T865		♥ KQ									
♦	♦ 5		♦ QJ									
♣ KT9862	♣ 7	♣										
	♠ 5											
	♥											
	♦ T6											
	♣ AQJ											

When a diamond was led, West had to ruff his partner’s winning card and return a trump into declarer’s AQJ. This was repeated when declarer led another diamond and the contract was duly made.

I don’t normally bother with bridge humour where animals or aliens are playing bridge but in Bachelor Bridge there are many more hands than text and lots of great one-liners such as:

The omens were good; I always fancy my chances against opponents who pick up their cards one at a time.

A most enjoyable book, I often found myself laughing out loud while reading. Great entertainment.