

# Bridging generations

Canberra Summer Festival of Bridge Director Sean Mullamphy



The 40th Canberra Summer Festival of Bridge will be an exciting tournament of strategy, guile and wit as local and international competitors display their talents in spades.

By LAUREN HAYWARD

**R**ydges Lakeside Hotel will be hosting some of the best bridge players in the world from January 16 to 29, but alongside those champions will be amateurs and newcomers wanting to experience the thrill of competitive bridge.

Tournament director, Sean Mullamphy said that this year's competition will be hosting about 800 players.

For Sean, this festival is yet another among hundreds that have allowed

him to forge a career from a game that he began playing in his early 1920s.

"It's all consuming," Sean laughed.

"It's a mind game, like a combination of chess, poker and risk - it takes strategy and patience." Having first discovered the game in his final year of university, Sean never imagined that it would lead to a career, but he found himself organising tournaments more regularly and soon realised he had time for little else.

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'See Canberra and The Surrounding Region' is a full gloss magazine designed to target the local, regional community and visitors to provide detailed information of the many things to see and do in Canberra and the region.

With a circulation of 75,000, this publication provides the perfect avenue for local businesses and businesses in the surrounding areas to advertise their services to this valuable market.



The adage goes that if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life; and for Sean this rings true.

Sean is passionate about bridge, but unfortunately does not get to play very often as his time is spent organising the tournament, running playing sessions and teaching the game to newcomers.

"Once people start playing, they really begin to love it because it's quite a social game. You're always

meeting new people and playing against different teams and the club organises various social events," he said.

With the upcoming Festival of Bridge, Sean hopes to draw even more people to the game he loves.

Although bridge is not normally a spectator sport there are plenty of aspects to the game to pique the interest of anyone considering playing.

The game is exciting, strategic and allows players to improve their skills through social or competitive play.

For the players, participation in bridge reduces risks of senility and encourages mental elasticity as different areas of the brain are concurrently engaged when playing.

The game is also a great opportunity to meet new people from a local community or around the globe. With competitions

in Bermuda, Italy and the Netherlands, along with hundreds of other cities and countries, bridge is an entirely international game.

For more information on the Festival of Bridge, the Canberra Bridge Club or the game of bridge contact the Canberra Bridge Club, 6282 2382.

## See More

### 40th Canberra Summer Festival of Bridge

**Where:** Rydges Lakeside, Canberra

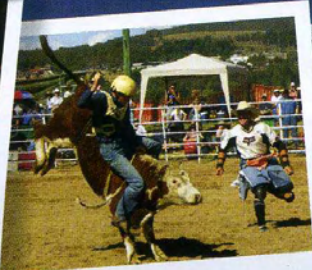
**When:** January 16 to 29

**Cost:** Entry prices vary

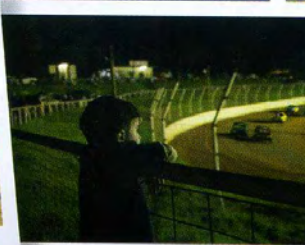
**Website:** [summerfestivalofbridge.com](http://summerfestivalofbridge.com)



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