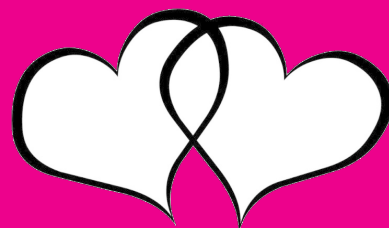


MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG

The Charm of Bridge

One of the charms of bridge is the unpredictability. In January Turkish National Mix finished as number 16 out of 18 and Alpert won. This event Turkish National Mixed won the Round Robin and Alpert did not qualify.

Just Spinnin finished second after their first and in the last match, as Austerlitz fought for their top-4 spot. They will play Turkish National Mix, while Just Spinnin will have the Strawberries.

Yesterday we said auf wiedersehen to six teams. We enjoyed following your endeavours and hope to see you all back in March.

Among the teams we said
goodbye to yesterday was
Nesheale, which means
David Gold now has time to
go playing in the snow



All players should enter BBO 10 minutes before the beginning of a match. TD Denis Dobrin will instruct you where to sit. All players must have their name in their BBO-profile. Private isn't allowed for the sake of opponents and kibitzers.

Today's Schedule

Thursday February 11

10:30 EST / 16:30 CET – SF 1/3 (16 boards)

12:50 EST / 18:50 CET – SF 2/3 (16 boards)

15:10 EST / 21:10 CET – SF 3/3 (16 boards)

Final Ranking Round Robin

Results

Future events
mmt.bridgeresults.org



Seating Rights



As an experiment we try giving the higher ranked team from the RR seating rights in the knock-outs. Read more in the CoC either in the pre-bulletin or on our [results page](#).

We remind the semifinalists to do your lineup in time.

Ranking after round 9		
rk	team	VPs
1	 TURKISH NATIONAL MIX	116.65
2	 JUST SPINNIN	112.67
3	 STRAWBERRIES	108.24
4	 AUSTERLITZ	103.70
5	 SWEDEN MIXED	93.82
6	 TULIPS PLUS	93.16
7	 WEST COAST VIKINGS	79.22
8	 ALPERT	76.63
9	 NESHEALE	58.73
10	 JJCarRodAA	57.18

Semifinals

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Sum2	Seg3
 TURKISH NATIONAL MIX	10.1	<u>0</u>	10.1		10.1	
 AUSTERLITZ		<u>0</u>	0		0	

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Sum2	Seg3
 JUST SPINNIN	6.1	<u>0</u>	6.1		6.1	
 STRAWBERRIES		<u>0</u>	0		0	

It's Tough at the Top

By Mark Horton



Writing in yesterday's Bulletin, the Editor pointed out that the leaders, Just Spinnin, faced a potentially awkward run-in, so it made sense to see how they would fare in the first match of the day against fourth placed Sweden Mixed.

It was not a match of big swings, but there were a few points of interest.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

<p>♠ A 10 8 7 4 ♥ 8 6 4 3 2 ♦ A ♣ K 7</p>		<p>♠ K 9 3 ♥ J 10 ♦ Q 10 5 ♣ Q 9 5 3 2</p>		<p>♠ Q J 5 2 ♥ 9 7 ♦ K 9 8 6 ♣ A J 6</p>	
<p>♠ 6 ♥ A K Q 5 ♦ J 7 4 3 2 ♣ 10 8 4</p>					
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH		
G Hinze	Åhlén	P Hinze	Gunnarsson		
—	—	1♦*	Pass		
1NT	Dble	Pass	2♥		
All Pass					

West led the ♥J and declarer won in dummy and immediately embarked on a cross-ruff. If she takes timeout to play a second round of trumps, she will be able to throw East in with a spade to lead away

from the ♣A and collect 11 tricks, but as that is not particularly obvious she was content to make the contract, +140.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lemborn	A Cappelletti	Lemborn	M Cappelletti
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

East led the ♥9 and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the ♣4 for the five, king and ace. The heart return was taken in dummy and declarer cashed the ♦A and cross-ruffed, losing a spade and two clubs, +620 and 10 IMPs.



Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K Q J 6	♠ 10 4 2	♠ 8 7
♥ 7 2	♥ K 9 8 4 3	♥ A Q J 10
♦ Q J	♦ K 3	♦ A 9 2
♣ J 10 7 6	♣ A 8 5	♣ K Q 3 2
	♠ 9 5 3	
	♥ 6 5	
	♦ 10 8 7 6 5 4	
	♣ 9 4	

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G Hinze	Åhlén	P Hinze	Gunnarsson
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♦5 and declarer took North's king with the ace and knocked out the ♣A. he rejected the heart finesse and scored 11 tricks, +660.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lemborn	A Cappelletti	Lemborn	M Cappelletti
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♦8 and declarer took North's king with the ace and knocked out the ♣A. He eventually took the heart finesse and scored 12 tricks, +690.

Would anyone reach 6♣?

Debbie Benner bid the slam with Ish Delmonte



Yes indeed! Four pairs got there, Delmonte-Benner, Aluf-Kokten, Versace-Albert and Franceschetti-Setton. I'll show you the latter's auction - I like it because they didn't need Blackwood:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Setton		Franceschetti	
1♠		2♣	
3♣		3♥	
4♣		4♦*	
4♠		6♣	
Pass			

6♣ is perhaps better than it looks at first glance, as you may well get a red suit lead which more or less hands you the contract. That happened at all four tables.



Hilda Setton

East led the ♣4 and declarer took the third round in dummy, cashed three diamonds and played a heart. When East went up with the ace declarer could claim nine tricks, +400.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lemborn	A Cappelletti	Lemborn	M Cappelletti
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT*
2♣*	Dble	2♦*	Dble
2♠	Dble	All Pass	

Well done by Franceschetti-Setton, yet the slam was a push in the match between Strawberries-Alpert, won by 3 IMPs by the French, en route to the semifinals.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

		♠ K J 5	
		♥ 9 6 3	
		♦ A K 10 4	
		♣ 9 6 2	
♠ Q 10 9 6 3	♠ 8 4 2		
♥ Q 10 4 2	♥ A 8 7		
♦ J	♦ 9 6 2		
♣ K Q 8	♣ J 10 7 5		
		♠ A 7	
		♥ K J 5	
		♦ Q 8 7 5 3	
		♣ A 4 3	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G Hinze	Åhlén	P Hinze	Gunnarsson
Pass	1♦*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1♦ 11-16, 1+♦ 3♠ Transfer to 3NT

1NT 14-17

2♣ Majors

2♦ Relay

North started with the top diamonds and declarer ruffed and played on clubs, South winning and playing a third diamond. Declarer ruffed and played three more clubs and North ruffed and exited with a heart. South won and exited with a diamond, but declarer ruffed in dummy and played a spade, one down, -200 and a 5 IMP swing.

To collect 500, North must discard on the fourth round of clubs after which the ♥A should be declarer's last trick. Another possibility is for South to ruff the fourth club with the ♠A and then play a spade, allowing North to play three rounds of the suit when South will collect a heart and a diamond.

It was a good start for the leaders who won 31-22, putting pressure on Sweden Mixed by knocking them just outside the top 4 with two matches to go.

The Dreaded Board 12

by Christina Lund Madsen



In the highlights from day 2 board 12 had a leading role in two of the three matches.

The first was a tricky doubled partscore. I was curious to know if any found the line to make it. Great was my joy as I saw the results column with +100 for North-South (two +300) all the way down and then a lonely, blinking +530 for East-West.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

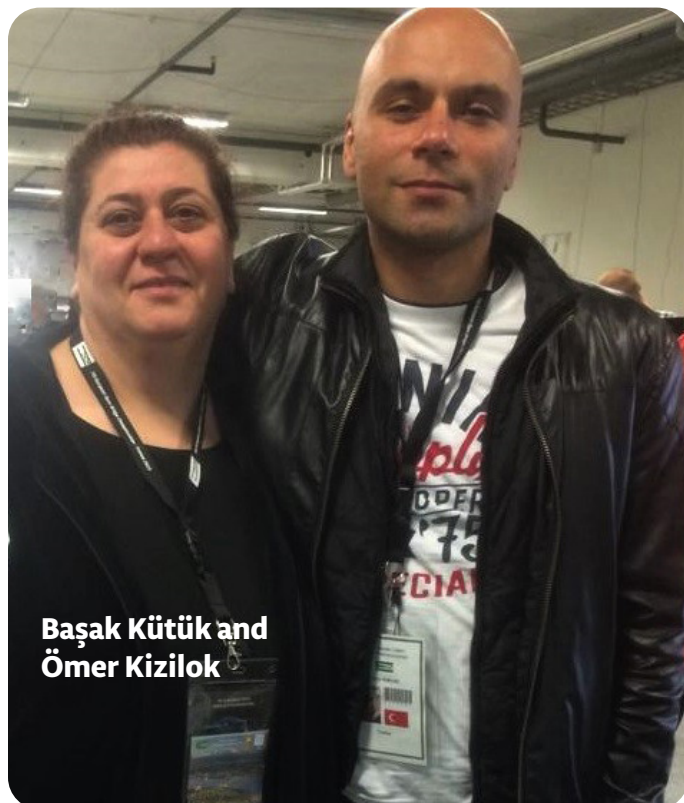
♠ 73	♠ A Q 5 2	♠ K T 9 6
♥ Q J T 9 6 5 3	♥ 4	♥ —
♦ A 8 2	♦ J T 9 4	♦ K Q 5
♣ 8	♣ A J 9 7	♣ K T 5 4 3 2
	<div> <div>N</div> <div>W E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	
	♠ J 8 4	
	♥ A K 8 7 2	
	♦ 7 6 3	
	♣ Q 6	

At 7 of our 10 tables the auction went 3♥ (Dble) All Pass. All tables received the lead of the ♦J. Ömer Kizilok from Turkish National Mix found the winning line. He won the diamond lead in hand and played his singleton club, won by North's ace. The szA was cashed and North exited with a spade, won by dummy's king. Declarer ruffed a spade, played a diamond to dummy, played the ♣K, ruffed (!) where it might be tempting to pitch a diamond,

as did many other declarers, thus giving up their chance to make the contract.

Another diamond followed, and when South did too, the party was over for the defence. West and East were both down to 5♥, and with declarer holding QJT96 over South's AK872, there was no way to get more than 2 heart tricks. +530 well deserved points.

Three players chose to open the West hand 4♥. We will not reveal who, but peculiarly one player's first name is the same as the first three letters of his last name, and another player's last three letters of her first name identical to the last three letters of her family name. You see if you can work it out.



Başak Kütük and
Ömer Kizilok



Nils Åhlén

The hand is one of the classics, where you make 6♦, but go down in 3NT. None of our heroes got to 6♦. Three pairs reached the safe 5♦:

Nils Åhlén - Eva Gunnarsson
 Betty Levin - Jan Jansma
 Rodrigo Garcia da Rosa - Judy Fox

The Swedes got closest with their auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gunnarsson	B. Delestre	Åhlén	D. Delestre
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

1NT 14-16 2♣ Stayman 4♥/♠ Quebids

The other table managed to end up in 3♦, so the Swedes picked up 6 IMPs despite not making it all the way to slam.

The rest of the tables played 3NT, most of them with East as declarer, which meant they made 12 easy tricks on a spade lead.

The third 4♥-opener's name rhymes with Gotta as in "I Gotta open 4♥ favourable". The only other player to find the winning line of play for nine tricks was the one with identical first three letters in first- and family-name, who unfortunately had opened 4♥.

A French Surcontre

If you dream of being in the bulletin, all you have to do is be in a redoubled contract - successful or not.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ A 7	♠ T	♠ K 8 6 4
♥ A K 7 3	♥ T 8 6 4 2	♥ Q
♦ K 8 5	♦ 9 2	♦ A Q J T 7 4 3
♣ 6 5 4 2	♣ A K T 7 3	♣ 8
	<div> <div>N</div> <div>W E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	
	♠ Q J 9 5 3 2	
	♥ J 9 5	
	♦ 6	
	♣ Q J 9	



Judy Fox

One table played 3NT by West, but after a 1♠-overcall, North led the ♠T.

Two tables played 3NT by West and went down on a small club lead by North. One of the two was Catherine Seale - David Gold, when Thomas Bessis unsportsmanlike led a club.

It turned out not to matter. Had they made their contract, they would have lost 14 IMPs rather than the 16 they lost now. Had they managed to bid the slam, they would have lost 10 IMPs.

This is what happened at the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Setton	Sandqvist	Franceschetti	Shashoua
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♠
Dble	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	Redble	All Pass

After the overcall North doubled for a club lead - the only lead to beat the contract - but South, holding such good clubs, probably just figured he believed the contract could not make, East-West having revealed nothing about the auction.



It is not often you see a French redouble, but Franceschetti felt on fire. When South led a spade, he scored the same 12 tricks as the rest of the field, but for the sum of +1400, so North's double turned out to be a bad investment. It would have been just as funny if the double had made East-West run to 6♦, but that is just the editor's imagination.

And Nick Sandqvist as the first managed to be Victim of the Day twice in a row.

Monthly Mixed Teams in 2021

22-24 February

8 - 12 March

22 - 26 March

12 - 16 April

17 - 21 May

7 - 11 June

February Mixed Pairs on RealBridge

St. Louis Mixed Teams

March Mixed Teams

April Mixed Teams

May Mixed Teams

June Mixed Teams

[Registration](#)

[Registration](#)

See the full calendar for 2021 at mmt.bridgeresults.org

DISCOVER THE NEW

BeBRIDGE

♥♣♦♠ by Le Bridgeur

THE JANUARY ISSUE
HAS JUST BEEN
RELEASED!



In this issue

The first 2021 issue of **BeBRIDGE** is packed with outstanding articles. **The Riddle of the Hands** updates you on the race to stamp out online cheating, while **The Online Contact Bridge League** offers an insight into some of the strongest online events. **David Bird's** Abbot is here with the latest instalment of the adventures of his bridge playing monks and **Alain Lévy** takes a penetrating look at 2 over one game forcing. Add to those all the regular articles that will maximise your bridge playing skills and fine tune your bidding systems it's an issue you must have.

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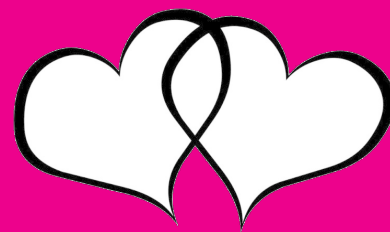
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MONTHLY MIXED PAIRS



FEBRUARY 22-24 ON REALBRIDGE

READ MORE AND REGISTER AT [MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG](https://mmt.bridgeresults.org)

Introducing the Monthly Mixed Pairs on RealBridge

Due to popular demand the Monthly Mixed Teams will host our first Monthly Mixed Pairs.

- Dates: February 22-24
- Time: 11:00 Eastern time/17:00 CET - 3:00/21:00
- Format: Matchpoints. Two days of qualification followed by A- and B-finals.
1/3 of the field will qualify for the A-final.
- Entry fee: 100 euro/120 dollars for three days of play (juniors half price)
- Boards 30-32 boards/day depending on number of participants. Either with a small break halfway through the event or enough time to go get a snack or coffee.
- Platform: RealBridge (realbridge.online)
- Registration: mmt.bridgeresults.org

Beginners as well as world class players are equally welcome.
We will have bulletins as you know them from the Monthly Mixed Teams, the same result software and a top EBL tournament director.

We have tested running events on RealBridge and would like to try this platform for the Monthly Mixed Pairs. We believe that though many like playing without shaving or doing their hair, meeting and chatting to so many opponents will add a social element. It is also possible to mute the audio and turn off the camera while getting coffee (or using the restroom as dummy) to limit the invasion of your privacy. We realize that many may not have not tried RealBridge before, but it is very easy and intuitive, and a profile is not even required. You simply log on via a link provided by us and play. The event will not be open to kibitzers.

If the tournament is a success, we plan to repeat the Monthly Mixed Pairs April 26-28 and perhaps a weekend, depending on your feedback in terms of format, times and wishes.

We are always happy to receive feedback, ideas and answer any questions you might have. You can write to mmt@bridgeresults.org.

Victim of the Day

Simon Cope

by Christina Lund Madsen



What is your age, where do you come from and live, what is your sexual orientation?

- I am a shameful 38 (I find it hard to believe), I live in a village called Radlett, which is just outside London to the North West. It is well known for being a peaceful commuter village, except for a brief period every mid December when it suffers a Scandinavian invasion for 5 days of debaucherous darts partying with various silly costumes. Surprisingly to some I am a heterosexual male (although I will admit to a bit of a crush on Jurgen Klopp).

What is your educational background and did you have any jobs outside of bridge?

- I went to University in Leeds – and studied French and Italian. This also involved living in Italy for 8 months and Montreal in Canada for 6 months – a thoroughly enjoyable experience. When I graduated I worked for a French Property Agency in London – managing their portfolio and liaising with our partner agencies in France. I quite enjoyed the work, but bridge soon took over and I only lasted a year or so.

What has troubled you the most during the past year?

- The Pandemic as a whole. As a single guy living on my own it has been really, really hard. I am lucky I have many good friends, but it is not the same catching up on Zoom as it is doing real world social stuff.

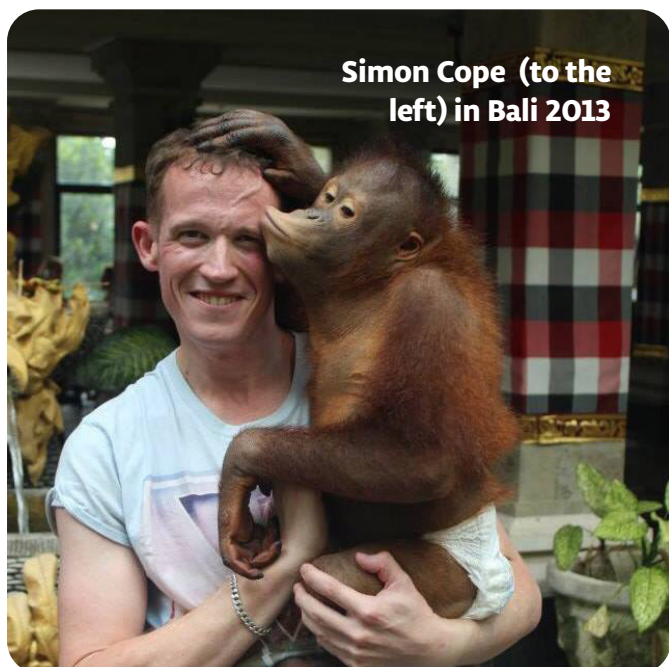


When they closed the golf courses that brought a new low, as it took away my walks and some social interaction. In addition, as a complete softie, it has been hard not being able to give my Mum (who is 82, wheelchair bound and lives on her own) a hug has been brutal. I am hopeful with the vaccine that the end is in sight.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- I began playing almost by accident really at school by coming across the bridge club. I was fairly instantly hooked.

What is your best bridge life memory?



Simon Cope (to the left) in Bali 2013

- Difficult – as unfortunately some of what should have been amazing memories have been tainted (such as when we won Bronze when I was NPC of England in Opatija 2014 European Championships, finishing behind Monaco and Israel). In terms of playing, either my first Gold Cup win in England in 2015 and my first NABC win of the Silidor Pairs in 2018, both with my long term partner Peter Crouch.

What is the best non-bridge related experience of your life?

- Probably my first ski trip as a total beginner in 2018, to Trysil in Norway – it is something given my weight battle over the years I never thought I would accomplish, and I absolutely loved it.

Name three things you are good at (bridge not being one of them).

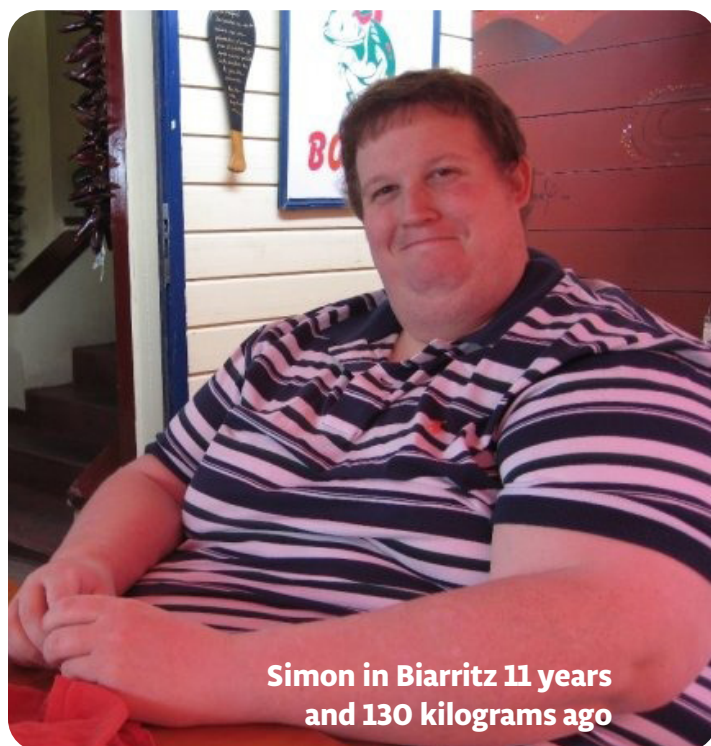
- Barbecuing. Going on holiday.
Being a friend (I hope!)
As a child, what did you dream of doing/ becoming as an adult?

I actually absolutely adore animals – and for a fair while I wanted to be a vet.

At some point there was a lot more of you to love. Will you share the story of your journey through the weight scale with us?

- I was very overweight for as long as I can remember. I have always had a pretty unhealthy relationship with food – my reaction to almost everything is to eat (happy, sad, anxious, elated, angry...). I lost a lot of weight in around 2004, but put a lot of it back on. In 2011 I again lost a lot – and started to put it back on and decided “that’s enough”.

With the encouragement and support of my great friend David Gold, I had a Gastric Bypass Surgery in January 2012. I am scared to admit this in public, but I once weighed 236kg. (519 LBs). I lost around 60kg before I had the bypass, and at some point got down to 87kg. Funnily enough some people said I looked to thin. I would like to settle at around 100 kg, but I am a little more than that at the moment but losing weight currently. I feel great for having done it – wish I had done it sooner and even more so if I could have done so naturally, but it is what it is.



Simon in Biarritz 11 years and 130 kilograms ago



**Simon with some random friends on a normal weekday
(we apologize for the man to the right -he is Dennish)**

What is the most important thing you picked up from your weight battle?

- How many people do not understand that a battle with food is the same as any other addiction, in fact arguably worse as one cannot stop eating, unlike other addictions, which can stop cold turkey (not saying they are easy to conquer by any means).

What advice would you like to give others who might face the same fight as you?

- It's not a miracle cure to have a gastric procedure – you have to work with it, but it is a tool to do the job. It can help you to a life you never thought you could have.

When in your life were you happiest?

- Truthfully when I thought I had found the girl of my dreams, and I was at my comfortable weight – this was in 2013 but it did not last anywhere near long enough!

If you could change something in your life, what would it be?

- My marital status!

What would your friends say is the best and most annoying part about you?

- Worst part – probably that I never shut up. Best part is my willingness to host a dinner or general booze up at mine.

What do you daydream about?

- Being on holiday in the sun, preferably near a golf course with good friends, good wine and the sunshine.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Fredrik Nyström, Jessica Larsson and Michal Klukowski?

- Easy! Kiss Jessica (sorry Helgy and even more sorry Jessica!), partner Fredrik (ice cool Swedish temperament) and kill Kluki (He's just annoyingly good for someone so young!).

Who do you think should be a future victim in the bulletin? Tell us something you would like to know about this person.

- Allie Cappelletti. Will she eventually get married or do I still have a chance?



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