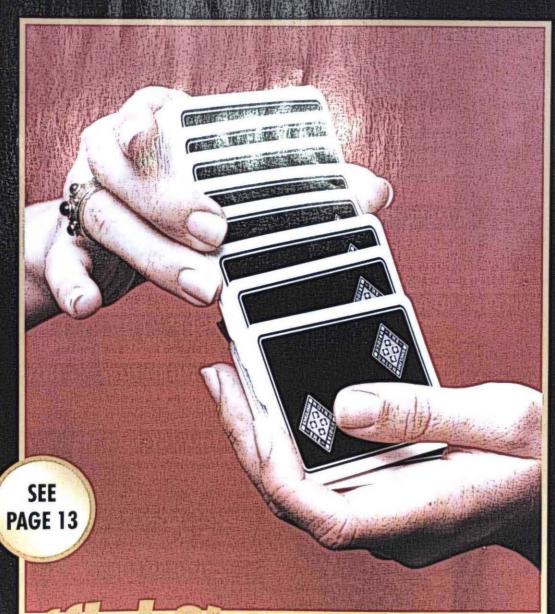
English Bridge

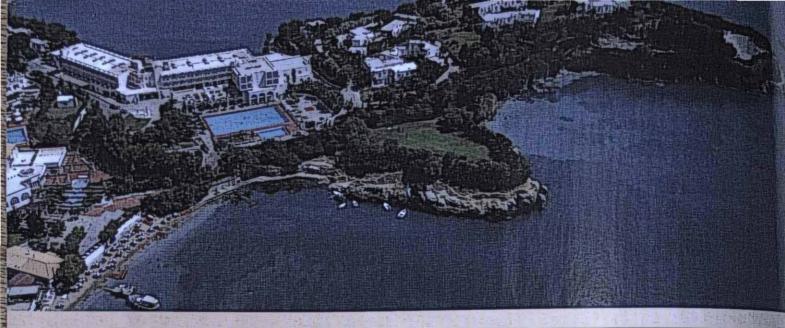


shuffle! Shuffle! Shuffle!

* NEWS FLASH! + The World Bridge Federation has approved the EBU, and the Welsh and Scottish unions as National Bridge Organisations

and the three countries can each compete in world events, starting with the World Olympiad at Maastricht in August

February 2000



5* SOUTHERN TURKEY - FEB/MAR - £299

We return to the hugely impressive 5★ Adora Golf in Belek, Southern Turkey for 6 weeks, departures on 15th & 29th Feb and 14th Mar. 2 nearby championship golf courses.

PAPHOS, CYPRUS – 1ST MARCH – £429

The impressive, high standard 4★ superior St. George in Paphos is close to shops and tavernas. There are several good 4 star hotels in Paphos but we believe the St. George is in a class of its own. Part owns nearby golf course. £100 less than brochure price.

5* AQUA ICEMELER – 3RD APRIL – £429

We are repeating our fabulously successful holiday to Icemeler, staying at the magnificent 5* Aqua, where we had superb sunny weather in the 70s everyday last April. Over £100 less than brochure price.

CRETE - 4TH MAY - £335/£499

Choose from the high standard 4* Hotel Hermes (£499) or its excellent 3★ sister hotel The Coral (£335) next door. Both have panoramic and central positions on the sea front of Aghios Nicolaos, overlooking the beautiful bay of Mirabello, surrounded by shops and tavernas.

VENETIAN RIVIERA - 5TH MAY - £499

We return to the superb family run 4★ Principe Palace with its excellent location, ideal for enjoying the beaches of the Riviera and the fascinating city of Venice. Under brochure price.

5* RHODES - 10th MAY & 11TH OCT - £499

We have contracted the superb, totally renovated 5★ deluxe Paradise Royal Mare, only 6km from Rhodes town. Set in its own extensive gardens and sandy beach, close to shops and tavernas. Fabulous air-conditioned conference room. Well under brochure price of £625.

IBIZA, FIGUERAL – 4TH JUNE – £559

Our third visit to idyllic Figueral near the beautiful resort of St. Eulalia with its elegant marina and upmarket shopping. The hotel Cala Blanca is set in extensive gardens leading to a golden sandy beach. The buffet is superb and there is free wine, beer and soft drinks with every dinner.

TROODOS MOUNTAINS - 5TH JULY £599

Our 5th visit to the enchanting Pinewood hotel where the temperature averages mid twenties in July. Full programme of walks and trips exclusive to the bridge group. Well below brochure price of \$742.

5* SKIATHOS - 26TH SEPT PG £499

Situated on the enchanting Greek island of Skiathos the superb Skiathos Palace has a beautiful beachside location and magnificent air conditioned conference room. Over £200 less than brochure price.

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8/15 Sept 3 nights £129 4 nights £159 7nts £239

CRETE - 10TH OCT - £499

We are returning to the venue of our very successful holiday of last October. The 4* Silva Maris in Hersonissos has its own beach with shops and tavernas all around. Only 20 mins from Heraklion airport.

5* RHODES - 11TH OCT £499

5★ deluxe Paradise Royal Mare (see May).

5* SOUTHERN TURKEY - NOV - PG £299

We return to the 5★ Adora Golf for the whole of November where we had superb warm sunny weather at the same time last year (see Feb).

AMATHUS, CYPRUS - 22ND NOV £399

The high standard 4* Atlantica Bay is a Thomson Gold hotel situated a short coastal drive from Limassol with breath-taking views and its own private sandy beach.

PAPHOS, CYPRUS - 22ND NOV £399

4★ luxury St George (see March).

5* SOUTHERN TURKEY - 21ST DEC £499

We return to the 5★ Adora Golf (see Feb) with its ideal mild winter climate and its fantastic range of facilties including a large indoor swimming pool. Well below brochure price, with direct flights, only 20 mins from airport.

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Love them or loathe them

LOVE them or loathe them, computers are here to stay, and they will proliferate. What's more they are having a major impact on the game of bridge.

Computers are already used for scoring everything from a session down at the club to simultaneous pairs scored across the country - for teaching the game, for practice play at home, for competing in internet competitions.

They can access websites full of bridge information. On the EBU site you can check the laws, download a convention card, find national results - and links to

other sites around the world.

At least 20 counties, and scores of clubs, have their own sites. At the touch of a few keys you can see details of coming events, contact names and addresses, discover yesterday's local results - or even

Elsewhere there are other resources. Try:

www.rgb.anu.edu.au/bridge

Here you find an archive of much of the bridge information that has been electronically published around the world. If you went to the Bridge Plaza site you could see all the results of the World Championships in Bermuda as they happened and follow the play, card by card!

New online club

And soon the EBU is planning to launch its own online bridge club in a joint venture with two other organisations (see Page 35). Because it will be exclusively British, most players will be using Acol, rather than the Standard American that is played on most online clubs.

Where will it all end? Well, we certainly 'haven't seen anything yet!' In a year or two, when the internet can be accessed from your armchair through the TV, everyone and not just PC owners will be joining in. It is almost impossible to imagine the full

But of course all this will be complementary to club bridge, where bridge players will still be able to enjoy the comaradarie of playing with like spirits. Thousands find fun, friendship and solace in their weekly game. That must never disappear.



Best of Bridge



Houseparties



Teaching

See Page 7

New organisation for British events

Now that the British Bridge League has ceased to exist as a national bridge organisation, with the EBU and the other home unions each being recognised separately as NCBOs, the Camrose home internationals and British championships such as the Gold Cup will be run by a small new organisation called Bridge Great Britain. The EBU's representative is Gerard Faulkner. The secretary is Sandra Claridge, tel 01844

BGB will also run simultaneous pairs on nine days each year, with Anna Gudge, formerly of the BBL, as organiser.

Inside information...

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- News for young players
- Prize Bidding Brits do it again
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- 15 Snap, crackle, and pop
- 17 Bridge for All
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AMAZON

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Easy rider

David Burn is well known as a raconteur, witty writer and bridge laws guru. His prowess on four-legged beasts is less well known. This snatched photograph of him in the saddle has come into our hands, and instead of our usual cartoon competition we're offering a £15 voucher for the funniest caption received. Send to: Cartoon, English Bridge, Wynford, Awliscombe, Honiton, Devon EX14 3NT.



Two Gold Cup victories in three years

A team led by Alan Mould, of Manchester, won the Gold Cup, Britain's most prestigious teams trophy – for the second time in three years. Playing in the winning team was John Collings, aged 66, who first won the cup almost 30 years ago.

The last stages of the knock-out event are held at the Peebles Congress. In the final Mould (Collings, Gary Hyett, Howard Melbourne, Jim Mason, Martin Jones) seeded fifth met Unal Durmus (Espen Erichsen, Brian Senior, Ian Monachan, Joe Fawcett, Glyn Liggins) seeded sixth.

In a closely fought match the score was tied at 99imps after 48 of the 64 boards, but Mould's team forged ahead to take the prize 139imps to 108.

Eastern County League

Eastern County League results: A Div: Norfolk 39vp from 5 matches; Essex 29 from 5; Herts and Suffolk 24 from 3. B Div: Norfolk 48 from 5; Northants 32 from 5; Herts 24 from 3. C Div Essex 32 from 5; Norfolk 30 from 5; Suffolk 25 from 3.

Do unto others...

A lady opened the bidding. With an bidding from the opposition, her partner responded. I hand the hand was then passed with no further bid from opener. When opener's hand was tabled it contained 16pts and four spades. Declarer now says very meekly: "Partner, don't you think you could have supported my spades?" To which the reply was: "Why should I? You didn't support my diamonds." — from the Worcester Bridge News.

Sober and silent

The European Bridge League have decided not to allow smoking and the drinking of alcohol in the playing areas at all European championships. The use of mobile phones and pagers will also be banned.

European Seniors for Brighton

The European Seniors Congress will be incorporated into the Brighton Summer Meeting this year. The Swiss Pairs event will be played on Aug 14/15, the Swiss Teams on August 16/17.

Rita dies after last victory

Rita Oldroyd, who in 1969 became the first woman to become a Grand Master, has died suddenly – two weeks after winning the main pairs event at the Blackpool Year End Congress.

Rita, who was 78, was taken ill 10 days after the congress with meningitis, and died soon afterwards in hospital.

She was once a regular member of the British ladies' team and in the 1970s won two European Championships and a Silver medal in the Venice Cup, the world ladies' championship.

Rita started to play Auction Bridge in 1946 when she married her husband Arthur. She lived at Pudsey in West Yorkshire and for the last 25 years had played her club bridge at Bradford BC.

In recent years her eyesight had been failing and she had to use special aids. But she was still a formidable opponent, as her last victory at Blackpool showed.

Peter Slatcher

Peter Slatcher, who has given long service to bridge in the Isle of Man, where he had been chairman of the county association, died just before this edition was published, aged 62. His widow, Erika, is the current secretary.

International banned for switching packs of cards

WELSH international Tony Haworth has been banned from playing bridge for ten years for cheating at the Welsh Foursomes championship last year. He was accused of switching cards on four occasions.

At a hearing held by the the laws and ethics committee of the Welsh Bridge Union it was said that Haworth, a steel company manager, of Porthcawl, would arrive at a table and replace the cards with one of his own packs before the other players arrived. He would then deal without shuffling.

He was being watched as a result of suspicions raised at previous events. One of the hands he substituted he had played at a Welsh Cup Final two years earlier.

When he was confronted Haworth, a former president of the Welsh Bridge Union, admitted he had switched packs, but denied he had ever done so before.

Details of the WBU hearing were sent to the EBU and the World Bridge Federation to ensure that Haworth, who had represented Wales 11 times and had been a non-playing captain, will not be able to play anywhere in the world during the ten-year ban.

Haworth, whose bridge scoring computer program is used by many clubs, said that his partner Keith Pratt, another Welsh international, had not known he

was cheating.

Weeks after the the WBU decision Pratt died suddenly at the age of 50. A few days later he was due to be the non-playing captain of Wales in the first home international of the season, against England.

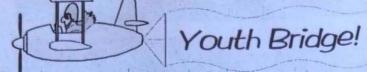
The cheating incident was reported in the national Press, including a front page report in the Daily Telegraph. The Mail on Sunday said that Haworth had switched cards so that he would "win in a considerable style that would attract the admiration of his fellow players."

There is great sympathy for his wife, Pat, who is also a bridge player. She had no idea what was going on and is said to

be "devastated."

This is the first time in living memory that a leading British player has been found guilty of cheating at the table. In 1965, Britain's leading pair, Boris Schapiro and Terence Reese, were accused of giving finger signals at the World Championships but were found not guilty after a year-long inquiry conducted by a QC. They never played together again. Two years ago Schapiro won the World Senior Pairs at the age of 89.

☐ Last year the EBU introduced the use of Duplimate computer-dealt cards in most major competitions, which makes the substitution of packs virtually impossible.



Feast of bridge for young players

AN exciting new event for bridge players of school age will be held in May this year. Players from all over the country will be welcomed to Loughborough Grammar School in Leicester, where there will be bridge and MiniBridge competitions for all ages and all

experience By Christine Duckworth levels.

The day of bridge will incorporate the Schools Cup and Plate competitions for the top players, but there will be plenty of opportunities for everyone to win prizes.

The event has been organised following the decision to restructure the Schools Cup in the light of falling entries over the last few years. Instead of poorly attended local or regional heats, the competition will be run on a single day, as part of a bigger 'bridge-fest'.

Play on the day will all be for teams of four, but pairs or individuals can come along and be formed into teams. The top flight competition within the overall event will be the

Duckworth as an all-play-all tournament, in which each school can enter its

All other flights, both bridge and MiniBridge, will be played on a Swiss basis and there will be many prizes and trophies for the leading teams in different categories.

The Schools Plate will be awarded to the best placed team in the bridge Swiss Teams whose players all come from



one school, and there will be an award for the leading team representing a single bridge club. The event will be open to teams of players from different schools and areas.

The challenge day will not just cater for the young players – there will be an adults' competition as well. So parents, teachers, friends and relatives, anyone who might be inveigled into accompanying a team, will also be able to enjoy a game. And various bridge personalities will be in atten-

dance to liven up the day.

Loughborough Grammar School provides a friendly, central and accessible venue for the inaugural Young Bridge Challenge, which will take place on Sat, May 13. The EBU is most grateful to the school for offering to stage the event. Start of play will be 1pm, with a prize-giving ceremony about 7pm, so most players will be able to travel there and back in one day. It should be great fun for all-make a note of the date!



Mel Starkings

Mel wins new teachers' award

AN AWARD has been introduced to recognise the work of teachers who have made an outstanding contribution towards the promotion of bridge at school. The award has been named after Alec Salisbury, who has been a tireless worker in this field for many years.

An original member of the EBU Youth Working Party, which has now established and adjudicates this award, Alec was for many years National Schools Liaison Officer until his retirement two years ago and he continues to work hard as County Youth Officer in Berks & Bucks.

It was very easy to decide



Alec Salisbury

who the first recipient should be – one name sprang to everybody's mind. Mel Starkings has run the bridge at Loughborough Grammar School for many years. He has encouraged large numbers of pupils to take up the game and many of them have achieved considerable success – the national junior teams have included LGS students consistently for quite a long time.

In addition, Mel is always willing to organise and host events for players from other schools, always enthusiastic, and always coming up with new ideas for getting more schools bridge under way.

Mel's award will be presented to him at the Young Bridge Challenge 2000 in May, when the maximum number of people will be present to cheer. It is intended to honour other teachers in this way, and individuals are welcome to nominate candidates.

Carrying the torch for youth

A NEW initiative has been launched to promote young bridge through existing bridge clubs. A selected few clubs are working on a pilot scheme to investigate the best ways of doing this, which could be anything from establishing a junior 'club within the club', to integrating young people as regular members of the club, or getting club members involved in other junior bridge activities.

The clubs involved have been designated Beacon Bridge clubs - carrying the torch for young bridge. They include many of the premier centres for bridge across the country: Brighouse & Spenborough BC, the County BC in Leicester, Derby School of Bridge, Gerards Cross BC, Manchester BC, St George's Bridge Centre in Darlington, the West of England BC in Bristol and the Young Chelsea BC in London.

Each is trying out a variety of different activities with the aim of identifying the most successful. The pilot will be evaluated

later this year, following which a blueprint will be produced for other clubs to use.

If you are a young player or know of a youngster who would like to get involved with a Beacon Club, watch out for details of what is going on in your locality. If you have ideas to contribute to the pilot scheme please get in touch with your nearest centre, which will be very pleased to hear from you. Contact details are available from the EBU Education Department.

Hilton Bridge 2000





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*Hilton Norwich	Aug 11th - 13th	£116
*Hilton Avisford Pk, Arundel		£159
*Hilton Blackpool	Aug 28th - 1st Sep	£261
Hilton Milton Keynes	Oct 6th - 8th	£118
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Robson, Forrester, Shugart, Helgemo

Champion Brits do it again!

BRITAIN's Tony Forrester and Andrew Robson were in the team that won the prestigious American Reisinger Trophy, the US National Open Teams, for the second year in succession.

Tony, playing with Gier Helgemo of Norway, and Andrew, with Rita Shugart of the USA, won by over eight boards, a feat bettered only

By Ann Mayhew

once in the 70-year history of the event (and that was Goren, Schenken, Leventritt and Ogust in 1963).

With nine hands to go, the team could have packed up and gone home, and still won the event – though they didn't know that.

"What we will remember forever," Andrew told me, "was the stillness that fell on the room as the immense size of the victory became known."

James Mates, ITN's man in Washington, accompanied the team to the Fall Congress at Boston, Mass, as a (strictly non-playing) mascot. They had all jokingly agreed that if they were doing well, James would bring Rita a kir royale. In the third last round, James appeared with the cocktail for Rita.

"That was the first real indication we had that we were winning," Andrew said.

In second place was the leam who represented Italy in the Bermuda Bowl world championships last month.

The Reisinger Memorial Irophy is named in memory

of New York philanthropist Curt H. Reisinger (1891-1964), a major patron of contract bridge in its early years.

bridge in its early years.

The list of past Reisinger winners reads like a list of Who's Who in bridge, including legendary names like Culbertson, Jacoby, Kantar, Kaplan, Gerber, Wolff and Mahmood. Charles Goren won it a record seven times – three times with Charles Solomon, twice with Helen Sobel and twice with Harold Schenken.

During the same week, Forrester, Helgemo, Robson & Shugart walked away with the prize for Boston's first major tournament, a two-day board-a-match.

☐A total of 12,749 tables were in play during the US Fall Congress.

PRIZE A COMPETITION YOU CAN ALL ENTER B O O O O O O

Take a look at the bidding sequences below and decide which one of the hands East could have for the bidding shown. East/West are playing Acol with a weak No Trump and four-card majors. Teams of Four scoring. There are prizes for three categories: players up to and including County Master, up to and including Regional Master, and for those with a higher ranking.



Entries to: Andrew Kambites (Prize Bidding), 1 Stratford Court, Stratford Road, Stroud, Glos, GL5 4AQ, to arrive by mid-day Feb 25. Indicate on the top left of the envelope which category you are entering. Entries will be opened by Andrew Kambites and the first one in each category that, in his judgement, is correct will win a £15 EBU voucher.

Millennium grant to start new club

CONGRATULATIONS to Nottinghamshire members Eric Brown and David Buxton who have received a grant from Help The Aged Millennium Fund to start a new bridge club.

David asked Eric early last year if he would be willing to teach at the new club if funding were to be made available. Eric agreed, not expecting anything to come of it. The original application was for just over £700, the estimated cost of providing tables, cards and other necessary equipment. The Millennium Fund came back with a view that this estimate was too low.

"They made a few suggestions," Eric said, "and we realised that we had not included essential things like rent. We revised our application and now have over £2,000 to get us going."

The new club, to be known as the ABC club, will meet in the village hall at Awsworth, Notts

Why ABC? Eric explained: "Members will be drawn from three neighbouring villages, Awsworth, Babbington and Cossall."

Cossall has famous literary links. Frieda von Richtofen, mistress of DH Lawrence, lived in Rainbow Cottage in Cossall and the novelist is believed to have stayed for a time in a nearby farmhouse. Whether the pair played bridge is not recorded!

Roy Hughes in Lincolnshire has received a grant from the same source to start a new club in Bassingham. Roy will be teaching *Bridge for All* to his 18 new members.

The fund, now closed, was established to provide recreational facilities for older people and their communities in rural areas. Grants of from £1,000 to £10,000 were available. If anyone else received similar funding, the EBU would like to hear about it.

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How is this for hard luck!

HAVE your readers ever heard of a disaster as bad as the Yorkshire team endured in the Tollemache? We had been comfortably leading virtually throughout, out of the nine competing counties.

With six boards to score, we could afford to lose by 182imps and still qualify. We lost 186imps, and converted a 19-1 half-time lead into a 1-19 defeat. We finished 2nd= and failed to qualify for the final on a split tie. Peter Littlewood and I lost 110imps to 2 and our other N/S pair must have been minus 78!!

There were some positive things: 1. It encourages all bridge players to know that so-called experts can have disasters. 2. Never give in. However far you are behind there's always hope. — *Graham Jepson, Sheffield*.

When the winners come second!

THE letter from Barrie Partridge (December) concerning hard luck stories leads me to what I find to be a strange anomaly in bridge team events – the fact that matches won take second place to goal difference.

In this year's heat in Northumberland of the GolfPrint event for golf clubs we won all our matches and yet finished second! In virtually all other team sports matches won are the prime consideration. Can anyone explain why this is not so in bridge? – Mark Havery, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

No consideration for the winners!

HARD luck stories? Many years ago in my first congress, at Bridlington's first congress, my partner and I scored 70% in the qualifying session in our section only to find that not only had we not won outright but that another pair with exactly the same score were awarded first place on a split tie, and thus were given the section winner's prize. We received nothing because the organisers couldn't afford a 'consolation'. – L Jackson, Hull

Don't give back defenders' rights

MR GILMORE asserts (December) that the removal of defender's right to enquire 'Having none?' favours inattentive players over attentive ones. How so? Surely, limiting defenders' protection against revokes favours defenders who revoke less frequently – who would be the more attentive defenders.

Mr Gilmore judges the erosion of dummy's rights as 'generally to be deplored', although he adduces no

Politics 'as good a game as bridge'

MORE LETTERS

ROY HARROD'S fine biography of Lord Keynes gives some fascinating glimpses of the great economist's love of bridge. When he was at Eton not only was he a brilliant scholar and excellent wall game player, he also found time for bridge. In January, 1902, he wrote to his father: "I played bridge with Gaselee and friends a few nights ago (and won a shilling) and I play again this week. S.G. had his usual equipment of port, cigars and brandy and sodas."

In 1903 when he was an undergraduate at Kings College, Cambridge, and was becoming involved in Liberal politics, Keynes wrote to his father: "I have been waxing quite political lately – a most amusing game and a fairly adequate substitute for bridge."

Later when a don at Kings College, Keynes continued to play bridge. According to Harrod he was "a respectable but not a great player, always ready to take a risk for the sake of trying out some new idea." It seems that Keynes played his bridge at a fast pace and when other players took a little time to think about a problem he used to ask them: "What do you think about when you play bridge?"

Of course in the early part of his career Keynes would have been playing auction bridge. It would be interesting to learn whether he continued to find time for bridge later in his distinguished career. – Stewart Platts, Arnside Bridge Club, Carnforth.

rationale in favour of this conclusion. It is the right of any player to deplore it if he or she so chooses, but Mr Gilmore goes further and claims to speak for others. He has no mandate to speak for me.

Indeed his stance is difficult to reconcile with his preference for a framework that favours attentive players, as more attentive declarers have less need of dummy's assistance that in former times all too frequently suggested to declarer a line of play that he would otherwise have missed.

-Tim Ackers smtp://tim_ackers@compuserve.com Topsy-turvy play

you write

AT A club duplicate my partner and I sat at one table with an infrequent visitor to the club – a very pleasant lady who primarily plays bridge at home. As dummy during one hand she heard declarer ask about our carding methods. I explained our system and summed it up by adding: "We play upside-down count and attitude".

At this point she said: "I missed the first bit. Did you say you play upsidedown attitude?" On being told that was correct she asked if that meant my partner and I played our cards face down when trying to indicate suit preference! – Ian Dovey, Nottingham.

5-card Stayman with weak NT

I AM not entirely convinced by Ray Keech's answer (English Bridge, December), to the plea for the weak 1NT with 5-card majors. I do not believe there is any good reason why the two should not be combined.

My partner and I have recently

My partner and I have recently adopted the style of opening all balanced hands in the 12-14 point count range with 1NT and combining this with 5-card Stayman. So far we have been very satisfied

been very satisfied.

The 2 response asks opener to bid a 5-card major. Opener bids 2 to deny a 5-card major. With a game going hand, and four cards in one or both majors, responder then bids 3 asking opener to bid any 4-card major. With a game invitational hand responder will rebid a 4-card major at the two level, or 2NT not having a 4-card major. These bids are not forcing. Nor is opener's bid of 2 over responder's 2 rebid. - Allan Ridgeley, Abingdon, Oxon.



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Are your hands truly random?

ARE the duplicate hands at your club thoroughly shuffled and random? Or are the hands regularly 'flatter' and less interesting than they should be?

It is surprisingly difficult to mix the cards properly using the conventional shuffling procedures, with the result that at most bridge clubs the deals will routinely be significantly less random than they should be, according to the law of

Not only does this mean the hands will be less interesting to play, all of the theories of bridge bidding and play are based on the premise that the card distribution will be consistently random. For example, six cards in the opponents' hands are more likely to split 4-2 than 3-3. But the odds only hold good if the cards are truly random.

This is now achieved in most major competitions by the use of computer-generated deals - even though some players complain about 'wild hands'. Certainly, players are conscious that computer-dealt hands are different from those they encounter at their club.

Since computer dealing is not a practical option for most club duplicates the players are obliged to shuffle the cards, just as they always have done, in the belief that this will suffice. Unfortunately, it usually does not! Four years ago Andrew Brown, writing in English Bridge, concluded it was necessary to 'riffle' shuffle the pack at least ten times to ensure a proper mix of the cards. Using the 'chop' shuffle, even after thirty repeats the outcome was still barely satis-

The severity of this card mixing problem was revealed by an earlier review of more than thirteen hundred duplicate hands which had been played at the Abingdon Bridge Club (Harry Freeman and Len Salmon 'How random is your bridge hand' Bridge Magazine, October 1996). This detailed statistical analysis showed clearly that the card distributions were consistently and significantly flatter than they should have been

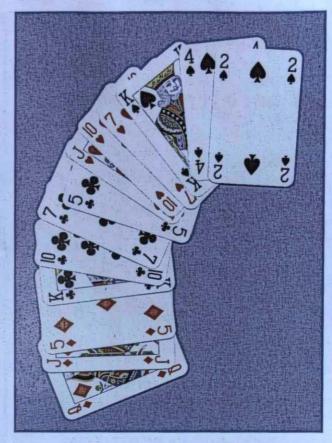
Anomalies

While the results were specific to Abingdon we judged that they were probably equally relevant to similar duplicate events in clubs around the UK.

It seemed clear that the anomalies which we were observing simply reflected the fact that at the end of a typical duplicate event most players just reinsert their cards in the boards without bothering to mix or sort them.

When the same duplicate boards are

Another boring 4-3-3-3



hand!

By Harry Freeman

distributed to the tables at the beginning of the following session they will tend to be made up with sets of hands in which the cards have a similar order. It was the persistence of this card ordering which led to the hands not being properly random, as our Abingdon study of 1336 hands, which had been shuffled and dealt in the normal way, showed.

One quite striking result was a marked increase in the frequency of the most common suit distributions. For example, there was an excess of almost 30% in the number of hands with a 4-4-3-2 distribution, compared with what was statistically expected.

The Solution

There was a corresponding reduction in the occurrence of voids, singletons and sixcard and seven-card suits - voids were 44 % fewer than they should have been.

When I recently undertook an even more extensive exercise at another local bridge club, at Witney, I found that the hands were similarly non-random. But I was then able to show that the card-mixing problem could be overcome, resulting in an increase in the random nature of the hands, by a very simple procedure.

At the beginning of each event, just before the boards were distributed to the tables, the card symmetry resulting from the previous event was broken up by removing just three of the four hands in each duplicate board, one at a time. Their thirteen cards were mixed very quickly and quite cursorily and then replaced in the slot. Subsequently players shuffled and dealt in the normal way.

As well as ensuring that the deals now have a much more random distribution, the perception of the Witney players is that this card-mixing procedure also leads to a more interesting and enjoyable game. Moreover, it has proved to be so easy to do that the procedure is now used routinely at Abingdon as well as Witney.

I conclude that it could similarly provide other bridge clubs with a very simple means of dealing better hands at their duplicate events.

A fuller account, with statistical analysis, is available on the Abingdon club's

http://websites.ntl.com/-clive.keep/freeman01.html.

It will also be available via a link from the Oxfordshire website:

http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/richlons/

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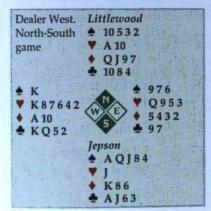
Master

THE Seniors Congress is ever popular and the teams at Coventry again attracted a waiting list. For a minimum of three years, Bridge Holidays Abroad are sponsoring the congress and the new Seniors Summer Congress at Eastbourne, giving not only money, but two holidays to each of the winning pair and champagne for the winning team! We all would like to thank their managing director, Charles Wade, who is a member of Manchester Bridge Club.

The Championship Pairs event consists of two qualifying rounds to reduce the field to 14 tables in each of the Main and Consolation Pairs for all-play-all finals. At the end of the qualifying we could be forgiven for thinking that this Congress was for the sole benefit of Graham Jepson & Peter Littlewood. They have only played

By Maureen Dennison

for the last three years, winning the pairs twice and teams once. At the end of the qualifying rounds they were again leading the field. On their way to winning both qualifying sessions Graham Jepson did a nice piece of card reading on this hand, scoring 91/94 match points:



West opened 1♥, passed round to Jepson who bid a strong 2♠ which Littlewood raised to game. West led the ♠K to declarer's ace and Jepson took stock. Why not the ♥K lead? Declarer decided that the queen must be with East who surely would have kept the bidding open if he also held the ♠K. Acting on this assumption, Jepson laid down the ♠A and was very gratified to see the king singleton fall!

However they were not to triumph for the third time in a row. The winners of the Championship Pairs were the long standing partnership of Heather Hobson & Roy Garthwaite 1½% ahead of the Leighton brothers, Cecil and Morris. Bill Towsend & Clive Owen, team-mates of Jepson & Littlewood, were third, the same position as last year.

A nice top for the winners was this fun hand (see top of next column):

When Hobson opened with a Multi 2. Garthwaite enquired with 2NT, wondering what he would do if partner showed him a weak heart hand: should he bid 4. Garthwaite as expected, West responded 3. Showing 8-10 with hearts. Garthwaite's latchless was North decided.

Snap, crackle and pop at the Seniors

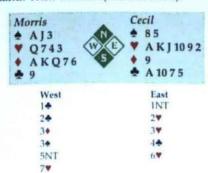




his hand was worth a 3 overcall! East's double ended the auction.

Defence was perfect. VK was taken by the ace and West played the queen to indicate a spade honour. A spade was led from table and Hobson rose with the king and cashed two hearts, Garthwaite throwing spades. West then led the V2 confirming that her last points were in the club suit. The heart was ruffed and over-ruffed but it was easy for Garthwaite to exit in clubs. When the dust settled they had 500 under their belts for a complete top.

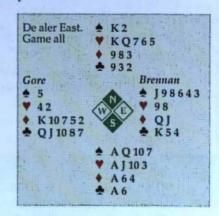
The Leightons are also past winners and they and the leaders were the only two pairs to bid a grand on the following hand. Their auction (hand rotated):



1 ♣=16+; 1NT=11+, unbalanced 4+ controls; 2♣ relay. Whilst 3♦ was natural it showed at least two hearts. 3♥ confirmed a six-card suit and set trumps. A couple

of cue bids plus a GSF and they were in 7. The trumps broke three-nil but careful play engineered two club ruffs.

The Consolation Pairs was won decisively by Steve Gore & Ed Brennan by 2½ tops from Tom Gisborne & Sandy Davies in spite of a zero on this board:



South opened 1♥ second in hand and Gore wondered whether to overcall 2NT. He decided vulnerable opposite a passed hand it would merely help the opponents. He passed and the bidding continued 3♥-(No)- 6♥! Now he was glad he had not disclosed his shape but he undid the good work by leading his singleton spade, picking up his partner's jack! It was some consolation that the odds favour a spade finesse and that declarer would probably have made the contract anyway. But Gore was cross that he made things so easy for a lucky punt!

The non-qualifiers played Swiss Pairs. Detta Bentley & Angela McReady, both Surrey, played on table 1 throughout. However my partner John Samuels and I beat them in the penultimate round and we finished 8 vps ahead.

So to the Sunday Swiss Teams. Jepson & Littlewood, back in form, again lifted the trophy and the champagne with Owen & Towsend! Second were Eric Hartland, Roger Keane, Jean Wellsbury & Derek Davies.

Ten Commandments Duplicate Players

- 1 Thou shalt not come to the Club with a streaming cold.
- 2 Thou shalt not come to the Club looking as though you have just been jogging.
- 3 Thou shalt not come to the Club at the very last minute, unless it is completely unavoidable.
- 4 Thou shalt not arrive at a table without greeting opponents.
- 5 Thou shalt not leave a table without thanking your opponents.
- 6 Thou shalt not gloat over a favourable result.
- 7 Thou shalt not argue at length over a previous board.
- 8 Thou shalt not tell opponents how they could have made a contract.
- 9 Thou shalt not end the evening without thanking your partner, however badly he or she may have played.
- 10 Thou shalt not leave the Club without putting away your bidding boxes and thanking the Director.

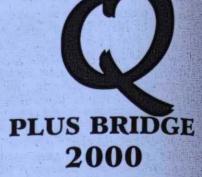
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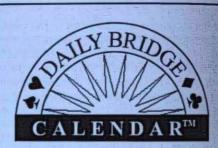


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Bidding big balanced hands

ONE of the great excitements in the class was when we learned to bid BIG hands. All that the students knew was that hands where the point count started with a two were opened at the two level. Next issue I will look at Acol Two Bids but let's look first at the 2NT opening, showing 20-22 points.

♠ AJ83 KQ10 AQJ2 A 8

This super hand is stuffed with high cards. 21 high card points - right in the middle of the 2NT opening range. You may not

be able to see where the eight tricks are coming from, but partner has 13 cards too. Some will surely be useful.

How might the bidding continue? Partner is allowed to pass, but only needs 4 points to respond, since that should give our side enough to try game. If partner responds we are forced to game - there is no weakness takeout of 2NT. This is because the higher starting point leaves no room for invitational bids. Responder bids as though partner opened 1NT, but one level higher. Look at how the bidding might go facing the hand above.

- ₾ 106 ¥ 932
- ♦ 9654

♣ KQ73

Margaret said 'It's only 5 points'. True, but nevertheless facing a minimum of 20, it must come to at least 25 points. Bid 3NT

with confidence. Take away the &Q and



Standard English by Sandra Landy



make it the 4J and you still bid 3NT, but with less confidence!

Q6 19832 9654 ♣ Q3

Barbara couldn't believe I wanted her to bid this miserable heart suit. Partner raised to 47 with 3-card support. One can

see that a club lead could be very damaging to 3NT and 4 is a much better contract.

K 1065 1932 965

Peter remarked he hadn't a 5-card suit to bid but 3NT seemed wrong. He had forgotten that 3. would be Stayman, ask-

ing about majors. He cheered up when partner bid 3♠ and happily raised to 4♠. Had partner bid 30 with no major, he would have bid 3NT.

K1065 J9832 9 ♣ K73

On this deal, Peter couldn't see how to show a 5-card heart suit, whilst checking up on a 4-card spade suit in partner's

hand. It took him ages to work out that bidding a Stayman 34 would work well. If partner bid a major, he could raise to

game. If partner could only bid 3♦, 3♥ must now show a 5-card suit.

None 198 K107653 ♣ KQ32

A 3 bid should not just be used to show any 5card suit, with that you bid 3NT, 3+ shows a decent hand interested in

slam. This hand with a good suit, good shape and useful high cards would bid 3. The hand shown at the beginning as the 2NT opener is so good, it would jump straight to 6.

Having mastered the 2NT opening, Janice asked what she could do with even more points. The answer surprised everyone except John, who had played a bit many years ago. Open 2♣, which shows any very good hand. Partner will probably bid 2♦ showing fewer than eight points. Now with 23-24 points bid 2NT, with 25-28 bid 3NT. With even more bid 4NT, 5NT or even 6NT. But don't worry, as you will have a hand that good about once every twenty years.

AKJ8 KQ 10 AQJ2

This hand would open 2♣ and rebid 2NT. Add the ♠K and it would rebid 3NT. Partner will then respond just the same as

if you opened 2NT, but needs even fewer points to find a bid.

Openings with a strong balanced hand

Points	How to bid the hand		
19 - poor 20	Open one of longest suit, rebid 3NT		
Good 20 - 22	Open 2NT		
23 - poor 25	Open 2♣, rebid 2NT		
25 - 28	Open 2♣, rebid 3NT.		

Summary of responses to 2NT openings

Bid	Meaning			
3♣	Stayman, asking for 4-card majors			
3♦	Good diamond suit, slam interest			
3♥/♠	5-card suit, asking partner to choose			
4♥/♠	To play with six or more in major			
3NT	4-10 points, no 4 or 5 card majors			
4NT	11-12, asks for 6NT with a maximum			
6NT	Balanced 13-16 points			
7NT	Balanced 17+ points			

Watch us grow!

THE bridge year 1999/2000 is the first that Bridge for All has been fully available across England. Previously it had only been a pilot course in selected counties. Naturally all of us at Aylesbury have been watching our tender seedling grow and we are pleased to announce a very healthy plant.

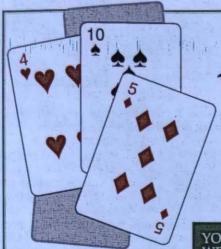
It was launched nationally in September, and by the end of 1999 there were 134 Bridge for All classes with a total of more than 1500 students. Only seven county associations (Avon, Cornwall, Cumbria, Gloucester, Isle of Man, Merseyside and Westmorland) are without a Bridge for All class - and of those only the Isle of Man lacks a trained teacher. So whilst we cannot promise a class on your friend's doorstep, there should be one not too far away.

this county Buckinghamshire with 244 students, followed by Yorkshire with 159, Hereford with 107 and Warwickshire with 105. Bucks' success is not just because of the presence of the EBU HQ in the county, but the fact that South Bucks Adult College Network (OCN) accreditation for most of its bridge courses. This means that state further education funding is available to support the classes and cover the Bridge for All costs.

The EBU has contacted local education authorities about the opportunities offered by Bridge for All, but we are always pleased to respond to requests from individuals to contact specific insti-

Talking of success, the first MiniBridge Simultaneous Pairs for first year students proved very popular. Overall, 266 students took part.

The winners came from Jean Patefield's seven-table heat at Gerrards Cross: congratulations to Freeman and George Oliver, who honestly admit they had played cards before. Second were Janet Motson and Lillian Malcolm from John Standley's Colchester class, with Jane Bayliss and Ann Cole from John Cattanach's Worcester class coming third.



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ENGLAND's first match of the season in the Home Countries championship, against Wales, was my first Camrose match. The road to selection is long. I think it started with a pre trial in 1974 in the Esso Motor Hotel in Coventry and has stuttered along relatively unsuccessfully ever since.

Still, even if it takes 25 years to get a cap it's not in my nature to give up!

This year the pre-trial was motoring along quite well when we conceded 7\u00f3 redoubled. This was bad because we had



JEREMY DHONDY reflects on his first international

two aces, one of which was cashing. When the joyous claim came we failed to notice, with spectacular incompetence, that it was a touch deficient – until another board or so had gone by and it was too late.

Nonetheless we did enough to go through to the final trial where the eight qualifying pairs were joined by six who had sat out the pre-trial in lordly and exempted style. Interestingly only one of these pairs came close to doing well enough to get considered for a game in the Camrose series.

After two weekends we were the winners of the trial and now the only thing between us and a game were the selectors.

In three weekends of trials, selectors watching a board were rarer than herds of aardvarks selecting their favourite brand of ant juice in our local Tesco's. In the event the selectors went largely by the results and down to Newport we went.

The England non-playing captain, Tony Priday, was consideration itself. He checked with me that I had a dinner jacket and that I proposed to take it. He courteously reminded my partner Ian Pagan of the match date and told him a passport would not be necessary to cross the Severn Bridge. As Ian's international career has included turning up to Heathrow to travel to a European Junior Championship without a passport this was a kindly warning.

When play started there were three debutants in the English team. A quiet board is appreciated, just to settle, but this was not allowed to Nick Sandqvist who immediately picked up as North:

A765 ♥None ◆AQJ95 QJ65

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 14 | 1+ | 14 | No |
| 24 | No | 3♥ | No |
| No | 7 | | |

The last thing wanted is to start with minus 730 for doubling into game and the board was passed out. A tight defence led to +400. Partner had six trumps, of course. At the other table the auction proceeded 2. (Precision)-No-3. No-No. Mike Hirst for Wales, who had shown no values thus far, doubled. This was +800

A long, hard road to selection — and then defeat!

After 20 boards England held a narrow lead but the last 10 boards saw some imps drifting away to leave England losing the first match 14-16. It would have been a whole lot worse were it not for Nick Sandqvist making 3NT:

Game All Q 10 87

7 73 2

A Q J7

K4

AK63
V K4
V Q J9 865
V Q J9 865
V Q J9 865
V Q J9 865
V A 10
V K6
A J 10 983

For Wales 3NT was played by South and after the A lead there were few problems making nine tricks, but against England East was on lead and led the Q, which was overtaken and a small spade played. This left Nick with a particularly unpleasant problem. Rising with the Q will solve it but not unreasonably he played low and then when spades were continued he was left with finding the club queen for his contract.

It seemed clear that West would have continued hearts if he had more than two so it looked as if he had 6 major suit cards compared to East's 8. Winning the fourth spade Nick played a diamond to the king and took a backward club finesse to earn a flat board.

Match two started badly when England were in 44 on a 4-4 fit defeated by a ruff, with Wales in 3NT, having eschewed the spade fit. After the first stanza this swing represented the gap between the two teams. England got imps back in the second stanza. I sat West with:

≜J ♥AK10 ◆J9742 **♣**J654

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|--------|-------|
| - | 2 (1) | Dbl(2) | 34(3) |

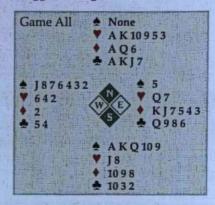
(1) Multi (2) 12-15 balanced (3) support for either major, prepared to play in 3♠ or 4♥.

I had little idea what to bid here. It was more than likely that we didn't have either the values or the spade guards for 3NT and game anywhere else was not especially likely so I eventually bid 4\psi which was raised to game by Ian holding:

♣A108 ♥Q76 ◆AK1085 ♣87

Game was simple and at the other table England were allowed to play in 3♠, going one down. The last set of Saturday night was a nightmare for England, who

went from level to lose by 42 or 7-23 in vps. The team didn't play all that well in this set but faced some tough problems. The biggest swing out occurred on:



For England, Brian Senior, South, opened 2 (I'd better say it was a weak two in case you don't recognise it as such), and the auction proceeded 2NT-3NT-6. This got a spade lead. There are various lines to make this (for example cashing trumps from the top and playing the J, but unless you had seen all four hands this was an unlikely line) and 6 sustained a spade ruff and went one down.

In the other room 6NT was played by North and the English East lead a small diamond which immediately brought 12 tricks and 17imps. A club or heart lead would have led to the same fate and only a spade lead gives E-W a chance.

Match 3 was a tight affair, with England losing 57-33 to complete an unhappy weekend, at least from the point of view of the result, and leaving the teams for the remaining Camrose matches

with plenty to do.

My impressions of this weekend, once the pain of losing had started to fade, included thinking about how much work Tony Priday did as npc over the weekend. What a shame if, as he has indicated, this was his last game captaining an England team. He deserved a medal for watching every board with hardly a wince throughout.

The hospitality of the Welsh was considerable. It did strike me as amazing that this is an event played without screens

hough.

Teams – England: Rob Cliffe & Nick Sandqvist, Jeremy Dhondy & Ian Pagan, Steve Ray & Brian Senior. Wales: Paul Denning & Adrian Thomas, Peter Goodman & Tim Rees, Mike Hirst & Jim Luck; npc Patrick Jourdain.

LATEST: England sustained another defeat in the second match of the season, losing to the Republic of Ireland 49-58. Wales beat Scotland 56-34 and are now heading the table.

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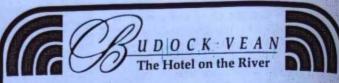
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Develop your bidding judgement

AT Match Points, the difference between playing in 74 and 7NT can be the difference between a good and a bad score on the board. At imps, almost everyone could bid the following hands to 74, but it actually came up during the final of the Two Stars pairs at the Autumn Congress in Bournemouth in 1998 and 7♠ would not have been good enough.

A little over half the field reached the cold 7NT, with varying degrees of certainty as to how good the contract would be before dummy went down.

David Martin and I were a first time partnership but had an auction at the end of which I could pretty well count the thirteen tricks required.

| ♣ QJ8
♥ KJ94
♦ AQJ54 | (IV) E | A K 10 4 3
A Q
K 7 |
|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| ♣ 10 | | AQJ7 |

| West | East |
|--------|--------|
| Martin | Senior |
| 10 | 10 |
| 2♠ | 4NT |
| 50 | 5♥ |
| 6♥ | 7♣ |
| 7. | 7NT |

The first point to consider is East's initial response to the 1 opening. It is generally accepted these days that twosuited hands should make a strong jump shift response only if one of the two suits is support for opener's suit. Also, it is sometimes possible to be too strong to jump. With a hand as powerful as this East collection, you want to hear partner's natural rebid. Over a jump, some of his options are removed.

Here, a 24 response might cramp the auction, making it more difficult for responder to judge the correct denomination, or perhaps the level. A significant point is that partner will sometimes support a jump shift suit with a trump holding which would not be considered adequate to raise a simple response. Any expert would start with

a quiet 14 response.

West has quite a nice 14-count but is about a queen short of having reversing values, despite the spade fit. It is quite acceptable to raise responder's suit with only three cards, particularly when holding a singleton, and that is the correct choice here. The only alternative rebid is 20, the weakest call available to West and to be avoided with such a nice hand when there is a reasonable

East could go slowly now but most slow auctions merely serve to make the



Brian Senior

gent continuations after the response to Roman Key Card Blackwood then you can often use it to bid your slams (note the difference with simple Blackwood, which we use more to keep out of bad slams). 5 shows one or four key cards of five, the &K being the fifth 'ace'.

East now knows that all the five key cards are in place so can start to think about a grand slam. 5 asks about the queen of trumps. Without the trump queen, West would sign-off in the agreed trump suit, any other bid promising that

he does hold the queen.

West has a pretty good hand as well as the card he is being asked to show. Accordingly, he bids 6♥, not only guaranteeing the ♠Q, but also showing the ♥K, a card which East does not yet know about. 6♥ also denies both the ♣K and ♦K, because with two or more extra features you would show the cheaper one, leaving room for partner to explore further.

Note that the extra feature being shown cannot be an ace because partner already knows about the aces from your response to 4NT.

If partner is good enough to show the ♥K, then surely East has sufficient to go to seven. Remember, West was not obliged to show an extra feature if he didn't like his hand. Now the question is whether to play in 7♠ or 7NT. It is tempting to think that there must be thirteen tricks in No Trump if partner likes his hand enough to cuebid the VK, but that is not the case. He is not aware that you are considering No Trump as a final resting place, so will be looking at his hand in the context of a spade contract. He would bid the same way with:

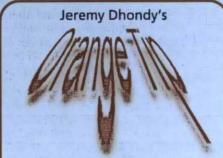
QJ87 ♥ KJ9 ♦ AJ654 ♣ 10 With this hand 7 is the place to be.

East can commit himself to seven oppsite either hand so can afford a 74 cuebid. How often have you made a cuebid at the seven-level? Now West makes the key bid. He has already denied the ◆K remember, so his 74 bid must show good diamonds missing the king. In other words, he has the minor diamond

honours. That is exactly what East wants to hear. In the partnership style, West would have opened 14 with 4-4 in spades and diamonds and a flat 15-count, so he must have five diamonds and that means there are at least five spades, five diamonds, two hearts and a club trick available. Even if West has only king doubleton hearts in a 4-2-5-2 shape, 7NT should be making.

Of course, it is possible to bid 7NT without the seven-level cuebids, but then East would be guessing, only knowing his gamble had paid off after

dummy goes down.



If you bid out of turn...

A bid out of turn is quite likely to be worse for your side than passing out of turn because you are more likely to give your partner information he should not have.

If you bid out of turn when it was your right hand opponent's turn then the next player may accept your bid and the auction will proceed. If he does not accept your call then the auction returns to the player whose turn it is and what then happens depends on what your right hand opponent does.

If he passes then you must repeat the call you made and, assuming that call is legal, there is no penalty. If your right hand opponent bids or doubles then you can repeat your denomination at the lowest legal level. If you do this then your partner must pass when next it is his turn to call. If you change your mind and bid something else then your partner must pass whenever it is his turn to call.

If it was either your partner's turn to call or your left hand opponent's then your partner must pass whenever it is his turn to call. It gets worse! Suppose you bid 2♥ out of turn and then correct it to 3. Partner is not allowed to know about the 2♥ bid. The knowledge that you might have hearts is unauthorised and in addition to all the problems you have already there may be lead penalties if your partner ends up on lead to the final contract.



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What the Director sees (cont)...

An occasional series on the problems facing a Director presented as a fantasy war game...

British Premier League Division 1: Overheard

There's been a claim and neither side is sure what the claim is, nor how many tricks have been claimed. Equally the players have not called the Director, who is about three feet away and watching with interest and amusement. It's best for the TD to see nothing unless actually called.

Player A: "Well if I claimed throw-in it's down two for minus 100, but if I claimed a finesse it's only down one. I've no idea which it was".

Player B: "Me neither – it sounds like minus 75 doesn't it?" Player A: "The Director won't buy that!"

Player B: "Toss you for it" (coin tossed).
Player A: "Heads – dammit, down two then."

Player B: "Yep, next hand" ... and looking up to me "No problem, Director".

I'm still chuckling. I wish all players would resolve their disputes as amicably as that, but it isn't so, sadly.

Unauthorised information

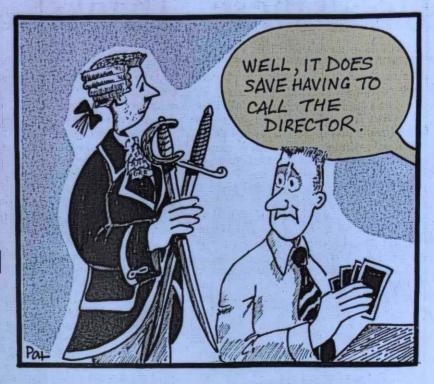
A purple carapace walks up to you and says: "Can I consult with you please?" You feel honoured. He says: "You hold ♠Q8752 ♥A10 ♠864 ♠1075 and partner opens 1NT. RHO doubles and you bid 2♠. LHO passes and partner bids 3♣. RHO doubles." The carapace stops suddenly and you realise the creature is expecting you to say something intelligent.

You think. What's going on in this auction? Is partner say 2-3-2-6 and has decided to rescue you, in which case you should pass (even if he has only five clubs you should pass) or can he be showing a good four-card spade suit and club feature? Well he would have bid 3\$\frac{1}{2}\$, wouldn't he, so you could pass. Hesitantly, you say "I pass?"

"What do you think of 3\(\psi\)?" carapace Persists. "I've already bid my hand" you say. "That's what I thought too. Thanks," he says and wanders off. You're a bit puzzled by all this and wonder if all will become clear later...

The beer card (7)

Coming originally out of Denmark in the sixties, the \$7 has a special significance. There are several schools (all over the world) where partner has to buy you a beer if you take the last trick with the



By John Probst

trumps). I recall an occasion where on vugraph declarer had a laydown contract and spent minutes on the hand. David Burn, commentating, correctly surmised that declarer was trying to make the last trick with the •7 and the opponents were trying to stop him.

On another occasion the duplicate ended and you go to the bar where a Young Pair is in convulsions. "You'd better have a drink on me," says one of them. This is the hand:

Our hero explains: "We got to 6♥ as East-West and North led the ♠A. I pitched the ♠Q on this, ruffed the spade switch, drew trumps, cross-ruffed the black suits and cashed the diamonds for 1430. I shuffled my hand and put it away. The opponents conceded this, but partner who was awake pointed out I'd revoked.

Hero goes on: "We called in the TD and he looked at the hand for a moment and asked a strange question of dummy. 'Did declarer claim a beer?' I had no idea what was going on and muttered 'No', so he said 'Two tricks, down two and you owe partner two beers'".

As TD I'd noticed that the Revoke Law would transfer one trick if declarer took no diamond tricks in hand, but two tricks if he won a diamond trick. In order to achieve no tricks declarer would have unblocked the \$10 and \$9 in the process of trying to make the last trick with the \$7. Since the cards had been shuffled I couldn't determine from the hand whether this had happened but there was circumstantial evidence, hence my rather odd question.

So the Young One was continuing: "The TD ruled that I had won a trick in hand with diamonds, and I should buy partner a beer for the 2nd undertrick, and another for failing to make the \$7. If I'd tried to make the \$7 at trick 13, I'd have unblocked the diamonds, and won a beer for that, and a second one for artistry in that my revoke wouldn't have cost a trick. It's too much 'Half a gallon on one board!"

Unauthorised information revisited

The results are being posted so you ask the TD (me) about why I consulted you on the 1NT hand (column 1). The situation was that at the table your 'partner' is a foreigner playing 4-suit transfers and foreigners generally play 'all conventions on' after a double. He alerted the 2\(\sime\) call and explained it as transfer to clubs. And Law 73F1 says: "If the Director determines that a player chose from among logical alternatives one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by his partner's remark, manner, tempo or the like, he shall award an adjusted score".

So when your partner bid 3 you just weren't allowed to bid 3 (which is what happened), as pass is a logical alternative. You MUST take no notice of partner's alert.

A competent TD will check out the logical alternatives before ruling the hand. For what it's worth I ruled it from 3♠(+140) to 3♠ doubled-5 (1400). There was no appeal.

To all these...Thanks!

Here's is a list of the prizes given by sponsors for the Millennium Charity Pairs – and the names of the players who won them:

☐ Leading Flitch pair overall: Sue Fjortoft & Jon Fjortoft. Seven-night bridge holiday, donated by Bridge Holidays Abroad

☐ Leading Flitch pair at the other venue: Anne Gilling & David Gilling. Two £35 vouchers for bridge holidays, donated by Graham and Pat Jepson

☐ Leading Mixed (non-Flitch) pair in London: Lior Zivan & Rachel Wade. Bridge weekend for two, donated by Holidays with Bridge.

☐ Leading Mixed (non-Flitch) pair in Blackpool: Jeff Smith & Diana Ackerman. Bridge weekend for two, donated by Green Park Hotel, Harrogate

☐ Leading Ladies' pair in London: Charlotte Vine & Sue Obtart. Personalised stationery worth £40 each, donated by Driftgate Press

☐ Leading Ladies' pair in Blackpool: Rita Oldroyd & Liz Reece. Gift package each, donated by Bridge Gifts Direct.

☐ Leading Men's pair in London: Gerard Thompson & Michael Ashe. £30 worth of bridge books each, donated by Bibliagora.

☐ Leading Men's pair in Blackpool: Rodney Hose & Roger Taylor. Round of golf for four on the Derby course, donated by The Belfry.

☐ Leading junior pair: Eugene Goh & Nathan Piper (London). One set of 22 practice booklets each, and one subscription per player to Bridge Plus

David Sherman & Alan Coral (London), Denis Watson & Margaret Wiles (Blackpool). One Man versus Machine book per player, donated by Bridge Plus, plus a choice of Mendelson's Guide to the Bidding Battle, donated by Colt Books or subscription to Bridge Plus.

☐ Leading non-expert pair at each venue: Philip Town & Christine Bickerstaff (London), Roger Chaplin & Margaret Chaplin (Blackpool). One Man versus Machine and one subscription per player to Bridge Plus.

Overall pair closest to 55%: Muriel Robertson & Donald Sutherland (Blackpool). One Travel clock/calculator, donated by Burgess, and one Bridge Player's Bedside Book (Tony Forrester), donated by Colt Books for the pair

☐ Overall pair closest to 50%: Colin Porch & Amy Cherry (London). One Man versus Machine book, donated by Bridge Plus, for each player

☐ Overall pair closest to 45%: Jonathan Osgood & Stephen Green (Blackpool). One set of 22 practice booklets, donated by *Bridge Plus*, and one box of cards, donated by Jannersten.

PRIZES GALORE AS.

THE EBU joined in the festive spirit at the start of the two Year End Congresses with a Millennium Pairs which heralded the beginning of a year of charity events to raise money for Save the Children. Players' entry fees included a donation to the cause, and the normal money prizes were generously supplemented by sponsoring firms, to include bridge holidays, books, stationery and other gifts.

The same hands were played simultaneously in Blackpool and London. In the

by Catherine Jagger

first place across the two heats were Gerard Thompson and Michael Ashe, playing in London. Prizes also went to the top ladies pair, flitch pair and mixed pair, as well as seniors, juniors, and the closest to 55%, 50% and 45%, giving everyone something to play for, even after a bad start. See all the winners on the left.

Next in London came the main event, the nine-round Swiss Pairs, attracting a strong field this year, and eventually won by Brian Senior and Glen Holman. On the third day was the Men's Pairs, won by Nigel Freake and Matthew Bingham, and the Ladies' Pairs, won by Zizi Covrigaru and Latchmin Tawarie. The Ladies' Pairs this year had the added attraction of a



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RHODES

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October 11th - 25th 14 nights 1/2 board basic cost £765.00 (Includes a full sea view!)

This will be our second visit to this, the island's newest 5 star de luxe resort hotel. Our holiday here in 1999 was a great success, in large measure due to the friendliness and helpfulness of the hotel staff, and the fine facilities of the hotel itself.

The deluxe guestrooms facilities include air conditioning with thermostat control, writing desk, remote controlled colour TV with satellite channels, direct dial telephone, safe deposit box, and hairdryer.

In addition to it's fine sand-pebble beach, the hotel has a large tropical swimming pool, and indoor pool with separate jacuzzi, steambath and massage.

Please note that this holiday always fills up quite quickly and usually boasts a long waiting list, so please book early to avoid disappointment!

CYPRUS

Amathus Beach Hotel, Limassol

November 22nd - December 6th 14 nights 1/2 board basic cost £895.00 (A member of "The leading Hotels of the World")

This truly magnificent hotel has been the scene of many wonderful holidays in the past eighteen years.

The hotel staff is really the most marvellous of our experience, and the hotel itself is the epitome of grace and comfort. The nearby town of Limassol offers excellent shopping, and the hotel is an ideal centre for island excursions.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR!

Amathus Beach Hotel, Limassol

December 20th - January 3rd 14 nights 1/2 board basic cost £1195.00

Our Millennium holiday to this hotel at the same time in 1999/2000 was such a huge success, that we have agreed with many of the clients on that holiday that a second Christmas/New Year holiday would be a wonderful idea!

The Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve gala dinners are the perfect showpieces for the hotel's superb cuisine!

Places will be limited, so please book early (many clients were disappointed when unable to join us in 1999!)

FULL DETAILS OF ALL OF THE ABOVE HOLIDAYS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM:
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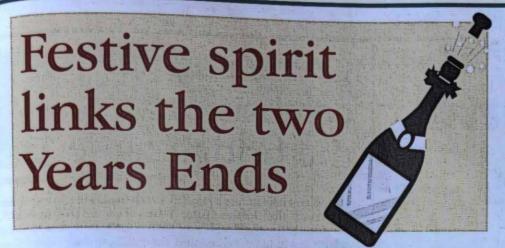
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BRIDGE LICENSED BY THE EBU



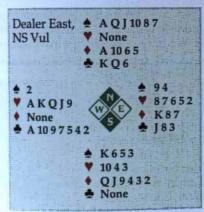


MILLENNIUM PAIRS IS SCORED ACROSS VENUES IN LONDON AND BLACKPOOL



man playing – one lady's partner failed to turn up, and after Gill Pain, of the EBU, had substituted for one session but could not for the other, Ian Mitchell, also of the EBU, put on his skirt!

The best of the action came from the final event, the seven-round Swiss Teams - pre-duplicated boards now being standard in EBU Swiss Teams.



| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| - | _ | No | No |
| 14 | Dbl | No | 10 |
| 2♥ | 44 | 5♥ | 5♠ |
| 6♥ | 64 | 7♥ | No |
| No | Dbl | | |

East could not have imagined after passing twice that this might be the most interesting hand of the day! But he was suddenly faced with the decision as to whether to save at the seven level or not.

Personally I feel the 6 bid left a lot to be desired, with only the enormously good fit from partner allowing the contract to make, and even then, only on a non-diamond lead. East, who was not remotely considering a diamond lead, bid on as insurance, expecting 6 to be one off. Team-mates bid constructively to the slam, forcing opponents to take the same seven-level save for a flat board.

This hand shows (top of next column) a common area for system problems. After North opened a Multi 2 and South responded 2 what should 3 mean by West? Is it showing spades, or asking for a spade stop? Which way round you play it is not really too important, as long as You know! Some pairs bid 3NT after this

| | 10
V AJ8754
J J1065 |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| A Q 9 7 6 5 2
▼ Q 10
◆ Q 4 2
♣ K | © KJ84
▼ K
• K7
• QJ7652 |
| | 3
9 9 6 3 2
A 9 8 3
A 9 8 3 |

The next hand was one that I suspect was more difficult for the better players:

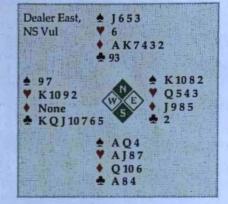
| Dealer E
NS Vul | · · | K10
AJ5
A8762
J92 | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| ♣ A3
♥ KQ2
♦ KQ5
♣ KQ6 | 4 | | Q87642
V 109763
None |
| | | J95
84
J1093
10853 | |
| West | North | East | South |
| 1. 2NT | No. | 3♥ | No
No |

Weaker players tend to soldier on regardless when they have a lot of distribution, and perhaps East should have done so here. However, he could see there could well be four losers in four of a major, whilst 3NT might be very easy if partner had a good club suit. Or perhaps West might have tried 3, leaving East a chance to bid 3NT still if he had only five spades (as he has already shown by bidding 3.

The play had some interest. North led a diamond to the nine and king. West cashed the A and played another to North's king. It was now a simple matter to come to ten tricks. Some Norths found the cunning play of unblocking the K,

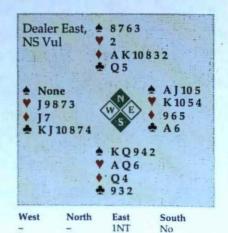
and now 3NT could no longer be made, with South getting in to lead diamonds through.

Our team partners showed good technique on the next hand to overcome bad breaks in 3NT.



Declarer ducked the opening club lead, and won the second when East showed out. Next he led the queen of diamonds, discovering the bad news. He continued with the ten of diamonds, letting this run to the jack. He won the heart return, and cashed his diamond suit, before falling back on the spade finesse for his ninth trick.

Finally a hand from the crucial match between the leaders and eventual winners, led by Jeremy Dhondy (Ian Pagan, David Bakhshi, Harry Anoyrkatis), and the second placed team, led by Harold Wayne (John Young, Chris & Catherine Jagger).



2♦ was a transfer bid, and East jumped to the three level to show his good support. David Bakhshi, sitting South, came in bravely with 3♣. He knew his partner had at most one heart, so it was unlikely that he would come to too much harm. His partner had an easy raise, and East thought he had an easy double! On a heart lead, a club went away from dummy and David rapidly wrapped up ten tricks.

Full results - Page 49

No

A NATIONAL GREEN POINT EVENT

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Entry fee: £25 per player

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Post or telephone your entry to Brian or lan Competitions Department, **English Bridge Union** Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury HP19 3BG

tel: 01296 317203/5 • fax: 01296 317220 • e-mail: comps@ebu.co.uk

ine Mil

Come and see celebrities at the bridge table



HAVE you booked your place to watch the bridge event of the Millennium Year? The EBU pro/celebrity challenge on February 13, with celebrities of stage screen and the political and sporting worlds partnering well known bridge journalists, promises to be a great success and there are just a few tickets left.

It is just one of the many activities being organised at club and national level to raise money for Save the Children this year. The target for the year is £30,000 - £1 for every EBU member

The pro-celebrity challenge, which it is hoped

will become an annual charity event, is being organised jointly by the EBU and the London

James Smith and Kit Jackson, who handle public relations for the LCCBA, are both actors and will

be playing in in the BBC' appeared on John Thaw familiar face i They are spre playing acti terrific.

Peter Wyn Whitrow are invitation to p

Peter Wyng British view introduction. Mansfield Park Lieutenant's W in the Royal

You can't take the waters, but...

Historic Harrogate is the venue for a new EBU congress. Like Buxton, which it replaces as a venue, Harrogate is famous for its healing waters. The mineral springs which brought the town its wealth and reputation were first discovered in 1571. Eventually more than eighty springs were found and during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the town rivalled Bath in popularity. Harrogate's architecture is mostly Victorian, grand and dignified.

Modern Harrogate relies on its conference facilities to draw visitors. Our new congress venue is the Cairn hotel, built when the cream of northern society came to take the waters. Visitors can't do that any more but between

Calling Have you organised Championship heal Green Points are nov level. New this year EBU members to pla must become memb regional finals, Clu pleted and entry fee sent to the EBU (G February 28.

bridge sessions there easy reach.

A mile out of town y Gardens, home of the Gardens; the cathedra crypt which dates fro which now houses a f church treasures fro Mother Shipton's cav near Knaresborough; couple of hours for E ruin, Fountain's Abbey

The congress runs fr Cairn hotel costs £47p and breakfast, based Call the hotel direct 504005.

Programme

Friday: 2.30pm, Mix 8.15pm Swiss Pairs matches).

Saturday: 2pm, Sw board matches) and matches).

Sunday: 11.30am 5 matches).

Entry Fees: Full Cor

Save the Children champions the right of all children to a happy, healthy and secure childhood. In the last 30 years there have been positive changes infant and child mortality rates have fallen in many countries, smallpox has been eradicated, and immunisation has saved the lives of 20 million children since 1980.

Yet, for the world's poorest people, diseases are on the increase. Ten and a half million children under the age of five die every year from preventable diseases, and a sixth of the world's population, eight hundred million people, lack access to even basic health care.



Save the Children

The biggest threat to children's health is not disease or disaster, but poverty and a lack of resources. A third of the world's population live in countries which cannot provide basic health care for all their children.

Save the Children supports varied programmes of health work in 26 countries. During emergencies, Save the Children provides direct health services. Outside of emergencies, the organisation helps communities to develop sustainable health provision for example supporting 'revolving drug funds' so that there is an continuing supply of medicines and vaccines. Advocacy programmes work to promote children's rights to health care among policy makers and service providers. Save the Children partners range from local organisations to national governments.

Internationally, Save the Children has an excellent reputation for health programmes and has developed ongoing relationships with United Nations bodies, the World Bank and the World Health Organisation.

ennium



Hilton McRae

Benjamin Whitrow

e event. James played Mr Graham the Tenant of Wildfell Hall and evision at the end of last year with a political who-dunnit. Kit is a m ITV's Touching Evil and Bramwell. ling the word among their bridgecolleagues and the response is

rde, Hilton McCrae and Benjamin nong those who have accepted an

rde, as Jason King, is so familiar to s and film fans that he needs no ilton McRae appeared in the films Voices from a Locked Room and French nan, on stage in Les Miserables, and akespeare Company's productions of As You Like It and Les Liaisons Dangereuses. Benjamin Whitrow has played everything from Falstaff with the Royal Shakespeare Company to Dr Reeves in ITV's Peak Practice. Over Christmas he was in a Jonathan Creek drama.

From the sporting world will be cricketer Mike Gatting. Sir Peter Emery, MP for East Devon, and Michael Mates, MP for East Hampshire, are among the MPs who will play. Michael Mates' son, James, who is ITN's man in Washington, will be there if the American presidential campaign allows.

Celebrities will draw their pro-partner on the day. The bridge pros include Sandra Landy, Nicola Smith, Andrew Robson and Peter Donovan.

Don't miss it! Not only will you be able to sit at the table-side and meet bridge-playing celebrities, you will be supporting a very worthy cause and you get supper too! Call Chris Brown at the EBU (01296 317200) and reserve your place now.

Tickets cost £35 each. The February 13 event is at the White House Hotel, Regent's Park, London. Play will begin at 2pm and finish at about 5.30pm. A light supper will be served while the scoring is being done, which should be completed by 6pm.

Remember the EBU Millennium Simultaneous Pairs at clubs all round the country on February 15, with the profits going to Save the Children.

February

5-6 Lady Milne Trial (1), London

5-6 England v Scotland (Pat CotterTrophy), Scotland

12-13 Tollemache Final, Coventry

EBU/Save the Children charity sim pairs, 15

25-27 EBU Harrogate Congress, Harrogate

26-27 Camrose v Northern Ireland (Billy Kelso Trophy), Oxford

26 GolfPrint (Regional finals), various

March

4-5 Ranked Masters, Coventry One Day Event, Merseyside 11

11-12 Camrose, Final Weekend

12 One Day Events, Kent, Manchester, Notts, Somerset, CICBA

Gold Cup round 2 (play by date), privately 12

19 National Pairs/Newcomers Pairs

(regional finals), various 25-26 Portland Pairs, various

· April

Lady Milne Trials (II), London 8-9

12-13 BGB Simultaneous Pairs, clubs 15-16

National Pairs/Newcomers Pairs (final),

Easter Festival of Bridge, Blackpool 21-23

Easter Festival of Bridge, London

28-7 May Jersey Congress, Jersey

28-2 May Spring Foursomes, Stratford

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Sunday, March 12

Bedfordshire: Swiss Teams, Vauxhall Recreation Club, Luton (Brian Keable 01525 377906, email BrianKeable@compuserve.com

Channel Isles CBA: Swiss Pairs, Springfield Stadium, St Helier (Pat Panter 01534 855956)

Kent CBA: Swiss Teams, The Civic Centre, Bromley (M J de Winter 0181 4625932)

Manchester CBA: Swiss Teams, Risley Convention Centre (Doris Coltman 0151

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By Eddie Scott

"Are you waiting to be picked up?" a gallant elderly gentleman asked of an elderly lady member hovering in the hall. "Yes," she retorted, "but only if he's on Viagra."

Hardly a session goes by without I scribble down some overheard comment.

One of my original students (1985) has stayed as a founder member of my Bridge School near Ipswich. She is competent but still rather nervous. Although a cup of tea, coffee or fruit juice is included in each session, she rarely partakes, preferring to bring her own plastic flask. She also prefers to play as few deals as possible.

"Have we finished?"

"I don't mind if we don't go on."

"Have we really got to play another

Competing against her recently and noting her clock-watching, I couldn't resist the temptation: "Mavis, I think you only come here to give your flask of water a day out."

Her response could not have been better timed: "And to think for nearly fifteen years you've thought it was water!"

On one hand she and her partner, Doris, held the goodies:

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| - | No | 2♠ | No |
| 30 | No | 44* | No |
| 47 | No | 4NT* | No |
| 54 | No | 64 | |

The bid of 4 was alerted: "That's Gerber." When Doris bid 4NT, Mavis again alerted: "That's Blackwood."

Somewhat bemused, I asked if they usually played both slam conventions.

"Oh no," was the response, "we hardly ever get this high. But when we do, we get in as much practice as possible!"

In past Scribblings, I have written of a delightful octogenarian with a wonderful sense of humour. She has been a member for twelve years and we share a serial situation. When she gets a good result against me (not infrequently), she is informed that she is banned. "Can I just wait until after tea?"

We'll call her Agatha and she's been up to it again. Sitting behind her during a duplicate move, I heard Agatha and her partner chatting away while waiting for the next couple. "What are these Master Point things? Olive tells me she's a Club Master."

"I don't know. Are they something to do with Tesco Club Master Points?"

"I haven't a clue," answered Agatha. "Mind you, if Olive is collecting them, I'll stick with the supermarket ones. They'll be much more reliable."

While I was recovering from this, a lady at a nearby table announced somewhat forthrightly, "Eddie says always trust your parther." The response was brief: "Not if it's your husband!"



a dip into bridge's rich past

"n celebrating the millennium, we cannot go back a thousand years in bridge, but we can look back to the turn of the century a hundred years ago, when the man holding centre stage in England was the Prince of Wales who was to be crowned King a year later. As prince and king, Edward VII lived through one of the most interesting periods of card-play history, two aspects of which in particular influenced his private and public life; baccarat was made illegal and bridge overtook whist as England's premier card game.

Writing about Albert Edward and Alexandra, or Bertie and Alix for short, Richard Bough described how those two aspects were connected: "In his last years as Prince of Wales, Bertie's temper had noticeably shortened... This coincided with an increasing passion for bridge now that baccarat was a forbidden game. Unfortunately, bridge is not the ideal game for people with a short fuse, especially when they do not play very well."

It was in 1898 that the Prince of Wales first met Mrs Alice Keppel who was to become his mistress as well as a favourite bridge partner. According to Theo Aronson: "Alice was part-lover, part-wife, part-mother. An added attraction, in the Prince's eyes, was that she was an accomplished bridge player. For the Prince was reaching the age when a man values a good partner at the bridge table as highly as a good partner in bed."

Virginia Cowles described one of Bertie's bridge games with Alice when he was King: "He was childishly pleased when he won, and very critical of his partner if he lost... One evening when he was grumbling about bad cards and showing disconcerting signs of temper he suddenly put Mrs Keppel into a high no-trump bid. He was dummy, and when he laid down his hand there was scarcely a trick in it. Mrs Keppel had poor cards as well. She glanced at her cards ruefully, then remarked in a doleful voice, 'All I can say, Sire, is: God save The King and preserve Mrs Keppel!' The King roared with laughter, and when the game was over paid his losses without complaint.'

We know from the first two extracts above that Bertie played bridge before 1901, which must have been the original form of the game, now called Straight Bridge. The dealing side could choose the denomination in which to play, and there could be any amount of doubling and redoubling, but there was no bidding as such. From the third extract, which mentions "a high no-trump bid", it is clear that he had progressed to Auction Bridge, on which the first official rules were published in 1908, although it

had been played before then.

The Duke of Windsor confirmed the popularity of bridge in the royal household when he recalled the time he and his brother enjoyed at Sandringham as youngsters, after Edward VII had become King: "The huge hall, known to the family as the Saloon...would then be filled with handsome people and humming with conversation. In the adjoining drawing-room others would be playing bridge... Gottlieb's famous German orchestra from London...would run through a light repertoire of selections from Strauss operettas to soothe the tired sportsman or dispel the shock of a bad bridge hand."

Returning to Alice Keppel, she was very adept at handling the antics of her rude royal partner at the bridge table. On one occasion "he began to get angry with her for muddling her cards. She remained, however, unmoved, excusing herself on the ground that she 'never could tell a King from a Knave'.

One evening at Balmoral, the first Earl of Balfour was partnering the King and knew he was in for a severe ticking off when he made an ill-judged declaration. Trying to minimise the anticipated aggravation, the Earl said: "Sir, there remains but one thing to be done. Please send me to bed". Most of us know how he felt!

Giles St Aubyn tells another of the anecdotes about Edward VII's passion for bridge: "After he became King he would often play Bridge in the Royal Train, but whenever it slowed down to pass through a station the cards would be put way for fear of offending his pious subjects waiting on the platform, to whom he would graciously wave from the window of his carriage as if he had been reading the Methodist Weekly."

Gambling had attracted the Prince of Wales to card games. In 1874, it was rumoured that he had gambling debts of £600,000, a similar amount to that owed by the previous Prince of Wales (George IV) a century earlier. Fortunately for Bertie, it was only a rumour. The stakes he had played for were relatively modest, even at baccarat. Another card game he played was called chow-chow within the royal household. Does anyone know what it is?

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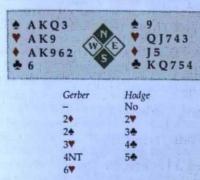
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WE start at the 1961 World Championships in Buenos Aires. North America face Italy and sitting West is the inventor of one of my least favourite conventions – John Gerber. It seems that he has just picked up a big hand.

1. Game All. Dealer East



Gerber opens with a natural strong two-bid and when Hodge gives a positive response in hearts there is never any danger that the Americans will stop short of a slam. Deprived of the chance to employ his favourite convention, Gerber checks on aces via Blackwood. When he hears of an ace missing, he stops in the small slam.

Well bid, but the slam was appallingly played! Chiaradia led a spade and – don't ask me why – Hodge then attempted to cash two rounds of diamonds. D'Alelio ruffed the second round and that was one down.

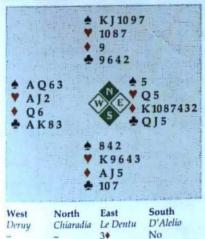
At the other table Forquet and Garozzo bid poorly, stopping in 5. Forquet did at least play the hand correctly. He gave up a club and ruffed a club in dummy for his twelfth trick.

No doubt you opened $2 \frac{1}{2}$ on the West cards. There is a fashion nowadays to respond $2 \frac{1}{2}$ most of the time, to save space. It may then be difficult for East to get the hand across (after $2 \frac{1}{2} - 2 \frac{1}{2} - 3 \frac{1}{2}$).

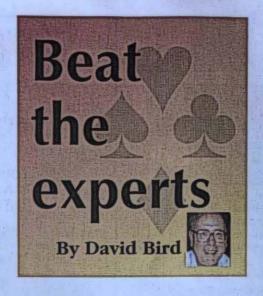
Awards: $6 \checkmark - 10$, $5 NT/5 \checkmark - 5$, $5 \diamondsuit - 2$, Others -1.

Somewhat worryingly, the Time Machine has refused to budge, leaving us at the same world championship. At least it looks like an interesting hand.

2. Love All. Dealer East



The system notes of the French pair say that 3♣ and 3♠ openings may be stronger than 3♥ and 3♠. This no doubt explains why Deruy took such an optimistic view. He was hoping for a running diamond



suit, his own four winners outside, and one trick in the wash.

Can you imagine what Eugene Chiaradia led from the North hand? His choice was \$9! This picked up D'Alelio's holding and the slam was made. 'Bravo, Professore. Bravissimo!' cried D'Alelio. 'What a lead!'

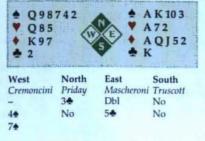
At the other table Garozzo passed on the East cards. Forquet ended in a humble 3NT.

The chance of scoring six diamond tricks is 59%, so 6NT is a good slam. 6♦ is less attractive, played by East, since a heart lead forces you to finesse in one of the majors.

Awards: 6NT/6 (West) – 10, 6 (East) – 6, 5NT/5 – 5.

I can only apologize but the Time Machine year indicator appears to be stuck. Usually a light tap on the side of the box cures the problem. I hope there's nothing seriously wrong. That very same year, 1961, the European Championships were held in Torquay. In the encounter between Great Britain and Italy a hand arose that Tony Priday has spent decades trying to forget. Sorry, Tony, I like to recycle it every few years and... the time has come again!

3. N-S Game. Dealer North



Cremoncini had a fairly obvious 4 response to the double and his partner then invited a spade slam with a cue-bid of 5. This is the correct slam try when you hold a club control. The alternative of would suggest that you needed a club control from partner. Why do you think that Cremoncini now bid 7.

The answer is that his English was poor and he meant to say Six Spades! Tony Priday was on lead, with ♥K-x and seven clubs to the A-J among his assets. Fearing a club void in dummy, he led a 'safe' sin-

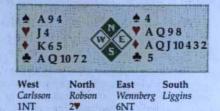
gleton •J. A few moments later he had been squeezed in clubs and hearts, declarer making the grand slam.

It's always a good hand to bring up, should you meet Tony at some tournament or other. Make a note of the hand now. His usual retort (after 'You're a wicked fellow to mention that hand again...') is that Great Britain won the match 6-0 and the championship.

Awards: 6 - 10, 6 - 9, 5 / 5 - 5, grands -1.

Ah, the TM's all right again. It has transported us to the Miami world championships in 1986. In the semi-finals of the pairs Glyn Liggins and Andrew Robson face a pair of Swedes that I don't recognize. They know how to pick up big hands, however.

4. Love all. Dealer West



Carlsson opens a 14-16 point 1NT and Robson overcalls 2♥. It is fairly clear to Wennberg that a small slam in diamonds will be easy. Seeking a good Match Point score, he jumps to 6NT instead.

Robson leads &K and declarer wins with the ace. Without North's overcall the No Trump slam would be a poor one. Here, however, there is every chance that North holds six or seven hearts to the K-10 and that a double finesse in the suit will succeed. Declarer runs VJ and Liggins wins with the king! Robson's overcall had indeed been based on a good suit, but it was a psychic effort on K-Q-10 to seven spades. The slam went six down, giving the British pair an outright top.

The West hand is rather strong for a weak 1NT and I expect many of you started 1♣ - 2♦, 3♦. Should be an easy 10 points after that.

Awards: 6 - 10, 5 / 4NT - 5, 7 - 4, 5NT - 3, 6NT - 2.

The final of the 1950 Vanderbilt was between the teams of Charles Goren and Howard Schenken. The latter team won and we will see one of Schenken's pairs tackling a slam deal.

5. East-West Game. Dealer West



West's 3♠ was clearly a cue-bid (he would have rebid 2♠ if he had a spade suit). On that basis, it is surprising that

(continued on page 33)

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Beat the experts

(continued from page 31)

Johnny Crawford did not bid Blackwood himself, rather than the cautious 4♥. South led a spade and the slam was made with an overtrick.

The amazing thing about the deal was that North was void in clubs and had missed the world's most obvious opportunity for a Lightner Double.

At the other table Sam Stayman was North. He overcalled with 14 and attracted a 44 raise from his partner. On the way to 54 Stayman made the clever bid of 54. This did not deter the opponents from bidding 67 but it did ensure the club lead that spelled defeat.

Awards: 6 - 10, 7 - 4 (trump lead, anyone?), Games - 3.

We end at the £50,000 Naturals v Scientists match in 1992. It seems to be a favourite of the Time Machine (how on earth does it know that Reese and I wrote a book about the match?). The mighty Chagas and Branco, for the Naturals, have a potential slam hand to bid.

6. Love all. Dealer East



| West
Branco | North
Hamman | East
Chagas | South
Wolff |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| - | - | 10 | No |
| 10 | Dbl | 44 | No |

A poor effort. Branco could hardly bid again, particularly as his side-suit kings lay under the defender who had shown strength in those suits. The blame must go to Chagas. The Naturals team was permitted control-showing cue-bids, under the rules, and a rebid of either 3 or 4 would surely have led to a slam.

It was too much to hope that Meckstroth and Rodwell would fail to bid the slam at the other table. Rodwell opened the East cards with a strong 1. Despite Andrew Robson's 2. overcall on a 10-high hand (see: Lesson 3, Introductory Class, Andrew Robson Bridge Club), five rounds of bidding carried the Americans to their target.

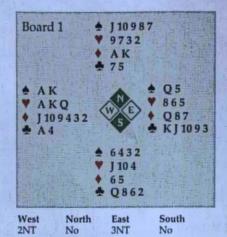
Awards: 6 - 10, 6NT(W) - 8, 6NT(E) - 6, Games - 5.

Final Rankings

| 51-60 | Bermuda Bowl |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| 41-50 | Gold Cup finals |
| 31-40 | County Swiss Teams |
| 21-30 | Local duplicate |
| 0-20 | Aunt Elsie's bridge afternoon |

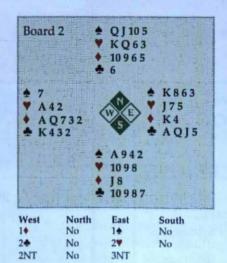
Three bull's-eyes and three arrows off the target give our experts a total of 38, the same score that my wife and I achieved when I was testing out the hands. They were not too difficult and I expect that several thousand of you reached the Gold Cup finals. Do you know the train fare to Peebles?

PRIZEPO



North leads the #J.

Win the ♣A, cash the ♣A, enter dummy with the ♣K and discard your ♠K on dummy's ♣J. If the defenders continue spades you have nine tricks: 2 spades, 3 hearts and 4 clubs. If they deny you an entry to dummy with the ♠Q you will have ample time to establish diamond tricks.



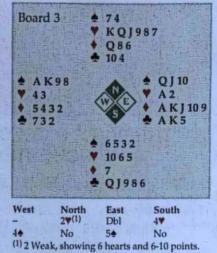
The defenders cash the first four spade tricks (the suit breaking 4-4 with South having the ♠A) and South then switches to the ♣10.

You can discard two hearts and a diamond on the spades. Win the ♣K, unblock the ♥A for a Vienna Coup, and run the clubs squeezing North in the red suits.

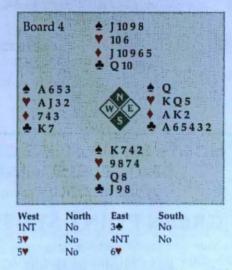
Board 3 (see top of next column) North leads the ♥K.

Best play is to duck the ♥K and win the heart continuation. Cash the ♦A, enter your hand with the ♠A and lead a diamond towards dummy. If North follows low each time finesse dummy's ♦J. If this loses to a doubleton ♦Q that will be your last loser provided spades break no worse than 4-2.

The diagram above shows why you must withold your ♥A at trick 1. South ruffs the ♦J but cannot enter North's hand



for a second diamond ruff. If North had the singleton diamond it would be important to ensure that he did not have a quick entry to South's hand for a second ruff.



North leads the ♠J covered by dummy's ♠Q and South's ♠K.

Best play is to take the A and immediately play a low club from each hand. You will succeed provided clubs are 3-2 and trumps no worse than 4-2. If you are forced to ruff a spade a trick 3 you can then unblock the KQ, return to hand with the K and draw trumps.

If you cash the \$K, cross to dummy with the \$A and ruff a club low, North will overruff and you lose trump control.

Alternatively, if you cash the K, cross to the A and then throw a diamond loser on the third club, South wins and forces you to ruff a spade in dummy. You cannot now return to your hand to complete drawing trumps.

December Winners

Open: John Cruickshank,

Godstone, Surrey

Regional: Alex Wiseman,
Whitefield, Manchester
County: David Wilman

David Wilman St. Austell, Cornwall

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The Norfolk Congress

April 7th, 8th, 9th 2000

The Dukes Head Hotel

Kings Lynn

Tel: 01553 774996

Chief Tournament Director:

Malcolm Carey

EBU LICENSED

Brochures from:

Mrs S. Warner, 20 The Boltons , Hall Lane, South Wootton, Kings Lynn PE30 3NQ

Tel: K.Lynn 675816

INTRODUCING the EBU Online Bridge Club! Wireplay Bridge is presently undergoing a metamorphosis and as I write this column the EBU, Gamesplay.com and Bridge Player Live are in the process of forming a joint venture to provide a new, exclusively British Internet Bridge system.

The previous Wireplay system was taken out of commission at the end of December, but players moved over to Bridge Player Live, where initially a room was set up for use by British players, separate from the existing facilities.

By now, development of the EBU Online Bridge Club should be well underway and a major launch is intended for April 1, to coincide with the April edition

of English Bridge.

One attraction of an exclusively British system, compared with an international system, is that we are all able to play British Acol, with four-card majors and a weak No Trump, rather than find

By Barrie Partridge

everyone playing Standard American Yellow Card, that few of us understand. The British system is also far more cosy and chatty. I certainly find it easier to identify with a partner in Birmingham, England rather than Birmingham, Alabama!

For the latest news, please go to the community website:

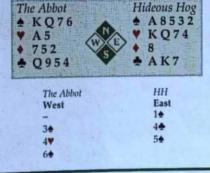
www.wireplay.co.uk/clubs/bridge

The site includes details of how you candownload the software, as well as features, background information and quizzes. If you have difficulty reaching the website, or have any bridge related queries, please contact me at:

BRPartrid@aol.com



The website home page also contains a link to The Message Boards. These discussion forums, often starting with a postmortem of an interesting hand. One recent topic was bids of five of an agreed major suit in an uncontested auction. This was going on at the time of the historic first partnership of The Abbot and Hideous Hog!

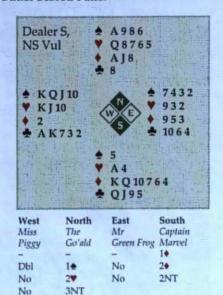


The hand occurred in a teams match and although the slam was also reached at the other table, the sequence that I observed between the Hideous Hog and The Abbot (who insists that he is Hugo Yorke-Smith of St Titus!) was rather neat. The 44 and 47 were cue bids and the 54 asked The Abbot to look at the quality of his trumps to decide whether to bid on to the small slam. Very useful if you are playing ordinary Blackwood rather than RKCB.

Recent competition winners include Jaws and Young Lady (Wallaby World Cup Wonders), Axion and Rubbaducky (Return of Portillo Pairs) and KSR and Sir Gary (Jeffrey Archer Memorial Pairs).

Will Miss Piggy Get Squeezed?

My thanks to Captain Marvel of Manchester for reporting this deal from a Butler Scored Pairs:



Captain Marvel and the Go'ald (the name of the aliens in Stargate!) reached 3NT. Miss Piggy led A and switched to K. Captain Marvel ducked this, and the Q which followed, discarding a club from hand.

The *J was taken with *A but Captain Marvel had to find another discard from his hand. After a lot of thought, he worked out that another club was correct. He ran the diamonds and this was the position on the lead of the last diamond:



For once, Miss Piggy was on the receiving end of a squeeze!

CARD PLAY by Bob Rowlands

IN both problems you are South, playing in a No Trump contract. Assume plenty of entries to either hand.

How would you handle the two combinations below? Use one suit from a pack of cards if theles



A. 5 tricks needed B. 5 tricks needed

b) This looks the same as problem (a) but lacking the ten you can now only cope with a 4-0 splits of the opposing cards if West has all four. You must be careful to start with +K, then the can take the can pick out west's remaining 4-110x safely. Should East have all teast falls to follow you can pick out west's remaining 4-110x safely. Should East have all the luxury of playing this way because starting with 4-K will block — you must decide it you can afford to start with +K.

problem, so you should start with +A (or +O) if problem, so you shows out on the first lead either opponent shows out on the first lead you have a marked finesse against the other defender. This is one of the more straight. forward safety plays to make sure of winning all the tricks.

World-wide contest

The World Bridge Federation is to hold two world-wide simultaneous pairs charity tournaments on Aug 22 and 23 to coincide with the Mind Sports Olympiad in London.

The Mind Sports Organisation is also running an internet rubber bridge tournament, with the finals to be held at the Olympiad.

National Newcomers

In the National Newcomers this year Level Two bidding systems will be allowed in the local heats, regional and national finals, as in previous years. Following representations from counties the EBU Tournament Committee has abandoned the idea of restricting players to Standard

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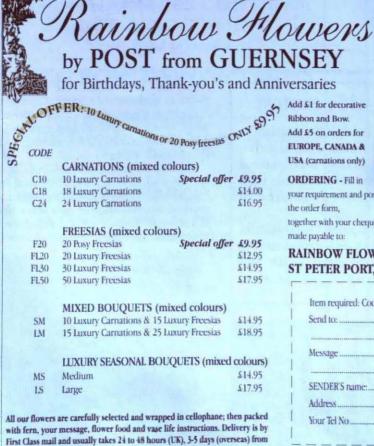
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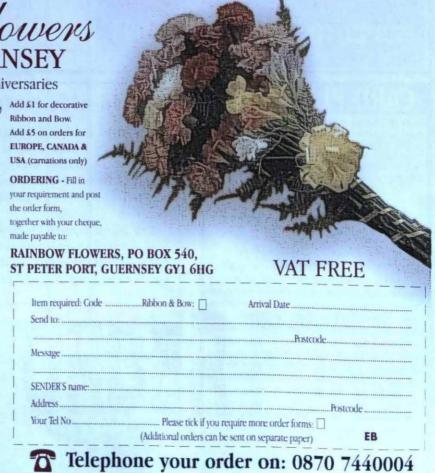
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it arrives on or as close to your required date.



ROY HIGSON, who died peacefully at home at the age of 79 in November, was a colourful bridge character with born-again enthusiasm. His health had been poor for some years - he knew his heart would fail eventually if nothing worse got him first - but a cheerful disposition had hidden his situation from all but his closest family and friends.

Roy came to prominence in the Manchester area in the late 50s, culminating in his partnership with Raymond Brock which achieved outstanding success, including wins in the National Pairs in two successive years and three appearances for England. But he

found the top-level tournament world, with its pressures, rivalries and jealousies, unsuited to his disposition and he gave up playing to concentrate on tournament directing.

He was a TD who seemed to know and appreciate everyone without reference to their playing skill. One gained the impression that he saw his role as safeguarding the players' enjoyment of the game within a fair environment, rather than enforcing compliance with the laws. His announcements were legendary:

"There's only one envelope per pair if you want to receive the results. Please arrange for the stronger member of the partnership to fill in his name and address."

He made occasional forays to the Derby club where I played, to hobnob with his friend Ken Bottom. By then Roy had

By John Williams

retired early from his engineering career and enjoyed trading in wines, jewelry and funny stories. Ken and Roy shared an interest in buying and selling, and in flutters on geegees and the dogs. They were birds of a feather, combining an expansive view of the world with a touch of

When I joined the EBU staff in the late 1970s Roy was established as a National TD, second in command to Harold Franklin. Here were two men who had both reached the heights as players only to turn to directing. What, we all won-dered, must it have been like to play with or against them? Their very abstinence enhanced their legendary status.

When Harold retired as Chief TD in 1983, Roy succeeded him on his strict insistence that he was a caretaker only. Roy served a three-year term, notable for its harmony and quiet achievement rather like the Joe Mercer era as England football manager, for those who remem-

ber such things.

When Roy duly made way for Max Bavin in 1986 the EBU honoured him as a Vice-President, recognising his services not only as a TD but as a member of the Laws & Ethics Committee in the late 1960s and the Tournament Committee in the mid 80s.

I recall Keith Stanley seeking to make up a team for a national competition some 10 years ago and inviting me to join him if I could find a partner. On impulse, and still intrigued by what it would be

like, I rang Roy. To my astonishment, he agreed immediately that it might be fun. I was surprised by several things: firstly, the lack

A man of flair with a touch of roguishness



keeping 13 cards in his hands and then reducing their number progressively by one (they wafted about a lot, his head nodding in sympathy, and each card that eventually hit the table was severely mangled); thirdly, the effortless artistry of his

I take great and no doubt overweening pride in having re-introduced Roy to the game. Once the threshhold had been recrossed, he was completely hooked: his enthusiasm brought enjoyment not only to his own later years but to all those lucky enough to play with or against him.

He played the game for the moments of magic that skill, luck or even incompetence can produce. It's a truism that most fine partnerships have featured the marriage of a gifted artist to a gifted technician, a comedian to a straight man.

Roy used to tell me ruefully about the work that Raymond Brock had demanded of him - the endless afterplay sessions, analysing every error by or against them, every point of bidding method or style, every lesson that could be learned. I suspect he was an able but slightly reluctant cession of burgundy-coloured stains (his love of red wine was not limited to merchandising). If you hadn't stopped him talking long enough to complete the card before the event started there was no chance, because you would never set eyes on him at scoring intervals or between rounds: he would have spotted someone to regale with his latest story. I remember with particular warmth a

with him would have sat better on a

postage stamp. It soon became illegible

anyway, the pencil script eroded by a suc-

weekend at the BBL Spring Congress in Buxton some years ago. He produced a convention card tinted from previous outings and marked several lines of upward strokes across the top: this, it transpired, was the number of boards he was condemned to play with me and they got marked off, as in a prison cell, board by board. The pleasure lay in waiting for opponents to ask him what he was doing, so he could tell them! At one point in the Swiss Pairs, he was able to use his favourite bidding convention, the Grand Gesture. He opened 14 and when I decided to risk 14, with only two or three points but length in two suits outside clubs, he reached into the bidding box (with the usual difficulty), grasped everything up to and including 64 and dropped the lot on the table from a great height.

The contract made, due to an unlucky choice of opening lead on which RHO wasted a vital card to signal length, and a subsequent line of play by me which was as successful as it was out of character.

The fact that more than half the field languished in 1♣ and that 4♣+2 would have done just as well for an outright top, only added to my partner's enjoyment and ensured his absence at every break for the rest of the weekend. We went on to win the Swiss Teams with Max and Roz Bavin. It was only during the penultimate round, when I was left in 1NT with 25 points in our combined hands, that I discovered that for the entire weekend I had espoused a 15-17 NT and he a 12-14.

The weekend after Roy died the Tollemache qualifier was played, and it crossed my mind while going there that some announcement should be made. But I found that everyone knew already, and reminiscences were being widely exchanged. Any announcement would have entailed calling for a respectful silence - not appropriate to any recollection of Roy.

Many are remembered for their achievements. Roy is one of the cherished ones who will live long in memories, not for what he did, but simply for what he was. The memories will aways raise a

Mobile phones and bridge don't go together

IT WAS at the old BBL Congress in Buxton that I first had the pleasure of an opponent's mobile phone on my table. Sure enough it went off musically, and we had to break from bridge while he had his conversation. These little things are getting more and more common, and even in social bridge can be a little annoying.

This topic came up a year ago on an internet bridge discussion group, and there was strong consensus that mobile phones at the bridge table were not acceptable. It was felt that there might be exceptions for, say, doc-

tors and engineers who were on-call but unlikely to get called – so for rare emergencies only. Oh yes! and for one participating Dutch software specialist who was on-call for experimental nuclear fusion reactors!

I am sometimes on-call myself, and then play in local bridge with prior permission. Even so I give switchboard my club's number, and carry a phone or bleep only as backup.

Recently I have heard a mobile's tuneless fanfare twice in a major Swiss event, and had a telephone (blessedly mute) plonked assertively on my table corner in a county pairs championship. It would be interesting to hear other member's views. – Chris Ryall, Wirral

How money is spent on internationals

READING the EBU Accounts I noticed that we spent £23,611 on the internationals between the home countries. In the last 20 years England have won the Camrose Trophy 17 times, often not using our best players. Things are more competitive in the Lady Milne Trophy for women, which we have won only 12 times in the past 20 years. In the Junior Camrose we have been the holders for over 20 years, and in the Peggy Bayer for under 20s for seven of its 10 years of existence.

With devolution now upon us, shouldn't we reconsider playing in the Home Internationals, and perhaps spend the money on taking on decent opposition? – Gerald James, Lewisham, London

□ Devolution has changed the relationships between the home countries and all possibilities are currently being considered. The competitive nature of the Camrose matches makes them far better preparation for European and world events than friendly internationals. The players care about the result of the Camrose. In the friendlies, which are by nature more social events, the overall results are often determined by other factors, such as the 'Club' and 'Officials' teams.

Drastic changes are needed in scoring

DUPLICATE scoring certainly needs revision, but Nick Peel (December) does not go far enough in suggesting the introduction of 'micro slams'. Contract Bridge was an advance on Auction Bridge in awarding points only for tricks BID and made. Duplicate is a further step forward, but it is still shackled to a scoring system derived from rubber bridge, where 'part score' and 'game' have some relevance.

Game and slam points should be abolished, as should points for overtricks. Scoring should be based entirely on tricks bid and won. The pair who bid and make five spades will do better than the pair who bid four and make five. Those who bid and make six or seven will still do better than those who stop at five, and they might still enjoy the rosy glow.

Slams are relatively rare, and slam points totally distort the results in team competitions. – John Halsall, Exeter.

Slams galore!

AT A club event one of our members, Hazel Hart, bid and made four small slams and one grand slam. Thought this might be worthy of a mention! – Dennis R Hodges, secretary, Highcliffe DBC, Dorset

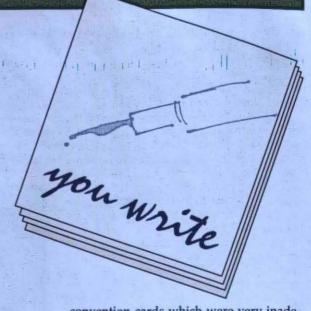
Convention Cards should be checked at all events

Isn't it time that the EBU (and come to that the WBU and the SBU) checked that Convention Cards are adequately completed by every player before the start of play?

Time and again we have produced our Convention Cards at the start of a round only to learn that our opponents:

- Don't have one;
- · Only have one between them;
- Have one or even two, but that they are partially completed.

For example, at the Year End Congress at Blackpool one partnership did produce



convention cards which were very inadequately completed. There were no entries against action after "opponents intervene with..." for example. Also when it came to opening leads the section versus suit contracts was not completed although the entry v NT contracts stated that they made 3rd highest leads.

We asked what their lead style was only to be told they didn't have one!! When pressed they said they had no agreement and could lead any card depending on the bidding and they put a large cross over opening leads on the

We decided to call the TD. He halfheartedly went through the motions with them and suggested that they circle every single card on the convention card. I'm sure this was done somewhat tongue in cheek but the outcome was that we were left without any knowledge of their lead style against suit contracts.

We persisted and asked them to circle just one card and after some further prompting from us it turned out they were really leading 4th highest!

On one occasion we even came across an international without a Convention Card and when asked for one we were told that they don't have one but everything is absolutely standard anyway.

The Orange book 1998 clearly states that 4.8.1 that 'you must make clear what leads, signals and discards you use.' It also states under 4.2.1 that 'At the beginning of each round they should be exchanged with those of your opponents. The TD may impose a penalty if you do not have two properly completed convention cards.'

I believe that if Convention Cards were checked and seen to be properly completed before players were permitted to play the problems that currently exist would be instantly eradicated. – Babs Matthews, Windermere.

Letters welcome!

Please send your letters to:
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The Editor reserves the right to shorten letters. Publication does not mean the EBU agrees with the views expressed – or that the contents are factually correct.

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| | 4 Mr G H Frost | 3531 | NORFOLK | | | |
| | 5 Mr M J Mcniffe | 2292 | 4 Mrs B Thomson | 3250 | SURREY | |
| | 5 Mrs MA Polkinghorn | ne2132 | 4 Mr EJ Bloomfield | 3179 | 4 Ms M Andree | 4484 |
| | 6 Mr RJ Maddison-Bro | wn | 5 Mrs S Birchall | 1524 | 4 Mrs S P Price | 3830 |
| | | 1282 | 5 Mrs J Wells | 1121 | 5 Mrs IP Jordan | 11184 |
| | 6 Mrs P A Parker | 1201 | 6 Mr G Hardman | 1178 | 5 Mrs AC Duke | 2290 |
| | | | 6 Mr AJ Gough | 502 | 6 Mrs M Ward | 1214 |
| | LANCASHIRE | | | | 6 Mrs PJ Ward | 1125 |
| | 4 Mrs A Stephens | 2709 | NORTH EAST | | | |
| | 4 Mrs G Croft | 2373 | 4 Mr T King | 4233 | SUSSEX | |
| | 5 Mrs T Kelly | 1061 | 4 Mr J Marley | 3234 | 4 Mr GN Phillips | 4560 |
| | 5 Mr DL Holt | 1025 | 5 Mrs M Tuke | 1918 | 4 Mrs J Rumsey | 3560 |
| | 6 Mrs CM Relf | 239 | 5 Mr P Harrison | 1750 | 5 Mrs WJ Perry | 2106 |
| | 6 Mr JS Platts | 235 | 6 Mrs M Page | 1777 | 5 Mrs CE Maylen | 1927 |
| | O IVII JO I Idita | | 6 Mrs B Mcdermott | 986 | 6 Mrs E Mobbs | 925 |
| | LEICESTER | | o mis b mouthou | 200 | 6 Mrs R B Low-Beer | 851 |
| | 4 Mr L Clayton | 1227 | NORTHAMPTONSH | IRE | O INIIO IL D LOW DECI | 051 |
| | 4 Mr GM Fletcher | 1014 | 4 Mrs M Parker | 1654 | WARWICKSHIRE | |
| | | 1427 | 4 Mr FCW Starmer | 1024 | 4 Mrs J Gallacher | 3656 |
| | 5 Mr D Happer | 1166 | 5 Mr J A Larkin | 1577 | 4 Mr T Donaghue | 1187 |
| | 5 Mrs R A Berrington | 660 | 5 Mr JJ Bainbridge | 1547 | 5 Mr R N Airey | 1398 |
| | 6 Mr F Chinkin | | 6 Mr C Ballard | 1118 | 5 Mrs M K Airev | 1389 |
| | 6 Mr RP Shah | 345 | 6 Ms K Rogers | 422 | 6 Mr P J Hill | |
| | A STREET MANUEL | | o Ms K Rogers | 422 | 6 Mrs CM Cooper | 998 |
| | LINCOLNSHIRE | 1050 | NOTENCHANCIII | T. | 6 MIS CM Cooper | 814 |
| | 4 Mr DJ Stoddart | 1959 | NOTTINGHAMSHIR | | WESTMODI AND | |
| | 4 Mrs M Gibson | 1889 | 4 Mrs B Pilbin | 960 | WESTMORLAND | 1005 |
| | 5 Mrs RM Ronan | 1314 | 4 Mr B Pilbin | 957 | 4 Mrs JM Gartside | 1295 |
| | 5 Mrs HA Painter | 1246 | 5 Mr HUE Walker | 784 | 4 Mr A Cumpstey | 135 |
| | 6 Mr R Stevens | 1725 | 5 Mr BE Bagley | 778 | 5 Mrs C Richardson | 1024 |
| | 6 Mrs CE Armstrong | 518 | 6 Mrs M Mills | 150 | 5 Mrs EM Davies | 1014 |
| | | | 6 Mr I W Roxburgh | 125 | 6 Mrs I Gregory | 171 |
| | LONDON | | | | 6 Mrs J Hagen | 138 |
| | 4 Mrs N Matsumura | 3125 | OXFORD | | | |
| | 4 Mr DC Sellman | 2442 | 4 Dr J S Bygott | 2377 | WILTSHIRE | |
| | 5 Mr KA White | 1944 | 4 Mrs E Sheppard | 2134 | 4 Mr B R Johnson | 3050 |
| | 5 Miss AL Chess | 1773 | 5 Mr L Phillips | 1337 | 4 Mr S Sasanow | 1542 |
| | 6 Ms S Rohan | 2961 | 5 Mrs J Ingham-Johns | | 5 Mrs AM Powell | 2406 |
| | 6 Mr E Erchsen | 1675 | 6 Mr P Barksfield | 816 | 5 Mr SE Powell | 1948 |
| | | | 6 Mrs C Ewing | 654 | 6 Mr L Jones | 477 |
| | MANCHESTER | | | | 6 Mr R Giles | 352 |
| | 4 Miss MJ Hadfield | 1268 | SOMERSET | | | |
| | 4 Dr B R Lewis | 805 | 4 Mr D Burgess | 2487 | WORCESTERSHIRE | |
| | 5 Mrs S Read | 911 | 4 Mr RP Wickham | 2420 | 4 Mr R Carman | 3872 |
| | 5 Mrs D Rowlinson | 907 | 5 Mr FE Coltman | 2748 | 4 Mr IEL Lineker | 3317 |
| | 6 Mr M R Trounce | 1024 | 5 Mrs A Harris | 1569 | 5 Miss WM Packwood | 1920 |
| | 6 Miss A Waring | 772 | 6 Mrs G Bruce | 1447 | 5 Mrs U Bryant | 974 |
| | O Milas 11 Maning | | 6 Mr E Morris | 1362 | 6 Mrs G Griffiths | 1257 |
| | MERSEYSIDE/CHES | HIRE | | | 6 Mrs DE Davies | 1218 |
| | 4 Mr K Mcneill | 1895 | STAFFS & SHROPSI | HIRE | | -10 |
| | 4 Mr ER Lowe | 932 | 4 Mr M Sherriff | 1108 | YORKSHIRE | |
| | 4 Mr ER Lowe | 1172 | 4 Mr DE Jones | 777 | 4 Mr M Porter | 2419 |
| | 5 Mrs K Lloyd | 1152 | 5 Mrs VJ Leland | 1485 | 4 Dr JR Worters | 2310 |
| | 5 Dr C Whaley | 681 | 5 Mr RG Leland | 1469 | 5 Mr K Arnold | |
| | 6 Mrs E Marshall | 475 | 6 Mr BKM Harborth | 812 | 5 Mrs A Joplin | 2158 |
| | 6 Mrs A Pinnington | 4/3 | O MI DIAM HARDORUI | 01. | 2 mis v robin | 1170 |

6 Mrs MA Edwards

4 Mrs JL Champness

SUFFOLK

427

1123

5 Mrs A Joplin

6 Mr L Newell

6 Mr P Kemp

1170

1286

925

Master Point Trophy

Grand Master Promotions

Mr S Collins Mr MA Jones YORKSHIRE WARWICKSHIRE

Avon

3° Star Master
Mrs RC Prince
2° Star Master
Mrs C M Bickerstaff
1° Star Master
Mr L M Bickerstaff
1° Star Master
Mr H B Lambert
Master
Mr H B Lambert
Master
Mr DI Beacham
Mrs PJ Clowes
Mr R Stephenson
County Master
Mr C Jones
District Master District Master Mrs J Cole Mr D Shears

Bedfordshire

Premier Life Master Mr GE Ward Advanced Master Mrs R Illing Master Mr P Malpass District Master Mrs D Webb

Berks & Bucks National Master
Mrs G Dack
Mrs G Jones
Mrs A Lawrence
8° Star Premier Regional Master
Mrs RA Worthy
1° Star Premier Regional Master Miss AJ Ledbrook Mrs B Vitty 8° Star Regional Master 8° Star Regional Master Mr A Lowry 6° Star Regional Master Mrs A Lowry 2° Star Regional Master Mrs MA Fleming 5° Star Master Mr GP Baster Mr GF Bane Mr T V Cullen Mr BW Dennis 4* Star Master Mr B Hopper
3* Star Master
Mr AD Jewell
2* Star Master
Mr CS Bailey
Mr SB Bailey
Mr SB Master
Mr PE Griffiths
Mrs JW Holloway
Advanced Master
Mr W Beal
Mr MAW Peters
Mr B Roy
Master
Dr J Kennedy
Mrs J Mair
Mr A Masters
Mr A Masters
Mr A Masters
Mr A Masters
Mr B Masters
Mr B Masters
Mr B Masters
Mr P Bowles
Dr EJ Brennan
Mr P Bowles
Dr EJ Brennan
Mr P C Hogan
Mr DN Hodson
District Master

Mrs B E Brogden Mr D Cook Dr DW Cullington Mrs M H Knight Mrs J E Tower Club Master Mr RJ Clark Mrs N S Gardam Mrs T J Hamilton Mrs J Murphy Cambs & Hunts

Mr A Aubrey Mrs P E Autherson Mrs B E Brogden

Tournament Master Mrs M Chaplin Mrs M Chaplin Mr J Constable Mr K Jackson 5* Star Master Mr R Chaplin Mrs S Dempster 4º Star Master Mr G Bangs Mrs C Ratcliffe Mrs C Ratcliffe 3° Star Master Mr RM Harland 2° Star Master Mrs ML Burrows 1° Star Master 1° Star Master
Mrs M Jude
Advanced Master
Mrs J Patten
Master
Mrs C Anderson
County Master
Mr K Hughes
Mr DN Samuel
Mr C Van Gelderen
District Master District Master Ms W Pollard Mrs P R Seely

Club Master Mrs Y M Copping Mr R Hart

Cannel Islands

Cannel Island
National Master
Mrs RMD Evans
Mr DJ Friswell
2° Star Master
Miss C Rynd
1° Star Master
Mrs G Pitcher
Mr P Pitcher
County Master
Mr R Hauge
Mrs D Seaward
District Master
Mr C A Bird
Mrs M A Bird
Mr P Evans Mrs M A Bird Mr P Evans Mrs M E Horton Mrs BD Hunter Club Master Mr A Harrison Mrs M Warstat

Cornwall 5° Star Regional Master Mr JP Barker 1° Star Tournament

5° Star Regional Master
Mr JP Barker
1° Star Tournament Master
Mr DH Daniel
5° Star Master
Mrs A P James
4° Star Master
Mrs P Muir
3° Star Master
Mr H Payne
1° Star Master
Mr H Hee
Mr T Theelke
Advanced Master
Mrs L Burley
Mrs P J Dodge
Miss KEV Jones
Master
Mrs A Allen
Mrs H Boyens-Mitchell
Mrs J Fitness
Mrs A E Von Kimmelman
County Master
Mrs A E Von Kimmelman
County Master
Mr B Cuff
District Master
Mrs D B Warren
Club Master
Mrs D B Warren
Club Master Mrs DB Warren Club Master Mrs A Ampleford Mr G Nicholson Mr P C Scott

11° Star Regional Master 11° Star Regional Mr GW Bell Regional Master Mr E Bell 3° Star Master Dr J Cottam 1° Star Master Miss J Maclean Master Mrs J Parkin District Master Mr J Rakin

Derbyshire

Premier Life Master Premier Life Master
Dr JA Tominison
6* Star Regional Master
Miss J Starsmore
1* Star Master
Mrs M Metheringham
Advanced Master
Mr R Allen
Mr D Robinson
Master Master Mr J Alli County Master Mrs J Floutier Mrs J Floutier Mr RE Floutier Mr D Frape Club Master Mr A Pilling Mrs B Wilson

Premier Life Master Miss B McElroy 2* Star Premier Regional Master Mrs E Morris 8° Star Regional Master Mr JE Foale 3° Star Regional Master Mrs H Mather Tournament Master Mr B Cook Mr B Cook 5° Star Master Mrs B Guy 4° Star Master Mr RPS Andrews Mrs E Langley Mrs B Martin Mrs B Martin
3° Star Master
Miss EML Nichol
2° Star Master
Mr TF Cook
Mrs J Palk
1° Star Master

Mr W Menzies
Mr WE Pyle
Mr JH Russell
County Master
Mrs JM Edwards
Mrs JD Noble
Mrs M Webb
District Master
Mr M Crelley
Mrs M J Culver
Mr R Stone Mr R Stone Mr J Vajda Club Master Mrs L Burrows Ms S K Woodall

Direct

District Master Mrs J Crowburst

Dorset

Premier National Master Miss PE Harris Mr MJ Organ National Master Mrs JP Bailey 5° Star Premier Regional Master Mr N G Stribling 3° Star Premier Regional Master Master Mr MJ Brook Mr MJ Brook 2° Star Regional Master Mrs JV Chiesa 1° Star Regional Master Mrs MT Clews 5° Star Master Mrs EM Morris 4° Star Master Mrs L Rejmont 4* Star Master
Mrs J Belmont
Mrs FB Hicks
3* Star Master
Mr DA Simmons
Mr M A Wilson
2* Star Master
Mr D Tonge
1* Star Master
Mr DT Donge
1* Star Master
Mr DD Booth
Mr PW Habershon
Advanced Master
Mrs P Howard
Mr C Marsh
Master
Mrs TKH Attwater
Mrs TKH Attwater
Mrs TF Bourke
Mr J Bourke
Mr J Bourke
Mr Wi Howe Mr WI Howe Mr PD Savage Mrs JM Smith District Master Mrs RMC Fisher Mr PAR Holbert Mrs VG Seldon Club Master Mrs M C Booth

Essex National Master
Mr Al Cohen
6° Star Premier Regional
Master
Mr DG Rance
Mrs JM Rance
Premier Regional Master
Mr B Hunt
1° Star Regional Master Mr B Hunt 1* Star Regional Master Mrs E Green 2º Star Tournament Master Mrs A Featham Tournament Master Mr RGR Crofts-Bolster 4* Star Master Mr HC Fallek 3* Star Master Mr HC Fallek
3* Star Master
Mr L Lewis
Mr II. Perceval
Mr EAW Scriven
2* Star Master
Mrs LV Seymour
Mrs C R Woods
1* Star Master
Mr M Madden
Mr M Sethill
Advanced Master
Mr B Bailey-Stevens
Mrs SH Turner

Master
Mr BK Coe
Mrs RA Stevens
Mr DC Tomalin
County Master
Mrs BP Block
Mrs S Charlton
Mrs BJ Greene
Mrs J Loveridge
Mr G E Porter
District Master
Mr DE Bright Mr DE Bright Mrs H Capal Mr T J Elcock Mr D L Gold Mr D L Gold
Mrs R S Gold
Mr IM Miller
Mr IID Pavitt
Club Master
Ms J F Beaucha
Mr C S Darling
Mrs EF Dash
Mr D T Mann
Mrs R Perrymar Mrs R Perryman Mrs G M Richm

Gloucestershire

Regional Master Mr C Wadsworth 5* Star Master Mr DP Hauser 4* Star Master Mrs I Lloyd 3* Star Master Mr N Brojer 2* Star Master Mr AH Fateman Mr J Muirhead Mr J Muirhead 1* Star Master Mr A Lander Master Mrs JM Pritchard County Master Mr LV Dowswell Mr A C Fothering District Master Mr LF Cook Mrs LE Cook Mrs VA McCle Club Master Mrs A M Hall

Hants & I.O.W.

Premier Life Master
Dr Bl. Marks
Life Master
Mr DCG Hinkin
Premier National Master
Mr DJ Thornton
National Master
Mr JGT Downes National Master Mr JGT Downes Mr J Wall 8* Star Regional Master 8° Star Regional Master Mrs I, Care 3° Star Regional Master Mr P Dunne 2° Star Regional Master Mr D Mayne Regional Master Mr JR Clark Mr TJ Smith 2* Star Tournament Master Mr RW Quibell 1* Star Tournament Master Mr BA Basker Mr BS Bowden Mr RJ Merrell 5* Star Master Mrs J Whitehous 3* Star Master 2* Star Master Mrs MABE Thacker Mr PEB Vaile 1º Star Master 1º Star Master
Mr T Adkins
Mr JA Collyer
Mr S Czajkowski
Mr R Nayar
Advanced Master
Mr WO Baldock
Mrs S M Leatham
Major D Sebag-Montefiore
Mrs E Stratton
Master

Mrs GF Benton
Mr JV Deal
Mrs P Deal
Mrs P Deal
Mrs E Ewins
Dr RA Ewins
Dr RA Ewins
Mrs M Gale
Mr A Seabrooke
Mrs S Shapland
Mrs EM Spence
County Master
Miss J Bellinger
Mr DE Blundell
Mrs CJ Bostock
Mr JP Bostock Mr DE Be

Herefordshire

1° Star Master Mrs JA Shadforth Advanced Master Mrs ME Thoburn Master Mrs D Robertson County Master County Master Mr PM Carruther Mrs RM Carruthe District Master Mr N Duberley Mr G Harringto Mrs M Harringt Mr R Underhill Mr R Underhil Club Master Mr A Bennett

Hertfordshire

Life Master Mrs HM Miles National Master Mr E Zivins 2° Star Premier Regional Master Mrs V Howlett 1° Star Premier Regional 1° Star Premier Regional Master Mrs PJ Coombes-Lewis 5° Star Regional Master Mr TG Banks 1° Star Regional Master Mrs AM Blanchard Mrs GL Fisher 1° Star Tournament Master Mrs VD Down Mrs YD Doyle 5° Star Master Mrs MJ Dawson Mr WE Ke Mrs HJ Nunn
3° Star Master
Mr MJ Dill
Mrs PAS Macgillivray
Mrs J Rogers
2° Star Master
Ms AMC Hamilton
Advanced Master
Ms A Heini
Mr T Kaban
Mr EG Tuch
Mrs R Tuch
Master
Mr LS Hill Master Mr LS Hill Mr AT Pullin District Master Mr M Burton Mr G S Howard Mr MJ Jefferies Mr SD Pratt Club Master Mr GI Greenway Mr GL Greenw Mrs E J Hakim Mrs F Lough Miss C S Nixon Dr VL Saville Mr R J Taylor Mrs V Taylor Mrs EM Webber Mr J R Webber

Isle of Man

5* Star Regional Master Mrs R Black 5° Star Master

Gold leaders

Gold point rankings at 31 December 1999

| (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) | THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN | | THE REPORT OF THE PERSON NAMED IN |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Position | Name | County | Gold Points |
| 1.24 | Mr J Dhondy | MIDDLESEX | 50.96 |
| 2 | Mr T Townsend | BERKS. & BUCKS. | 46.10 |
| 3 | Mr MA Jones | WARWICKSHIRE | 45.66 |
| 4 | Mr IH Pagan | MIDDLESEX | 45.66 |
| 5 | Mr CN Jagger | CAMBS & HUNTS | 41.92 |
| 6 | Mr JDR Collings | WARWICKSHIRE | 40.60 |
| 7 | Mr J B Young | CAMBS & HUNTS | 40.31 |
| 8 | Mr JP Hackett | STAFFS & SHROPSHIR | E 37.92 |
| 9 | Mr AR Forrester | STAFFS & SHROPSHIR | E 37.82 |
| 10 | Mr JT Hackett | STAFFS & SHROPSHIR | E 37.42 |
| | | | |

Mrs EN Cain District Master Mr R T P Allan

Kent

Premier National Master Mrs DJ Rogers 5° Star Premier Regional Mr EJ Humphreys 6° Star Regional Master Mrs N Davis 4° Star Regional Master Mr L Harris 3° Star Tournament Master Mrs R Banister Mrs R Banister
Tournament Master
Mr MD Kinsley
Mrs VA Reeves
Mr AJ Waddington
Mrs M Waddington
5° Star Master
Mrs L Starghish Mrs J Standish 4° Star Master Mrs MI Bleastlale Mrs ND Breeze Mr P Hatton Mr HL Macfarlane Mr BG Quinnell 3° Star Master Mrs PE Dean 3° Star Master Mrs PE Dean Mrs M Ruback Mrs RM Young 2° Star Master Mrs MA Bartlett Mrs L Bracher Mrs ML Brand Mr G H Frost Mrs MD Harvey Miss JM Jones Miss JM Jones 1* Star Master Mr RA FI Mr RA Flin
Advanced Master
Mr JSF Burrage
Mrs A H Carney
Mr M J McNiffe
Mrs D J Stone
Mr JA Walker
Master Master
Master
Dr M Alcalay
Mr R F Allen
Miss P Cooke
Mrs M Goacher
Mrs JM Morris
Mrs MBR Murphy
Mrs MBR Murphy Mr I Nahumy Mrs M Ohara Mrs MA Polkinghorne Mr RP Sawyer Mr RP Sawyer
County Master
Mrs EA Fox
Mr M Guy
Mrs B A Hewitt
Mrs RJ Macfarlan
Mr W Ohara
District Master
Mrs DA Course
Mrs DA Course
Mrs DM Course Mrs DM Cowey Mrs H H Ford Mrs DE Hunt Mrs M E Revell Mrs PV Smith Mrs J M Weatl Club Master Mr IB Bryan Mrs J Holdom Mrs J Kendall Mrs E Mitchell

Lancashire

National Master
Mr D Adelman
6* Star Regional Master
Mr G Inglis
2* Star Regional Master
Mr P Barnes
2* Star Tournament Master
Mr A Star Mr Aster Mrs A St Mrs A Stephens 5° Star Master 5° Star Master Mr B Maurer 4° Star Master Dr L R J Hoy Mrs LD Stuart 3° Star Master Mr S Howard Miss MR Vinten 2° Star Master Mrs C Inglis Mr MM Richmar Mrs S Richman

1* Star Master
Mr AM Cheetham
Mrs B Finlay
Mr DI, Hartley
Advanced Master
Mr J Cowan
Mr KC Pilcher
Master
Master Master Mrs D Cockhill Mrs T Kelly Ms A Newby Mrs J Walters County Master
County Master
Mrs B Aspinall
Mrs B Clarke
Mr HWL Cummin
Mrs T Watson
District Master
Mrs A Control Mrs A Clayton Mrs MG Gallagher

Mrs AD Crar Mrs M Gillov

Mrs MS Poirre Club Master

Premier National Master

Master Point Trophy

Master Point promotions from 3rd November 1999 to 3rd January 2000

Mar Li Coe er Star Premier Regional Master Mrs BE Coltman 6* Star Regional Master P Star Regional Master
In S.R Horn
The Star Regional Master
Is W O Livsey
The Whitcher
His W Whitcher
His W Whitcher
Mr B A Berrington
Mr TI Mando
Mr CW Williams
Master Master
Master
Master
Mr I. Danvers
Mr M O'Donnell
District Master
Mr NKM Sumaria
Club Master
Mr L Hillier
Mr P D Shah
Mr B Thomas
Mrs W Thomas

Lincolnshire 3º Star Master y Star Master Mrs EC Taylor 'S Star Master Mrs M Gibson Advanced Master Mr DWG Archer Mrs B Bassford Mr J Hill Mrs M Williams District Master Mrs Ce Amstong Mrs CE Armstrong Mrs CR Lindsay Mrs JS Paley

Premier Regional Master Mr PS Mendelson Mr JR Williamson Mr JR Williamson

1* Star Master
Dr C T Allard
Mr A Topp
Advanced Master
Mrs C Andrews
Miss AL Chess
Mrs E Norman Mrs K Diezing Mr KA White Mr KA White
Master
Mr RJ Cross
Mr G L Lederman
Mr AL Nelson
Mrs F Powell
County Master
Mrs M Pangalos
Hrs S Roban
District Master District Master
Mr C Arnall
Mr B Brogland
Mr E Erchsen
Mr SA Gedeon
Club Master Mrs THL Clarke Mr A D Picton Mr D Quinton Miss E Robb Mrs M T Wiche

Manchester Premier Regional Master Mr D Baskin
3º Star Regional Master
Mrs IB Iones
Mrs EJ Roe
2º Star Regional Master
Dr A C Wood Star Tournament Master Mrs MJ Hadfield 3" Star Master

R Atkinson is MI Hadfield Star Master le R Cook Advanced Master Master Mrs B Hesp Mrs D Rowl ounty Master District Maste (lub Master

Merseyside/Cheshire Mar Premier Regional Matter
Mc J D Groffith

4 Mar Master
Mc Ex Lower
Advanced Master A JA Leather M. IA Catterion M. IA Catterion County Mach

Mrs M McCaul District Master Mrs J Gregory Club Master Mrs AW Ellis Mr G Ellis Mrs W V Tait

Middlesex National Master

National Master
Mrs DZ Sanitzer
I* Star Premier Regional
Master
Mr P Kaufmann
3* Star Regional Master
Mrs B Berkovi
Mr NI Morris
Mrs I Newman
2* Star Regional Master
Mrs I Newman
2* Star Regional Master
Mrs I V Fine Mrs I V Fine 5° Star Master Mrs GV Walker 3° Star Master Mrs S Avoth Mr GH Laycock Mrs SS Sallis 2° Star Master Mrs BK Hiron Mr RW Kane 1° Star Master

1° Star Master Mr AJ Davoud Mrs T Gent Mrs B Hambrook Master Mr DRB Arundel Ms M Page Mr A White County Master Mr P Patel Mr C J C Whiteho District Master Ms B Backman

District Mass
Ms B Backman
Mr A Delcoy
Mrs R Gibson
Mr JS Morton
Dr J Nabney
Miss J O'Neill
Ms LJ Quigley
Mr S Remordin
Mrs N Spear
Mr AR Taylor
Club Master
Mrs B Lancer
Mrs B Lancer

Mrs B Lancer Mrs P B Nathan Mrs S Rudaizky Mrs R E White

Premier National Master Mr D Ingham Mrs D Ingham 2* Star Tournament Master 2° Star Tourna Mrs B Thomson 5° Star Master Mr HV Morris 4° Star Master Mr GPL Ip Mr AJ Wadlow Mr J Young 3° Star Master Mrs RL Warner 2° Star Master Mr A Little Mrs P Reed Mrs P Reed

1* Star Master

Mrs S Briggs

6* PJ Newton

Mr M J Taylor

Advanced Master Mrs S Birchail
Mr JR King
Mrs F E Mitchell
Master
Mrs PA Roberts
Club Master
Mrs J Broughton
Mr W Broughton
Mrs C Woolf

North East 5° Star Premier Regional Master Mr JC Benneworth 2* Star Premier Regional 2° Star Premier Regional Master Mr JH Doran 8° Star Regional Master Mr J Eglington 6° Star Regional Master Mrs E Spalding Regional Master Mrs M Davison Tournament Master Mr KWB Finch Mr T King Mr S Russell 5° Star Master Mr T Wilkinson Mr T Wilkinson Mrs T Wilkinson 4° Star Master Mr J Marley Mrs S Pullan Mr T Pullan Mr T Pullan Mr P Rodgerson 3* Star Master

Mrs CS Green Mr WP Ridley Mr B Shepherd Mrs B Sowerby 2* Star Master

1* Star Master
Mrs K Mitchell
Mr B A Pacey
Advanced Master
Mrs V Allen
Mrs J Creswick
Mrs J Lormor
Mrs J Creswick
Mrs J Lormor
Mrs J Wearmouth
Mr ST Wooton
Master
Mrs E Staples
Mr D Thompson
Mrs SC Wilson
County Master
Mrs P Hackett
District Master
Mr J Lewin
Club Master
Mrs J Master
Mrs Mrs Smith
Northamptonsh

Northamptonshire

Life Master Mr TJ Thrower 2° Star Premier Regional Master Mr T Wray

4° Star Master
Mr MN Gore-Bro
1° Star Master
Mr RW Bicknell
Mr A P Robinson Mr A P Robinson County Master Mrs DE Holbroo Mrs GM Webb Club Master Mrs V M Watts

Nottinghamshire

3° Star Master Mrs B Pilbin 1° Star Master Mrs R Carpenter Mr E Toft County Master Mr J Chater Mr J Chater District Master Mrs P Chater Club Master Mrs M E Denham Mr N Denham

Oxford

2* Star Premier Regional Mr E Sharp
5° Star Master
Mrs E Manuell
Mr DB Marsh
4° Star Master
Mr ID Gunn
2° Star Master
Mr CP Sheppard Mr CP Sheppard
Mrs E Sheppard
Master
Mr L Phillips
County Master
Mrs M Sheehy

4* Star Regional Master 4º Star Regional Mr C Chambers
5° Star Master
Mr C Bickel
Mrs JA Dryden
4° Star Master
Mr D Burgess
1° Star Master
Mr B Burgess
Mr E Collman
Advanced Master
Mrs A Harris
Master
Mrs M Hödge
Mr J Marsh
Mr MD Thomas
County Master
Mr PAM Bedwell
Mr G Bruce
Mr DR Collard
Mrs J Davies Mr JD Collard
Mrs JD Davies
Mrs JB King
District Master
Mr B Tustian
Club Master
Mr R E Fectenby
Ms S Gudgeon

Staffs & Shropshire Premier Regional Master Mr B Stanley

Premier Regional Master
Mr B Stanley
9 Star Regional Master
Mr M Davies
Mr JB Seymour
1* Star Master
Mr I Lock.
Advanced Master
Mr RG Leland
Mrs VI Leland
Master
Mrs HC Harrison
County Master
Mr N Anslow
Mr BKM Harborth
Mrs J Townley
District Master
Mrs MA Edwards
Mr RG Pringle
Mrs ZS Shakh
Club Master
Mr C E Turnock
Suffolk

Suffolk

Premier National Master Mr E Newman 5° Star Master Mr JM Garbutt Mr BJ Sellick 2° Star Master Mr RA Goddard

1* Star Master Mr M Codd Mr FV Mansfield District Master Lady C Beevor Mrs H C Mason Mr R H Winchester

Surrey Premier National Master Mrs CRB Eden Mr P H Kirton National Master Mr P i Mitton National Master Mr AP Stone 9° Star Premier Regional Master Mrs BA Van Dijk 4° Star Premier Regional

4" Star Premier Regiona Master Mrs O Konuralp Mrs SP Mills 5" Star Regional Master Mr FG Eldridge 4" Star Regional Master Mrs ME Linwood Mr AF Simeon Mr IP Warren 3* Star Regional Master Mr KK Law Mrs MVA Stimson

Mr KK Law
Mrs MVA Stimson
2º Star Regional Master
Mrs ID Sneil
Mr RH Starte
3º Star Tournament Master
Mr F Jones
1º Star Tournament Master
Mr H Mackson
Tournament Master
Mr LK Pinnock
Mr GV Sumner
5º Star Master
Mr Mc Butcher
Mr Mr Butcher
Mrs I Falmer
Mrs PE Penny

4° Star Master
Mr RE Neil
Mrs ML Williams
Mr AJ Woolway
Mrs S Young
3° Star Master
Mrs E Currie
Mrs IR Groom
Mr A Stein
2° Star Master
Ms M Andree
Mrs IL Burton
Mr SP Cousins
Mrs J Doig
Mr CI Everest
Mr CR Herbert
Mrs IP Jordan
Mr LR Springate
1° Star Master
Mrs PJ Bleakley
Mrs PJ Bleakley

Mr LR Springate
19 Star Master
Mrs PJ Bleakley
Mrs J Cook
Dr RP Corbally
Mr PG Newman
Mrs LA Rae
Mr RD Vaughan
Advanced Master
Mr RV Oughan
Mrs W Lancaster
Mr RV Ouke
Mr AW Filkins
Mrs W Lancaster
Mr T A Lighting
Mrs W Lancaster
Mr T A Lighting
Mrs GE Price
Mr D Rangarajan
Mrs P Talbot
Master
Ms P Baxell
Mr R Bridgen
Mrs V Clubb
Mrs IE Collings
Mrs E Milewczyk
Mrs M Peck
Mrs J Rose
Mrs K Sagane
Mrs V Speffield Mrs K Sagane
Mrs YD Sheffield
Mrs AC Webster
Mrs JB Wieloch
County Master
Mr D W Champion
Mr PDH Cobham

Mrs PJ Ward District Master

Sussex

Premier National Master Mrs KA Williams 8* Star Premier Regional Mr BL Skiming 3* Star Premier Regional Master Master

Mr PD Collins
2° Star Premier Regional
Master
Mr MH Denny
Mr M Wight
7° Star Regional Master
Mrs M Meredith
4° Star Regional Master
Mrs B Cross
5° Star Tournament Master
Mrs M Willford
4° Star Tournament Master
Mrs M Sl Mrs M N Biddle
Mr N Gordon
3° Star Tournament Master
Miss P S Dod
2° Star Tournament Master
Mrs WP Found
Tournament Master
Mrs DM Phillips
Mrs P Sclanders
4° Star Master
Mrs FE Thornton
3° Star Master
Mrs K A Langham
Mr D McLarens
2° Star Master
Mrs I Berger 2° Star Master Mrs I Berger Mrs C A Gasking Mrs J P Gorddard Mrs B James Mrs A Light 1° Star Master Mr R Bittan Mrs K Davies Mrs IM Hoolaham Advanced Mass Mrs JM Hoolahan Advanced Master Mrs ME Ayers Mr JS Davison Mr R J Fidler Mrs CE Maylen Mr P J Norris Mrs WJ Perry Mrs F Prosser Mrs PJ Slater Mr M G Vincent Master Mr M G Vincent
Master
Mr P Hoffman
Mr P Hoffman
Mr DW Jeans
Mr SJ Norris
Mr S J Norris
Mr S A Roberts
Mr R Spencer-Moore
Mrs D Teale
Mrs R Watson
Mr B A J Wells
County Master
Mr AW Walker
Mr PD Walker
Mr PD Walker
Mr PD Walker
Mr B F Webb
Mrs W J Woods
District Master
Mr G Hawgood
Mr S S tedman Mrs S Stedmar Club Master Mrs A Brown Mrs J E Cattermole Mr P Lane Mrs P Merk Mr G H Tinsley

Mr J Voller Ms J B Wat

Warwickshire Warwickshire
Grand Master
Mr MA Jones
Life Master
Mr C G Potter
Premier National Master
Mr DA Andrews
National Master
Mr R Green
Mr R Twyman
3° Star Regional Master
Mrs Mis Minnes
1° Star Regional Master
Dr MT McRoberts
S° Star Master
Mr D F Perkins
Rev JD Potter Rev JD Potter 4* Star Master Mr R Beran 2° Star Master Mrs B McRobb 1° Star Master Mr FW Fox Mrs MG Williams Advanced Master Mrs M K Airey Mr R N Airey Master Mrs J Care Mr M Hol County Master Mrs CM Cooper Mrs EB Glover Mr S Glover

3º Star Master Master Mrs EM Davies Club Master Mrs M A Chaple

Wiltshire

Regional Master Mr AP Law Mr N Pegg 1° Star Master Mr C C Goldsmith Advanced Master Ms E Thomas

Mr MR Barnes Mr MW Buck County Master Mr L Jones Club Master Mr A G Stapleton Mrs M Stapleton

Worcestershire

Worcestershire
6° Star Regional Master
Mrs G Lineker
Mrs G Lineker
3° Star Regional Master
Mr JW Meiklejohn
1° Star Regional Master
Dr MJ Cox
1° Star Tournament Master
Mr DA Goyant
Tournament Master
Mr PHooker
1° Star Master
Mrs B Griffiths
Mrs E Haynes
Advanced Master
Mr G Gordon
Master Master
Miss WM Packwood
County Master
Mr DSR Bird Mr DSR Bird Mr BK Brice Mrs DE Davies Mrs G Griffiths Mr DH Horton Mrs A Phillips Mrs B Williams District Master Mrs J A Clowes Mr I Driver Club Master Mrs B Rayer

Yorkshire Yorkshire
Grand Master
Mr S Collins
Premier Life Master
Mr KC Hayton
National Master
Mrs C Quigley
2* Star Premier Regional
Master
Mrs IM Foggitt
9* Star Regional Master
Mr IR Winsteburn
1* Star Regional Master
Mr RE Wraight
4* Star Tournament Master
Mrs SE Roberts
2* Star Tournament Master
Mrs M Barker
1* Star Tournament Master
Mrs NM Barker
1* Star Tournament Master
Mr E Brenston
Tournament Master
Mr E Brenston
Tournament Master
Mr E Brenston 1* Star Tournament Mr E Bereston Tournament Master Mrs P Catchpole 5* Star Master Mr M Porter 4* Star Master Ms PM Field Dr JR Worters 3* Star Master Mr JHD Blakey Dr JD Seddon Dr JD Seddon 2* Star Master Mr M Carter Mr M Carter Mrs SM Jackson 1° Star Master Mr M Epstein Mrs H Reeve Miss P Thirkettle Miss P Thirkettle Advanced Master Mr D Conley Mrs ED Dyson Mr S Elliott Mr R Hudson Mr J Livsey Master Mrs ME Broadbent Mr JA Digby Mrs S Marshall Mr R Wardell County Master County Master Mr JD Childs Mr J Dyson Mrs E Fox Mrs RM Mitchell

Mrs K Spamer Dr K D C Stoodley Mrs P M Thrower Mr JM Walter

Mr H Barnes Mr F H S Bedi Mr J Collins

Mrs J B Flei

Mrs M Fowler Mr P Johnson Mr W T Jones Mr A McNeils Mr P G Needl

Mrs M Oakes Mr R A Rimn

THERE are plenty of clever-clog bridge players who, on seeing partner fail in a contract, can triumphantly proclaim that if he had tackled a crucial suit in a different way he would have increased his chance of success from 57.3% to 58.5%.

This is not practical bridge!

There are thousands of possible suit combinations, many of which can be tackled in more than one way depending on the context of the suit within the whole hand. A few combinations are common and are worth knowing: for many of the others it would be a Herculean and pointless feat to memorise how to play them.

The purpose of this new series of articles is to help you reason correctly. I am interested in helping your thought processes as you tackle a key suit. For all combinations in this article assume you have plenty of entries to either hand unless you are told otherwise.

Two important principles are demon-

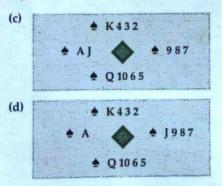
strated in (a):



You can often arrive at the correct conclusion by mentally increasing the value of all your honours by one (or more) place. If you do that here you get (b):



This is a well known position and is governed by the commonly quoted guideline: 'Eight ever, nine never'. With eight cards in the suit and the queen missing the percentage way of tackling the suit is to cash the ace and then finesse the jack. Reverting to (a), you should cash the king and finesse the ten, but that is qualified by a second principle. It is generally right to lead up to honours rather than lead out the honour. Hence you should first lead from the South hand towards North's king. That holds your losers to one if the suit breaks 3-2 with East holding the ♠J, or if the suit layout is (c) or (d).



The same principles apply in layout (e). Mentally upgrade all your honours by one and you get (a). The same technique applies. Lead from the South hand towards North's &Q. If that loses make the second lead from North and if East plays low insert your \$9.



Andrew Kambites A new series to help you improve your card play



The principle of leading up to honours has widespread applications. How would you play (f), (g) and (h) to get maximum tricks in a no-trump contract?



Clearly your best chance in (f) is finding the suit 3-3. You should consider how you might succeed on a less favourable break, but your overriding consideration should be that you must do nothing that would jeopardise your best chance.

Suppose you lead from South towards the VJ. You will succeed if West has the ▼A singleton, but if he has ▼A x you will make only two tricks because you cannot afford to duck the second round.

Better play is to start by leading from North. If your ♥K wins return to the North and lead towards South's remaining honour. If that also wins play the third round. You will make three tricks on any 3-3 break or if East has the Y A singleton or doubleton.



In (g) you should start by leading a low card from North towards your Q. If that wins return to the North hand and again lead small towards your *J. If that wins without the ♦K appearing cash the ♦A and hope for a 3-3 break. You make four tricks if East started with the .K tripleton, doubleton or singleton.

In (h) you have just won the opening lead in the South hand and must play the club suit for six tricks. Clearly your main chance is to find the suit breaking 3-2 but you should also consider whether you might succeed on any 4-1 breaks.



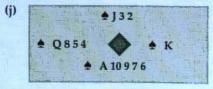
You won't succeed often if clubs break 4-1, but you can cope if East has the singleton A provided you are careful. It costs nothing to enter the North hand and lead a club. It gains spectacularly if East has the A singleton.

The spade suit in (i) occurred in a recent schools' simultaneous pairs competition.



Firstly identify your main chance of making four tricks: spades breaking 3-2 with at least one honour in the West hand. Can you improve on that?

As a general principle it is best to lead towards an honour rather than lead the honour, hence you should lead a low card from the North hand towards South. Those who started with the &I found they had a second spade loser when the layout turned out to be:



Suppose the layout is different. You overcome the first hurdle and correctly lead the \$2 towards the \$10, losing to West's ♠K. What next?

You need to be able to cope with layout (k) without jeopardising your main chance.



You should re-enter North and this time lead the **♣J!** East must cover (otherwise you have no problem), you win the ♠A and now you have a marked finesse against East's \$8. Of course a low spade towards your ♠7 would deliver the goods on the above layout, but you would feel very foolish if you lost a second trick to West's doubleton ♠K 8. The overriding principle is always to try to give yourself extra chances without jeopardising your main chance.



Bedfordshire

Simple Systems Teams (15 teams, a Bedfordshire record?): the North/South team of Frank Hackett & Jim Rigley, Anne & David Gilling took the title, 8 VPs ahead of Lynne Emmettt & Ron Davis, Barbara & Hugh

Swiss Pairs: Brian & Maureen Stairs won in an exciting finish, leaving Anne & David Gilling in second place. Numbers were down. Multiple Teams: Monica Lucy & Maggie Willis, Amy Cherry & Colin Porch retained their title and will be invited to represent Bedfordshire in the Daily Telegraph Cup. lackie Pfister & Peter Coles, Iain Roberts & Alan Shillitoe were runners-up. Inter Club teams of Four: A record 12 teams representing seven clubs did battle. Clifton BC (Steve Foster & lan Honstvet, Gaynor Tinsdale & Val Howlett) won by 12 imps; 2 Bedford BC; 3

County Bulletin: Anne Klarskov has taken on the role of editor and all members will welcome her into this post.

Diary Dates: County Swiss Teams, Feb 6, 2pm, Woburn; Cadet Pairs heat, Feb 14, 7.30pm, Wardown; County Pairs semi-final, Feb 17, 7.30pm, Ampthill; Cadet Pairs heat, March 2, 7.30pm. Wardown; County Pivot Teams, March 2, 7.30pm, Cranfield; Cadet Pairs heat, March 14, 7.30pm, Milton Keynes; County Mixed Pairs, March 16, 7.30pm, Cranfield; County Pairs Final, April 2, 2pm, Woburn; County Men's & Ladies Pairs, April 8, 2pm, Woburn.

Berks & Bucks

County Pairs: Rex Avery Final: Alan Brown & Barry Read; runners-up: Eric Crowhurst & Pat Dowdeswell.

Congratulations to Pat Dowdeswell who was a member of the team which won the Whitelaw Plate at the Ladies' Teams.

In the Tollemache, B&B qualified for the final with the team of Raymond & Sally Brock, Eric Crowhurst & Pat Dowdeswell, Peter Goodman, Tim Rees, Dee Lindon, Mike Perkins and Ian Reissman.

Channel Islands

Bridge in the Channel Islands continues to Ro from strength to strength.

In November, 52 players from Jersey went over to Guernsey for the County Teams Matches. For the first time in nine years Jersey A team had a convincing victory, scoring 397 to Guernsey's 323. For the second year running here was a B Team competition and Jersey non with a superb score of 512 to Guernsey's The top scoring team was Jersey's No 1: Douglas Romain, David Friswell, David Hole, arl Harrison. In the B Team: William & Beryl Durrell and Rosemary Beaty & Delma Murray had an incredible score of 115 out of a possible

Over the same weekend the Men's County Final was won by Jersey's John Panter and Harold Walden and the Ladies' County Final by Jersey's Kay Johns and Sue Rankin. Cathy Hepburn & Marion Miles of Jersey won the Sigma Trophy and the Open Pairs event was won by Rosemary Beaty & Delma Murray. The Upper Restricted Pairs was won by Carl Harrison and David Hole and the Lower Restricted Pairs by Malcolm and Marion Coles, a first tournament win for this up and coming couple, A very successful weekend and the first time in recent history that Jersey players won all the events.

County Open Pairs: Guernsey gained revenge with the first two placings: 1 Lynda Mildon & Andy Hall 64%; 2 Dick Langham & Rudi Falta 62%; 3 Sue Griffiths & Muriel Holmes, Jersey 55%.

Cornwall

Eva Sochanik who had fought so bravely against the odds died on All Saints Day. She will be greatly missed by her four sons, her brother and sister, her many grandchildren, and friends. Eve and husband Tad had been for so long part of bridge in Cornwall and Devon that her passing seems the end of an

Eva and Tad knew each other before the war and were married after being reunited as Polish refugees in England. After farming in Dulverton and Halwill they retired to Widemouth Bay on their beloved North Cornwall coast over which Eva wished her ashes to be scattered. They were fiercely proud of their native country and the one which had adopted them.

Eva played bridge with the same courage and determination that she showed in other aspects of her life. Team mates will testify that a blizzard which would halt an Arctic explorer would not prevent her from getting to a match. Apart from being a very good player she was also a director and committee member for both club and county. Although she sometimes showed irritation when things went wrong she was invariably courteous to her opponents and those who needed help.

Bee Clarke Trophy: 1 K & J Keast, W Heaton, J Bryant; 2 D & D Boxall, P Bullen, J Harnett; 3 R & J Putman, C Pote, M Booth.

Diary Dates: Feb 6, Ryley King & Hilda Higman; Feb 12, Tredova Cup novice pairs; Feb 13, Penventon Swiss Pairs; Feb 27, National Pairs qual heat; March 3-5, Bude Spring Congress; John Perks Qualifier (please look in county programme); March 26, Charles Gerry; April 16, John Perks final; April 28-30, Cornwall Congress.

Derbyshire

Congratulations to our Silver Plate team of Roger Mallinson, Ian Hall, Alex Hogg & Peter Kelly for winning through to the final.

Seventeen teams played in the McFarlane Cup, our invitation Teams of Four event: 1 Manchester (Jeff Smith, Boris Ewart, Steve & Tracy Capal); 2 Derby BC B (Derek George, Peter Dodson, Tony Haywood & Gitte Lee); 3 Merseyside & Cheshire (D Flacks, J Leather, J Hampson, J Paddle).

Invitation Pairs (pairs who have won coun-

ty events in the past year): 1= Audrey Pratt & Gill Nelson; 1= Peter & Sheila Kelly; 3 Derek Brooks & Reg Hart; 4 Jim Tomlinson & Ian

Berry Cup (Bridge for All students): 1 Roger Goodwin & Jorden Boll; 2 Margaret Watson & David Taylor; 3 Pat Hobson & Sue Warr.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Sheila Lester. A Yorkshire lass with great drive and determination. She joined the WRAC during the war, was the first lady licensee, a post mistress, then travelled extensively. She started playing bridge in her sixties, became our qualified county director, a post she held for four years. She is sadly missed by her many friends, especially Doris her regular partner.

Dorset

Dorset Women's Pairs (Championship Cup): 1 Mrs VER Bedingham & Mrs S Davies (WBC); 2 Mrs HR Whalley & Mrs J Sugden (WBC); 3 Mrs JM Smith & Miss DM Gladwinfield (WBC). Dorset Men's Pairs (Championship Cup): 1 MJ Brook & PPP Cheu (WBC); 2 JA & Mrs ME Howitt (SWA); 3 Mrs R Burkitt & EK Bathgate (WBC).

Diary Dates: Feb 3, 13, 27, Open Swiss Teams, Wessex BC*; Feb 20, Dorset Pairs Championship (Knight Cup) and Consolation Pairs, WBC; March 5, 26, Open Swiss Teams, Wessex BC*; March 19 Dorset Swiss Teams, (Weymouth College Trophy) Bovington.

Dorset events, Jim Barlow 01202 429268; WBC, Terry Udall 01202 760934. *EBU licensed congress events.

Devon

Winners of the 'revived' Plymouth Congress, at its new venue, the Grand Hotel: Championship Pairs, T Terrett & I Walsh; Swiss Teams: Mr & Mrs Slee and R Edmondson and B McElroy.

Torquay BC Congress: Championship Pairs, P Palmer & T Cannon; Swiss Teams: W & L Solomon, H Maidment & D Thornton.

Congratulations to Ruth Edmondson and Ann Glee who won the 'Plate' competition with their Berkshire team mates at the National Women's Teams in Coventry.

Finally, the county team deserve much credit for Devon's best performance of recent years, in the Tollemache, the more so as it was in a very tough group. The team: P Bowles & R Slape; R Edmondson & B McElroy; W Ellis & J Harriman; W Solomon & L Solomon.

Diary Dates: Southern Section Mini Congress at Abbotskerswell (near Newton Abbot), SW Pairs, Feb 19 & Graphic Cup/Swiss Teams, Feb 20 (11am start); North Devon Weekend, March 10-11, Park Hotel, Barnstaple.

The bridge section of Exeter G & C Club's annual Charity Swiss Teams in aid of Hospiscare is on April 9, 1pm. (entry forms from Hon Secretary, Mrs Carol Horgan, Exeter G & C Club, Countess Wear, Exeter, EX2 7AE, tel 0139287 4618).

Essex

Several Essex teams entered the Hertfordshire One Day Event: Chris Megahey, Phil O'Gorman, Roger & Jill Tattersfield were fourth, the highest placed Essex team.



Congratulations to Bernie Harrison & Dave **Duffy for winning Great Northern Swiss** Pairs. Seniors Congress: Three Essex pairs, Cecil & Maurice Leighton, Lionel & Faye Wernick and Margaret Curtis & Sid Prince, qualified for the A final of the Pairs Championship. The Leighton brothers did well to gain second place. Joan Curley & Tessa Beer were fourth in the Swiss Pairs. Congratulations to Mark & Richard Rose for winning the Championship Pairs in the Middlesex Congress. Several ladies from Essex took part in National Ladies Teams. Rob Trayman and Beryl Kerr didn't quite attain their previous best but did well to qualify for the Whitelaw Plate where they were fourth. Both Alan Shillitoe and Nigel Cundy have separately qualified for the final of the Under 25 Pairs.

Essex Seniors Pairs: 1 Margaret Curtis & David Sherman; 2 Gilfred & Jill Day; 3 M Kind & Pat O'Gara. Fletcher Trophy, invitational teams of eight: 1 Thorpe Bay (G Wilcox, A Cohen, P Murray, M Gibbs, R Hair, Mrs J Hair, Mrs Y Dias, Mrs C McHlery); 2= Alpha (R Jones, N Hunt, Mrs L Fleet, D Cooper, M Warner, Mrs D Warner, P Nettlingham & M Stribling); 2= Chelmsford (Mrs A Hartley, M Smith, D Embleton, S Cade-Bowyer, Mrs C Lovett, A Kitchin, R Eason & P Jones). Essex Cup for club for teams of four, held at the same time as the Fletcher Trophy: 1 Redbridge (Mrs M Curtis, S Prince, L Garcia & R Tresadern); 2 Collier Row A (R Elliott, S Cardy, C Charlton & K Collings); 3 Mountnessing (L Wernick, Mrs F Wernick, A Eames & J Sutcliff).

National Pairs, Heat 1: 1 M Smith & D Embleton; 2 D Valtisiaris & G Beckett. Tony Kelvin Trophy Swiss teams, sponsored by Tiffin Green: 1 M Smith, Mrs A Hartley, Lady R Telford & Mrs Y Dagwell; 2 C Charlton, K Collings, R Elliott & Mrs M Huntingford; 3 A Greenstein, Mrs Y Dias, Mrs J Hair & Mrs L Quinn.

Chelmsford BC Charity Swiss Pairs (held on a club night, playing 6 rounds of 4 boards) raised £262 for Chelmsford's Hospice Farleigh House: 1 A Philpott & P Spencer; 2 Mrs C Paget & Mrs A Spencer; 3 R Addlington & G Smith.

Essex Mixed Pairs: 1 Mr & Mrs T Clark; 2 Mrs M Curtis & D Sherman; 3 Mr & Mrs G Rance; 4 C Leighton & Mrs M Woolf. As Mr & Mrs Clark had won the major event, the Flitch Prize was awarded to Mr & Mrs Rance and the third prize to the pair in fourth place.

Diary Dates: South Woodham Ferrers' All Swiss Congress (pairs on Saturday, teams on Sunday), 2pm, Feb 5 & 6; Non-Expert Pairs (including National Newcomers), 7.30pm, Feb 10, Old Parkonians Club, Hainault; Essex Pairs Championship 2pm, Feb 20, Bishops Hall Park Community Centre, Brentwood - a new format of an afternoon qualifying round and an evening all-play-all final, plus a Consolation

Trophy for the remaining Pairs; Gwen Herga Trophies for Ladies and Men's Pairs, 7.30pm, March 15, Hanover Golf Club, Hullbridge; Essex Swiss Pairs, 2.15pm, April 2, Navestock Side Village Hall; Collier Row Bridge Club Swiss Teams, April 16, North Romford Community Centre; Novice Pairs, 3pm, April 30, Hedley Walter High School, Brentwood; George Curtis Swiss Teams 2.15pm, May 7, Newland Springs Community Centre, Chelmsford.

Gloucestershire

Men's Pairs: 1 J Angseesing & R Jackson; 2 N Downs & B Etherington. Women's Pairs: 1 Lesley Harrison & Vanessa Allinson; 2 Barbara James & Val Constable. Leonard Cup: Angela Verrion & Sheila Hetherington; 2 A Courtman & Geoff Foster. Bredon Vale: 1 Chalford B (Handley Pritchard, R Jones, Mr & Mrs R Brown); 2 Newent 'B' (A Landes, D Fletcher, Mrs M Ford & Mrs E Fletcher).

Leslie Everett: 1 Jo & Wendy Angseesing, P Waggett, A Hill; 2 Drs D & S Munday, W Griffith & Sarah Matthews.

We are delighted to announce that Ben Handley Pritchard has been selected to play for the England under 20s team.

Llangollen Swiss Teams: Convincing win by P Denning, A Thomas, T Towers & S Edwards. National Women's Teams, Plate winners: Lynne Hayes, Pat Dowdswell, Ruth Edmundson & Ann Slee. Hubert Phillips: R Foulds, A Selsby, C Wadsworth & Norah Allen reached the semi-final. Congratulations!

Seniors Congress Swiss Teams: 3 P Walker, Ann Swannell, J Goodwin & A Sproston.

Diary Dates: Cotswold Cup, April 2; AGM Mixed Pairs & Flitch, May 14.

Hampshire & IOW

Condover Swiss Teams: 1 S Howell, Mrs C Howell, Mrs J Whitehouse, Mrs M Stevens; 2 Mrs D Rivers, Mrs E Trevaskis, R Ewins & Mrs E Ewins; 3 J Baker, D Huggett, Mrs C Lowsack & S Auchter Ponie. Wessex Swiss Teams: 1 Mrs H Maidment, D Thornton, S Preston, M Fithyan; 2 Mrs K Vaile, P Carter, P Norman & J Moore; 3 B Stapleton, Mrs C Carter, I Fearon & Mrs C Fearon.

Beryl Bloxham Memorial Trophy Teams: 1 J Baker, J Moore, G Smith & F Hotchen; 2 R Bamber, Mrs C Bradley, Mrs L Lewis & D Thornton; 3 Mrs M Lawson, Mrs S Turpin, Mrs E Rice & Mrs R Ruches. Jubilee Teams of 8: 1 D Spencer, Mrs R Spencer, Mrs M Lawrenson, D Park, G Lawrenson, J Garton, P Norman, Mrs C Bradley.

Diary Dates: Feb 13, Valentine Swiss Teams; Feb 20, Pottage Cup Semi-finals; Feb 27, Bayer No Fear Pairs (& IOW heat); March 19, Ladies'/Men's Teams; April 9, Pottage Cup Finals (1pm); Farley Trophy Pairs (1.30pm). All at Romsey, 2pm unless otherwise listed. Entries: Kathy Vaile 01590 679673.

Kent

At the 62nd AGM the chairman, Colin Wilson, reviewed the past season, congratulating leading players who achieved success in National competitions. He referred to the membership questionnaire and noted the dwindling interest and support for one-day county events, undoubtedly front-line casualties of the lemming-like pursuit of Green Points. He promised that the incoming com-

mittee would review the whole competition scenario. Membership is steady at around 1400 and the financial position is particularly healthy.

40th KCBA Congress: Invicta Cup (Championship Pairs), Colin Wilson & Diana Avis; Allnutt Trophy (Mixed Pairs), Terry Cannon & Pat McBain; Gentry Cup (Flitch), Ian & Catherine Draper; Spurway Bowl (Champagne Pairs), Ian & Catherine Draper; Leonard Trophy (Butler-Scored Pairs), Malcolm & Pat McBain; Puddleduck Trophy (non-expert), Brian & Howard Johnson; Lukey Cup (Swiss Teams Champions), Ian & Catherine Draper, Neil & Anne Rosen; Owl Cup (Swiss Teams runners-up), Stuart Wheeler & Richard Coe, Giles Hargreave & David Davenport.

Dyer-Smith Cup (Kent Mixed Pairs), Ian & Catherine Draper; Hunter Cup (Kent Flitch), Ray & Madeline White; Phillimore Cup (Kent Swiss Pairs), Colin Wilson & Diana Avis.

Diary Dates: Larsky Cup Final (County Championship Pairs), April 30, Tunbridge Wells club.

Herefordshire

Clubs throughout the county enjoyed their Christmas parties - as well as their bridge (of course!).

County competitions: In the Swiss Pairs, Richard Croot & Phillip Gough won with an astonishing 86%! Is this a record? We're still checking. Second were Myra & John Davies with 77% and third, Kate Neale & Steve Booth (70%).

Next Step Pairs: 1 James Lambert & Dave Lait (62.5%); 2 Nancy Price & Joyce Lewis (58.01%); 3 Phil Stevenson & David Mann (56.09).

Men's Pairs: 1 Phillip Gough & John Griffiths (60.23%); 2 John Thacker & Nick Dubberley (59.32%); 3 Ben Britton & Mike Ralph (56.14%). Ladies' Pairs: 1 Kate Neale & Heather Brace (62.18%); 2 Pat Jenkins & Daphne Whittaker (59.19%); 3 Kathy England & Sue Munday (57.91%).

Diary Dates: Club Teams of 4 (Round 4), Feb 11, Ledbury; Club teams of 8, Chadds Shield (Garden Cities qualifier), March 4, Hampton Bishop.

Hertfordshire

Welwyn Garden City BC Swiss Teams:1 June Ball, Frances Pollitt, Helen Robinson, David Cock; 2 Derrick Kime, Francis Eddleston, Alex Lewis, David Armstrong; 3 Gila Tiplady, John Marmery, Paddy Dymoke, Mike Robson.

Hemel Hemstead BC Swiss Teams: 1 V Howlett, P Barnett, M Jones, S Foster; 2 K Basse, R Irwin, M Budd, J Wood; 3 G Fisher, S Dow, C Ellis, V Simons

National GolfPrint Challenge Heat: 1 Porters Park B (Mrs M Thompson, Mrs E Copley, Mrs D Barry, N Barry); 2 Porters Park A (H Harlow, J Connell, Mrs G Hoffman, J Hoffman); 3 South Herts (J Preston, Mrs P Preston, Mrs L Meadows, W Smith).

Jean Anderson & Richard Banbury were 5th in the Middlesex Green Point Swiss Pairs. Nick Hodsdon, Mike Reed, Andy & Julian Peers were 2nd in the Middlesex Swiss Teams A Flight. Karima Basse, Francis Eddleston, Rick Irwin and Bill Thurl were 4th. In the National Women's Teams, Maria Budd,

Karima Basse, Barbara Kime and Marie Gritt were 4th in the Swiss Teams,

Diary Dates: Feb 6, Championship Pairs emi-final,1pm, Greenwood Park; Feb 7 HBA smultaneous Pairs (Herts Calendar for club renues); Feb 20 Humble Cup 2nd Qualifinal, 1 pm. Bridge Centre, Welwyn Garden City. Feb MEW EVENT, Seniors Pairs, 7.30 pm Baptist Church, Watford (Herts calendar for address); March 5, Cadet Pairs Final, 1pm, Bridge Centre, Welwyn Garden City; March 17, Marjorie Lukyn Final, 7.30 pm Bridge Centre, Welwyn Garden City; March 31, Cadet Teams, 730 pm, Bridge Centre, Welwyn Garden City; April 2, Desmond Flockhart Trophy, 1 pm, Bridge Centre Welwyn Garden City; April 9, Championship Pairs Final, 1 pm, Bridge Centre, Welwyn Garden City.

Please note all events, except simultaneous pairs, must be pre-booked with Mike Minting. Please consult club secretaries for details of cadet teams heats and Desmond Flockhart Trophy teams.

Leicestershire

We would like to congratulate: Mel Starkings on being the first recipient of the Alec Salisbury Award. Mel has not only introduced many boys successfully to bridge at Loughborough Grammar School, his efforts and initiative have led to developments on a much wider scale; Ramnik and Mangala Samani on winning the RAC's Centenary Cup. This follows their silver and bronze medals in the Mind Sports Olympiad; Jim Mason, a member of this year's winning Gold Cup team. lim is only the second Leicestershire player to achieve this honour, following Paul Bowyer's success in last year's competition. Duncan Happer and Susan Stockdale on being selected for England against Wales in the Peggy Bayer under 20s Trophy.

We regret to announce the death of Eric Capewell, a leading member of Castle Donnington BC, for which he extended the hospitality of his home for home league matches. A courteous partner and opponent, he will be sadly missed. We extend our sincere condoknoes to Toni and family.

Diary Dates: Feb 13, Midland Flitch (County BC); Feb 28, Gimson Trophy R1 Open Heat (Bridge Centre); Gimson Rd 2, Mar 6 (Bridge Centre), Mar 8 (Blaby & County), Mar 9 (Loughborough Grammar School); Mar 26, Barkby Charity Swiss Teams; Mar 29, Leicester Mercury Bridge Students Trophy (LGS); April 5, Garden Cities Qualifier and Amateur Pairs (Barkby BC).

Please note: The Buckby and Olga Cups have been rearranged for March 13 at Leicester BC, play starting at 7.15pm.

Lincolnshire

The results of LCBA competitions can now be viewed on the website: http://members.netscapeonline.co.uk/bridgelinks/
The County Secretary can also be reached by small at Bridgelinks@netscapeonline.co.uk

Ghost Pairs (27 pairs) N/S: 1 Roy Hughes & lknnis Mellor; 2 N Baldwin & R Beach; 3 Mo Patsons & Maurice Ladlow, 4 Phil King & this Bradwell. E/W: 1 Dave Stoddart & Peter Childs, 2 Mike Grant & Tony Waine, 3 Mrs D Shaby & A Underwood, 4 Margaret Blakeney & Kath Taylor

B Bassford, Bill Parsons, M Sizer; 2 Bill & Eileen Herbert, Bill & Shirley Holmes. Swiss Teams (16 teams): 1 Brian Smith, Ron Wall, Maurice Ladlow, Mo Parsons; 2 Maurice Lynn, Elaine Proctor, Chris & Paul Davison; =3 Fred Davis, Ann Wakelin, Phil Barden, Barbara Maplethorpe; =3 Ray Rundle, Geoff Allen, Dave Stoddart, Peter Childs.

Diary Dates: Feb 20, Ladies' Pairs (Sidney Vincent Cup) & Men's Pairs (Vincent Cup); Mar 12, Bainton Final. Both events, 1.30pm, Dunholme Village Hall.

London

The main event run by the LCCBA in the autumn was the Lederer Memorial Trophy. The 1998 winners retained their trophy after an exciting final round in which they played the Crockords team who were in the lead going into the match. Many congratulations to the All Stars: Zia Mahmood, Andrew Robson, Gunnar Hallberg, Colin Simpson. Results: 1 All Stars 272; 2 Ireland (Hugh McGann, Tom Hanlon, Pat Walshe, Niall Toibin) 258; 3 Crockfords Winners (David Mossop, Tony Forrester, Tom Townsend, Tim Rees) 257; 4 Norway (Geir Helgemo, Per-Erik Austberg, Boye Brogeland, Espen Erichsen) 245; 5 London (Joe Fawcett, Glyn Liggins, David Burn, Brian Callaghan) 218; 6 British Ladies European Champions (Nicola Smith, Pat Davies, Heather Dhondy, Liz McGowan, Sandra Landy, Abbey Walker) 178; 7 Gold Cup Winners (Howard Cohen, Robert Sheehan, Boris Schapiro, Irving Gordon, Nick Sandqvist, Rob Cliffe) 141; 8 President's Team (Bernard Teltscher, Tony Priday, Willie Coyle, David Edwin, Victor Silverstone, Geoffrey Breskal) 111. Other prizes: Best played hand, Andrew Robson, All Stars; Best bid hand, Tom Hanlon & Hugh McGann, Ireland; Best Defence, Bernard Teltscher & Tony Priday, President's Team; Most amusing incident, Sandra Landy, Ladies.

Diary Dates: Feb 13, Junior Inter-County Teams (Chris Duckworth 0207 3853534); Feb 20, London Pairs Championship (Nigel Freake 0208 8012884). All events 1 pm, Young Chelsea BC.

Manchester

Gold Cup Triumph: The Manchester-based trio of Gary Hyett, Alan Mould and Howard Melbourne, together with Jim Mason, John Collings and Martin Jones won Britain's top teams event. To win this event is every bridge player's dream so the achievement of Alan Mould and Gary Hyett is even more remarkable as this is their second win in three years!

Alexander Morris and Andrew Black won the North-West qualifier of the EBU National Under 19 pairs championship and were presented with the George Rednall Memorial Plate. This trophy has some distiguished past holders, including the Hacketts who won it three times. The national final is at Easter in London. Best of luck to the boys and to other Manchester-based qualifiers Mike Byrne, Nick Collier, Deval Desai, and also to Phil Chow & Rob Cook and Ed Levy & Craig Fisher who qualified for the Under 25s Pairs Final.

Manchester Bridge Club goes No Smoking: At an EGM, a two-thirds majority was in favour of restricting smoking to the bar and

GolfPrint Qualifier winners: Alderley Edge Golf Club who play in the regional final this month. It is very disappointing that so few golf clubs participate, especially when so much bridge is played in golf clubs. The annual friendly bridge match between Dunham and Whitefeld golf clubs involved 48 players, yet neither club had a team in the Golfprint!

Santa Claus Victory: 32 tables took part in Manchester BC's Christmas event, the biggest ever field. Winners were local players David Baskin & Derry McCarthy, who held off a strong challenge from last year's winner, Sandra Fenton, playing with Andrew Thompson, and internationals John Hassett & Ron Morrish, who finished joint second.

We were sad to hear of the death of Roy Higson, the popular tournament director. He was a life member of Manchester BC and Life Vice President of Manchester CBA. After the funeral service at Stockport many of the mourners returned to Manchester BC to pay their respects to his widow, Mary, and family. We shall all miss his presence and sense of humour, which made playing in bridge events directed by him so much more fun.

Latest news and results, including duplicates, can now be found on Manchester BC's own website: http://www.timewarp.co.uk/ Business/ManBridge

Manchester's team of Steve and Tracy Capal, Jeff Smith and Boris Ewart, won the McFarlane Cup, the invitation teams event organised by Derbyshire CBA. It has been a good year for Steve and Tracy who have also recently won Merseyside's Waterworth Cup, as well as being on the winning teams in the Welsh teams at Portcawl and the Foundation Cup at Blackburn.

Ben Franks Trophy (two session green-point pairs): Congratulations to the winners, Manchester University students Michael Byrne & Edward Levy; 2 Irving & Joy Blakey; 3 Tom Middleton & Alan Nelson; 4 Jeff Smith and Mark Halliwell. They all qualify to represent Manchester in the Corwen Trophy inter-county pairs.

Ted Cadman, captain of Midland Railway and well known local optician, has another claim to fame. Already acclaimed for captaining the team which against massive odds won the infirmary plate final in 1998, he appeared on the tv programme, Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?, and walked away with £16,000 – better than winning the plate final!

For the first time Manchester BC will be a venue for the **Portland Pairs**, the popular Green Point Mixed Pairs Event. This is a threesession Match Pointed pairs scored over all the venues (nine in England, plus others in Scotland and Wales): two sessions of 24 boards on March 25, 2pm, and one long session of 36 boards on March 26, 12.30pm, finishing about 5.30pm.

National Pairs: Qualifying Heat, Feb 3, 8pm, Manchester BC. Regional Final for qualifiers, Leeds, March 19.

Merseyside

Waterworth Cup (County Open pairs):1 Steve & Tracy Capal; 2 Geoff Cannon & Chris Wentworth; 3 W & E Wattleworth. Merseyside Cup (Open Intermediate Teams):1 Frank Hennesey, Geraldine Springer, Barry



Griffiths, Roger Arnold; 2 John Griffith, Lollo Murthwaite, Pat Tweedle, Mui Fellows; 3= Ken McNeill, B Mitchell, Jill Oddie, Frances Hall; 3=Jamie Cameron, Rekha Gatfield, Silvia Nelson, Karen Sneider.

Diary Dates: Feb 6, County Trials, Liverpool BC; Feb 13, Merseyside & Deeside Cup (Pivot Teams), Liverpool BC; March 4, Jean Keen Trophy (Ladies Teams), Mersdeyside BC; March 9, Charity Challenge, Merseyside BC; March 11-12, One Day Green Point events Risley; April 16, Preece Rose Bowl, Blundellsands BC.

Middlesex

Middlesex's team (Heather & Jeremy Dhondy, Jerry Harouni, Ian Pagan, Bill Pencharz, Ray Robinson, Victor Silverstone, Tony Waterlow) won their Tollemache Qualifying Heat with the highest score of the four sections. It was a good December for Unal Durmus & Espen Erichsen who won the National Men's Teams and were losing finalists in the Gold Cup.

The Middlesex Congress was reinstituted in November. The 1st Division Pairs final was won by Mark & Richard Rose - a top & half clear, with Ron Davis & Roger Edmonds 2nd and Marilyn Bernstein & Nural Malik 3rd. Peter Tobias & Richard White won the 2nd Division with Amit Badiani & Giles Woodruff 2nd and John Bolgar & Nick Hills 3rd. The Consolation Final was won by Barry Davies & Andrew Lee, with Allan Lipton & Sue Simon 2nd and Martin Lerner & Ernest Schlesinger 3rd. 'A' Flight Swiss Teams: 1 Glen Holman, Gordon Rainstead, Alan & Olivia Woo; 2 Nick Hodson, Andy & Julian Peers, Mike Read. 'B' Flight: J Gardner, A & F Harper and M Wilson.

Gary Cove, Val Dugdale, Mike Shewan, Harry Silverman won the Dorset Cup after splitting the tie with Jeff Alper, Allan Lipton, Wasim Naqvi, Steve Root. These teams will represent Middlesex in the Daily Telegraph trophy. Gary Cove won the Skidaw Trophy, Middlesex Individual Championship, with Ronnie Price 2nd, and Martin E Lee 3rd.

There was a prize fund of £10,000 for the annual St John's Wood Auction Pairs, won by Glen Holman & Brian Senior, well ahead of Peter Hassenson & Victor Silverstone, with Andrew Abelson & Matt Foster 3rd.

There's still plenty of time to play in the heats of the Middlesex Championship Pairs and Mixed Pairs. Make sure your entries are in early for Middlesex Ladies' & Men's Pairs held in parallel on Feb 20.

Norfolk

Norfolk now has a new web site for the Millennium: www.btinternet.com/~ncba,

For the first time in 40 years Norfolk have qualified for the final of the Tollemache Inter-County Championship, being first their group

with 103vps. Team: John & Julie Aspinall, Roger Amey, David Newstead, Elfed Evans-Jones, Derek Griffiths, Matt Millson, Mike Walsh, Steve Dannell, Mike Dignen. Well done team, and good luck in the final.

Yarmouth Trophy: 1 Iris Green & Robbie Roberson; 2 Matt Millson & Mike Walsh; 3 John Harrison & Neville Hill. Allwood Wharton Trophy Inter Club Teams of Eight: 1 Norfolk & Norwich (N Hill, J Harrison, A Brown, D Taylor, M Glauert, T Melvin, N Block, M Scutter); 2 Kings Lynn (R Amey, M Whiting, J & J Aspinall, D Griffiths, E Evans-Jones, A & S Warner); 3 Kings Head (P Darby, A Horn, M Bolster, M Hill, M Dignen, M Millson, M Ward, T Glover). Norfolk & Norwich and Kings Lynn will play off for the right to represent Norfolk in the EBU Garden Cities Trophy.

Barclays Bank Trophy: 1 C Buchanan & Ian Emerson; 2 Roger Cortis & Adrian La Chapelle; 3 Sue Birchall & David Birrell.

Norfolk had three pairs well placed in the Eastern Counties Simultaneous Pairs: 3 John Dennis & Andy Holland; 5 Ruby Wright & John Chase; 6 Tolly Cook & Jean Clitheroe.

Northamptonshire

The county have failed to make it three years in a row at the **Tollemache** qualifier, finishing in the middle of their group.

Congratulations to Kettering BC for retaining the Lakeland Trophy, the one-day teams of 8 championship. A score of over 80% for the two sessions left them well ahead of their nearest rivals, the Kettering B Side. This good form has deserted them in the league, where they are favourites for relegation. Peterborough look likely winners.

The Porch Trophy was won by Jim & Sue Deacon, who fought it out with Colin Porch on the last round. A very well organised and popular event.

Congratulations to Kingsley BC, Northampton, who recently celebrated their 10th birthday. At a time when several clubs are suffering dwindling membership, Kingsley's stands at well over 100. A dinner was concluded with champagne and birthday cake presented to tournament winners.

North Eastern

We are sorry to report the sudden deaths of Mrs Anne-Marie Pike, the secretary of the Darlington Club and Tony Pearmain, an active member of the Wearside Club. They were both active supporters of the county association, and their passing will be a great loss to bridge in the North-East.

Gazette Cups: 1 J Eglington & E Murdoch; 2 S Purvis & C Benneworth. Gazette Shield (consolation event):1 Mrs Anne Welsh & Andrew Welsh; 2 Mrs K Pike & Mrs J Marshall.

Newcastle Swiss Teams: 1 Neil Aiston, Inga Aiston, Steve Purvis, Arnold Deane; 2 Robert Stead, Chris Robinson, Rhona Stead, David Morrison.

Autumn Simultaneous Pairs:1 Mrs Mary Page & Mrs Brenda Osborne (238 pairs); 2 C Owen & R Watts.More than £200 will be sent to a charity of the chairman's choice.

NEBA Mixed Pairs:1 (Deane Salver) J Wooton & Mrs E Spaldin; 2 Mr & Mrs R Watts. Longnewton Swiss teams: 1 Inga & Neil Aiston, Steve Purvis & Arnold Deane; 2 Robert & Rhona Stead, David Morrison & Chris Robinson.

We extend congratulations to our chairman, Clive Owen, a member of the winning team at the EBU Seniors Congress for the second successive year. He also finished third in the A final of the Championship Pairs.

We were also delighted to see that Steve Ray, together with his partner, Brian Senior, were selected to represent England in three of the four Camrose matches. We commiserate with our Tollemache team who finished fourth in their league, missing qualification by only three match points. Better luck next time.

Nottinghamshire

Diary Dates: Heat of the National Pairs, Feb 23, Nottingham BC, 7pm. The format for the Journal Cup (County Pairs Championship) has changed. It will be held on April 2 at Nottingham BC, 1pm. A qualifying heat will be held in the afternoon, followed by the final and a consolation event in the evening. The leading three pairs represent Notts in the Corwen competition on June 3 and 4 (information I Dovey 0115 9813472).

Advance notice of the AGM: May 7 at Nottingham BC. EBU\Notts Green Point Swiss Teams, March 12, East Midlands BC, Spondon, Derbys (enquiries K Rodgers 01773 530764).

County Matches: v Gloucs, Dawes won 13-7, Porter lost 3-17, third team lost 1-19; v Lincs, Dawes drew 10-10, Porter won 15-5; v Leics, Dawes won 19-1, Porter won 20-0, third team lost 7-13.

Oxfordshire

Congratulations to Marian's Day team (Stephen Brown, Richard Lonsdale, Stuart McPhee, Martin Kane) on reaching the semi-final of the Hubert Phillips Bowl.

County competitions: Swiss Pairs: 1 Amit Badiani & Suzanne Cohen; 2 Eugene Goh & Nigel Cundy; 3 Helen Lawton-Smith & Nigel Wilkes. Ladies' Pairs: 1 Jean Squires & Isobel Townley-Freeman; 2 Rita Todd & Kay Collins; 3 Kathy Talbot & Esme Alden. Men's Pairs: 1 Nigel Wilkes & Mike Webley; 2 John Simpson & Krishan Jalie; 3 Denis Talbot & Nick Smith.

Diary Dates: Feb 20, County Pairs Final, Oxford BC; March 19, Beck Cup Final, Oxford BC; April 2, Wallingford Open Swiss Teams (entries A Tulip, Meadow Cottage, Brightwell Baldwin, Watlington OX9 5PG. Tel 01491 612652); April 16, Aylesbury Open Swiss Teams (entries to Mrs S Smith, 3 Quakers Mead, Brook End, Weston Turville, Aylesbury HP22 5RS. Tel 01296 612718).

The 1999-2000 Camrose match between England and Northern Ireland is being held on Feb 26-27 at the Oxford Moat House. Admission is free, and spectators are very welcome. Vugraph presentation by the EBU, with expert commentary by David Burn.

Somerset

I hope it is not too late to wish all our readers a very happy New Millennium and success at the bridge table.

At the end of 1999 we had the disappointment of having to cancel our annual invitation event for the Viking Cup. Unfortunately only three of the 17 neighbouring county associations accepted. In 2000 we shall try a change of date and hope that it will once again prove popular. Watch this space!

The time is drawing near for our One Day Green Point Swiss Teams, as usual at the Webbington Hotel, March 12. (Details and only form Ann Bawdon 01275 853509).

Club Teams of Eight: 1 Nailsea B (Mr & Mrs g Belcher, Mr & Mrs D Howard, Mrs B Parker, Mrs M Blackhall, Mrs T Morgan and M Whittaker) 131vp; 2 Yeovil 116vp; 3 Langport

115VD.

Mixed Teams: 1 Mrs J Farrington, M Thomas, Mrs A Hanna, B Ginnever; 2 R Bourke, D Grier, Mr & Mrs J Durrant; 3 Mr & Mrs D Brown, Mr & Mrs S Floyd. Men's Pairs: 1D Latchem & R Warrender; 2 T Girdlestone & G Heal; 3 D Holsard & W Rowe. Ladies Pairs: 1 Mrs M Duckett & Mrs B Biggin; 2 Mrs J Waters & Mrs M Stodgell; 3 Mrs B Parker & Mrs M Blackhall.

Staffs & Shropshire

Local teams completely dominated the Coronation Cup, with Eric Hartland, David Beavon, Roger Keane, Bob Beech ending up comfortable winners. Arthur Bloxham, Geoff Davies, Margaret Dash, Arthur Ballham were second one vp ahead of the team with Brian Comelius and Alan Mould.

Up in Peebles Alan Mould won the Gold Cup for the second time. Congratulations Alan, a tremendous achievement. In the Congress, Sandra Fenton's team tied for third place with Brian Cornelius' team, containing Paul and Justin Hackett. Sandra almost repeated last years win in the Manchester Santa Claus Pairs, but finished in second spot.

Wolverhampton BC Christmas Pairs: 1 Des Biott & Derek Davies; 2 Dan Croft & Neville Orford; 3 Mike Cornes & Annette Lucas.

Shrewsbury (Ian Halston, John Harvard, Derek Balsom, Michele Davies, Keith Shuttleworth, Brian Nickolls, Judy and Malcolm Mitchell) outmanoeuvred South Shropshire to record an excellent win in the first round of the teams of eight.

In the Venezuelan Invitation teams, Brigitte Mavromichalis, Paul, Jason and Justin became the first winners of the Citibank Trophy and over in Donegal, Brigitte, Paul, Jason and Justin retained the teams trophy with Jason and Justin adding the pairs to their cabinet.

Suffolk

Very little to report this month. Unfortunately both Woodbridge and Framlingham Swiss Teams had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Come on, Suffolk bridge players!

Surrey

The Surrey Millennium Swiss Teams is being held at the Leatherhead Leisure Centre on Feb 27 at 1pm. The bar will be open from 2-8pm and refreshments will be on sale. Entry lee £40 per team. Enquiries: Frances Trebble, Caradoc, Horseshoe Lane, Ash Vale, Hampshire GU12 5LL tel 01252 679883. Prizes will be awarded for many different categories 73, the highest placed team with the combined fixe of a hundred years or less, the highest Fated team with players who have each won lever than 5000 Master Points. Chances for her words.

Mixed Pairs: 1 C Ould & R Motton; 2 P Macleod & D Fry; 3 MH Taylor & W Congratulations to Surrey players who have done well in competitions around the country. John Samuels & Maureen Dennison won the Swiss Pairs at the Seniors Congress in Coventry, and Angela McCready and Detta Bentley were second. Denny Wade, Christine Dyer, Rosemary Fellows and Annette Roberts were runners up in the final of the Whitelaw Cup, the National Women's Teams, and Peter Lee's team was knocked out in the semi-final of the 1999 Gold Cup.

Diary Dates: Feb 4, National Pairs (Farnham); Feb 6, National Pairs (Dorking: please note 5pm start); Feb 12, Ladies' Swiss Teams (Farnham); Feb 19, Ranked Pairs (Leatherhead); Feb 27, Millennium Swiss Teams (Leatherhead); Apr 2, Aileen Filose (Ladies' Pairs) (Leatherhead); Apr 2, Men's Pairs (Leatherhead); Apr 15, Affiliated Teamsof-eight (Leatherhead); Apr 15, 'No Fear' Swiss Teams (Leatherhead). Dates to hand for local heats of the Jubilee Pairs: Feb 24 (Lingfield & Dormans, Jill Allard 01883 714813); Feb 28 (Bourne, Helen Mitchell 01252 724620). Clubs may arrange additional heats but they must be completed by the end of February as the semifinals are on March 26.

Surrey will soon have it's own website. News about this new venture plus a web address will be available in the next *English Bridge* and Surrey Bridge magazines.

Sussex

Invitation Pairs: Many congratulations to Mick Carrington & Andrew Southwell for winning this competition again in 1999. These two must have an unsurpassed record of six wins in the last seven years; 2 Vida Bingham & Nigel Osmer; 3 David Galpin & Joan Hootman.

A full house for Chichester Swiss Teams: 1
Ros Concanon, Barry Tobutt, Mike Fithyan &
D Hankin; 2 Keith & Maureen Norman, David
Cairns & Sue Peters; 3 Brian Hart, Valerie
Benson, David Armstrong & Jill Armstrong.
N/E Philip Lewis, Mike Hancock, David
Hancock & Pat Hancock.

Eastbourne Swiss Teams: 1 Kay Batting, Eileen Manning, Selma Brooks & Kathleen Gaylor; 2 Keith Norman, Maureen Norman, Mrs M Smith & Mrs W Found; 3 Mrs M Willford, Roger Hall, Stells Furlonger & Doris Harper. Non experts, Helen Adams, Mrs E Scott, G Mills & R Discombe.

Hills Trophy: A most successful event in a new venue: 1 Harold Linfield, Cecily Linfield, Tom Bradley & Dennis Crouch; 2 Joan Pink, Marie Gritt, Pat Lee and John Williams; 3 Freddy North, Margaret North, Alan Jefferey & Anthony Whiteway. Non expert, A Wagg, M Winn, C Bury, Joan Sapsford.

Chichester No Fear Pairs: 1 Sue Dyball & Mike Rounds; 2 Mrs U Perry & A Lapage; 3 Roger Herman & Fred Ghaleb. Non expert, J Emery & D Jeans.

Devonshire Cup: 1 Chris Bainham, John Murrell, Trevor Bird, Tim Greenhill; 2 Leon Northeast, John Jackson, Mick Carrington and Gerry Stanford; 3= J Hootman, Joan Hootman, David Galpin, Joan Pink; 3= D McLarens, Pat Lee, Mrs M Hunt, Mrs P Leaver. Devonshire Plate: 1 Matthew Smith, Tim Brogan, Brenda Garrini, Sandy Blunt; 2 Alex Harding, Duncan Curtis, R Stevens, N Cobbett.



Warwickshire

Belated congratulations to Coventry's John Collings, Martin Jones, Steve Green & Graham Link, winners of the final against Southampton BC by 52 imps to retain the Nicko Cup for a second year. John & Martin, this time with A Mould, G Hyett, J Mason & H Melbourne, are also winners of the 1999 Gold Cup, the calendar's most prestigious teams competition. There were very few local representatives at the National Ladies' and Men's Teams, and our best performance came from Mrs Dodo Georgevic & Mrs Sheila Darby, who joined Mrs Wendy Angseesing & Mrs Pamela Pearce (Gloucs) to achieve third place in the Whitelaw Plate.

County results against Lincs (9-11, 7-13) and Worcester (3-7, 10-10) were pretty dismal for the 1st and 2nd teams respectively, although a 3rd team won 17-3 against Worcester. Warks Mixed Pairs Final: 1 Mrs N McWhirter & A Poole; 2 Mrs K Franklin & V Garrod; 3 C & Mrs H Palmer, Warks Pairs Plate: Mrs D Georgevic & R Ogg.

Weston Trophy, West Midlands BC: 1 S Byrne & J Robbins; 2 Mrs M Armstrong & R Bowles; 3 P Cotterill & C Hall. Hylda Townsend's Gala Evening raised nearly £300 for cancer research.

We regret the recent passing of John Saffrey, Ray Seldon and Wilf Caddick, all of whom will be remembered with much affection.

The annual Parnham Trophy, Heathercroft BC, was won by Mrs M Innes & B Guest, with runners-up J Edwards & N Orford, and the event raised over £600 for the Makaton Charity which provides communication techniques for the handicapped.

Diary Dates: Note the Midlands Flitch Final, Leicester Feb 13; Warks Pairs Final, Moseley, 1.45, Feb 20; Ranked Masters, Coventry Hilton, Mar 4-5; Portland Pairs, Mar 25-26, WMBC; National Newcomers heat WMBC, 1.45, Mar 5 (prior entry essential!).

Clubs should get ready for the Garden Cities heat (teams of eight), West Midlands BC, Solihull 1.45, Apr 2. Make dates for the Warks Men's and Ladies' Pairs, WMBC, 6.55, May 11 and the Warks Swiss Teams (Green Points), Warwick Hilton, 1pm, May 21. Please send entries for Warks events to P Edwards, 8 Marsham Court Road, Solihull B91 2ET.

Worcestershire

The **Bridge at Arrow Club** is the 21st to affiliate to Worcs CBA. This club will concentrate on teaching the game rather than playing it. Contact: Ian Thompson 01789 762447.

Our County Mixed Pairs was won this year by an 8% margin by Sharleen Robson and Graham Weir. Sue Page and Paul Tapster were second, with Dodo Georgevic and Peter

County News continued from previous page

Chapman third. The Flitch was won by Georgina and Ian Lineker.

Twenty-four teams assembled at Holt Fleet in support of the charity PEAL (Parents Experiencing Adult Loss) to play in our Charity Christmas Swiss Teams. £300 was raised.

County Sim Pairs (164 pairs): 1 Maureen Collins & Beryl McEwan (Eckington BC) 65.49%; 2 Iris & Wilf Foster (Kingswinford BC) 65.13%; 3 Bob Browne & Fred Parkin (Stourbridge BC) 65.06%.

Diary Dates: Mar 6, County Championship Pairs Qualifier, Holt Fleet, 7.15pm; Mar 13-17, County Sim Pairs (various clubs); Mar 18, Club Championship Pairs, Stourbridge 2.30pm; April 1, Championship Pairs Final, Stourbridge 2.30pm; Apr 9 Garden Cities qual (Ron Allen Cup) Star Hotel, Worcester 2.30pm; May15 AGM, Holt Fleet. Note 7pm start.

Yorkshire

Congratulations to Yorkshire players who have produced outstanding results at national level. Alex Hydes was in the Great Britain team which won the Under 20s section of the Channel Trophy event. Sarah Teshome & Sandra Penfold were in the winning foursome in the English Women's Teams for the second time in three years. Heather Hobson & Roy Garthwaite won the national Seniors Pairs, taking over the title from Graham Jepson and Peter Littlewood, who won the Seniors Swiss Teams for the second successive year along with Bill Townsend, partnering Clive Owen from the North East.

Congratulations also to Malcolm Lunn, the organiser of the Children in Need Simultaneous Pairs, which was contested by 250 pairs, enabling Malcolm to hand over of cheque for £916: 1 Cheryl Duddell & Syd Lister (Garforth) 69.26%; 2 David Dunsby & Derek Rudkin (Doncaster) 68.59%; 3 Brian Snodgrass & George Whitfield (Harrogate) 64.93%.

Despite throwing away a huge lead, there was an element of bad luck for the Yorkshire team in the **Tollemache** qualifying event on finishing in joint second place in their group, only to lose the split tie.

Yorkshire Schools Cup: 1 Arjun Ravi & Chenthuran Umapathee (Queen Elizabeth GSI, Wakefield); 2 Phillip & Richard Stone (Crossley Heath, Halifax).

Yorkshire Mixed Pivot Teams: 1 Sandy Davies, Keith Cornish, Tom Gisborne, David Waxman; 2 Janet & Philip Mason, John Kimpton & Alan Martindale. Leeds Swiss Teams: 1 Alan Martindale, Liz Reese, Sandy Davies, Tom Gisborne; 2 Sheila Galloway, Alan Jarvis, Annette Bratley, Elaine Tosdevin. Ryedale Pairs: 1 Maureen Tebb & Anthony Swiers; 2 Mary & Ian Rodger; 3 Angela Booth & Peter Radley.

Diary Dates: Feb 3, Margery Cartwright Simultaneous Pairs, clubs; Feb 6, Yorkshire League; Feb 13, Yorkshire Cup final, New Earswick; Feb 20, Yorkshire Pairs qualifying & final, Garforth; Feb 28, Better Bridge in Brighouse Teams, Brighouse; Mar 12, Yorkshire League; Apr 1/2 York Congress, New Earswick; Apl 7-9, Scarborough Congress, Scarborough.

You, too, could try to play for England

FOR the first time in almost 50 years, the EBU will this year be holding a series of National Open Trials which are genuinely open to all members who wish to play.

It will also be the first year in which trials will be held to select an Open team to represent England, as opposed to Great Britain, in the European

Championships.

The trials will be in three stages and the winners of the final will form the England team for the 2001 European Championships. England teams for the 2000/01 Camrose series will be selected immediately after the semi-finalists are known.

All applicants, except those who successfully apply to be exempted from the early stages, will start by playing in a Stage 1 pairs event.

Applications are invited from teams who wish to apply for exemption from Stage 1 or both Stage 1 and the follow-

ing Stage 2 teams event.

At the application stage teams may consist of two or three pairs. The Selection Committee proposes to exempt a number of teams from each of Stages 1 and 2, the precise numbers to be determined when the level of entries is known. Teams applying for but not receiving exemption from Stage 1 will be invited to play as pairs in Stage 1.

Applications are also invited from pairs wishing to play in Stage 1. These pairs may nominate one or two other pairs as prospective team-mates for Stages 2 and 3, and these nominations will be binding if any or all of the pairs concerned qualify for Stage 2.

Qualifiers for Stage 2 who have not nominated other qualifiers as teammates will be formed into teams of four on the basis of the highest-placed pair having first choice of team-mates, the next highest remaining pair having the next choice, and so on. Teams playing in Stages 2 and 3 as teams of four may add players at any stage to bring the total to a maximum of six, subject to Selection Committee approval of the players added.



Stage 1 (pairs qualifier): West Midlands BC, Solihull, July 22-23 (changed from the original dates). Entry fee £60 per pair.

Stage 2 (teams qualifier): West Midlands BC, Solihull, Sept 23-24 and Sept 30-Oct 1. Entry fee £200 per team.
Stage 3 (last eight): Entry fee £550 per team.

Stage 3A/B (Round robin): Young Chelsea BC, London, Oct 14-15 and 28-

Stage 3C/D (last 4 knock-out), venues to be confirmed:
Semi-finals: Nov 11-12
Final: Jan 12-14 2001

☐ Applications should be sent to Nick Doe at Aylesbury to reach him by March 31, accompanied by the entry fees. Fees are charged for each stage played.

Teams applying for exemption should pay the entry fees for the first stage they will play in if they are given exemption. Adjustments will be made should exemption not be granted. Reductions in the entry fees will be made for teams containing juniors if they qualify under normal EBU policy, or if they are recommended by the EBU Youth Committee. Further details may be obtained from Nick Doe at Aylesbury.

Approved new bidding conventions, to be added to those in the Orange Book 1998, will be published in the August edition of *English Bridge* each year. The conventions will be playable from September 1.

If you want the EBU Laws & Ethics Committee to consider any convention you have devised, send one copy to the secretary of the committee, together with a fee of £12. This is payable for all submissions considered.

Submissions should be on A4 paper, preferably typed or very clearly written; anything difficult to read will be returned without having been considered.

Alternatively submissions may be faxed or emailed so long as they are legible and the fee is paid. It is helpful to include a logical defence to any convention, and to

Get your pet convention into the Orange Book!

indicate how it is to be shown on the convention card.

To be considered for the August list, details of the convention must be received by the secretary of the Laws & Ethics Committee by March 31 in that year. Addresses and phone numbers for the secretary are on Page 3.

CROCKFORDS CUP: Round 3 has been mached, which has given the opportunity for the 16 seeds to flex their muscles with various degrees of success. Four seeds fell by the wayside, with the biggest surprise being Jeffrey Alper, of Middlesex, succeding by 5 against Raymond Brock's international quartet from Berks & Bucks.

The other seeds to lose were Peter Lindon, Berks & Bucks, against Peter Tobias, Herts, Tony Ratcliff's Welsh team to Julian Pottage, of Hants & IOW, and Diana Lintott, Oxfordshire, to Freda Warner, of Herts.

The closest match was Warwick Pitch, Iondon, losing to Brian Crack, of Kent. The score was all square after 32 boards, but unfortunately Warwick had to concede as his team were unable to play the extra boards required. Dodo Georgevic, Warks, scraped home by 1 against Ian Hall, of Derby, and Kevin Keast,

Round-up ompetition On-punod By Ian Mitchell

Cornwall, won by just 3 against Warner Solomon, of Devon

& Brian Claridge

HUBERT PHILLIPS: Two of the semifinalists are known, Norah Allen, of Gloucs, winning by 60 aggregate points against Cecil Leighton, of Essex, and Rhona Goldenfield, of Manchester, beating Christine Duckworth's London team by a rather larger amount.

The other two quarter final matches are Chris Jagger, Cambridge, versus Michelle Brunner, of Manchester, and Marian Day, Oxfordshire, against Heather Maidment,

of Hants & IOW.

SILVER PLATE: Congratulations to Nick Doe, Berks & Bucks, and Pete Kelly, Derbyshire, on reaching the final. In the semis Pete Kelly won by 3 against Rolf Alexander, of Surrey, but Nick's team had rather more in hand against Alex Gipson, of Kent.

INTER CLUB KNOCK OUT: The results for round 3 are starting to materialise with two very close results ie Chris Jagger, of Cambridge, scraping home by 2 against Nigel Block, Kings Head, and Andy Prothero by a similar margin against Tracy Capal, of Manchester.

INTER CLUB PLATE: In round 1 Peggy Morgan, Medway Towns, won by 2 against David Anning, of Canterbury. Similar wins were achieved by Bob Dowdeswell, Reading, against Clive Keep, of Abingdon, and John Walker, of Bashley, versus Brian Browse, of Wimborne.

THE RESULTS SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL

Camrose: England lost to Wales 57-33vps. Channel Trophy (Cadzand, Netherlands): Under 20s: 1 Great Britain (Alex Hydes, Ben Handley-Pritchard, Andrew Woodcock, Oliver Burgess, Susan Stockdale, Duncan Happer, npc Phil King) 115vps; 2 France 112; 3 Belgium 89; 4 Netherlands 34. Under 25s:1 Netherlands 114vps; 2 France 98; 3 Belgium 76; 4 Great Britain (Richard Hillman, Keith Bennett, David Gold, Richard Probst, Rachel Wade, Lior Zivan, npc Steve Eginton) 72.

NATIONAL

Gold Cup Final: Alan Mould, Gary Hyett, John Collings, Martin Jones, Jim Mason, Howard Melbourne beat Unal Durmus, Espen Erichsen, Brian Senior, lan Monachan, Joe Fawcett, Glyn Liggins 139imps to 108.

National Men's Teams (Gerard Faulkner Salver): Unal Durmus (Mx), Rune Hauge (Guernsey), Boye Brogeland (Norway), Espen Erichsen (Mx), Gunnar Hallberg (London) beat Giles Woodruff (Cambs & Hunts), Amit Badiani (Oxon), Gerard Thompson (Surrey), Karl Shaw (Hants & low) by 81vps to 45. Men's Swiss Teams: Colin Wilson, Steve Barnfield, Denis O'Donovan, John Short (Kent) 108vps; 2 David Armstrong, Julian Mitchell, David Franklin, Martin Pool (Sussex) 104.

National Women's Teams (Whitelaw Cup): Sarah Teshome (Yorks), Sandra Penfold (Yorks), Nevena Senior (Notts), Maria Erhart (Austria) beat Denny Wade, Christine Dyer, Rosemary Fellows, Annette Roberts (Surrey) by 83vps to 26. Whitelaw Plate: 1 Lynne Hayes (Oxon), Edmondson (Devon), Dowdeswell (Berks & Bucks), Anne Slee (Lond 104vps; 2 Chris Duckworth (London), Wesseling Agnes Netherlands), Jane Moore (Suffolk), Su Burn (London) 92. Swiss Teams: 1 Liz

McGowan (Scotland), Fiona McQuaker (Scotland), Suzanne Cohen (Oxon), Paula Leslie (Oxon) 121vps; 2 Lesley Harrison, Vanessa Allinson, Ruby Wissenden, Heather Parker (Gloucs) 113.

Seniors Congress: Swiss Pairs: 1 John Samuels, Maureen Dennison (Mx) 77.78%; Angela McCready, Detta Bentley (Surrey) 73.33; 3 Anne Swannell, Peter (Glos) 72.78. Championship Pairs: 1 Heather Hobson, Roy Garthwaite 60.67%; 2 Cecil Leighton, Morris Leighton (Essex) 59.07; 3 Bill Townsend (Yorks), Clive Owen (North-East) 58.31. B Final: 1 Steve Gore, Ed Brennan (Berks & Bucks) 58.05%; 2 Tom Gisborne, Sandy Davies (Yorks) 55.77; 3 Gordon Fullerton, Eric Nunn (Notts) 55.48. Swiss Teams: 1 Graham Jepson, Peter Littlewood (both Yorks), Clive Owen (North-East), Bill Towsend (Yorks) 111vps; 2 Eric Hartland, R Keane, D Davies, Jean Wellsbury (Staffs & Shrops) 104; 3=Roger Slape (Devon), William Rowe, Terry Girdlestone, David Howard (Somerset) 100; 3= Brian Parker, Joyce Hare, Pat Lewis, Norman Thornton (Warks) 100; 3= Peter Sherry, Brian Dyde, Colin Cheek, Bob Curtis (Avon) 100.

Save the Children Millennium Charity Pairs (simultaneously in Blackpool & London): 1 Gerard Thompson & Michael Ashe (played in London) 64.55%; 2 Rita Oldroyd & Liz Reece (played in Blackpool) 63.64; 3 Lior Zivan & Rachel Wade (played in London) 62.24; 4 Jeff Smith & Diana Ackerman (played in

Blackpool) 61.66.

London Year End Congress: A Flight Swiss Teams: 1 Jeremy Dhondy, Ian Pagan (Mx), Harry Anoyrkatis (Beds), David Bakhshi (Mddx) 83.57%; 2 Harold Wayne (Dorset), John Young (Cambs & Hunts), Chris & Catherine Jagger (Cambs & Hunts)74.29; 3= Monica Lucy, Ann Scott, Maggie Willis (Beds), Graham Lucy (Berks & Bucks) 70.71; 3= Bob Hair (Essex), Phil King (Mddx), Paul Spencer, Marc Chawner (Essex) 70.71. B Flight Swiss Teams: 1 Sheila Price, Wordy Price, Ginette Brown, Carole Tuininga (Surrey) 73.57%; 2 Tim Prior, Eugene Goh, Maxine Etkin, Nathan Piper (Oxon) 67.14; 3 Mark Denny, Alan Hobden, Brenda Garrini, Sandra Blunt (Sussex) 65.71. Swiss Pairs: 1 Brian Senior (Notts) & Glen Holman (London) 136vps; 2 Chris Jagger & Giles Woodruff (Cambs & Hunts) 132; 3 Heather Dhondy (Mddx) & Brian Callaghan (London) 130. Ladies' Pairs: 1 Zizi Covrigaru & Latchmin Tawarie (Mddx) 58.05%; 2 Christine Bickerstaff & partners (Avon), playing without standing, 57.91; 3 Catherine Jagger (Cambs & Hunts) & Sharleen Robson (Worcs) 57.78. Men's Pairs: 1 Matthew Bingham & Nigel Freake (London) 59.06%; 2 Dick Shek (Mddx) & Neil Rosen (Kent) 57.85; 3 Jeffrey Allerton (Surrey) & Amit Badiani (Oxon) 57.17.

Blackpool Year End Congress, Swiss Pairs: 1 Liz Reece & Rita Oldroyd (Yorks) 135vps; 2 Alan & Kathleen Nelson (Manchester) 134; 3 Dodo Georgevic & Roger Saines (Warks) 131. Swiss Teams: 1 Andrew Woodcock, Sue Woodcock, Nick Woodcock, Hector Barker 113vps; 2 Bob Loveridge, Dave Pendlebury, Paul Williams, Hilda Williams 102; 3=Michael Booker, Irene Robinson, Heather Maidment, Mike Fithyan 99; 3=Mike Bolster, Mark Hill, Mike Dignan, Steve Donnell 99.

COUNTY

Middlesex Congress: Championship Pairs (130 pairs): 1 Mark Rose & Richard Rose (Essex) 71.91%; 2 Ron Davis & Roger Edmonds (Beds) 65.40; 3 Marilyn Berstein & Nural Malik (Middx) 57.60. A Flight Swiss Teams: 1 Gordon Rainsford, Glen Holman, Olivia & Alan Woo (London) 103vps; 2 Nick Hodson, Mike Reed, Andy Peers, Julian Peers (Herts) 94; 3 Steve Root, Allan Lipton, Doug Smerdon, Wasim Naqvi (Middx) 90.

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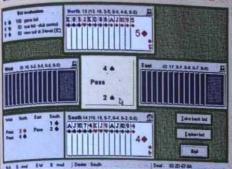
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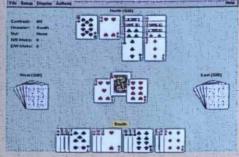


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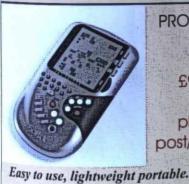
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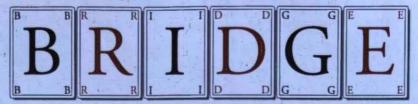
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February 2000

West hands

(Imp scoring on every deal)

- 1. Game All Dealer East
- ♠ AKQ3 VAK9

♦ AK962

(Gerber)

- 2. Love All Dealer East
- ♠ A O 63 VAI2
- 006

(Deruy)

- ♣ AK83
- 3. N-S Game Dealer North
- **◆ Q98742**
- ♥ Q85
 - ◇ K97
- (Cremoncini) * North opens 3♣ *
- **2**
- 4. Love All Dealer West
- A A 94
- V 14
- ◇ K 6 5
- (Carlsson) AQ1072
- 5. E-W Game Dealer West
- ♠ A O 3 V 08
- 03
 - ♣ AK107632

- (Silodor)
- 6. Love All Dealer East
- AQJ43
- ♥ K92
- 04
- (Branco)

- ♣ K 10 9 7
- * North will double for take-out *

How did you score? - Page 31

All these hands were originally bid by famous players Points out of 10 are awarded for the various possible contracts and you may compare your total with that of the experts.

February 2000

East hands

(Imp scoring on every deal)

- 1. Game All
- Dealer East
- ♥ O1743 ♦ 15

- (Hodge)
- ♣ KQ754
- 2. Love All Dealer East
- **5** V 05
- OK1087432
- (Le Dentu)
- A 15
- 3. N-S Game Dealer North
- ♠ AK103
- ♥ A72 OAQJ52
- (Mascheroni) ★ North opens 3♣ ★
- 4. Love All Dealer West
- **4**

& K

- ♥ AQ98
 - AQ J 10 4 3 2
- (Wennberg)
- **5**
- 5. E-W Game Dealer West
- ♠ K87
- V AK197643
 - OK
- (Crawford)
- \$ 5
- 6. Love All Dealer East
- ♠ K642
- VAI5
 - OAKO18
- (Chagas)
- * North will double for take-out *