

English Bridge

October 2004

£2.50 (No charge to EBU members)



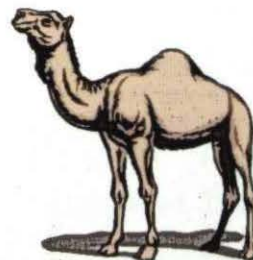
Brighton magic! – see page five

IN THIS ISSUE

- Zero tolerance in Sussex
- Grattan Endicott at 80
- Psychology of winning bridge
- Ron Klinger is back

Don't get
the hump
if you
miss out!

Find me inside



ALSO: HELP FROM THE EXPERTS ■ COUNTRYWIDE NEWS ■ EVENTS DIARY ■ MASTER POINTS RANKINGS

THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

TUNISIA CONGRESS

A National Green Point Event

HOTEL PALM MARINA, PORT EL KANTAOUI 4-10 Feb 2005

Port El Kantaoui with its 340 berth Marina, sandy beaches and championship golf courses is the perfect place to host the 2005 Overseas EBU Congress. The Hotel Palm Marina is highly recommended and offers excellent facilities.

SPECIAL CONGRESS PACKAGE £399 PER PERSON

(sharing twin bedded room).
Scheduled Flights on 7 night package.
8 and 14 night durations also available.

Package does not include bridge fees which must be paid directly to EBU. (operated by Panorama Holidays atol 0782)



5★ SOUTHERN TURKEY 2 & 16 Nov 2004 & Xmas 21 Dec 04 & Feb 1 & 22 Feb 2005 from £429

DUE TO DEMAND EXTRA DEPARTURE DATE ON 12 APRIL

The 5★ all inclusive Sun Zeynep is a firm favourite with our customers. (Operated by JMC atol 1368)

HISTORIC PRAGUE 08 Nov - 4 nights half board including bridge £299

(low cost flights at additional cost bookable through Bridge Overseas agent for Gold Medal atol)
The beautiful unique 4★ Kampa is perfectly situated close to the Charles Bridge on the Vltava River enabling you to explore this Golden City of 1000 spires.

4★ ALGARVE 07 November £499

We return to the 4★ Delfim in picturesque Alvor after a very successful holiday here last November. Prices held from 2003.

(operated by JMC atol 1368)

PAPHOS 16 Nov & Xmas 21 Dec 04, 8 Feb & 1 Mar 05 from £539

We return to the ever popular 4★ Ledra Beach. Ideally situated and excellent facilities. **SOME DATES ALREADY NEARLY SOLD OUT!** (operated by JMC atol 1368)

THAILAND Xmas 22 Dec 04 14 & 21 nts & Feb 2005 14, 21 and 28 nights half board

From the temples, palaces and colourful markets of Bangkok to the sun-kissed beaches of Hua Hin, we provide bridge in fabulous high standard hotels in exotic surroundings. Excellent low cost golf available. Great value for long stay holidays! Early bookings recommended especially for Xmas departures. **FANTASTIC VALUE!**

(flights sold by Bridge Overseas agents for Gold Medal Travel atol 2916)

PORT EL KANTAOUI 2, 9, 16, & 23 Jan 14 nights from £295 in 4★ Sol el Mouradi and £389 in 5★ Palace

This is a charming resort with its cobbled alleys, garden squares and lamplit quayside, and beautiful white sandy beaches. **Incredible value long winter stays available 4★ Sol el Mouradi 35 nights £359, 5★ Mouradi Palace £599.** (bridge is played in 5★) (operated by Panorama atol 0782)

BENALMADENA - COSTA DEL SOL 23 Jan 05 £457

The 4★ Alay is beautifully situated overlooking the marina and next to the resort's promenade (operated by Unijet atol 0230)

TENERIFE 28 Jan & 11 Feb 05 - £699
(discounted from brochure cost of £765)
We return to the 4★ Jacaranda, a high standard well positioned hotel for some winter sunshine. Excellent value for 4★ Tenerife. Booking quickly!! (operated by JMC atol 1368)

★★★ NEW ★★★ BRIDGE AND SKI ★★★ 4★ BANSKO 12 & 13 MARCH 2005

7 nights half board £329 EXCELLENT VALUE
Bansko is a premier winter destination - a true alternative to the Alps. More than just a winter resort it is a charming small town of medieval architecture and culture and tradition. The 4★ Hotel Strazhite is ideally situated for the enthusiastic skier just 150 metres from the Gondola cabin lift.

(operated by Balkan holidays atol 252)

NEW FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2005

4★ GOLDEN SANDS BULGARIA

**6/7 May, & 16/17 Sept & 30 Sept/01
Oct 05 from only £399**

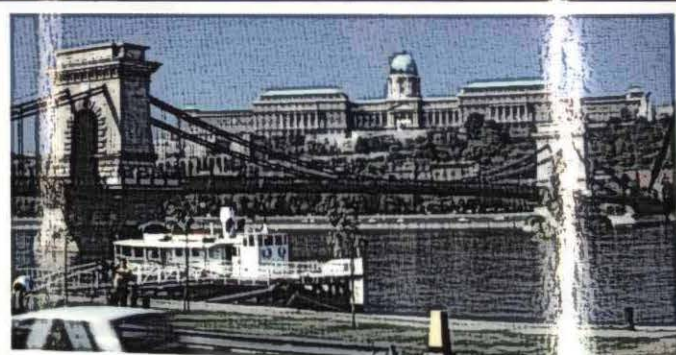
The Hotel Luna with its beautiful terraced bridge room overlooking the sea offers excellent value for money with fantastic early booking discounts AND limited single rooms with nil supplement for all dates. (operated by Balkan holidays atol 252)

4★ CROATIA 09 May & 26 Sept 05 from only £429

We are thrilled to include this fascinating destination to our programme and introduce to our clients the Hotel Diamant in the ancient Roman and mediaeval town of Porec. We have managed to secure for our clients incredibly good early booking discounts for this holiday and expect demand to be high. (operated by Balkan Holidays atol 252)

4★ BANSKO 12 June 05 £439

Spectacularly beautiful area at the foot of the Majestic Pirin Mountains - on the World Heritage List for its beauty. The medieval town of Bansko is an architectural delight. Guided tours available to different parts of the Pirin National Park. Walkers Paradise. Combine this with a 4★ hotel, with indoor pool and excellent facilities. Limited singles nil supplement (operated by Balkan Holidays 252)



BUDAPEST 7 MAR 05 4 nights half board including bridge £299

The 4★ Grand Hotel Hungaria is ideally positioned, enabling you to explore the medieval beauty of Buda and modern charm of Pest. Magnificently situated on the banks of the River Danube. A visit to Budapest is not to be missed.

(low cost flights at additional cost bookable through Bridge Overseas agent for Gold Medal atol 2916)

See page 6 for UK holidays, page 26 for River Cruises and inside back cover for Ocean Crusies

7 nights available on most holidays - ask for details!
GREAT GROUP OFFERS AVAILABLE

Bridge Overseas Ltd, First Floor Offices, 10 Well St, Portsmouth, CF36 3BE

Prices quoted for two weeks half board, flights and transfers.
The only addition is bridge fee (except Prague and Budapest).
All payments to Bridge Overseas Trust Account.
Bridge Licensed by the EBU - masterpoints, trophies and prizes.
Agents for Panorama and Manos atol 0782 and JMC atol 1368.

FREEPHONE
0800 0346 246
(01656 773178)

**SPECIAL 10% EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT
ON BRIDGE FEES FOR EBU MEMBERS**

Visit our website for full details of all our holidays www.bridgeoverseas.co.uk email: bridge@bridgeoverseas.co.uk

English Bridge

Editor: Brian Cook

Hill Crest, 8 Kingsley Road,
Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 1EY
Tel: 01548 852565 Fax: 01548 854417
email: englishbridge@internet-today.co.uk

Editorial Board

Alaine Hamilton (Chairman),
David Burn, Jeremy Dhondy and Brian Cook

Advertisement Manager

Laura Grimsley at Blue2
Charlton House, Old Estate Yard,
East Hendred, Oxford, OX12 8LL
Tel: 01235 833060 fax: 01235 862589
laura@blue2design.com

Printing: St Ives (Andover) plc

Artwork: Blue 2, 01235 862587

English Bridge Union

Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury HP19 8AZ

CONTACTING THE EBU

Tel: 01296 317200

Fax: 01296 317220

postmaster@ebu.co.uk

Web site: www.ebu.co.uk

Bridge play online:

www.bridgeclublive.com

Direct EBU helplines and email addresses
(STD code 01296 for all telephone numbers and
suffix @ebu.co.uk for all email addresses)

	Telephone	Email
Accounts	317210	account
Bridge for All	317217	bfa
Bridge Shop	397851	bridge.shop
Competition entry	317203	comps
Education	317218	ebuta
Laws & Ethics	317208	lecsec
Licensing of events	317205	license
Master Points	317202	points
Membership	317201	ebu
Technical services	317209	technic
Tournament orgn.	317204	tourns

EBU STAFF

Use suffix @ebu.co.uk for all email addresses

General Manager and
Company Secretary **Terry Collier** terry

Office Administration and IT

Office Manager and PA
to General Manager **Clare Farthing** clare
Administration Assistant **Kay Carter** kay
Reception Administrator **Karen Durrell** karend
Technical Services **Harvey Fox** harvey
Publications and IT
Officer **Paul Still** paul
Webmaster **Anna Gudge** anna

Accounts
Accounts Manager **Brian Smith** brians
Accounts Assistant **Terri Furlow** terrif

Membership
Administrator **Eileen Maunder** eileen
Club and Master Points
Administrator **Colin Porch** colin
Bridge Shop
Administrator **Sharon Sandle** sharon
Telesales Assistant **Sue Humphries** sueh
Trading Assistant **Chris Price** chrisp

Tournament Department
Tournaments Manager **Max Bavin** max
Administration Assistant **Dawn Mertens** dawn
Tournaments Secretary **Nick Doe** nick
Tournaments
Administrators **Gill Pain** gill
Peter Jordan peter
Ian Mitchell ian

Development Department
Education Manager **John Pain** john
Development Manager **Virpi Ojala** virpi
Development Officer
operations **Maggie McCorkell** maggie
Development Officer
youth and education **Alison Nicolson** alison
Development
Administrator **Lisa Miller** lisa

'Satisfied? No, I'm delighted'

IN October 2003 the English Bridge Union announced a five-year plan to overhaul the services it provides to members and to update, improve and deliver these services to a level that would enable doubling of the membership to be achieved.

Spearheading the drive to deliver the plan is EBU General Manager Terry Collier. To assess progress English Bridge Editor Brian Cook sat down with Terry and received some encouraging answers to his questions:

'We are 12 months on from the EBU announcement of its five-year development plan. How satisfied are you with progress made so far?'

I am more than satisfied; I am delighted. The past year has been one of talk and I make no apology for that, because some excellent ideas have come forward and relationships have been strengthened. So far we have met with 21 of our county associations and without exception have received their support for our efforts. I have another seven meetings arranged and hope these are as productive. It has been clearly identified that we need to be doing far more at a local level for our club players and in this regard we are soon to announce a series of fun events to be played nationally, but in local clubs. We have also met with a number of commercial operators and established strong working relationships, resulting in improved services for our members, with far more to come.

'The Master Points system has been much discussed and there has been talk of change. What is the latest position on this front?'

We have two groups looking into the matters of Master Points, ranking and handicapping and it is expected that an initial report on Master Points will be available in October and will be debated at Council in January. While keeping away from the mechanics of the systems I do feel we should be doing far more to acknowledge the achievement of our individual players. We will be working with our clubs to rectify this situation, thereby identifying achievements and acknowledging success.

'Combining the EBU diary with the handbook and distributing it free to members seemed like a good idea. How successful do you consider this innovation has been?'

We have had a small number of unpleasant remarks, plus some genuine complaints and constructive criticisms. With regard to the cover, it would appear you either love it or hate it. I find it



Providing the answers:
EBU General Manager
Terry Collier



Asking the questions:
English Bridge Editor
Brian Cook

Terry Collier upbeat on progress of five-year plan

bright, modern and cheerful, while previous covers have been dull, old-fashioned and boring. I have asked some people to imagine which of these images the 'outside world' has of the 'bridge world'. It has also been put to me that perhaps our members are not sufficiently proud to be so openly associated with the EBU. My overall feeling is that the concept has been successful, but that we need to make a few improvements to the next diary, taking into account comments we have received.

'How much has been achieved towards bringing more young people into the game of bridge?'

The problem with teaching children is finding sufficient volunteers to do the teaching and clubs to support their efforts. In saying that there is some excellent work being carried out, albeit small pockets of activity, centred on an enthusiastic individual or small group. While continuing to support these efforts we are working on a most exciting new initiative, planned for launch next year, that will allow children to teach themselves to play, initially, MiniBridge. It is a development that brings us into the world of animation, focus groups and retail marketing, a modern approach that I believe offers the only real way of achieving our goal of having bridge played in 1,000 schools by 2008.

'What do you see as the main problem area in achieving the aims of the development plan?'

Tradition and the eagerness we have for looking to the mistakes of the past. One of our leading clubs recently complained and when I asked for more detail, they responded with - 'Perhaps I was a little unfair in my comments, but it cannot have escaped your notice that the EBU's poor reputation precedes your arrival by several decades.' Well, I'm sorry. While I appreciate the truth in this, we are moving forward. We will not always get it right, but we will learn from our mistakes and strive to improve the services we provide to all our members.

We have a lot to do if we are to achieve the aims we have set ourselves. What we need now is support, forward thinking and ideas.

INSIDE GUIDE

Zero tolerance works	9	Grattan Endicott at 80	25
Prize defence	11	Bridge psychology	27
Learn from Landy, Bird, Senior, Kambites and Townsend	13-21	You have your say	31
Card play posers	24	Jeremy Dhondy questions and answers	33
		Book reviews	35

**NOW
READY**

MORE ACOL BIDDING

**The follow-up Interactive CD
by BERNARD MAGEE**

200 More Hands in 10 Chapters

- Basics
- Advanced Basics
- Weak Twos
- Strong Hands
- Defence to Weak Twos
- Defence to 1NT
- Doubles
- Two-suited Overcalls
- Defences to Other Systems
- Misfits and Distributional Hands

ACOL BIDDING

200 Hands in 10 Chapters

- Opening Bids and Responses
- Slams and Strong Openings
- Support for Partner
- Pre-empting
- Overcalls
- No-trump Openings and Responses
- Opener's and Responder's Rebids
- Minors and Misfits
- Doubles
- Competitive Auctions

Still Available £59⁹⁵

Windows 98 or later, CD ROM

Includes

Analysis and Commentary on the Play of the 200 hands which vary from the straightforward to the very difficult

£89⁹⁵

Windows 98 or later, CD ROM

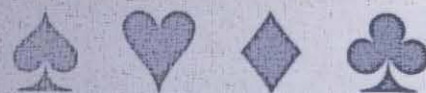


Make your cheque payable to **Mr Bridge** and send to: Unit D, Wagon Yard, London Road, Marlborough SN8 1LH



☎ **01672 519219** email: mrbridgemailorder@ukonline.co.uk Fax **01672 519244**





Brilliant Brighton

ONCE again the EBU's annual Brighton Congress was a big success. Indeed, Peter Jordan, manager at the event for the past four years, rated it his best one yet: smiling faces all round and not one serious hitch.

Nearly 2,000 players piled into the Hilton Metropole for the event, including many of the nation's best, and there was some cracking bridge. Andrew Robson and David Bakhshi scooped the top honour of the first weekend, winning the Swiss pairs, hotly pursued by Ian Pagan and Chris Jagger.

The Swiss teams was the main event of the second weekend and this saw Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, Peter Crouch and David Burn triumphant.

But the congress is not just about the big boys and there was plenty of bridge at all levels and lots of other excitement besides.

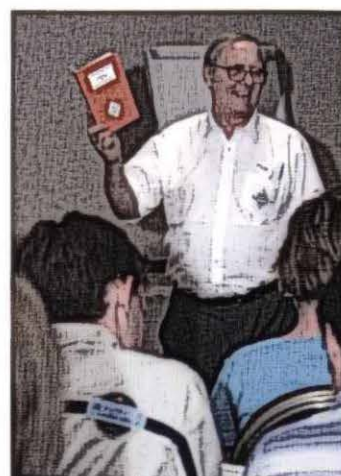
A highlight was the presentation of a cheque for £7,500 from Baker Tilly, a repeat of last year's contribution by this leading firm of chartered accountants and business advisers, as sponsors of the EBU's overseas congress. This time the support is for the Tunisia Congress in February, for which places are being taken up faster than any previous similar event.

The cheque was handed over by Jonathan Ericson, managing partner with Baker Tilly, and accepted by Denis Robson, chairman of the EBU.

Within the main congress were two others – the European Bridge League Seniors' Congress and, at the other end of the scale, the *Really Easy* Congress. There was also a knockout teams event, a mixed pivot teams, a host of open pairs sessions, mixed pairs, 'play with the experts' pairs and late-night speedball.

Events away from the competition included teachers' and tournament directors' training courses.

Principal Brighton results are on page 45 and there is a full list on the EBU web site: www.ebu.co.uk



A wave of the famous Orange Book from Ted Hill as he puts rookie tournament directors through their paces at one of the teach-in events at Brighton

Cover pic: It's magic!



You don't see big two-bid hands very often, but Alison Nicolson has devised a way of making them appear by magic. She used the technique at Brighton where she engaged in teaching the teachers sessions. Alison is the EBU's youth and education development officer

Reprimand for sims breach

An EBU member has been admonished for breaches of the regulations in connection with a heat of the BGB simultaneous pairs last year. The member admitted to the EBU laws and ethics committee that he had:

- played in the heat despite the fact that he was the person to whom the package of hands had been sent by the organisers; and
- failed to take steps as tournament director to ensure that players did not play hands that they had made up.

The laws and ethics committee found the player to be in breach of bye-law 36.2 and administered a formal admonishment.



JON'S THE MAN

LAST year Jon Williams was nearly 5,000 points clear of the field in winning the EBU National Master Point Challenge. This time the Bedfordshire Grand Master is more than 12,000 ahead of the rest in chalking up his fourth success in five years.

Jon's score this time was 35,978 – nearly 3,000 up on last year. He has now gone 10 years without ever falling out of the top three.

The leading places in the various categories, including all the county winners, will be published in the next edition of *English Bridge*.

Youngsters win England selection

A GRUELLING weekend of junior trials resulted in selection of the players to represent England in the Peggy Bayer Trophy (under 20) and the Junior Camrose (under 25).

The trials took place at Loughborough Grammar School, with the under 20s playing a total of 104 boards and the under 25s working their way through 121 boards.

The top two pairs in the under 20s (John Atthey and Chris G Owen; Shivam Shah and Michael Graham) are selected to represent England in the Peggy Bayer Trophy.

The top two pairs in the under 25s (Andrew Bamford and Mark Goddard; Tom Slater and Andrew Murphy) are selected to represent England in The Junior Camrose.

In both events the players named are subject to ratification by the EBU selection committee

All other competing pairs have been invited to join the junior squads for the first three squad training sessions, after which there may some weeding out. The new inclusive policy attempts to recognise that young people develop quickly and some pairs may make faster progress than others, while some may give up altogether.

At the trials Atthey and Owen headed the under 20s with 105imps, from Shah and Graham 34, Sontao Ye and Bingyuan Yan 24 and Ed Jones and Dave Rogers 12. Leading the under 25s were Bamford and Goddard on 84, from Slater and Murphy 79, Luke Poeter and Adam Dickinson 60 and Mark Reeves and Mike Bell 33.

Get in quick for Tunisia



BOOKINGS for the EBU Baker Tilly Overseas Congress in Tunisia (February 4-10) continue to go well. Most important is to secure your travel and

accommodation while there is still a choice.

Bridge Overseas has seven and 14-night packages available and although the nine-night ones have sold out the company has been able to obtain an allocation of eight-night stays, flying from Gatwick.

You can travel from Gatwick for seven (only three left), eight or 14 nights, from Heathrow for seven nights or from Manchester for seven or 14 nights.

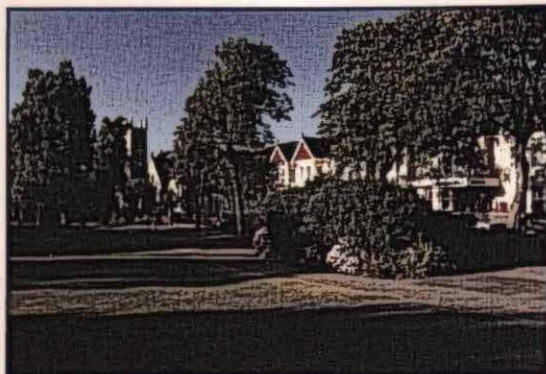
You also need to book soon if you require single rooms, as more than two-thirds of the allocation has been sold.

For travel and accommodation call Bridge Overseas on 0800 0346 246.

Note to students: There is a flexible programme specially designed for you. Contact Peter on 01296-317203 for further information.

PRIVATELY OWNED & PERSONALLY MANAGED by the seaside in West Sussex

BRIDGE CLUBS WELCOME FOR PRIVATE
WEEKENDS THROUGHOUT 2005



Master Point weekends also available

Bridge licensed by the EBU

For further information please telephone:

Richard Margaroli
THE ARDINGTON HOTEL
STEYNE GARDENS • WORTHING
WEST SUSSEX • BN11 3DZ

Tel: (01903) 230451

Visit our website at:

www.ardingtonhotel.co.uk

AA

★★★

72% Quality Score

AA

Rosette Restaurant
1998-2004

Holidays with Bridge

in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere

OCTOBER

15-17/18	EASTBOURNE	Hydro Hotel	£177/£235 fb
22-24/25	SHREWSBURY	Lion Hotel	£159/£219 hb
29-31	BATTLE	Powder Mills Country House	£199 hb

NOVEMBER

5-8	CAMBRIDGE	Gonville Hotel	£229 hb
12-14/15	WORTHING (Singles)	Berkeley Hotel	£149/£195 hb for anyone on their own, of any age
19-21	CHESTER	Queen Hotel	£169 hb
26-28/29	EASTBOURNE	Hydro Hotel	£177/£235 fb

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

ALGARVE, PORTUGAL 5★ Marinhotel, Vilamoura *
21 Dec 7 nts £735 28 Dec 7 nts £759 21 Dec 14 nts £1295
inc half board & flights from most UK airports (supplements may apply)

WORTHING, SUSSEX Berkeley Hotel
24 Dec 4 nights £389 30 Dec 3 nights £289
inc all meals, no single supp - 24 Dec 9 nights £729

FEBRUARY

4-6	CHESTER	Queen Hotel	£169 hb
10-20	MAJORCA	Hotel Sumba, Cala Millor (inc. flights)	£479 hb*
25-27	STRATFORD-ON-AVON	Moat House	£179 hb

MARCH

11-13	HASLEMERE	Georgian House Hotel	£169 hb
18-20/21	WORTHING (Singles)	Berkeley Hotel	£155/£205 hb
25-28 (Easter)	WORTHING	Berkeley Hotel	£225 hb

For full details please telephone

Susan Levene (01273-734305) or Philip Dunn (01902-331725)

Email: SusanSelect@aol.com or Rattyd@ukonline.co.uk

BRIDGE LICENSED BY THE EBU PARTNERS GUARANTEED - PRIZES - MASTER POINTS

*Agent for WCT plc ATOL 0749

ENGLISH HOLIDAYS

FREEPHONE 0800 0346 246



THE WOODCROFT TOWER HOTEL, BOURNEMOUTH

28 NOV 04, 17 APR & 5 JUNE 05, 5 nights

- from £199

A relaxed atmosphere awaits you in the comfort of this family run 40 bedroom hotel renowned for its fine cuisine. Bournemouth's East Cliff, the golden sands, promenade and award winning gardens are all within a short walking distance.

THE BEMBRIDGE COAST, ISLE OF WIGHT

25 OCT, 4 nights - £229

THE HOLIDAY INN - TELFORD/IRONBRIDGE

24 DEC Xmas, 4/5/9 nights - from £299

29 DEC New Year 4 nights - from £299

24 MAR 05 Easter 4 nights - £239

30 APR (May bank holiday) 3 nights - £189



The Holiday Inn sets a standard of excellence in every aspect offering first class cuisine and tastefully furnished, well-appointed en-suite rooms. There is free use of the health, beauty and leisure centre with its large warm indoor pool etc. It occupies a town centre position adjacent to a delightful park,

lake and gardens and a large indoor shopping mall. Situated in beautiful Shropshire near the heritage site of Ironbridge, close to Ludlow, Bridgenorth and Shrewsbury.



THE CARLTON, CHELTENHAM

30 DEC 04, NEW YEAR 4 NIGHTS - £299

We repeat our popular New Year Break to the elegant Carlton Hotel, conveniently situated in the centre of the beautiful spa town of Cheltenham. The Carlton stands in a quiet tree lined avenue amidst fine Regency architecture and close to the famous promenade with its fine shops and award winning gardens and parks.

THREE COUNTIES, HEREFORD

11 FEB 05 2/3 nights - £149/£199 Full Bridge

Programme plus special seminars with Bernie Hunt

25 FEB singles 2/3 nights - £149/£199

OUR FIRST SINGLES ONLY AT OUR

MOST POPULAR VENUE

Especially for people on their own! No single supplement.

27 MAY 05 3 nights (usual bridge holiday) - £199

BODELWYDDAN CASTLE

20 JUNE and 17 OCT 05 - 4 nights from £245

A very popular venue with Bridge Overseas clients. Early bookings recommended.

Bridge Overseas Ltd, First Floor Offices, 10 Well St, Portlouis, CF36 3BE

PRICES QUOTED ARE FOR HALF BOARD
AND INCLUDE ALL BRIDGE FEES

BRIDGE LICENSED BY THE EBU -

MASTERPOINTS, TROPHIES AND PRIZES.

FREEPHONE

0800 0346 246

(01656 778178)

See inside front cover for Overseas holidays, page 26 for
River Cruises and inside back cover for Ocean cruises

Visit our website for full details of all our holidays www.bridgeoverseas.co.uk email: bridgeoverseas1@btconnect.com



Play bridge at festive Chatsworth House

THE EBU has timed almost perfectly its next social event for members – a bridge day at Chatsworth House on November 5. We say almost, because visitors will miss by one day the switching on of the Christmas tree lights. But they will not miss seeing Derbyshire's top stately home being transformed for the festive season.

Chatsworth, set in the wonderful countryside of the Peak District, is traditionally fully decked out for Christmas and this year will be no exception. What better than to combine a tour of this outstanding property with an afternoon indulging in your favourite hobby, especially with Graham Jepson as your friendly host: local points awarded.

On top of that you will be able to take lunch in the Stables and Carriage House Restaurant that offers an extensive self service menu (£6 voucher included in overall cost) and later in the day you will be served a cream tea.

To book your place contact Peter or Ian on 01296 317203/5.

Next it's bridge and a Susan Hampshire play

IF you can't get to Chatsworth House, bridge and the theatre might be a rewarding alternative – or perhaps you could do both!

Bridge and the theatre is next up in the EBU-inspired series of social events for bridge players. This one is at Woking on November 30 and the attraction is to see Susan Hampshire starring in *Lady in the Van* at the New Victoria Theatre and possibly meet the actress at the bridge table, because she is a keen player and has been invited to join the party.

Woking is an ideal town for a morning of Christmas shopping, followed by an afternoon of friendly and social bridge and an evening performance in the best seats in the house.

Cost of the package is £35 per person for EBU members and £40 for non members.

To book your place contact Peter or Ian on 01296 317 203/5.

Other theatre outings in the pipeline are to Bromley in February to see *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and to Milton Keynes in May for *Miss Saigon*: more details nearer the time.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN: JOIN A KLINGER MASTER CLASS



RON Klinger starts off in the EBU's headquarters town as he embarks on a repeat of his England tour, giving bridge master classes at clubs up and down the country.

The renowned Australian player and teacher had a big success with his visit last year and his latest instructional book is based on that experience.

Ron has a variety of topics lined up as he launches into an autumn journey that will take him to 18 clubs.

The following list will help you to catch him at a club near you and book in for a master class with the contact name shown:

October 2 Aylesbury Vale BC (Ian Mitchell 01296 317 205); October 3 South Bucks BC (Sue Reid 01628 668 700); October 4 Horning BC (Suzanne Gill 01692 631 456); October 5 Poulton-Le-Fylde BC (Linda Smith 01253 813 443); October 6 Manchester BC (Jeff Morris 0161 445 3712); October 6 Brierfield BC (Megan Taft 01282 692 026); October 9 Avenue BC (Julian Mitchell 01273 775 752); October 10 West Sussex BC (May Langmaid 01444 416 964); October 11 Tunbridge Wells BC (Chris Morgan 01892 530 739); October 12 Harpenden BC (Rob Newby 01582 460595); October 14 77 BC (Harold Schogger 0208 905 3877); October 14 Lingfield and Dormans BC (Colin Thomas 01883 712 185); October 15 East Wales (Daphne Patrick joepatrick@globalnet.co.uk); October 18 Bristol BC (Stephen Royal 0117 929 1846); October 19 Plymouth BC (the secretary 01752 844 144); October 20 Bear BC (Anne McBride 01458 443 398); November 3 Bletchingley (Jean Virley 01883 744 234); November 4 Brevion BC (Ron Webb 01245 222393).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

■ OCTOBER

- 1-3 West of England Congress, Weston-super-Mare
- 2-3 Open trials stage II, Solihull
- 2-3 Great Northern Swiss Pairs, Warrington
- 9-10 Women's trials Stage I, Solihull
- 13-14 BGB Autumn simultaneous pairs, clubs
- 15-17 Autumn Congress, Bournemouth
- 16-17 Lederer Memorial Trophy, London
- 23-Nov 6 World Teams Olympiad, Istanbul
- 30-31 Malvern Congress Green Point flighted Swiss weekend

■ NOVEMBER

- 6-7 Seniors' Congress, Daventry
- 12-14 North Eastern BA Congress, Allensford
- 13-14 Women's trials Stage II, Solihull
- 15-18 Ecatsbridge Children in Need sim pairs, clubs
- 19-21 Torquay Congress
- 20-21 Middlesex Congress, Harrow
- 27-28 Tollemache Cup qualifier, Coventry
- 29-Dec 2 European Internet sim pairs, clubs

■ DECEMBER

- 17-19 Junior Channel Trophy, England

STARS COMING OUT FOR THE LEDERER

THE Lederer Memorial Trophy is truly a gathering of the stars and the twinkling skills of the experts will be there to admire once more when the event takes place at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club on October 16-17.

Teams that have accepted invitations to play are the holders (Phil King, Brian Senior, David Bakhshi and Andrew McIntosh, with Andrew Robson), the President's team (including Zia Mahmood), Canada (including the irrepressible Joey Silver), England (Tom Townsend, David Gold, Colin Simpson and David Price) who did so well in Malmo, the ever-cheerful Ireland team, the 2003 Gold Cup winners (Peter Lee, Bob Rowlands, Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden, Sean O'Neill and John Frosztega), the 2004 Schapiro Spring Foursomes winners (Janet de Botton, Gunnar Hallberg, Nick Sandqvist, Artur Malinowski, Jason Hackett and Justin Hackett) and the Young Chelsea KO winners.

Spectators can choose to be part of the action by watching at the tables or be educated and entertained by expert commentary

in the Vugraph theatre, where the commentary team will include David Bird and Richard Fleet.

Play starts at 1pm each day and promises a feast of bridge. For further information contact Simon Cochemé on 020 7603 3032 or at simonx@simonx.plus.com

There will also be other players hoping to shine, because Teltscher cups are to be presented for the first time. A 'Play with the stars' event parallel with the Lederer will be held at the Acol, Hurlingham, Roehampton and Wimbledon bridge clubs. Pairs there will play the first 24 Lederer boards on the Saturday and then score up as teams-of-four with one of the top Lederer pairs. The overall North-South and East-West winners will be invited to the Young Chelsea on the Sunday to meet their 'team-mates' and receive the newly-donated Teltscher cups (one for each pair) that have been given by Bernard Teltscher, president of the London MBA and sponsor of the Lederer. For details contact www.metrobridge.co.uk



Zia Mahmood

The Norwegian Fjords

28th May - 4th June 2005

EBU MASTERPOINTS CRUISE



The Norwegian Fjords

28th May for 7 nights

Harwich • Flåm
Gudvangen • Ålesund • Olden
Bergen • Harwich



With stunning scenery and picturesque ports, a voyage to the Norwegian Fjords is one of the classic travel experiences. Our cruise, which starts over the Whitsun bank holiday weekend, should coincide with the brief Norwegian Spring. Expect to see wildflowers in abundance and spectacular cascading waterfalls fed by the melting snow.

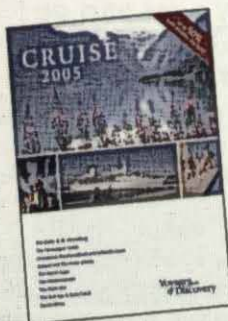
Exclusive Mr Bridge Party

Your experienced bridge director will organise duplicate bridge every evening and hold a series of seminars on different aspects of the game. A friendly atmosphere is always to be expected when cruising with **Mr Bridge**, with welcome and farewell drinks parties to start you off and bring the cruise to a suitable conclusion. For more details please call 01483 489961.



Welcome aboard

Cruising is always a pleasure aboard the elegant *Discovery* where, in the company of just 650 fellow passengers, you will find all the facilities you need for a most enjoyable voyage. A variety of bars, restaurants and lounges, two pools, a well-stocked library, an internet centre and a lecture theatre combine to make life on board a relaxing experience. To help make each voyage even more memorable, there will be informative and entertaining talks by guest speakers.



Mr Bridge

THE NUMBER ONE
FOR BRIDGE CRUISES

YOUR BRIDGE HOST
John Pain

BRIDGE SUPPLEMENT
£30 per person
Bridge Licensed by the EBU

YOUR FARE INCLUDES:

- Free parking at Harwich or selected coach transfers to the port
- All gratuities to your restaurant staff and cabin stewards
- All portage and port taxes
- Guest speakers and entertainment on board
- Delicious meals from breakfast through to midnight snacks
- Captain's Cocktail Party and Gala Dinner

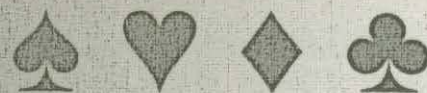
Voyages
of Discovery



FOR A BROCHURE
AND INFORMATION
CALL Mr Bridge ON

01483 489961

*Fare shown is per person based on two people sharing an inside cabin. See brochure for full terms and conditions.
This cruise is operated by Voyages of Discovery, a trading name of All Leisure Holidays Ltd.



Zero tolerance works well in Sussex

STRANGE as it might sound I never really intended or even wanted to run a bridge club of my own, primarily because it would take up precious time that I could spend teaching. It was only because my students kept asking where they could play duplicate bridge as they could find no club that would accept them that I was persuaded

My first effort, which was in partnership with another bridge player, was for a time successful, but I grew weary of the continual backbiting and the sniping at those with little experience. Gradually I found myself spending more time teaching than attending the club and it was closed. But my students would not give up and not long afterwards they persuaded me to start again, this time on my own.



By Ken Latty, proprietor East Sussex Bridge Club

Guide lines

By now I had learned many a hard lesson regarding duplicate bridge and decided that, in the light of what I had come across both at my own and other clubs, the new club would have some founding principles on which it would operate. These were:

1. The club would not become a battlefield. Everyone had to be friendly. No one would be allowed to attend if they made life unpleasant for others.

2. There would be no prima donnas; the less experienced players would be just as important as the more experienced.

3. No one would be allowed to lecture others at the bridge table, neither their opponents nor their partner. Most folks come to duplicate to play and enjoy their bridge and they cannot do that if being lectured. If they want to be taught they go to classes. Besides which, most of what the inexperienced players are told at the bridge table is wrong anyway.

4. Only a relatively simple system and few conventions would be permitted. After all, that is what most bridge players are taught and expect and want to play.

5. The laws would be applied in a manner relevant to the player's standard and in such a manner that would prevent others using them to intimidate.

6. We would have set finishing times. Why keep folk waiting to start and why should they not know at what time they would finish? If players were behind schedule they would have to take an average. In the early days averages were commonplace, now they are seldom necessary as slow

players learn to speed up their game.

7. We would have quality biscuits, served up nicely. No, I am not joking. The tea break would be an integral part of the session, where folks could mix and talk, not a five-minute break where the smokers such as me could have a quick fag!

On such principles the club came into being.

Getting started

Those early days when we met on a Monday afternoon were not easy. Composed only of students from the then current improvers classes, and playing only rubber bridge, numbers were few. If we had four tables we were doing well, but slowly we built up to six or seven tables, at which point we started duplicate on alternate weeks, and immediately lost several players who wanted only rubber. However, it was not long before we were playing duplicate every week.

Even within that select body of players there were those who were difficult and those who forever wanted to tell everybody how to play. Almost weekly I would remind the players that they had to be friendly and not lecture either their partner or opponents, but I was still painfully aware that there were those who dropped out because of the attitude of others.

But then I came across Zero Tolerance, a policy formulated in America and adopted in principle

by Sussex County Contract Bridge Association. This began with a warning: any player spoiling others' enjoyment of the game would be fined match points for the first offence and may be asked to leave for a second offence. Now that had to be the way forward, and the East Sussex became a Zero Tolerance Club, not by lip service, but by absolute appliance.

Today our Zero Tolerance Policy states:

Anyone found reducing others' enjoyment will be fined part of his or her score for the first offence and may be asked to leave for a second offence. Listed below are some of the things that could be considered unacceptable.

Harassment, intimidation, insinuation, profanity.

Negative comments about opponents' or partner's bidding and play.

Giving unasked-for tuition at the bridge table.

Discussing hands in a manner that can be heard at other tables.

Discussing hands after a round has been called.

Gloating over one's own good results or opponents' misfortune.

Objecting to a call for the director.

Disputing a director's ruling during a game.

Poor hygiene, grooming and dress. Shorts are not permitted.

Over indulgence in alcohol.

Having alcohol or food at the table, except that supplied by the club.

The acid test

Having set out Zero Tolerance as our policy there came, of course, the first time when it had to be applied and I confess it was not all that easy to tell someone that his membership was cancelled and he was no longer welcome at the club. I wondered if there would be a backlash within the club, but instead all I received were thanks for having removed

someone who had, so it turned out, been annoying others for a long time.

Now the significant aspect of such apparent draconian action was that we began to again see several players who had stopped coming because, it transpired, they could not stand the attitude of the now banned player. I knew then that Zero Tolerance had to be right.

We moved to larger premises and started two sessions a week. Three more times I had to tell players that they were no longer welcome and each time we saw a surge in numbers attending, so much so that Mondays became so full I introduced a third session, expecting the numbers on a Monday to drop as members chose to play on Thursdays instead. They did drop, but only temporarily. We now have more tables on a Monday than when I introduced Thursday, and Thursdays are quickly catching up with Mondays, as are Wednesdays.

Happy ending

East Sussex has a wide mix of players, from the very good to those who have no aspirations other than to play basic bridge and care not whether they come top or bottom. Yet they all mix in happily, all are friendly and helpful and there is no unpleasantness. I have absolutely no doubt this is due to Zero Tolerance being adopted and strictly applied.

I understand that playing relatively simple system and few conventions will not suit everyone, but if all clubs will apply a Zero Tolerance policy and apply it without fear or favour, then more players will be attracted to the game of duplicate bridge – and Terry Collier's grand plan for the EBU will come to fruition much more quickly than if we continue to let a small minority spoil this game for others.

THE EBU website address for all the latest bridge news and competition results is www.ebu.co.uk

THE LATEST WAY TO TRADE SHARES WITH GOOD OLD FASHIONED SERVICE

SPREAD **EX**

STANDARDS COME AS STANDARD

If you've a stockmarket portfolio but would like to try financial spread betting as a tax free* and commission free alternative to your stockbroker you should consider Spreadex:

- We will explain how spread betting works in plain English.
- We offer a personal service rather than expecting you to use a personal computer.
- We use the oldest form of communication - speech - and you will be treated like a private client.
- We will monitor your trades and keep you informed of any movements, announcements or economic indicators that may affect your position.
- Before you start trading we will give you examples of how a spread bet works.

Find out more call **0800 052 6575** or faxback **01582 538102** or fill in the coupon below and return to our free post address.

BUY AT 4176

IF YOU THINK
IT WILL GO UP

Where will the FTSE close
at the end of the day?

**OUR SPREAD IS
4170 - 4176**

IF YOU THINK
IT WILL GO DOWN
SELL AT 4170

www.spreadex.com

NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE

Please send me information on Spreadex's unique spread betting account Financial ☐ Sport ☐

or post

this coupon in an envelope to:

Spreadex Ltd,
FREEPOST ANG 7156,
Dunstable, LU6 1YT

or online www.spreadex.com

Title _____ First name _____ Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel no (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

I am interested in financial trading ☐ sports betting ☐

Please send me a brochure and information pack ☐

I already spread bet ☐ I have an account with _____

Please call me back on (date) _____ at (time) _____



SPREADEX Ltd. is authorised and regulated by the FSA. Spread bets carry a high level of risk to your capital. Only speculate with money you can afford to lose. Spread betting may not be suitable for all clients, therefore, ensure you fully understand the risks involved and seek independent financial advice if necessary.

*Tax laws can change.



THE main event in the spring Nationals is the Vanderbilt Trophy, a knockout tournament in which teams from all around the world come to take part. There is not much difference in strength between the last 32 teams in this event and a European championship field.

However, today's deal features an unusual squeeze played by an expatriate American, Brady Richter, who is currently achieving some success in the UK. Most squeezes operate when declarer has lost all the tricks that he can afford and needs to take the rest. Squeezes when one trick still has to be lost are rarer and generally more difficult to read. As you will see, achieving success here also required declarer to exercise some positive thinking as to where he wanted the missing cards to be located.

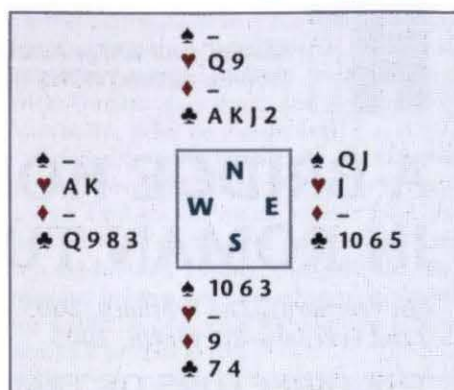


From the 2004 Vanderbilt

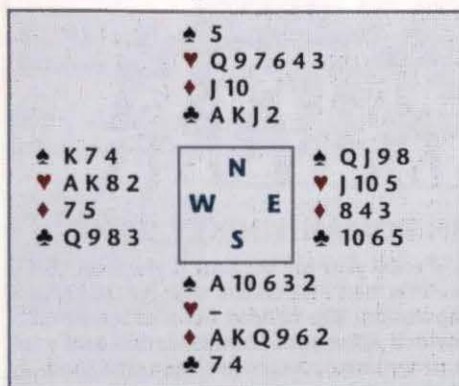
After an auction starting with 1♦ from South, doubled by West and redoubled by North, things got out of control. Without going into the gory details suffice to say that Brady declared 6♦ as South.

All would have been well on a top heart lead, but West led a trump, preventing the cross-ruff. Can you find a way home now?

Brady won the trump lead in dummy, played the ♠A and ruffed a spade, then ruffed a heart and ran all his trumps. This was the position with the last trump to play:



West was very awkwardly placed. If he discarded a club, declarer would throw a heart from dummy, finesse the ♣J, and then run the clubs, conceding just the last trick to the ♥A. So West discarded a top heart. Richter's response to that was to let go of dummy's low club, take the club finesse and then exit with a heart to West's bare ace. West now had to lead a club back to dummy and since the ♥Q was high declarer could score up his slam.



PIATNIK makers of playing cards since 1824. www.p.co.uk Tel: 020 8685 1515

PRIZE defence

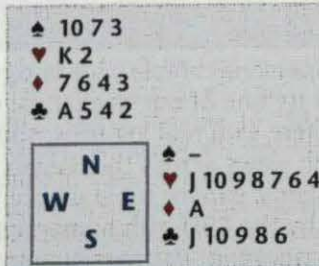
Take a look at the four defence situations here and give your answer to each question, with a brief explanation of your reasoning.

1) What would you lead as West from the hand below after the auction shown?

♠ 5 3 2 ♥ 7 ♦ QJ104 ♣ J8654

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2)



South	West	North	East
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2NT shows 20-22 high-card points.
3♣ is Stayman. 3♦ denies a four-card major suit.
West leads the ♠K. Can you give yourself a chance of beating 3NT?

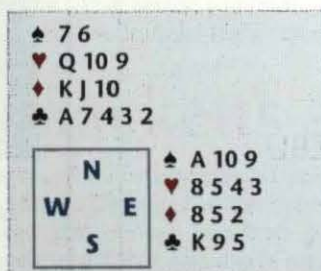
A competition you can all enter

There are three categories in our competition: for players up to and including County Master; for those up to and including Regional Master; and for those with higher ranking.



This Movie Stars pack is the prize on offer as we continue our series of defence posers by Andrew Kambites. Piatnik is giving a prize for each of the three winners in the competition

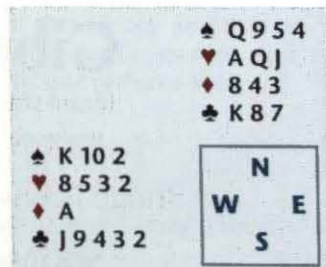
3)



South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads the ♠2. Can you defeat 3NT?

4)



South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT*	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

* 1NT shows 15-16 high card points.

You lead the ♣3 and East's ♣10 is taken by declarer's ♣A. Declarer then switches to the ♦K. What do you do on gaining the lead with your ♦A?

Entries to: Andrew Kambites, 1 Stratford Court, Stratford Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 4AO. Entries to arrive by midday October 20. Please indicate on the top left hand corner of the envelope which category you are entering. Andrew Kambites will judge the entries and the first one in each category that, in his judgement, gives the best answers, will win a Piatnik prize.

PIATNIK playing cards now for sale online. For more information visit www.piatnik.co.uk



Another great Bridge Adventure organised by:
TRAVEL PROMOTIONS INTERNATIONAL LTD.

A BRIDGE HOLIDAY IN ROMAN TURKEY

8th February-22nd February, 2005 and/or
22nd February-8th March, 2005

THE DIRECTORS OF TRAVEL PROMOTIONS INTERNATIONAL

INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM ON A VISIT TO
THE PLAYGROUND OF MARK ANTONY & CLEOPATRA

Our venue will be the 5* HOTEL ARUM at Side,
which has delighted so many of us in previous years.

The Bridge programmes will be directed by
DAVID & MARILYN JONES
JOHN & MARGARET PYNER

BRIDGE LICENSED BY THE
ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

NO SMOKING ALLOWED IN THE BRIDGE ROOM

RESERVATIONS 2005

TRAVEL PROMOTIONS INTERNATIONAL LTD
6 Beechwood Avenue, London N3 3AX
Telephone: (020) 8349 4366



Because of the great enjoyment players have had with this holiday and its subsequent overwhelming popularity, 152 bookings have already been taken for the 2005 events. There is only a small number of places still available. We hope you will enquire in time and we hope also to have the opportunity to welcome you to this grand reunion. The basic price for each of the 14 days is just £415.00, with the Bridge and social programmes (including a river trip and a trip to see a Queen's Ransom!) are a modest £110.00. We invite you to call us for the official brochure.



GRAND REUNION IN ROMAN TURKEY, 2005

This holiday has been hailed each year for the past 5 years as 'the best Bridge holiday we have ever had'. We intend that the 2005 holiday will live up to its reputation. The holiday here, at the Arum Hotel, Side, has always provided excellent accommodation and great pleasure. Our Bridge programmes have also been designed to ensure good quality and great enjoyment.

Our Bridge and Social programmes have evolved over a period in excess of 30 years, and the wealth of experience we have gained over the years has resulted in a formula which guarantees maximum satisfaction and pleasure. As always our Tournament Directors will be top class. You will certainly come to the opinion that you will (by the end of the holiday) have had extraordinary value for money – a lot of which we actually return to you in prize money! You also get a very good Welcome reception and a Farewell luncheon, during which our prize money and our trophies will be presented.

Bridge in Gibraltar

Friday 6th to Thursday 12th May 2005
at

The Caleta Hotel Gibraltar

(Four-star registered)
www.caletahotel.gi

Bridge licensed by the EBU

Sponsored by
San Miguel

£364 per head including flights
to and from Luton
(£264 excluding flight)
(+£60 single room supplement)

£1,000 in cash prizes

Contact Roger Fellows on **020-8657 6719**
or email: brambledown@blueyonder.co.uk

DEANS PLACE HOTEL

Deans Place Hotel is a 14th century country house
hotel in the picturesque village of Alfriston set in
the heart of the Sussex Downs



Tired of large impersonal hotels with bridge in the basement? Then try one of our weekends; country house atmosphere with real log fires, spacious playing room with views across the Sussex downs, no parking problems, superb table d'hôte menus. Bridge licensed by the EBU with numerous prizes including free weekend. Partners guaranteed.

'A Weekend for Bridge Players'

♠ 22nd-24th October 2004 ♠

♥ 12th-14th November 2004 ♥

♦ 4th-6th February 2005 ♦

♣ 18th-20th March 2005 ♣

Only £155.00 per person, per bridge break

Please call 01323 870248 for more information

Deans Place Hotel, Seaford Road, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5TW
email: mail@deansplacehotel.co.uk website: www.deansplacehotel.co.uk





Standard English

Benefit from the right signals

LAST time, we looked at how to tell partner what you think of the opening lead by the card you play to the first trick. Standard English recommends that on partner's lead you play:

■ HELD = High Encouraging Low Discouraging

HELD is also played when you are unable to follow suit and have to make a discard.

♠ A 9 5
♥ K Q J 10 9
♦ 5 4 3
♣ 6 4

South opens 1NT and North bids 3NT. Hearts is your best suit and when you have driven out ♥A your side will have four heart winners. You lead ♥K, the top card of a sequence, to tell partner that you have good hearts. The ♥K wins the trick, partner playing ♥5. You continue with ♥Q. That wins too and partner discards ♣2. Declarer is not obliged to win the trick just because he has ♥A, so don't stop playing hearts having made two tricks. Lead ♥J to trick three. Partner throws ♣3, while declarer wins ♥A.

Declarer now cashes five club tricks. What three cards do you discard on the long clubs? Here is the complete deal to help you decide:

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

You must let partner know you have ♠A. If partner gets the lead you want a spade lead not a diamond, to put you on lead to cash your hearts. Throw ♠9 first then ♠5. This is a very clear HELD signal, showing you like spades. On the last club throw ♦3, showing you have nothing in diamonds. If you don't make a clear signal in spades partner has an awkward decision whether to throw spades or diamonds on the club winners. If he throws diamonds, declarer's two little diamonds become winners and 3NT makes 10 tricks.

Make up the hands and play them out. See what happens if partner makes the wrong discard. Defence is a partnership activity. You must tell partner what he needs to know. If 3NT makes on the hand, you are at fault, not your partner!

Let us change the hand a bit. Swap declarer's ♠A with your ♦5 and your ♠A with declarer's ♣3. Declarer still has 12 points, you still have an entry.

♠ 9 5 3
♥ K Q J 10 9
♦ A 4 3
♣ 6 4

You lead ♥K and continue playing the suit until declarer wins ♥A. You have ♦A as an entry to cash the heart winners, so 3NT should still go down. As before declarer cashes five club winners and you throw two diamonds, playing high-low to show your diamond entry. The only problem is that both your diamonds are very small, playing high-low means playing ♦4 then ♦3. If partner is not paying attention the signal may be missed. You just have to trust partner is properly awake, since there is nothing else you can do.

■ Watch the cards your partner discards. They should carry a helpful message.

Here is one thing that might help. After winning ♥K and ♥Q you are left with ♥J 10 9 and it really doesn't matter which one you lead next as they are all of equal value. But if you lead ♥9 and declarer wins ♥A, partner should realise you deliberately played a low heart. When playing equal cards, use the lowest one to suggest you hold diamonds, a lower unseen suit, and the highest one to suggest a higher suit, spades.

■ Sometimes you can signal with the card you lead.

A high card = a higher suit.
A low card = a lower suit.

♠ -
♥ A K J 9 3
♦ A Q 6 4 2
♣ 8 4 2

So far the contract has been in no trumps, but signals can be made in suit contracts, too. Look at this deal where South opened 1♠, you overcalled 2♥, North bid 3♠ and South went 4♠. What should you lead?

The ♥A is correct. We lead the higher card

from touching honours, so the ♥A should tell partner that you also have the ♥K. You should lead hearts rather than clubs, as your heart suit is better and less likely to give away a trick. Dummy goes down and everyone follows to ♥A. What do you do next?

Before answering you should ask me what card partner played on the ♥A. It was ♥10 and a high card should mean partner liked the lead. As ♥Q is on the table partner can't have a heart honour. Partner must like the lead because, holding only a doubleton, he hopes for a ruff. So cash your ♥K and play a third heart for partner to ruff.

Your side needs just one more trick, but how will partner know whether to try a club or a diamond? Both dummy and partner have identical holdings in the two suits. Again the answer is the size of the heart you lead to trick three. If you lead ♥3 partner should play a club. If you lead the ♥J partner should play a diamond. A diamond lead gets 4♠ two down, a club lead lets the contract make. If you answered ♥J, you are ready for the more advanced articles in this magazine! Here is the full layout.

♠ K Q 10 9 4 2		♠ 8 5 3
♥ Q 7 2		♥ 10 5
♦ J 10		♦ 9 7 5 3
♣ J 10		♣ 9 7 5 3
♠ -	N	
♥ A K J 9 3	W	
♦ A Q 6 4 2	E	
♣ 8 4 2	S	
♠ A J 7 6		
♥ 8 6 4		
♦ K 8		
♣ A K Q 6		

This instruction to partner, made with the card you lead, is usually called a **suit preference signal** or sometimes a McKenney signal after its American inventor William E McKenney. But the name doesn't matter. What is important is that you play a card that alerts partner to the message you want to send. And if there is any danger at all that partner won't notice the message, cash your ♦A before you give partner a heart ruff!

The Hacketts strike gold

IT WAS medals all round and sizeable prize money for the successful bridge players at the eighth Mind Sports Olympiad in Manchester.

The bridge programme benefited both from generous sponsorship by Brigitte Mavromichaelis and from being run in partnership with the EBU. Green Points were allocated for three events and the number of tables in play tripled on last year to more than 200.

The standard of bridge was outstanding and the point-a-board teams event, which carried a £1,000 first prize, proved particularly exciting. It was won by Paul, Jason and Justin Hackett, playing with Norway's Geir Helgemo. They just edged out Manchester's Dave Debbage, M Newman, D Audley and F Brown, leaving a host of top players down the field.

As well as an excellent playing room, all the associated facilities were spot on and the city centre location of the event meant there was plenty of additional entertainment close at hand.

The presentation of gold, silver and bronze medals rounded off an outstanding occasion.

Picking up gold were Justin Hackett and Mike Alexander (men's pairs), Michelle Bruner and Rhona Goldenfield (ladies' pairs), John and Muriel Hasset (mixed pairs), Craig Fisher, Fu Zhong, Malcolm Harris and Maria Budd (multiple teams), Paul, Justin and Jason Hackett and Geir Helgemo (point-a-board), Michael Byrne and Michael Newman (championship pairs), Ben Green and Brian Senior (open pairs), Alan Jones and Pauline Lang (seniors' pairs), Patrick Jourdain, Jeff Morris, John Hasset and Bill Hirst (seniors' teams), Justin and Jason Hackett, Paul Hackett and Geir Helgemo (Swiss teams), Ben Green and Brian Senior (Swiss pairs).



Beat today's experts

OUR first deal comes from the Australian 2004 Trials. The winners of the pairs trial, guaranteed a place in the team for the Olympiad, were Sartaj Hans and Tony Nunn. In a novel, but interesting trials format the pairs finishing in the next four places were divided into two teams for a play-off to decide the remaining places. Even though the pair finishing second was allowed to choose its team-mates from the other three pairs, in neither the men's nor the women's trials did the resultant team win the 64-board play-off! Hans had an interesting problem when responding on this deal:

1. Game all. Dealer East.

♠ A 9 4 2	N	♠ K Q 10 7 5
♥ A K 9 6 5 2	W	♥ Q
♦ A 9 5	E	♦ K Q 8 7 4
♣ -	S	♣ Q 6

West Hans	East Nunn
5NT	1♣
7♣	7♣

What is the best response on those West cards? A splinter bid of 4♣ would not serve much purpose. You are much too strong for such a bid. A splinter bid should be reserved for moderate hands, where game will be enough unless there is a particularly good fit. I dare say that many players would regard a 2♥ response as automatic. Hans took a simpler view of the hand, deciding that he wanted to be in a grand slam if partner held the king and queen of spades. He therefore bid an old-fashioned 5NT, asking partner to bid a grand if he held two of the three top spade honours. Nunn duly obliged, bidding a disciplined 7♣ just in case West held a massive heart or club suit and did not wish to play in spades. As it happens, East had values to spare and the grand was an easy make.

Suppose East had been weaker, though. There was every chance that he could score large numbers of major-suit tricks along with the ♦A and a club ruff or two.

You may wonder what can go wrong if you respond 2♥ instead. East might raise the

At times an 'uncultured' bid is best

hearts or rebid in no trumps. It might not be so easy, then, to discover if he holds the two top spades. If you are tempted to look at the Australian auction and mutter 'That's a bit agricultural', perhaps you did not take into account how other auctions might misfire.

■ Awards: 7♠ - 10, 7♦ - 7, 6♠ - 5, 6♥/6♦ - 4, games - 1.

The next deal comes from an international training session in Denmark and features Knut Blakset and Peter Hecht.

2. East-West game. Dealer West.

♠ 7 5 2	N	♠ A K Q J 9 8 3
♥ A Q 8 5 2	W	♥ -
♦ J	E	♦ A 7 5
♣ A K J 6	S	♣ 8 4 3

West Blakset	East Hecht
1♥	1♠
2♣	2♦
3♠	4♦
4♥	4NT
5♥	5NT
6♣	7♠

There is nothing wrong with a jump shift on those East cards, but Hecht decided to respond just 1♠ in an effort to find out more about his partner's hand. On the next round he bid 2♦, fourth-suit forcing. Since Blakset had a decent hand with three-card spade support, he now bid 3♠ instead of 2♣. You see how much East had found out? He could now place his partner with 3-5-1-4 shape, in which case it would be possible to ruff his two diamond losers in dummy.

After two cue bids East bid Roman Key-card Blackwood, hearing of two aces. He continued with 5NT, asking for kings. There are two basic schemes of responses to this bid.

You can either give a count of kings or you can show which specific king(s) you hold. The Danes were playing the latter method and West's 6♣ response therefore showed specifically the ♠K.

Hecht could now count seven spade tricks, four top cards in the side suits and two diamond ruffs. He bid the grand slam and, had he been the sort to show off, could have specified his line of play before dummy went down. Well bid, indeed!

■ Awards: 7♠ - 10, 6♠ - 6, 6NT - 3, games - 2.

We go back a couple of years now, to the 16th Cap Gemini invitation pairs. Leufkens and Westra of Holland face the Indonesians, Karwur and Sacul.

3. East-West game. Dealer East.

♠ -	N	♠ 8 7 6 3
♥ K J 10 9	W	♥ A 8 6
♦ A K 10 9 8	E	♦ Q J 7 4 3
♣ 10 8 5 4	S	♣ K

West Leufkens	North Sacul	East Westra	South Karwur
1♦	1♠	2♣	3♠
5♦			

East's cue bid of 2♣ showed a sound raise to at least 3♦. It is one of the cornerstones of competitive bidding nowadays that all direct raises (such as a bid of 3♦ by East over North's 1♠) are pre-emptive in nature. To show a raise based on high card points, you bid the opponents' suit instead.

Following the same principle, Freddie Karwur's 3♠ was pre-emptive - based on a hand with only two queens and 4-3-3-3 shape. With a genuine raise to 3♠, he would have bid 3♦ instead. Leufkens had a low point-count, but the opponents' heavy bidding in spades had suggested that his partner's values would be concentrated in the other three suits. He leapt boldly to 5♦ and found an excellent dummy. Trumps broke 2-1 and it was only because he misguessed the hearts that he scored 11 tricks rather than 12.

At another table South passed at his first turn, thereby allowing West a game try:

West Gitelman	North Jansma	East Stansby	South Verhees
1♦	1♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	3♠
5♦			

It was poor tactics for Verhees to pass at his first turn, only to raise spades later. Gitelman had space for a game try bid in clubs. Stansby accepted the try, showing a value in hearts and Gitelman then leapt to the diamond game.

At yet another table, the Brazilians Chaves and Brenner stopped in 3♦. Meanwhile, Ali Mahmood and Andrew Robson had 6♦ and made against them (ouch!) by the Dutch pair, Muller and deWijs.

■ Awards: 5♦ - 10, 6♦ - 8, part scores - 4♥ - 2.

Yorkshire pair walk it at Scarborough

YORKSHIRE's Graham Jepson and David Musson romped home in the Swiss pairs at the Scarborough Congress. They finished 15vps ahead of second pair Paul and Val Mollison (Essex), with a further 182 partnerships trailing in their wake.

Harold Wayne (Dorset), Sarah Teshome (Yorkshire) and Catherine and Chris Jagger (Cambs and Hunts) won the multiple teams A final, while Andy Fenn and Chris Cook from Hertfordshire, with Bedfordshire's Monica Lucy and Alan Cooke, headed the multiple teams B final.

The open teams was won by Hertfordshire's Sheila Evans, playing with the Essex trio of Mike Wren and Sue and Chris Taylor. John Amor (Kent) and Richard Currie (Surrey) came top in the pre-congress pairs.

For full results see the EBU website: www.ebu.co.uk

On now to the 2003 NEC tournament in Japan. Sweden are facing Poland when this tricky deal arises:

4. North-South game. Dealer East.

♠ A 7 3 ♥ A 9 7 ♦ K 10 7 ♣ Q 8 7 6	N W E S	♠ 9 8 6 ♥ K Q 10 6 3 ♦ A 2 ♣ K 10 9
West Sylvan	East Sundelin	
2NT	1♥	
4♥	3♣	

2NT was a conventional response, agreeing hearts and showing at least game try values. Sundelin's rebid of 3♣ was also artificial, showing a minimum opening bid. Sylvan, who stands at around 6ft 6in (It's great to be tall, but that's too much of a good thing!), signed off in the heart game. This did not prove to be the best spot. Sundelin won the second round of spades, drew trumps without loss and subsequently misguessed in clubs, going one down.

At the other table the Poles judged the hand well:

West Martens	East Lesniewski
2♣	1♥
2NT	2♥
	3NT

The 2♣ response was forcing to game. East's 3NT bid suggested a 5-3-3-2 shape and Martens (with his high loser-count) decided to attempt a nine-trick game. North led a low diamond from Q-J-x-x and declarer ended with 12 tricks when North's J x of clubs fell. The no trump game is better, as you see, because declarer needs only one club trick instead of two.

Look back to the auction at the first table. Sylvan had already shown at least three-card heart support and was therefore more strongly placed than Martens. He should surely have bid 3NT at his second turn, suggesting an alternative game. It was 11 well-deserved imps to the Poles, anyway.

■ Awards: 3NT - 10, 4♥ - 6, part scores - 3.

It's time to revisit the 2003 world championships in Monte Carlo, with Norway facing Italy.

5. North-South game. Dealer West.

♠ J 9 ♥ Q ♦ AK98732 ♣ K Q 6	N W E S	♠ K Q 8 7 6 ♥ 10 9 7 6 4 2 ♦ - ♣ 7 5
West Helness	East Helgemo	
1♦	1♠	
3♦	3♥	
3NT	4♥	
4♠		

Should East respond 1♠ or 1♥? It may seem obvious to respond 1♠, so that you can introduce the hearts on the next round and offer partner a choice of trump suits. I am not convinced. If partner rebids 2♦, your 2♥ will be forcing and overstate the values that you hold. If instead he rebids 2♣ you will not be able to bid 2♥ anyway because hearts would be the fourth suit.

Only if the rebid is 1NT will you be able to bid 2♥ with any comfort. Even then you run the risk that partner will give preference to spades when holding equal length in the majors. Whenever partner is balanced you will be happy to make heart trumps anyway. So, I prefer a response of 1♥.

Suppose you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 3♦. What now? Fearful that there might be a 6-3 heart fit Geir Helgemo pressed on with 3♥. He ended in the poor contract of 4♠, which went two down. The lesson of the hand is: drop the bidding quickly when a misfit comes to light. The fact that you don't particularly like the contract you are in is no reason to continue bidding.

This was the auction at the other table:

West Bocchi	East Duboin
1♦	1♥
3♦	

Having mentioned his six-card suit already, Duboin was not tempted to bid again over 3♦. Bocchi managed to score nine tricks when diamonds broke 3-3 and the defenders played clubs for him. That was 5 imps to the Italians.

■ Awards: 2♦ - 10, 3♦/2♥ - 8, 2♠ - 6, 3♠/3♥ - 4, games - 3.

The entertainment draws to a close at the 2004 Dutch Teams final, where West has just picked up a splendid hand. What opening bid would you choose on those West cards?

6. Game all. Dealer West.

♠ 2 ♥ A K Q ♦ 7 ♣ AKQ108743	N W E S	♠ 5 3 ♥ 10 9 8 3 ♦ AQJ10432 ♣ -
West Eskes	East Sprinkhuizen	
4NT	5♦	
6♣		

West was able to use the rare opening bid of 4NT. This asks responder to name any ace that he holds (5♣ shows no aces, 6♣ shows the ace of clubs, 5NT shows two aces). It is often employed on hands containing a void, where it is important to know which ace partner holds. Sprinkhuizen showed the ♦A and the excellent club slam was reached.

You may wonder what can go wrong if you open 2♣, intending to use Blackwood later. The West player at the other table found out:

West Paulissen	North Brink	East Nab	South v. Prooljen
2♣	Pass	2♦	3♠
5♣			

A 4NT rebid by West would now have been natural (or ambiguous, at best). He might have bid 4♣, which would, of course, be forcing. But if partner continues with a natural 4♦ a continuation of 4NT might be taken as Roman Key-card for diamonds, with the ♦K counting as an ace. How much easier to open 4NT in the first place!

The top award goes to 6♣, but I have to report that North held ♣J x x at the table and the pair who stopped in game gained an undeserved 12 imps.

■ Awards: 6♣ - 10, 5♣ - 6, 5♦ - 4, 6♦ - 2.

Our experts end with 49 out of 60, a commendable score on such difficult hands. If you came within five points of it you did well. I have a feeling that we can extract some worthwhile tips from the deals.

TIPS TO REMEMBER

★ A splinter bid should be based on limited values. The main message should be 'We can make a slam only if you have a particularly good fit for my short suit.' Prefer a natural response in a new suit when you have values to spare. This will allow you to find out more about your partner's hand.

★ When you are fairly sure that Blackwood (or a Grand Slam Force 5NT) will tell you all that you need to know, bid it immediately. Don't worry that you will be thought 'uncultured'! If you opt for some waiting bid instead the auction may take an unexpected turn, preventing you from bidding the intended 4NT or 5NT.

★ In a competitive auction raises of partner's suit, including double and triple raises, are pre-emptive in nature. When instead you have a sound raise, based on high card points, show this with a cue bid.

★ When you hold 4-3-3-3 shape, including a three-card fit for partner's five-card major, consider playing in no trumps. For example, after the start of 1NT - 2♦ - 2♥ - 2NT (where 2♦ is a transfer response), it may well be right to attempt 3NT rather than 4♥.

★ Drop the bidding early when a misfit becomes apparent. This is a better tactic in the long run than continuing the auction in the search for a better fit.



Bridge licensed
by the EBU

BRIDGE & BOWLING

10 May 2005 Cruise to St. Petersburg & The Baltics on board the Braemar

Not only bridge on board, but talks from Gardeners World and Antiques Roadshow experts. Big discounts for bookings received by 01 December 2004. Call Mercian for our special brochure on this cruise.

■ NEW VENUES

02 May 05 Portelet Hotel, Jersey

We follow the EBU Green Point Event here, so why not stay on and enjoy holiday bridge? Take advantage of cheap flights for early bookings.

20 May 05 Hotel Bristol Buja, Italy

Lovely old style hotel close to Padova and Venice. Book early for "No frills" flight bargains.

31 May 05 Hotel Albatross, Cavtat

Recently refurbished, this hotel is near the centre of the lovely town of Cavtat on the Croatian Riviera.

04 June 05 Cannes Palace, South of France

Situated near the famous Boulevard de la Croisette and a short distance from Port Pierre-Canto. Call Mercian for details of cheap "No Frills" flights.

05 Nov 05 Barcelo Riveira

Resort & Spa, Malta

In a quiet location by Melliaha Bay.



CAVTAT, CROATIA

■ WINTER SUN

31 Oct 04-20 Mar 05 Sol Elite Don Pablo, Torremolinos

Almost sold out, call Mercian to check availability.

01 Nov 04 & 28 Feb 05 President Hotel, Dubrovnik

Limited number of single rooms available without supplement!

07 Nov 04 to 27 Mar 05 RIU Bellevue Park, Tunisia

"All Inclusive"! Limited number of single rooms available without supplement on certain dates.

13 Nov 04 Hotel Kaktus, Costa Blanca

A lovely new hotel situated by the sea in the quiet town of Albir.

14 Jan 05 Tenerife

A choice of two hotels – San Felipe, Puerto de la Cruz in the north or Playa La Arena in the south.

02 Feb 05 Sheraton Hotel, Luxor

Good bridge and fascinating sightseeing.

■ MERCIAN CRUISING ON BLACK WATCH

26 Oct 04 – Western Mediterranean

05 Jan 05 – First Leg of the World Cruise

03 Apr 05 – Caribbean to Southampton

05 Sept 05 – Southampton to Canada

**Special offers and massive
savings for early bookings –
call Mercian for full details**

JOHN AND MARY DOWNING, MERCIAN TRAVEL CENTRE LIMITED

109 WORCESTER ROAD HAGLEY WEST MIDLANDS DY9 0NG

Tel: (01562) 887557 (4 lines) Fax: (01562) 886944/886454

FREEPHONE 0800 0368372

E-mail address: JDowning@merciantravel.co.uk Website: www.merciantravel.co.uk



Improve your declarer play

FIRST MAKE A PLAN

GOOD declarer play begins with planning. It would be almost true to say that to make a bad plan is better than to make no plan at all. That being the case, what is the first thing you should do when dummy goes down? OK, thank partner for the dummy. So what is the second thing? The answer, of course, is to try to make a plan.

While the target may sometimes be different at match-pointed pairs, in simple terms your contract tells you your target number of tricks. Count the number of top tricks you have – the tricks you could actually cash immediately – then look at each suit in turn and see where the extra tricks you need might come from.

Of course, if you are reading this article then you will already be familiar with the different ways in which extra tricks can be created – knocking out high cards, establishing length tricks, taking finesses. You will also have to bear in mind that the opposition also have a target number of tricks and that you are involved in a race to achieve your target before they achieve theirs. Sometimes it will also be necessary to count the number of losers you have and see what can be done about reducing that number to an acceptable one.

Let's take a look at some hands. The first couple may seem easy, but it is important to get into good habits on simple deals so that those habits are ready and in place when a more complex problem comes along.

♠ 84	W	N	♠ A73
♥ Q52	E		♥ AK4
♦ 9643	S		♦ K852
♣ J942			♣ AKQ

East plays in 3NT on the lead of ♠K. How should he play? He starts by making a plan. Counting top tricks shows that there are eight – one spade, three hearts and four clubs – so that just one more must be found to reach the required total to make the contract.

A quick look through the suits shows that there is only one possibility for a ninth trick and that is to make a trick with the ♦K. Of course, we all know that the best way to make a trick with the king is to lead towards it and hope the ace is onside, with North, and as there is a heart entry to dummy it is possible to play the diamonds in the most effective manner.

If declarer's planning stops at this point he may go down in a cold contract, because he has neglected to check to see if anything can go wrong. The first thing to consider is that the opening lead has attacked his weak spot. All will be well if the spades divide evenly, but what about a five-three split? If it is North who holds the length, there is little that can be done, as declarer requires that he holds the ♦A

and that will provide an entry for him to cash the long spades, but suppose that it is South who has the length? Ducking two rounds and only winning the third spade will exhaust North of spades whenever the suit is dangerous, ie when it is five-three or six-two. Now, when North wins the ♦A, he will have no way to get to his partner's hand to cash the remaining spade winners. So declarer duly ducks two rounds of spades and wins the third round.

There is one more hurdle to be overcome and that is to appreciate that there are only four club tricks if we count dummy's jack. Before the ♥Q, the sole dummy entry, is taken, declarer must unblock the ace, king and queen of clubs from hand. So, after winning the third spade, he cashes three rounds of clubs, crosses to the ♥Q, and cashes the ♠J. Only now can he lead towards the ♦K, playing that card if North follows low, but playing low if North goes in with the ace.

Let's try another one.

♠ A Q J	W	N	♠ 742
♥ J943	E		♥ Q1086
♦ A7	S		♦ K5
♣ QJ106			♣ AK97

Again the East contract is 3NT and this time the lead is the ♦Q. Declarer counts seven top winners – one spade, two diamonds and four clubs. There are two possible sources of the two extra tricks required to bring the total to nine. A winning spade finesse would provide two extra spade tricks, but that finesse is only a 50-50 proposition. The alternative is to knock out the ace and king of hearts and that is a sure thing, which guarantees two heart tricks.

It might seem, then, that declarer should play on hearts to assure the contract, but that would overlook an important factor. If he plays on hearts, declarer will be defeated because the defence will establish at least three diamond winners to go with their top hearts before he can clear the hearts, so down will go the contract. Though it is a sure thing, to establish hearts is too slow and gives no real chance of success. The only realistic hope of

making 3NT on a diamond lead is to rely on the spade finesse – a 50% shot, but that is a lot better than no chance at all.

Note that on a club lead declarer would be correct to establish the hearts as that would now be a sure thing while the spade finesse would still only succeed half the time.

♠ KQ64	W	N	♠ A
♥ 32	E		♥ KQJ10987
♦ 7542	S		♦ QJ63
♣ AK8			♣ 7

This time the East contract is 4♥ and South leads the ♣Q. You have only three immediate winners, but can easily establish six more by knocking out the ♥A. What about the 10th trick?

There are two more spade winners in dummy, but the only entry to them has been knocked out by the opening lead. Playing on diamonds may succeed, but there is a big danger of losing three diamond tricks, either by force or via a ruff, spelling defeat. The solution requires a little lateral thinking and the simple process of counting to 10.

If declarer had two spade tricks instead of one, he could assure the contract. How to create a second spade trick? Win the opening lead then cash the other top club and throw the ace of spades away! Now the ♠K and ♠Q can be cashed and two diamonds discarded. Declarer has four black tricks in the bag and can knock out the ace of trumps to establish six more. A simple matter of counting winners.

Sometimes, it is losers that must be counted.

♠ KJ97	W	N	♠ AQ108643
♥ AQ	E		♥ 5
♦ KQ5	S		♦ J3
♣ 9632			♣ 874

Declarer, East, receives a trump lead against 4♠, North following suit. There are eight top winners and two more can be established by knocking out the ♦A, bringing the total to 10. The bad news is that the defence will surely switch to clubs on winning the ♦A and there are three losers in that suit and therefore four in all.

Rather than hope for a miracle or a gross misdefence, declarer should take the heart finesse at trick two. If it wins, he has a discard on the ♥A for one of the club losers, while if it loses he will just go two down instead of one when the defenders take their club tricks. The 50% proposition of the heart finesse is much more likely than that the defence will go wrong if declarer plays on diamonds straight away.

Corn Cairdis calling

WANT to represent your country at bridge? The Corn Cairdis is an annual friendly encounter between England and the Republic of Ireland, played alternately in the two countries, and sees a team of EBU officials, county players and club players matched against their Irish counterparts.

The next Corn Cairdis is in Dublin on the weekend of February 12 and 13 and places for two club partnerships and two county partnerships are up for grabs. Anyone who would like to be considered for an invitation to take part is asked to contact Nick Doe at the EBU (01296 317200) by the end of November.

Needless to say, the hospitality and conviviality of the Irish on these occasions is legendary.

Excel Bridge

for the *very best*
in Luxury Bridge Weekends

Our **2005** brochure is out!

IF you want

Style & Quality,
Personal Attention
and a Friendly Atmosphere:
Ring for your brochure **NOW**



Still time in 2004 for
The Imperial HYTHE

Nov 5-7/8 £179/215

Oxford Belfry Nr OXFORD

November 12-14/15 £179/209

Three Attractive Venues in Early 2005!

Hydro Hotel EASTBOURNE

January 28-30/31 £161/195

The Highcliff BOURNEMOUTH

February 4-6/7 £194/216

The Carlton CHELTENHAM

February 18-20/21 £149/185

A Choice of 3 Marston Hotels

Bridgewood Manor ROCHESTER

March 4-6/7 £182/216

The Lansdown Grove BATH

April 1-3/4 £169/202

The Imperial HYTHE

May 13-15/16 £185/220

Spend Easter in Style!

Hellidon Lakes Nr DAVENTRY

March 25-28 £246

Enjoy a Longer Break with Traditional Comfort!

Treglos Hotel Nr PADSTOW

March 10-17 £480

Special 10% discount for full payment by Jan 31st!

The Royal Hotel VENTNOR

April 17-22 £335
(Incl. Car Ferry)

The Imperial BARNSTAPLE

June 26-July 1 £345

At all venues there will be a full Bridge Programme
with cheerful and instructive morning seminars

EXCEL BRIDGE

Osborne House, 14 Elton Road,
Clevedon, BS21 7RG

Telephone 01275-872575

"Excel for Excellence"

Generous
Prizes

Bridge
licensed
by the
EBU

TEACHING BREAKS IN THE COTSWOLDS

with Grand Master
ANDREW KAMBITES

5 nights at £295 per person
(No single room supplement)

20th-25th Feb and 8th-14th May, 2005

- ★ Partners found
- ★ Bridge licensed by the EBU
- ★ Master Points
- ★ Teaching sessions after breakfast
- ★ Afternoon and evening bridge sessions
- ★ Free day with free pass to a local attraction
- ★ Drinks reception
- ★ Prizes



Privately owned hotel



The Fleece Hotel

Market Place, Cirencester,
Gloucestershire, GL7 2NZ

Tel: 01285 658 507

www.fleecehotel.co.uk

Sunshine bridge on the Algarve

4th-18th
September 2005
Organised in
conjunction with
SAGA Holidays.

Our February holidays at the five star **Hotel Atlantis, Vilamoura** have always been extremely popular so we thought we'd try to ensure the sun along with the superb hospitality and excellent bridge by offering a fourteen night holiday there in September 2005.

Our continuing partnership with Saga has secured an incredible rate for this very popular time of year. The cost of this high season holiday is great value and includes **full board**, free bar 11am-11pm, free tea and coffee, four free excursions, insurance, bridge fees and airport duties. The bridge of course will be relaxed, fun and informative and will be directed by **Andrew Kambites**. No single supplement, subject to availability.

Bridge licensed by EBU. Holiday operated by SAGA Holidays Ltd. ATOL No. 0308

SAGA

Brochure and booking form from: **First for Bridge**

4 The Lyes, Congresbury, Bristol BS49 5HF

Telephone: 01934 876500, Mobile: 07771 901579

E-mail - info@bridge-holidays.com





Bidding principles

MY principle this time is not so much a matter of system as one of style. Cue bidding has two functions: showing a control and showing enthusiasm. Partnerships should discuss how they should manage a hand where one partner has what might be a vital control, but lacks any enthusiasm. Obviously you don't start cue bidding if you have little or no enthusiasm, but what if partner starts first?

Principle: If partner initiates a cue bidding sequence, you should be obliged to show an appropriate control if you can do so below game unless you are absolutely certain that slam is impossible. But you can use judgement to decide whether or not to bypass game

For the duration of this article I will assume you have a simple cue-bidding style of initially bidding first round controls and only bidding second round controls when partner already knows whether or not you have first round control in the suit.

In hand (a) East is torn between a raise to 2♣ or 3♣. With nine losers he could easily justify a raise to just 2♣, but being vulnerable at teams he allows the point count to push him to 3♣. When West bids 4♦ (showing first round diamond control, but denying first round club control) East's slam enthusiasm is non-existent, but he dutifully shows the ♥A. West shows good judgement in treating his hand as worth just a mild slam try and bids 4♠, which East is delighted to pass.

(a)	
♠ A Q 10 9 8 2 ♥ Q 10 4 ♦ A K ♣ K 6	♠ J 7 5 4 ♥ A 7 6 ♦ Q 6 ♣ Q J 7 3
West	East
1♠	3♣
4♦	4♥
4♠	Pass

This hand is worthy of further examination. You can see that no contract above 4♠ is safe, yet I would almost guarantee that most club players sitting West would try 4NT after 4♥. West has 18 high-card points in an essentially balanced hand, not an ingredient for a slam unless East is particularly suitable.

Look at hand (b).

(b)	
♠ A K Q 9 8 ♥ 9 8 ♦ A K J 10 3 ♣ 8	♠ J 7 5 4 ♥ A 7 6 ♦ Q 6 ♣ Q J 7 3
West	East
1♠	3♣
4♦	4♥
6♣	

Once West hears about the ♥A he can bid 6♣ immediately. He expects to discard dummy's hearts on his diamonds, so 6♣ will be at worst on a finesse for the ♦Q.

Perhaps you think that West is too strong for a 1♠ opening bid. If you play Acol two-bids then 2♠ would be fine, but many partnerships nowadays use up all their two-level openings for weak hands. 1♠ isn't really dangerous. The chances of the bidding going 1♠ (Pass) Pass (Pass) when West has such good shape is remote.

In hand (c) East cannot cue bid below game level and rightly refuses to bypass 4♠.

(c)	
♠ A Q 10 9 8 2 ♥ K 6 ♦ A K ♣ Q 10 4	♠ J 7 5 4 ♥ Q J 7 3 ♦ Q 6 ♣ A 7 6
West	East
1♠	3♣
4♦	4♠

Hand (d) provided a richly deserved swing to one team in a teams-of-four match.

(d)	
♠ A K J 5 4 3 ♥ 9 ♦ 10 ♣ K Q J 4 2	♠ 10 7 6 2 ♥ K Q 8 6 ♦ K Q 5 ♣ 8 3
Auction one	
West	East
1♠	3♣
4NT	5♣
5♠	
Auction two	
West	East
1♠	3♣
4♣	4♠

The first team bid as in auction one. West was bitterly disappointed to find that East had no aces and 5♠ drifted the inevitable one off. West considered himself unlucky. Was Blackwood so unreasonable? Their opponents provided the answer. West decided he would lose nothing by starting with a slightly misleading 4♣. Of course East might take that as showing the ♠A, but it hardly matters. Having responded with a limit bid of 3♣ East is hardly in a position to take control of the auction and his reply to 4♣ will enable West to plan the way forward. When East could not cue bid a red ace West settled for a safe 4♠.

The same principles apply at the five level.

(e)	
♠ A K 10 7 4 3 ♥ Q J 10 6 3 ♦ A Q ♣ -	♠ J 9 5 2 ♥ K 4 ♦ 8 4 2 ♣ A Q J 2
West	East
1♠	3♣
4♣	4♠
5♦	5♥
6♠	

In (e) East is hardly encouraged by West's 4♣ bid. Assuming it shows first round club control then seven of East's points are facing a void. 4♣ is very wise, but when West continues with 5♦ East is obliged to show his ♥K below the level of the agreed trump suit. Of course 5♥ shows second round heart control because with first round heart control East would have bid 4♥ over 4♣.

Are there any exceptions to our principle? Inevitably there are many exceptions based on common sense. For example hand (f) below.

(f)	
♠ A K Q 4 ♥ A K ♦ 9 7 5 4 ♣ A Q 3	♠ J 10 8 5 3 ♥ 2 ♦ A 10 3 ♣ 10 7 5
West	East
2NT	3♥
4♣	4♠

East's 3♥ is a transfer and West's 4♣ breaks the transfer, showing an outstanding hand with four-card spade support and the ♠A. The 4♣ bid does not say: 'I have reason to believe a slam might be present'. It says: 'Just in case you are looking for a slam, this is what I have.' For East to continue with 4♦ would be mindless. He knows that slam is out of the question and must convey that message with an immediate 4♠.

Orams head the seniors and Porters are top veterans

A GOOD turnout for the Seniors and Veterans Congress at Eastbourne saw Hertfordshire's Celia and Derek Oram triumph in the seniors championship pairs, marginally ahead of Sussex pair David and Marie Gritt, with Jack Hibbert (Kent) and Robbie Kingston (Gloucestershire) third.

Top honour in the veterans championship pairs went to Northamptonshire's Ray and Janet Porter, with Jill Hair and Yvonne Dias (Essex) second and John Harrison and Neville Hill (Norfolk) third.

The Swiss pairs, contested by 156 partnerships, was won by Brian and Rita Keable of

Bedfordshire. Peter Collins and Ian Watt (Sussex) finished second and Manny Marks (Essex) and Martin Hoffman (London) were third.

The Kent quartet of Brian and Patricia Crack, Diana Avis and Colin Wilson headed the field in the Swiss teams.

Magical Madeira

PESTANA BAY HOTEL, nr FUNCHAL - 15th-29th November 2004

Our first holiday at the Pestana Bay was a huge success. Situated on one of the island's beachfront sites, Praia Formosa, this four star hotel offers mainly sea view twin bedrooms with balconies. Bridge is under the direction of **Graham Hedley**. Cost **£869.00*** is based on Gatwick but nine other airports are available at a supplement. Includes half board, bridge fees, entertainment, transfers and airport duties. *Single occupancy add £129.00



Vilamoura, Algarve

HOTEL ATLANTIS - 27th Jan - 10th Feb 2005

This holiday is now **fully booked** but please contact us if you would like your name added to our waiting list.

Alternatively, why not consider joining us in **September 2005** at the same venue? For details see our separate advertisement on page 18.



S'Algar, Menorca

HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA - October 2005

We shall be returning for the 34th consecutive time in October 2005. Dates and prices to be announced.

Better Bridge with Andrew Kambites Improvers Level 1

LA QUINTA HOTEL, MENORCA - 15th-22nd April 2005

Know anyone who might benefit from this holiday? Based at the superb 5-star La Quinta Hotel, it caters for the less experienced player currently receiving lessons, who has played bridge for some time but is new to duplicate or is simply a little rusty. Tuition will be overseen by **Andrew Kambites**. All tutors are EBUTA qualified with a maximum ratio of 1:20. The EBU have endorsed the programme.



The price of the holiday based on flying from London Gatwick is **£515.00*** which includes half board, all tuition, materials and bridge fees, flights and transfers. *Subject to single supplement.

Improvers Level 2

HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA - 22nd - 29th April 2005

This week provides a perfect opportunity to improve all aspects of your game under the expert guidance and tuition of one of bridge's more flamboyant yet respected teachers. **Andrew Kambites**, who is just one of three fully qualified EBUTA teachers on hand, has devised a programme to appeal to all who wish to improve their game.



The inclusive cost of this holiday is just **£475.00*** which includes full board, all bridge fees, transfers and airport duties. A unique holiday at a unique location. *Subject to single supplement. Flights for both these holidays are also available from Manchester at a supplement. Negotiations are ongoing for other regional airports.

MAKE A SAVING Put into practice what you've learned - combine these two holidays for just **£877.00**.

UK Bridge Breaks at Thistle Hotels

CARDIFF NEW YEAR Thu 30th Dec 2004 - Sun 2nd Jan 2005

Traditional hospitality in a congenial setting. Martin and Judy will be on hand throughout the break to ensure everyone has an enjoyable time. Located in the heart of Cardiff, this Victorian hotel has been restored to offer luxury with sophistication and provides high standards of service. Half board, full Welsh afternoon tea, and bridge fees. Five course gala new year's eve dinner, cocktails, champagne, piper, entertainment **£299.00*** per person. Director **Graham Hedley**.



GRASMERE Six nights 6th-12th March 2005

An attractive 72-bedroom hotel with the style of an old country house, situated in the heart of the Lake District, a few minutes walk to Grasmere village and perfectly placed to enjoy the splendid local walking. Choice of bedroom styles: Lake View **£399.00**, Standard **£345.00** and Economy **£295.00***. Prices are per person and include all bridge plus dinner and full breakfast daily with free tea and coffee during all bridge sessions. Director **Graham Hedley**.



BRISTOL Weekend 18th-20th March 2005

This distinguished Victorian 4-star hotel is situated in the heart of a busy commercial city. Its luxurious 182 en-suite bedrooms are designed and furnished for maximum comfort. The Hotel recently opened the Otium Health and Leisure Club, the largest hotel leisure complex within the city centre. Cost per person half board **£149.00*** for two nights plus four sessions of bridge. Director **Andrew Kambites**.



CHELTENHAM Five nights 30th May - 4th June 2005

This modern hotel is situated in its own grounds on the edge of Cheltenham just one mile from junction 11 of the M5. All 122 en-suite bedrooms are furnished to high standards and all include satellite TV and tea and coffee making facilities. There is also an Otium Leisure Club. Cost per person half board **£339.00*** for five nights. Director **Andrew Kambites**.



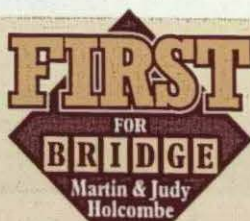
*Limited number of single rooms available without supplement.

Brochures and booking forms for all the above holidays from: **FIRST FOR BRIDGE**

4 The Lyes, Congresbury, Bristol BS49 5HF

Telephone: 01934 876500, Mobile: 07771 901579

E-mail - info@bridge-holidays.com



Keep up to date with all the latest First for Bridge news. Join our new £75 prize competition by logging on to our web site www.bridge-holidays.com.

Menorca holidays operated by Celtic Line Travel Ltd, ATOL No: 1772; Algarve holiday operated by Saga Holidays Ltd, ATOL No: 0308; Madeira holiday operated by Atlantic Holidays ATOL No: 1000. Bridge licensed by the EBU/WBU



GET EVEN WITH THE ODDS

IN the June issue it was demonstrated how the odds of a suit breaking change as particular distributions are ruled out. I guess that many of you found those calculations tricky. However, you will be relieved to hear that they can often be avoided by using a much simpler method based on the principle of Vacant Places.

Although this principle is one whose name you might not have come across, I feel sure you will have applied it, albeit subconsciously. Consider the following deal:

Game All. Dealer South				
♠ A J 10 9 8	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">N W</div> <div style="text-align: center;">E S</div> </div>	♠ K 7 2		
♥ 7 2		♥ Q 10 4		
♦ A K		♦ 10 9 7		
♣ A 10 9 8		♣ K J 3 2		
West	North	East	South	
3♣	Pass	4♣	3♥	
Pass	Pass		Pass	

North leads ♥J and you cleverly duck, but South overtakes with the king and cashes the ace, on which North discards a diamond. South continues with a third heart and, having no useful discard, you decide to ruff. You might ruff with the eight, hoping that North cannot overruff, but feel somehow that he will. Why is that?

Well, South has turned up with seven hearts to North's one, making North favourite to hold spade length. Additionally, South may have decided not to pre-empt holding that high card.

So, correctly, you ruff with the ace, North discarding another diamond. Now you successfully run ♠J, complimenting yourself on your good play, and follow with ♠10. Unfortunately South discards a heart on this trick, so you have an unavoidable trump loser, North having started with Qxxx.

Suppose you continue by cashing ♠K, on which South throws another heart, and turn your attention to clubs, which you must play without loss. Few of you will have needed this series to appreciate that cashing the ace and

king, hoping to drop the queen, is distinctly against the odds, the finesse being the better chance. But who holds the queen, North or South?

Well, again you probably feel that this card is likely to be with North. This is not simply because South has pre-empted, but because North has more 'spare cards'.

Accordingly, you cash ♠A and play the 10, letting it run when North plays low. You are rewarded when this holds and make your contract.

The complete hand was:

Game All. Dealer South				
♠ Q 6 5 4	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">N W</div> <div style="text-align: center;">E S</div> </div>	♠ K 7 2		
♥ J		♥ Q 10 4		
♦ Q J 6 5 4		♦ 10 9 7		
♣ Q 7 5		♣ K J 3 2		
♠ A J 10 9 8		♠ 3		
♥ 7 2		♥ A K 9 8 6 5 3		
♦ A K		♦ 8 3 2		
♣ A 10 9 8		♣ 6 4		

Your decision to ruff high and then finesse in clubs against North shows that you already appreciate the principle of vacant places. Let's take a more formal look at it.

Before you play clubs South has turned up with seven hearts and one spade; North with one heart and four spades. This leaves only five vacant spaces for South, against eight for North. What about North's discards of two diamonds; shouldn't we allow for these also?

No! Vacant Places (VP) requires that the play of any 'idle' card must be ignored and North surely has plenty of diamonds to spare. It is only when we know, or can estimate, the complete distribution of a suit that VP applies. Similarly when both opponents follow low on the first round of clubs; this provides us with no useful information. You may find it useful to look back at the first article of the series (June 2003 issue), this idea being relevant to the 'five box' problem.

So, not only does VP guide us to the winning line in the club suit, it even gives the chances of success. The approach is amazingly simple. North having eight vacant places to South's five, the chance that North has ♠Q is 8-5 on.

TIP

In the absence of other information, place a missing card with the opponent who has most vacant places.

Heard in the bridge club bar

'SOME of the players have started calling me Mr Often Right. Is it because my partner is Mrs Always Right?'

If you would like your choice bridge quote published, send it to the editor (address details page three).

Bridge learner Jane Scarfe reports:

Acol bidding programme has some good things in it

ACOL Bidding with Bernard Magee is a computer teaching programme that aims to steer learners safely through the minefield of opening bids, responses, pre-empt, overcalls and rebids. It would also be useful for long-standing social bridge players, who want to learn a recognised bidding system so they can play at club level.

What you get is a CD and a user manual in plain English, which assumes you have minimal IT knowledge and confidence. If you can switch on your computer and locate the CD drive you can load and run *Acol Bidding*.

It is divided into a series of chapters such as Openings and Responses, Opener's and Responder's Rebids, Overcalls, Doubles and Competitive Bidding.

You can choose the order in which you work through them. You then have a screen with South's cards on view and the option to start bidding.

This programme hails from the Q-Plus bridge software stable so, after reaching the correct contract you can play the hand using the same graphics and playing capabilities.

So is it any good? Well, there are certainly some good things in it.

As Bernard says in the introduction, you can read the rules of Acol in a book or hear them in a lesson, but when you are sitting at the bridge table there is no one to guide you.

With this piece of software you look at the cards, decide what to bid and Bernard either praises you profusely or explains in detail where you went wrong. He never loses his rag, no matter how stupid you are.

But there's the rub. Bernard runs on and on and I could find no way of turning him off, abbreviating him or telling him to sling his hook. And anyway, maybe 4♥ is the best spot, but you'd be interested to see if it makes in 3NT.

Now bridge tutors are deserving of sympathy. Because it's their daunting task to impart a multi-faceted body of complex and detailed information to students of widely varied ability, motivation and commitment, their teaching must be confident, consistent, patient, enthusiastic and thorough. Bernard is all those things – plus he's always on call through his bidding trainer. But I do have the odd reservation.

I think whether this tool is worth £59.95 depends on your temperament, other learning opportunities and what appeals to you. I find Bernard's style a tad ponderous and would have enjoyed a faster, more upbeat delivery, with a dash of humour.

But this programme has a good deal going for it and is a valuable addition to the learning armoury. After all, we learners need all the help we can get!

FOR THE BEST JOHN BEARD BRIDGE HOLIDAYS

13, DE LA HAY AVENUE, PLYMOUTH, DEVON PL3 4HS

TEL & FAX: (01752) 221072

Email: jbeardhols@aol.com

Website: www.geocities.com/jbearduk2

MASTER POINTS BRIDGE LICENSED BY THE EBU

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

10th-15th October 6 days

3 star Grosvenor Hotel, Bournemouth

£289 Demi-pension No single room supplement

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

22nd-24th October

Potters Heron Hotel, Near Winchester

£164 Full Board No single room supplement

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

12th-14th November

The Mendip Lodge Hotel, Frome

£157 F/Board No single room supplement

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

Christmas Extravaganza

23rd-28th Dec 2004 for £439

and/or

New Year Spectacular

29th Dec-2nd Jan 2005 for only £358

FULL BOARD NO SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

The 4 star Renaissance Hotel, Reading, is situated in the heart of the town within minutes walk of the fabulous new Oracle shopping centre plus a fully equipped health and leisure centre.

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

2005

25th-27th February

Potters Heron Hotel, Nr Winchester

£164 F/Board No single room supplement

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

4th-6th March

Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Redbourn, Hemel Hempstead

£145 F/Board No single room supplement

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

EASTER BREAK 24th-28th March 2005

HONILEY COURT, NEAR WARWICK

4 DAYS £229 F/BOARD

No single room supplement

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

SPRING BREAK April 10th-15th

THE 4 STAR ROYAL HOTEL

VENTNOR, on the Isle of Wight

6 NIGHTS FOR ONLY £399 Demi-pension

♠♥♦♣♠♥♦♣

April 29th-1st May

The Thistle Golden Valley Hotel, Cheltenham

£151 Full Board £10 single room supplement



DIAMOND BRIDGE

Benidorm

15th January 2005 - 14 nights

By popular demand, an 8th visit to the Poseidon Palace Hotel in the most popular resort on the Costa Blanca.

£559 full-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Monte Gordo, Algarve

29th January 2005 - 14 nights

The all-suite Iberotel Praia Montegordo offers a high standard of accommodation and overlooks the wide sandy beach.

£599 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Hammamet, Tunisia

20th February 2005 - 14 nights

The Sol Azur is a beautifully appointed hotel with spacious rooms, and a path through the gardens to the beach.

£538 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Canary Island Cruise & Stay

8th April 2005 - 14 nights

A 7-night cruise aboard Thomson Spirit from Tenerife to Gran Canaria, Madeira, Agadir & Lanzarote, followed by 7 nights in the Hotel Los Gigantes.

From £939 including cruise, flights, gratuities and half-board hotel stay

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Venetian Riviera

6th May 2005 - 14 nights

The highly regarded Hotel Principe Palace lies in the heart of Lido di Jesolo & is just a short ferry ride away from Venice.

£858 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Iberian Odyssey

8th May 2005 - 14 nights

A cruise without flights aboard Thomson Spirit from Southampton to Bilbao, Lisbon, Cadiz, Motril (for Granada), Gibraltar, Portimao, La Coruna, St Malo & Le Havre.

From £1099 per person

(Operated by Clare Travel ABTA19308)

Seefeld, Austria

11th June 2005 - 14 nights

Set on a plateau in the Tyrolean Alps, Seefeld is a delightful village. We are returning to the luxurious Hotel Schöner, which has wonderful free spa facilities, as well as a superb indoor pool.

£939 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Cities of the Baltic

29th August 2005 - 14 nights

A cruise without flights aboard Thomson Spirit from Harwich to Aarhus, Tallinn, St Petersburg, Helsinki, Stockholm, Wamemunde, Copenhagen & Gothenburg.

From £1199 per person

(Operated by Clare Travel ABTA19308)

Rovinj, Northern Croatia

20th September 2005 - 14 nights

The Hotel Eden is set by the sea, right next to parkland, within a short seafront walk of the delightful medieval town of Rovinj.

£865 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Rhodes

12th October 2005 - 14 nights

The 5-star Rodian Amathus Beach Resort is set in beautiful grounds, just a short distance away from the historic Old Town.

£895 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

A Cruise Aboard Marco Polo

14th October 2005 - 7 or 14 nights

A fly/cruise from Venice to Korcula, Corfu, Malta, Sicily, Sorrento, Civitavecchia (for Rome), Livorno (for Florence & Pisa), Portofino, Genoa, Cannes & Barcelona.

(Payments to Clare Travel ABTA19308, agents for Orient Lines ATOL 2752)

San Francisco & Hawaii

10th November 2005 - 18 nights

3 nights in San Francisco before flying on to Hawaii for a 7-night cruise followed by a 7-night hotel stay in Honolulu.

(Payments to Clare Travel ABTA19308, agents for NCL ATOL 2752)

All our prices are fully inclusive of all bridge costs

Bridge licensed by the EBU

Diamond Bridge

32 Kingstanding Centre, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 9HJ
email: info@diamondbridge.co.uk www.diamondbridge.co.uk

Tel: 01543 483222 Fax: 0121 355 7895



It's a deal – all aboard!

MANY of you will have already noticed that Mr Bridge regularly advertises his Discovery Masterpoint Cruises in *English Bridge*. The EBU is pleased to announce that in between play at the Brighton Congress our chairman, Denis Robson, met with Bernard Magee to explore ways in which we might work closer together in the future. As a result it was agreed that two members of our staff would organise bridge on three Mr Bridge cruises in 2005. This will involve them not only in organising duplicate bridge, but also in delivering seminars and, hopefully, introducing non-players to our game.

John Pain who, in addition to being the EBU's education manager, is also a national tournament director, will host the cruise in May to the Norwegian Fjords, while Alison Nicolson, our education development officer and teacher, will be on board for the Baltic Capitals cruise in June and the Red Sea cruise in November. In shaking hands on this agree-



Bernard McGee and EBU Chairman Denis Robson shake on a bridge cruise deal

ment Denis Robson said he was delighted to be working with Mr Bridge and hoped this would lead to a greater understanding between our organisations and improved services for the bridge-playing community.

Bernard Magee made it clear that while John and Alison may find the cruise enjoyable, they should not think of it as a holiday!

There is organised duplicate bridge every evening starting at 8.15pm, running until the ship's late show or sometimes beyond. There is also a bridge programme during days at sea. Seminars in the morning will be based on a variety of topics, often including a bidding quiz and, depending on demand, an afternoon session of either duplicate or Chicago. On the Baltic Capitals cruise in particular, Alison will also be called on to arrange a session for non-bridge players, endeavouring to teach them MiniBridge in 10 minutes.

Terry Collier, our General Manager, who does not play bridge, was pleased to note that there were plenty of things to do for non-bridge-playing spouses or partners – port talks, guest lectures, show time, Bingo, arts and crafts and dancing among them.

For brochures and full details of these cruises see Mr Bridge's advertisement on the back cover of this magazine or call 01483 489961 for further information.

Setting up a bridge club

By John Pain, EBU Education manager



WHEN *Bridge for All* started back in 1999 it was intended to be the complete learn and play scheme from the EBU. This meant not only producing high quality teaching and learning materials, but also providing opportunities for the students to go and play in the big wide world.

Many students find it a daunting prospect to go to a club, where they are uncertain whether novices will be welcome. So what is the solution? Well, in some cases the students have started their own improvers' clubs – with a little help from their bridge teacher.

To start a bridge club requires a bit of thought, but ultimately it is a satisfying and exciting task. There is a great deal of expertise among the students, so don't think you have to do it all yourself. Form a small committee or task force to get things going.

You will need to find suitable premises, where there is space to play and a secure place to store the equipment. You will have to buy card tables, bidding boxes, stationery, boards and cards. Hopefully the venue will have chairs. For a six-table club it will cost close on £600 to get started.

Then there are regular ongoing costs such as rent and caretaking. How much should you charge for membership and for table money per session? Should you include

refreshments or will they be paid for separately?

Next to decide is who will run the bridge? Just because your students are novice players doesn't mean they are incapable of running a simple bridge movement. We have recently had a number of novice players joining the EBU tournament director training courses – particularly the Essentials and Book Rulings courses. That gives more than

enough grounding to run the movement and score it to get the result.

If the club affiliates to the EBU it can choose to issue Master Points. Once students get their first taste of Master Points they can't wait to get to the first step of Club Master and then onwards and upwards. Affiliated EBU clubs can also have free use of the CASS program, enabling them to keep members' details, score the

bridge and register Master Points.

The EBU has produced a booklet called *Setting Up A Bridge Club* that gives full details of what is involved in starting out on the venture. It is available free by contacting Lisa at the Aylesbury Office on 01296 317217 or by emailing Lisa@ebu.co.uk It is also available as a word file, which can be attached to an email. Again, contact Lisa.

Alex named Young Player of the Year

MANCHESTER's Alex Morris, a second year psychology student at Leeds University, has been named as the EBU's Young Player of the Year 2003.

The awarding committee recognised Alex Morris's overall achievement, which included playing in the team that won the International Festival of Bridge Red Sea Congress in Israel, reaching the quarter-finals of the Gold Cup, finishing third in the Brighton Swiss teams and winning Manchester Bridge Club's 25th anniversary teams event. This year Alex has gone on to be part of the victorious England team in the Junior Camrose Trophy and to reach the quarter-finals of the Spring Fours, beating Zia Mahmood's team on the way.



Alex Morris

Alex has been playing bridge since the age of 12, honing his skills at Manchester Bridge Club, which is owned by his father Jeff.

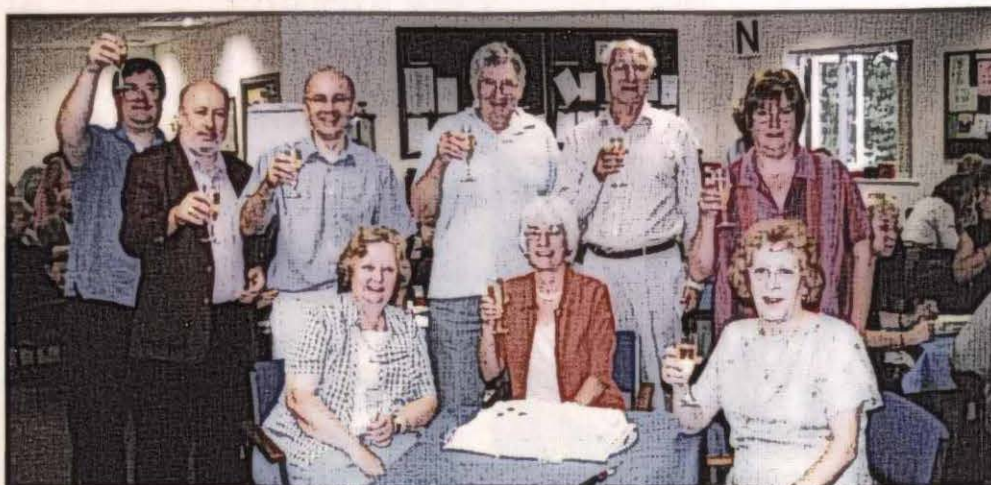
Away from the bridge table Alex enjoys clubbing and working out in the gym.

John Atthey and Laura Macdougall have been named as Young Pair of the Year 2003.

Here the awarding committee recognised John and Laura's overall achievement. Last year they won the under national 19 pairs championship and earlier this year were part of the team that won the Peggy Bayer Trophy.

The final education award goes to Megan Starkings, a schoolteacher who made an outstanding contribution to junior bridge in England in the period under review.

The awarding committee saw this as recognition for the hours spent over the years supporting husband Mel, manager of the England under 20 squad, for always being available at training weekends – and for preparing countless numbers of breakfasts!



Committee members toast the new premises at the official opening

Sutton Coldfield's brilliant new club

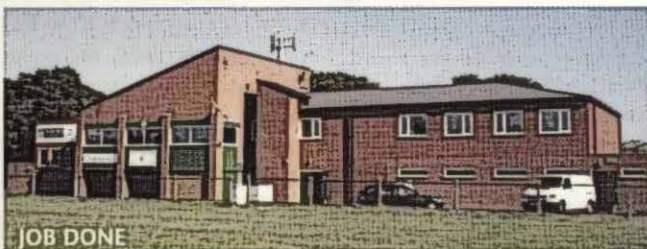
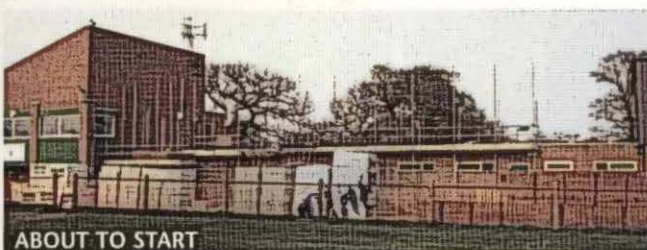
SUTTON Coldfield Bridge Club is very proud of its members. Their generosity has enabled the club to build a brand new set of rooms for playing the game that is so dear to them.

The new facilities have been built on the upper floor of the clubhouse used by a local rugby club and while building plans were under way the bridge players were allowed temporary occupation of a large bar room.

Loans and gifts from members, plus savings and grants, all contributed towards the project, which has achieved the provision of two playing rooms, kitchen, bar, office, smoking room, toilets and a lift.

As soon as the builders moved out volunteers moved in with decorating gear to make the main room ready for occupation. Since then more volunteers have been busy adding the finishing touches.

One of the first big occasions at the new premises was a Warwickshire Green Point event that brought the club many



compliments. Then there was an official opening, at which a cake was cut by club president Mike Morriss, bubbly was served all round and thanks expressed to everyone who had helped.

Club secretary Janet Whittaker explained that what has been achieved is the result of 10 years of searching and planning. There are now 200 members and a good contingent

of students taking approved lessons under the club's two bridge teachers. With play every day the delighted members are making the most of the superb facilities by turning out in greater numbers than ever.

It is all a far cry from the time 70 years ago when the club was founded by 12 people who met for bridge in the cellar of a local house!

Bob Rowlands' DOUBLES QUIZ

Dealer East. Love all.

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Dbl	Rdbl	2♦	?

What do you bid with:

- (a) ♠A Q 10 4 2 ♥7 2 ♦Q 10 7 5 ♠A 2
 (b) ♠A J 8 4 2 ♥K 7 2 ♦Q 8 ♠A Q 5
 (c) ♠K J 10 8 4 2 ♥7 2 ♦5 ♠A Q 10 2
 (d) ♠A Q J 8 4 ♥K J 10 5 2 ♦2 ♠A 4

Dennis Young's SNEAKY QUESTION

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

Got any sneaky ideas? You certainly need one! Hint: This is not the sort of problem you are used to. Be imaginative and you will give yourself a chance.

THIS problem is a right old frolic. You were heading for a peaceful old age in 6NT when your crazy partner decides to keep you busy by raising you once more. So there you are, in 7NT against the lead of the ♣3.

GRATT

An appreciation by John Williams of a revered EBU figure whose industry is legendary

WHEN I first joined the EBU in the late 1970s, Endicott was already an establishment figure, no upper corridors of power, but as leading delegate to the Council for the old Northwest Contract Bridge split later into the individual counties we know today.

NWCBA was the enfant terrible of the county pushing, probing, arguing the toss. Grattan seemed an intimidating figure within the playing arena, or thereabouts with his long-time partner John Williams and all the major championships, terrorising with the infamous 'Liverpool overcalls', will to win balanced by a perfect demeanour (it's the latter always the most intimidating, if you know what I mean).

This was a vibrant period in the EBU's history growing and needing to be organised more thoroughly than was then the case; the EBU administration contained bedroom walls above a small estate agent in Tottenham. There were big and colourful personalities aplenty, but rivalries, too, which meant that pushing and pulling was not always in a single direction.

How it all started

Grattan was first elected on to the EBU Board in 1980. I don't know to this day what he thought has never told me. Perhaps he was biding his time.

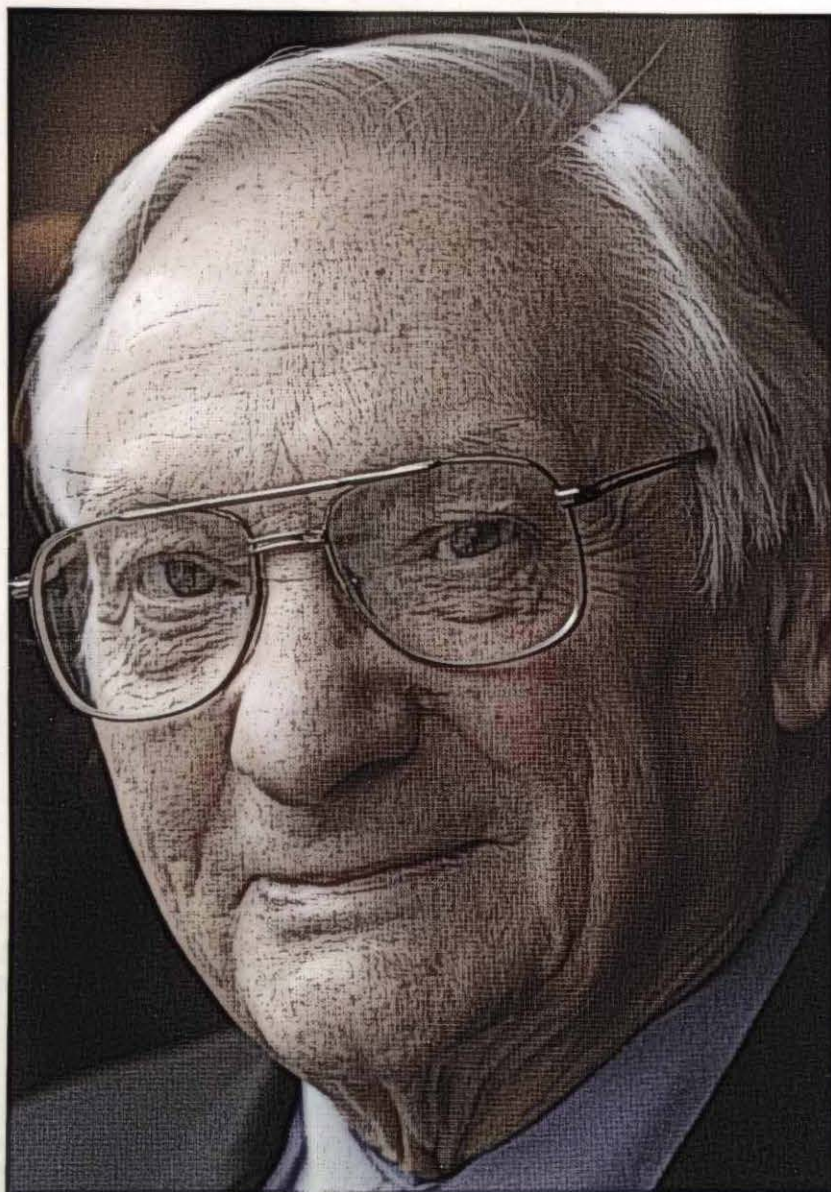
Then a lot of things happened, circa 1984. Maurice Blank, another Northwest man, had died suddenly and Bill Pencharz, having replaced him on succession, found within a year that the pressures were incompatible with the demands of his law business and resigned.

At around the same time the professional administration found itself without a Big White Chief (I was the nearest imitation around). Bill took Keith Stanley (then treasurer at the time), Grattan and me to dinner and told us we had to pick up the pieces (I hope I've remembered the occasion and personnel correctly - there were no minutes to refer back to).

By October Keith was installed as chairman, Margaret Curtis as vice-chairman and Grattan as treasurer. This might have looked like an unpromising scenario, but the next five years or so were possibly the most productive the union has enjoyed to date - expansionist policies being allied to prudent practice and fired by political will.

1984 saw the birth of English Bridge. In Salsomaggiore in 1985, Keith, Grattan and I met with French and Dutch officials to launch a series of annual friendly matches, designed to raise the profile of England (as opposed to

AN ENDICOTT AT 80



Grattan within the EBU association, always to be there in EBU opponents impeccably (bit that's mean!). the game highly than ed within me. There personal g, though

Directors f it all. He

Chairman relatively y right of of office

GB). In 1987 we staged possibly the first 'modern' European Championship in Brighton (courtesy of a highly successful appeal to the membership) and by 1988 we had purchased land, designed, built and moved into the present EBU headquarters.

Grattan was rightly proud that this was accomplished without recourse to borrowing (though the bank account looked pretty sick for a year or two).

In 1989 we staged (and won) the World Junior Championships at Nottingham University, sporting our own Vugraph system complete with CCTV cameras. You could say that by 1990 we had assimilated computerisation fully (though Grattan himself still has problems switching the wretched things on) and had a proper and secure staff structure for the first time.

Looking back, I suppose the main ingredients were enthusiasm, friendship and teamwork, but Grattan's role was pivotal. As a

board member he had shown from the outset a determination to achieve good working conditions, decent salaries and (for the first time) pension schemes and healthcare for EBU staff.

The staff were aware also that there was a sympathetic ear ready to listen to any accounts of personal difficulties – and positive help to follow, which is the bit that matters. Perhaps this came from his own working background with a highly successful, but paternalistic business, Littlewoods Pools. But it reflects also his passion for order and decency. As treasurer he was conservative where it mattered, but prepared to be bold where that mattered more.

Tireless effort

Grattan's industry was (still is) legendary. He was a board member from 1980 to 1993, treasurer from 1984 to 1991. He served on the

laws and ethics committee from 1976 to 1991: as its chairman from 1981 onwards he worked tirelessly to refine the laws and to develop procedures for regulation, discipline and practice within the laws. His successes within these activities saw him appointed to the Laws Commission of the WBF in 1987 and to the chairmanship of the European Bridge League Laws Committee in 1989. His WBF and EBL connections continue to this day.

Somewhere along the way he became the most organised and the most successful non-playing captain of international (ladies) bridge teams in our history (OK, he had pretty good teams under his command, but a string of medals at the very pinnacle of the game – European Championships, Venice Cup, Olympiads – didn't happen by accident).

All this time Grattan was holding down a highly responsible job with Littlewoods (indeed, representing the football industry within Government circles) and planning to take money out of the pools – following his retirement of course – and redeploy it to the general benefit of sport and the arts. Thus followed the setting up of the Foundation for Sport and the Arts in 1990, funded on a voluntary basis by the pools companies, with Grattan suddenly in a new role as secretary to the trustees, a position he continued to hold until his 80th birthday earlier this year, when he retired (more or less gracefully, no doubt!) to make way for a younger man.

OBE well earned

The Foundation flourished for a golden period before the Lottery intervened, distributing up to £75 million a year at its peak to good causes, selected by the trustees with a minimum of beaurocracy. Grattan's role in all this earned him an OBE.

The FSA's fortunes are now much reduced, thanks to the intervention of the Lottery, but we still distribute several millions a year. I say 'we' because I have worked for the Foundation, albeit in a low level and part-time consultancy role, since taking early retirement from the EBU in 1998 on medical advice. Grattan knew I had a financial gap to fill until my old theatre pension kicked in and a state pension materialised, and offered me a job – not nepotism, just typical practicality and kindness combined (the job was just as right for the FSA as it was for me).

An appreciation is not meant to be similar to an obituary (heaven forbid!) or even a tribute to someone whose race is run. The EBU sees much less of Grattan now, though he still adorns occasional council and laws and ethics meetings as a vice-president with a dry witticism or two, and his elaborate literary style is woven into the legislative fabric of the game, probably for ever.

The main thing is, Grattan is still running hard. Long may he continue to do so.

WE ARE PLEASED TO CONFIRM THAT WE ARE CHARTERING THE COMPLETE SHIP FOR THREE EXCLUSIVE RIVER CRUISES FOR THE SOLE USE OF BRIDGE CLIENTS

A UNIQUE WAY TO ENJOY THE HIGHLIGHTS OF EUROPE

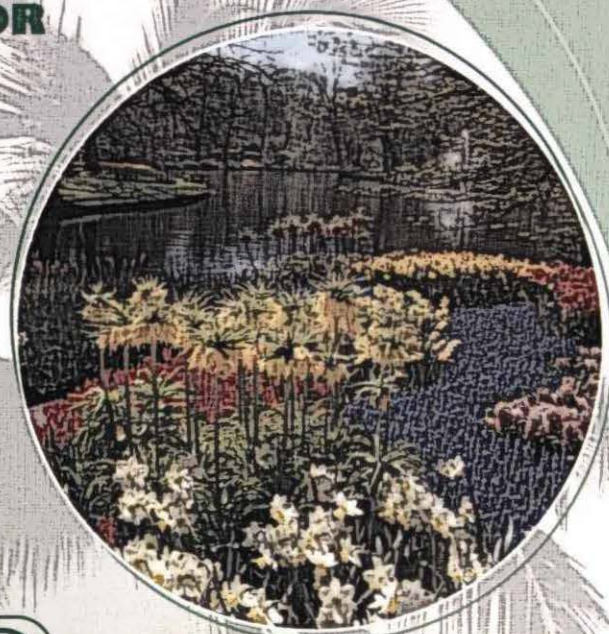
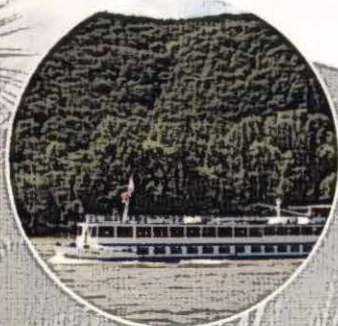
Like so many before you, you'll soon feel at home on board our friendly vessels as we gently cruise through some of the most famous waterways in Europe, taking in delightful scenery and fantastic sights.

HOLLAND CRUISE & THE BEST OF THE BULBFIELDS

4 DAYS FROM £249

departing 4th April 2005

- Three nights half board accommodation
- Twin bedded cabins with en suite facilities berthed in Volendam, Hoorn & Amsterdam
- Included excursion to Keukenhof Gardens (entrance included)
- Visit to Amsterdam
- Visit to Zaanse Schans
- Visit to Ypres
- Return coach travel from most local areas & convenient Channel crossings



RHINE & MOSELLE CRUISE

6 DAYS FROM £399

departing 29th August 2005

- Six nights accommodation on board our chosen vessel
- Included twin bedded main deck cabin with en suite facilities
- Full board – all meals included
- Welcome drink and party night on board
- Services of a Travelscope Representative in resort
- Return coach travel from most local areas & convenient Channel crossings

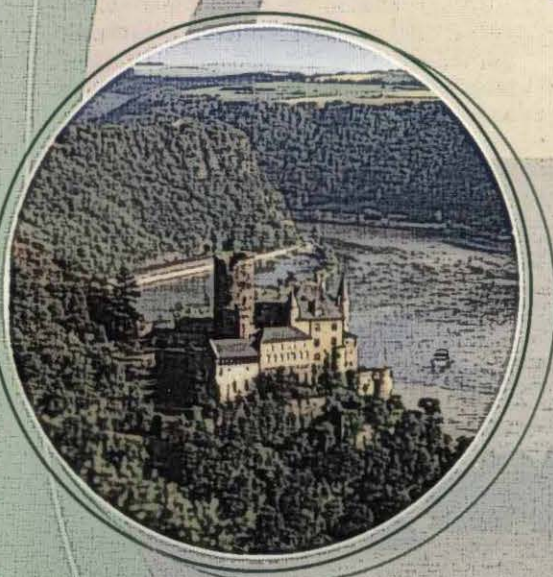


AMSTERDAM SUMMERTIME CRUISE

4 DAYS FROM £229

departing 31st August 2005

- Three nights accommodation – twin bedded en suite main deck cabin
- One night berthed in the centre of Volendam, one night berthed in Amsterdam
- Half board – Dutch buffet breakfast & evening meals on board
- Visit to Ypres
- Return coach travel from most local areas & convenient Channel crossings



SUPERB BRIDGE FACILITIES

We have exclusive use of an elegant spacious bridge room throughout the cruises. There will be at least one full daily session of duplicate pairs with Masterpoints and prizes. There will be a qualified Director and Bridge Overseas host or hostess on each cruise.

All cruises include daily bridge programme, masterpoints trophies and prizes and selected seminars.

FOR A BROCHURE OR TO BOOK CALL: 0800 0346 246

www.bridgeoverseas.co.uk

Bridge Overseas, First Floor Offices, 10 Well Street, Porthcawl CF36 3BE

The above River Cruises include accommodation and board as shown, bridge fees and return coach from local departure. However flights can be arranged if preferred at an additional cost, ring for details. Bridge licensed by the EBU

DELVING INTO THE PSYCHOLOGY OF BRIDGE

A mind to win

IN the April edition I advanced the view that the best way to play winning bridge is in a state of relaxed concentration. The theory was developed from a book by W Timothy Gallwey about tennis psychology and discussed a player's relationship with his partner.

This article develops the theme by looking at a player's relationship with the opposition. However, I want to begin with one piece of advice on an aspect of the game of which I, sadly, have a great deal of experience.

If you are in a daft low level contract be sure that you make it.

Here is an example: at game all with dealer East; sitting South you pick up

♠ 10
♥ A J 10 8
♦ K Q 4 2
♣ A Q J 10

♠ J 6 5 3
♥ 9 7 4 3 2
♦ J 7
♣ K 5

At this point let's look at the whole deal:

♠ J 6 5 3
♥ 9 7 4 3 2
♦ J 7
♣ K 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 9 8 4
♥ 6
♦ A 10 6 5 3
♣ 7 6 3

♠ 10
♥ A J 10 8
♦ K Q 4 2
♣ A Q J 10

When the ♠K holds West switches to a diamond, taken by the ace. East returns the suit and you win with the Jack. You can now cash your tricks and make 1♦. But you are still thinking about being in a heart contract. You call for the ♥9 and let it run – one down. You say to partner as he reaches for the traveller:



BY STAN POWELL

'Everyone will be in hearts so we would have got a bottom anyway.'

He shows you the results. Everyone else is in four hearts minus one. You have just missed your first top of the evening and it dawns on you that, even if you had made an overtrick in one diamond, it would have made no difference compared to anyone in a heart part-score or game. You have let the emotion of being in what you saw as a poor contract affect your play. And somewhere in your thinking was the feeling that partner was to blame, when in fact he was probably the only North to bid correctly.

In bridge, indeed in any game, the art of concentration is a key skill. Zia Mahmood describes in *Bridge My Way* how he learned to play and says: 'Perhaps the most important lesson of all ... was not to be involved in the emotion of winning and losing, recognising that both were inevitable and that they interfered with judgement.'

Any extraneous thoughts, whether they be about the bidding, the last hand or the fate of the 3.30 at Kempton Park can only limit your potential to score well on a deal.

Table presence scores

So how should we treat the opposition? Do we want to disrupt their concentration? What about body language or table presence?

Table presence seems to be all about confidence. At club level some people sit down at your table and you feel they know what they are doing. They look and sound as if they expect to do well. Others give the impression that they are just there to give you tops. Note that the people in the former category are almost inevitably extremely pleasant. Table presence is not about being nasty; rather the opposite, it is to exude a quiet confidence, an attitude that this is going to be fun.

Chris Evert is reported to have practised walking around the tennis court so that she gave nothing away by her body language. Too often bridge players lose the initiative even before they have pulled a card from the first board of a set. Never mind body

language, they are still talking or even arguing about the last hand and sometimes ignore their opponents. Forget for a moment that this is rude and focus on your strategy to become a winner. The discussion is counter productive; it tells the opposition that you do not know what you are doing as a partnership.

Remember that without your opponents there is no game. In some ways it is best to think of each hand as a challenge in which you are trying to bring the best out of the opposition. By playing well you are allowing them to face a better test. If you regard yourself as collaborating with opponents, for you all to play the best bridge possible, the standard will rise! If they do well against you – it's well done to them and on to the next hand. This attitude will help you relax and enjoy the event and in that frame of mind you become more analytical and a better competitor.

As for disrupting opponent's concentration, first there is no legitimate way to do this. Second, if you try, you are more likely to disrupt your own game.

Relax and do well

To reiterate my theme, the best way to play any game successfully is in a state of relaxed concentration. This has the corollary; the secret of winning lies in not trying too hard. Having a pleasant relaxed attitude towards the opposition should help you to concentrate completely on the hand in progress. We should try not to judge ourselves and our performance as either good or bad. It is the initial act of judgement which provokes a thinking process and both positive and negative thinking inhibit spontaneity and the complete concentration on the current hand. This also means that any judgemental thought about the opposition, be it good or bad, is to be avoided.

Now the controversial bit: at pairs this also means not keeping a score card or at least not looking at it until after the session. After all, 52% may be in the points, but on another occasion 55% may not. How can you judge to go for broke on the last set of boards? Looking at a score card is likely to bring thoughts like, 'We are doing well', or 'We are not playing well', either of which is counter productive. It continues to surprise me how many people keep score cards at normal club duplicates. What do they do with them afterwards? I suspect most are just thrown away. Certainly people rarely ask to have the curtain cards kept.

Finally then, the message is respect your opponents, enjoy the game and show the world that you are enjoying yourself. It could help your results!

Useful reading: *The Inner Game of Tennis*, by W Timothy Gallwey – Pan Books 1974; *Bridge My Way* by Zia Mahmood – Faber and Faber 1991

Five Star Bridge Tours



Fabulous views of the sea from the extensive beautifully manicured gardens

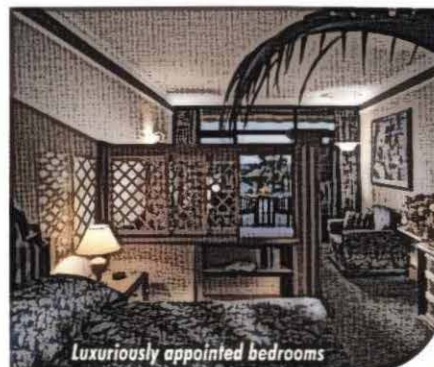
Cyprus, November 17th - December 1st
Amathus Beach Hotel, Limassol – £1075.00 14 nights half board



Superb heated indoor swimming pool and jacuzzi

For more than two decades the Amathus Beach has delighted our clients with its warm, friendly service and attention to fine detail. Magnificently appointed throughout with an excellent a la carte restaurant serving a mouth-watering mix of both local and international cuisine, the Amathus Beach has earned a well deserved reputation as being one of the finest hotels in the entire Mediterranean.

Two superb outdoor swimming pools
Fully equipped gymnasium with sauna and steam room
Excellent thalassotherapy centre with a wide range of health and fitness treatments
Within easy walking distance of local shops and restaurants



Luxuriously appointed bedrooms

Five Star Bridge Tours

RHODES

Hotel Rodos Palladium (5 star deluxe)
October 13th-27th £895

Set in extensive gardens leading directly to the beach, the Rodos Palladium is just twenty minutes drive from Rhodes Town. Excellent value! There may well be discounts on flights for late bookings.

CYPRUS

Christmas/New Year Dec 22nd-Jan 5th £1445
Amathus Beach Hotel (5 star deluxe), Limassol
(a member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World') As featured above.

LANZAROTE

Costa Teguse January 13th-27th £1395
Hotel Gran Melia Salinas (5 star grande deluxe)
(a member of 'The Leading Hotels of the World')

This is a truly stunning, top class hotel. With its lush, tropical reception area, and its magnificently appointed bedrooms each with a lovely view of the sea, this is a perfect venue to soak up some winter sunshine, or play golf at the nearby eighteen hole course.

TENERIFE

Puerto Santiago Hotel Playa La Arena
(4 star deluxe) April 8th-22nd £895

This is a welcome new addition to our programme, again at an exceptional price. The Playa La Arena is a spacious, stylish hotel, with tastefully appointed bedrooms and public areas. There is an excellent swimming pool set in a large attractive garden from which there is direct access to the local shops and restaurants.

BARBADOS

Hotel Tamarind Cove (4 star plus)
(a member of the 'Elegant Hotels' group) **February 8th-23rd**
(15 nights on a FULL BOARD basis) £2280

Scheduled daytime flights with Virgin Atlantic

Barbados is the Caribbean at its stylish and sophisticated best. It is ideal both for those who just wish to relax on the magnificent pale, soft, sandy beaches, and for others seeking to explore the historic plantation house and gardens, or to play golf on one of the island's splendid courses!

The Hotel TAMARIND COVE is set in magnificent sub-tropic gardens, directly on the palm fringed silver sands of the world famous St James Beach. Luxurious accommodation and excellent food promise to make this a truly special way to soak up some winter sunshine.

The hotel has a water taxi which operates free of charge between members of the *Elegant Hotels* group, in order that clients may take advantage of their exchange dining arrangements.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

ITALY, Lake Garda Grand Hotel Gardone (4 star deluxe)
 May 7th-21st, £1175

AUSTRIA, Parkhotel Portschach (4 star deluxe)
 May 25th-June 8th, £1045

Except where shown, prices based upon 14 nights shared occupancy of a twin/double room, on a half board basis



Tour organiser for each of the holidays above: **Five Star Bridge Tours**

Full colour brochures for all of our holidays available on request from:
 Roy and Lyn Dempster at: Tan-y-Marian, Bryn Haidd, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Nr. Mold, Denbighshire CH7 5TF
 Tel: 01824 780 530 Fax: 01824 780 830 www.fivestarbridge.co.uk
 email: LRDempster@aol.com Bridge licensed by the EBU

PRIZE DEFENCE ANSWERS

QUESTION master Andrew Kambites gives his view of the best line of play in our August competition and awards prizes in three categories.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

OPEN: Peter Morgan,
Waterbeach,
Cambridgeshire

REGIONAL: John Shaw,
Nottingham

COUNTY: Robert Balchin,
London

1

♠ 53
♥ A Q J 10 5 4
♦ A K
♣ A K 3

♠ J 10 8 7
♥ K 8
♦ Q J 10
♣ Q J 10 9

N
W E
S

♠ -
♥ 9 6 2
♦ 9 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 8 7 5 4

♠ A K Q 9 6 4 2
♥ 7 3
♦ 8 7
♣ 6 2

South	West	North	East
2♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

*4♣ promises a solid suit

North was clearly interested in bidding a grand slam until he found the ♥K was missing, so what chance can you see of beating the small slam? The good news for you is that South thinks he has solid spades but you know he doesn't. On the other hand, the bad news for you is that you have the ♥K sitting in front of dummy's ♥A. The successful defence is to persuade declarer not to take the heart finesse. Lead the ♥8. Would you finesse as declarer? At this stage it looks very unlikely that you have a trump loser and your teammates will hardly be impressed if you finesse unsuccessfully at trick one and suffer a heart ruff at trick two. Declarer calls for dummy's ♥A and cannot subsequently recover.

2

♠ 65
♥ A Q 2
♦ A Q 7 5 4
♣ K J 2

♠ Q 8 4 3 2
♥ 8 6 4
♦ 9 3
♣ 7 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ A J 7
♥ 10 9 7
♦ K 8 6
♣ Q 10 9 4

♠ K 10 9
♥ K J 5 3
♦ J 10 2
♣ A 8 3

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Your partner leads the ♠3. You have 10 points and dummy has 16. With declarer having a 12-14 no trump your partner can have at most two points, so your defensive prospects hardly seem bright. However suppose he has ♠Q x x x x. If you play the ♠A at trick one and continue with the ♠J, declarer will duck and your partner's spades will be useless. Try the effect of playing your ♠J at trick one. South cannot afford to duck in case your partner had started with ♠A Q 8 x x x. Subsequently you will take the ♦K and the defence will be in a position to cash four spade tricks.

3

♠ 98
♥ K 8 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ A Q J 3

♠ Q J 10 3
♥ 4
♦ 10 9 6
♣ 10 8 6 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 7 5 4
♥ A Q 3
♦ Q J 5 3 2
♣ 7

♠ K 6 2
♥ J 10 9 7 6
♦ A K
♣ K 9 5

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads the ♠Q. Partner cannot have much on the bidding, so your only realistic chance is to take a club ruff. You must keep communications open with West, so don't play your ♠A at trick one. Of course South could (and maybe should) foil your plan by playing a spade straight back, but in real life declarers always immediately attack trumps. Win the ♥Q and return your singleton club. When you later regain the lead with the ♥A put West in with his ♠10 and he will give you a club ruff.

4

♠ 9 7 4
♥ J 9 5
♦ K Q 10
♣ A K Q J

♠ 10 6 2
♥ 6 3
♦ A 3 2
♣ 10 9 8 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8
♥ A K Q 4 2
♦ J 9 8 7 6
♣ 5 4

♠ A K Q J 5 3
♥ 10 8 7
♦ 5 4
♣ 7 2

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

You lead your ♥6 and partner cashes the ♥A K Q, declarer following suit each time. Do you sit back complacently and wait for partner to switch to a diamond? You will be sadly disillusioned! Partner will reason that if you had the ♦A you would have ensured the contract's defeat by ruffing the third heart and cashing the ♦A. He will therefore lead a fourth heart, hoping you have a trump holding like ♠J x x or ♠10 x x x. Declarer will ruff high and take the rest of the tricks.

If you can see how to defeat the contract and can do it yourself, take the pressure off partner! It is one of the hardest things in defence to realise that your partner doesn't automatically know what you know.

Another Hubert Phillips success for Sally's team

THERE's no stopping Sally Brock's team in the Hubert Phillips Bowl, the English open mixed teams of four championship. The Brock team, which comprised Sally's husband Raymond, along with Steve Lodge and Rob Sheehan, made it three victories in four years with a thumping win in the final, which was played at Howie's Bridge Club in Stanmore, Middlesex.

Meeting the in-form Brocks proved a bridge too far for Chris and Catherine Jagger, Ian Pagan and Julian Wightwick, who started out unseeded in the original entry of 104, but progressed to knock out three seeded teams, including last year's winners, the Goldenfield team from Manchester.

The Hubert Phillips is played on a full pivot basis and is unusual in that scoring is by aggregate, with honours counting. The Jagers threw in the towel after playing 50 of the scheduled 60 boards in the final, at which point the Brocks were leading by 3,970 aggregate points.



Sally Brock

**Saturday 20th
November 2004:**
Swiss Green Point Pairs
£20.00 per player
£37.00 per player for
full congress

Winners
The Sharples Cup
The Ascenders
The Jack Marx Cup
Highest non-expert
The President's Cup

MIDDLESEX CONGRESS 2004 FULLY GREEN POINTED

Venue: Eastman's Leisure Centre
Kodak Sports Ground, Harrow View,
Harrow HA2 6QQ

Bridge licensed by the EBU

Generous CASH PRIZES dependent on size of entry.
Light refreshments available throughout the Congress.

For further details and application form, please contact:
John Rafferty, 71 Seafield Road, Arnos Grove N11 1AR
Tel: Gail Hoffman 0208 958 6829

**Sunday 21st
November 2004:**
GREEN POINTED
Flighted Swiss Teams
£19.00 per player
£37.00 per player for
full congress
(Reduction for juniors)
**A Flight – Maurice
Harrison-Gray Trophy**
B Flight – Joe Amsbury Trophy

JEPSON'S BRIDGE HOLIDAYS 2004/05

24 Greystones Avenue Sheffield S11 7AZ

OCT 15-18 MARSTON VICTORIA, STRATFORD £190/265 2/3nts

NOV 7-12 GREEN PARK, PITLOCHRY, SCOTLAND £290

NOV 19-22 PETWOOD, WOODHALL SPA, Lincs £180/216

DEC 29-1 JAN 2005 MOUNT HOTEL, SCARBOROUGH £310

JAN 21-24 MICKLEOVER COURT, DERBY £218/238 2/3nts

MAR 10-13 MOUNT HOTEL, SCARBOROUGH £165/225

MAR 28(Easter Mon)-1 APR PETWOOD, WOODHALL SPA, Lincs £265

APR 20-25 BELSFIELD, BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE Various

MAY 20-23 PALACE HOTEL, BUXTON, DERBYS £187/257

JUNE 13-17 SWAN HOTEL, WELLS, SOMERSET £283 (+S.Sp)

Excellent prizes. Bridge Licensed by the EBU.

For a 2004/5 brochure, please write or ring 0114 2686258

Club Bridge

Bridge licensed by the EBU with Master Points

Cyprus 12th Jan 2005

4* Phaethon Beach, Pafos, 14 days £585 All Inclusive

(Add Airport supplements & £40 Bridge Fee)

Thomsons holiday Book via Club Bridge only

Tunisia 6th Mar 2005

4* Kanta, Port El Kantaoui, 14 days

£429 Half Board (includes Bridge Fee)

Single supplement £70. Add flight supplements

(subject to availability) Book via Panorama,

Meefy Lee 08707 505040 or 01273 427726

Club Bridge – 01553 768236 or 01485 600522

<http://members.aol.com/clubbridge>

BRIDGE HOLIDAYS AT

**THE
Lindum**
HOTEL LIMITED

St. Annes, Lancashire

Renowned for excellent food
and friendly atmosphere!

Bridge licensed by the EBU



2004

7th-12th November – £215 per person

2005

16th-21st January – £165 per person

27th Feb-4th March – £199 per person

24th-29th April – £229 per person

12th-17th June – £235 per person

28th August-2nd September – £235 per person

25th-30th September – £235 per person

6th-11th November – £220 per person

NO SINGLE OR SEA VIEW SUPPLEMENTS

Single occupancy of a double room will be
subject to a surcharge – From £5.00 per night

Let us arrange your private Bridge Club Holiday!

Experienced hosts Alan Beer and Kath Moorhouse will be in
residence throughout your stay. Meet them and players at
our first night sherry reception. Complimentary cordials
during play. Tea or coffee each afternoon. Delicious three
course dinner & coffee. Free sauna, solarium & Jacuzzi.

63-67 South Promenade, St Annes on Sea Lancashire FY8 1LZ

Tel: 01253 721534 Fax: 01253 721364

email: info@lindumhotel.co.uk www.lindumhotel.co.uk



Coombe Cross Hotel

Coombe Lane, Bovey Tracey,
Devon TQ13 9EY

(01626 832476)

www.coombecross.co.uk

- ♦ Comfortable Country Hotel with spectacular
views of Dartmoor
- ♦ Excellent English Cuisine, carefully prepared
and courteously served
- ♦ Duplicate Bridge sessions directed by the
very popular Peter Bowles
- ♦ Luxury indoor pool, spa, sauna, solarium and fitness suite
- ♦ Friendly staff and informal atmosphere
- ♦ Master Points and Prizes given each evening
- ♦ Extra nights available at £40 per person

Dates for Breaks in 2004

10-15th October (5 nights) £260.00pp

19-22nd November (3 nights) £155.00pp

27 December-1st January 2005 (5 nights) £375.00pp

Dates for Breaks in 2005

4-7th March (3 nights) £150.00pp

1-4th April (3 nights) £155.00pp

19-24th June (5 nights) £260.00pp

9-14th October (5 nights) £260.00pp

11-14th November (3 nights) £155.00pp

27th December-1st January (5 nights) £375.00pp

Ask about discounts for sharing
and multiple bookings

AA★★

Bridge licensed by the EBU

ETC★★

England's success was worth more space

AFTER six weekends of trials the English open team was selected for the European Championships. The team consisted of three pairs from three different teams, a coach and a non-playing captain.

We started the competition in Malmo badly – arguably a combination of poor play and no luck. However, we all buckled down, improved our performance and our team dynamics and started the long road to raising our position in the rankings.

With a few days to the finish we were closing in on the coveted fifth place, which would allow England to take part in the 2005 Bermuda Bowl. We also had an outside chance of a medal. Certain results in other matches did not go in our favour (for example Italy, who had already won, losing to Russia) and the outcome rested on the very last match, where we took a maximum from San Marino and the Finns achieved a good result against the Dutch. The excitement was intense, but we had secured fifth place.

Since devolution England has never qualified for the Bermuda Bowl and the last time a team from these shores (ie GB) qualified was 13 years ago.

It is a very expensive commitment from the EBU to send a ladies and open team to these international competitions, but every member should feel part of any success through their contributions in subscriptions and competitions etc.

English Bridge, as the organ of the EBU, devoted one-third of a page in the editorial and a miniscule photograph as its coverage of the European Championships. Surely the membership wants to see how its national team has done. *English Bridge* appears to have an editorial policy not to cover the higher levels of the game, evidenced by the minimal coverage of the EBU's most prestigious competition, the Shapiro Spring Foursomes – again only a small fraction of one page.

Of course, the lifeblood of the game is the participation of juniors and beginners, but will they be encouraged to start if the union's publication is dumbed down so much?

– Colin Simpson, London

NOW YOU HAVE YOUR SAY

Are sim pairs Master Points justified?

THE major attraction of simultaneous pairs competitions is the generous award of Master Points. Though of little interest to those on the Green Point trail the typical club player finds that it is possible to get more points in one sim pairs event than in a year of steady endeavour.

But there is some doubt about the justification of these awards. Within a venue the competition is certainly keener in such an event. No longer is four spades plus two sufficient for a top when others elsewhere are bidding the slam.

To do well in a simultaneous event you have both to play well and be allowed to do so by the players that you face directly. Comparing the performance of two pairs that do not face the same opposition is fallacious, whether or not they play the same boards.

Find on the web the results for a club where the spread is small. Is this the result of a hard-fought match between experts or a beginner's class? Similarly does a large spread show a high standard or just a wide range of ability. Who can tell? The top prize goes to the pair from the club with the greatest range, whatever the standard.

But is this any justification for 700 Master Points? Could there be a danger of devaluing the achievements of Star Masters and Tournament Masters? – Gerald Everitt, St Albans

Please send your letters to The Editor – see page 3 for address details.

The traveller must surely be wrong!

AT a recent club night at Wadebridge Bridge Club North-South merrily bid to 6♥ in a 5-2 fit with ace and king of trumps missing. Did they make it? – 'Not on your Nellie,' I hear you say.

West sitting with ♥A x x x decided to lead a small trump and dummy went down with ♥Q 9. Declarer thanked his partner and called for the nine. East, with ♥K 10, played the 10, hoping her partner had led away from three to the jack!

Declarer won with the jack and led small

towards dummy's ♥Q. West put up his ace, crashing the queen and his partner's king!

South made the remaining tricks and North recorded 6♥ made on the traveller, saying 'Well played, partner'.

Incidentally our county association has arranged for Chris Duckworth to visit our club in early October to give a talk on defensive play. Chris – you have been warned! – Robert Mabley, Wadebridge, Cornwall

Bridge better than sex for immune system!

DID you know that barbary apes are promiscuous little devils?

An article in the journal *Science* reported that females have up to 10 different partners every day and it is no surprise that this carries increased risks of infection. In response to this threat, evolution has equipped barbary apes with an immune system more effective than that of other primates such as baboons, which are largely monogamous. In particular, barbary apes have more of the white blood cells that seek out and destroy infection.

How does this relate to our own species? *Science* reported that our white blood cell count is much more in line with baboons than barbary apes. This looks like an argument from nature against promiscuity, because we seem to be designed to be monogamous.

But what has this to do with bridge?

A study presented to the US Society for Neuro-Science suggested that, rather than try to beef up our immune system by rampant sex

over the next million years, the easier way to do this is ... wait for it ... to play contract bridge! Apparently, the region of the brain that is primarily used when we play bridge is also involved in regulating the immune system and, after bridge, we have an elevated level of white blood cells.

All this was reported a little while ago in the Radio 4 program *Frontiers*, but this was not the first time I had heard scientists come to the conclusion that bridge is good for you. Following another line of enquiry researchers found that people who regularly follow social pursuits are far less likely to suffer from clinical depression and other mental problems. One of the short list of examples of healthy communal activities given was playing bridge.

If you draw any conclusions from all this perhaps you should talk them over with your favourite partner. It could be an interesting conversation. – Bob Dowdeswell, Reading



Hilton

Christmas & New Year Bridge 2004/2005

Spend Christmas playing bridge with Hilton

Take your pick from our full range of Hilton bridge events for the festive period. At each event, indulge yourself in the best of bridge with:

- ♥ Expert hosts, professional organisation and a friendly atmosphere
- ♣ Generous prize structure - free bridge weekend for overall winners
- ♦ No single supplements, comfortable 4 star hotels
- ♠ Bridge licensed by the EBU, partners for singles arranged by your hosts

Christmas Bridge Party: 24th-27th December

Hilton Brighton West Pier	£336 each
Hilton Bromsgrove	£306 each
Hilton Newbury Centre	£306 each

Three nights full board accommodation, 7 sessions of duplicate bridge.

Mid-Festival Bridge: 27th-29th December

Hilton Brighton West Pier	£169 each
Hilton Bromsgrove	£159 each
Hilton Cobham	£141 each

Two nights full board stay with four sessions of duplicate pairs and a seminar at Cobham or one Speedball and one Swiss Teams session at Brighton or Bromsgrove.

New Year Bridge Party: 31st December-3rd January

Hilton Cobham	£336 each
---------------	-----------

Three nights full board accommodation, 7 sessions of duplicate bridge.

More Christmas Bridge!

22nd-24th December	Hilton Brighton West Pier	£167 each
29th-31st December	Hilton Cobham	£141 each
4th-7th January	Hilton Cobham	£195 each
7th-9th January	Hilton Cobham or Hilton Warwick	£154 each

Sea view rooms at Hilton Brighton West Pier are of limited availability and have a supplement of £30 per room per night.

2005 Brochure now available

For further information or a brochure for Xmas or 2005 please call David Jones on **024 7646 1511**

For bookings only please call **08705 201201**

Or see our website for details on www.hilton.co.uk/bridge

Latona Leisure Hotels

Bridge Breaks 2004/05

Hosted by David and June Brown

LEIGH PARK HOTEL
BRADFORD ON AVON

October 31st 4 nts

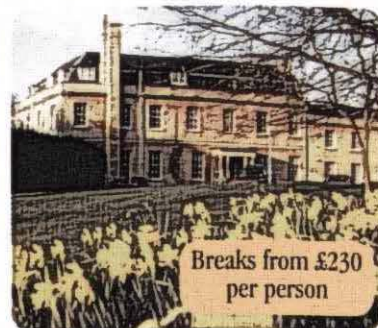
★ House Party ★

Jan 23rd 2005 4 nts

★ Easter ★

March 25th 2005

4 nights



Breaks from £230
per person

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR BRIDGE BREAKS

Dec 24th, 4 nights at the Webbington Hotel

Dec 29th, 4 nights at the Limpley Stoke Hotel

★ YOUR 4 NIGHT BRIDGE BREAK INCLUDES ★

Welcome drinks reception
Full traditional breakfast, lunch
and 4 course dinner

Master Points Awarded

LIMPLEY STOKE:
01225 723333

LEIGH PARK:
01225 864885

WEBBINGTON:
01934 750100

To book your 4 night
Bridge Break please
phone the hotel of your
choice quoting 'David
Brown's Bridge Break'.

Bridge licensed by the EBU

Visit our website
www.latonahotels.co.uk

3 NIGHT BRIDGE BREAKS

MARINE AND HOTEL LEISURE

BRIDGE HOSTED BY DAVID AND JUNE BROWN
BRIDGE LICENSED BY THE EBU

MASTER POINTS & PRIZES AWARDED



THREE GREAT
LOCATIONS....

THREE FINE HOTELS...

SHERRY RECEPTION ON ARRIVAL
EN SUITE ACCOMMODATION

FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER
FULL USE OF LEISURE CLUBS

BREATHTAKING SEAVIEWS

ALL THREE HOTELS ARE SITUATED ON THE COASTAL PATH

PRICES FROM £180

ALL THREE HOTELS ARE AA***

DISCOVER SOMETHING SPECIAL.....

POLURRIAN HOTEL, MULLION, CORNWALL

(Full) OCT 1ST-4TH 2004

FEB 4TH-7TH 2005 MARCH 11TH-13TH 2005

HANNAFORE POINT HOTEL, LOOE, CORNWALL

NOV 21ST-24TH 2004 MARCH 18TH-20TH 2005

APRIL 24TH-26TH 2005 MAY 22ND-24TH 2005

NOVEMBER 13TH-15TH 2005

BERRY HEAD HOTEL, BRIXHAM, DEVON

NOV 7TH-10TH 2004 JAN 20TH-23RD 2005

FREephone: 0800 698 3733



Thinking time to first trick not the same as hesitation

LAURENCE Raven of Enfield, Middlesex asks: During a club duplicate the opposition reached 4♥, via a multi, without interruption. I led a spade, fourth best from five, and dummy went down with:

♠Q 9 8 4 2

♥A 2

♦K

♣A K Q 6 4

The nine was played from dummy, which held the trick. Partner played the five and declarer the three. During the play, in which declarer led another spade from dummy, partner ruffed and declarer's ace came down. Declarer misplayed the rest of the hand and went one down. He said to his partner, 'I played for an overtrick'. North, my partner, scored up to find every other E-W made 11 or 12 tricks – two spades, five hearts (via a finesse) and five clubs. After confirming the score and putting the traveller away East, the declarer, accused my partner of misleading him by hesitating with a singleton, which my partner denied. Surely if East felt that North was unethical he should have called the director immediately my partner ruffed the second spade.

There is a bit of a shortage of information here, but at trick one how quickly did declarer play from dummy? Often as a defender you will want a little time to plan the defence and declarers who see the dummy and call for a card in the same breath are not giving the defender a fair chance. I think it is reasonable and within the law to think before playing to trick one, whether you have a singleton or not. Later in the hand, when you have had a chance to think, it is not acceptable to have a protracted delay before playing your singleton. It is also a little odd that, in the account above, declarer said nothing when he found it was a singleton, nothing at the end of the hand and was only stirred to action after he saw the traveller. In any event rather than making an accusation he should have called the tournament director if he felt a grievance, either when he discovered it was a singleton or at the end of the hand.

CHRIS Jagger of Cambridge enquires: Is it possible to increase the range of information on the EBU's web site? For example, there is a list of Gold Point leaders updated once a year, but no sign of the other Master Point competitions, yet all these lists are sent out in paper form.

Good news here, I hope. THE EBU webmaster, Anna Gudge, confirms that all this is possible and should be posted in the near future.

GDF of Hertfordshire asks: My partner and I play Lebensohl when we double a weak two, but recently the auction started 2♠ - Dbl - Rdbl - ? and we had a misunderstanding when partner passed.

Does the redouble affect how we should proceed?

I think it does. Whenever you are in a position to pass for penalties the fact that your right hand opponent redoubles should not stop you from trying to collect a penalty. Suppose the auction goes

1♠ - 2♥ - Pass - Pass - Dbl - Rdbl - ?

You hold

♠x x

♥K J 10 8

♦A J x x

♣x x x

You pass on the first round because a double would be negative. Whatever your right hand opponent means by his redouble (and he may just be trying to muddy the waters) your pass should mean the same as without the redouble, ie you want to take a penalty. The Lebensohl position is the same. Pass is a penalty pass, 2NT is a weak hand looking to play at the three level and a direct bid is natural and shows nine-plus points.

Some years ago in a French event I held a good intermediate jump overcall in clubs and when it went 1♥ - 3♠ - Pass - Pass - Dbl I chose to redouble. The next hand had six clubs and intended to pass a double for penalties. When it went back to his partner he bid 3♥, which went down. 3♣ would have gone at least two down. My French wasn't all that good, but left hand opponent was fluent and used the word 'cretin' about 15 times to his partner, which made the general sense easy enough to understand.

WMW of Solihull, Warwickshire says: I heard recently that the EBU is considering the possibility of introducing 'announcements' when next it reviews the Orange Book. What are announcements and why is a change being considered?

Announcements replace alerts in certain specific defined positions. One example would be that you open 1NT and your partner announces the range by saying '15-17'. This has been tried out in the USA over the last couple of years. The advantages can be that in this instance the next hand to bid is clear on the range and doesn't have to fiddle around looking for a convention card or asking; something that can cause problems if he has a marginal decision. Another situation in the USA where an announcement is used is when the auction starts 1NT - Pass - 2♠. At

present 2♣ would be alerted if it were Stayman, a transfer to 2♦ or natural. If Stayman was announced then if there were an alert it would be worth asking. The general belief is that if announcements were introduced in the future it would only be in certain tightly defined positions.

The jury is still out and no decision has been taken. Views of any who have experienced using announcements outside England are very welcome.

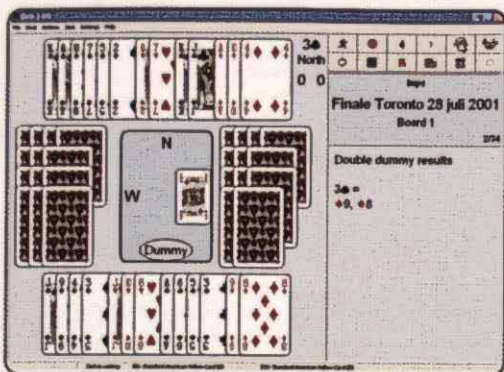
BRIAN Arkle of Poole, Dorset says: Your first letter in the August issue prompts me to write on the practice of psyching, which I find distasteful and bordering on dishonesty. If players do not bid in accordance with the values in their hand or with the conventions written on their cards then I consider this to be unsporting and unfair play. An exception would be when a suit is bid in third seat or beyond merely to keep the bidding open.

Well, you are entitled to your opinion, but it is hard to see why you regard all psyches in this light. Psyching gets a deservedly bad name when it is done frivolously and it can also leave a bad taste when the partner of the psycher appears much more used to what is happening than the opposition. In both cases there is a remedy in law, but there are occasions when a psyche is a legitimate tactic.

For example, you are lots down in a match and estimate that you need more points than will be occasioned by your otherwise faultless play. Perhaps you are playing with someone at the club for the first time and estimate you are doing well and need a good board near the end to win, so you take the risk of doing something unorthodox. I believe that in both these situations the bluff is a legitimate weapon.

Suppose I hold a crisp opening bid with five hearts. I open 1♥ and partner makes a limit bid of 3♥. I pass despite my 15 count in the hope that game won't make. I am not bidding in accordance with the values in my hand and it is more likely than not that I will lose imps, but I have done something unorthodox because I am 39 down in a match with a set to play. However, if I ever have a game with you I promise not to psyche, because upsetting my partner is the last thing (usually) I wish to do.

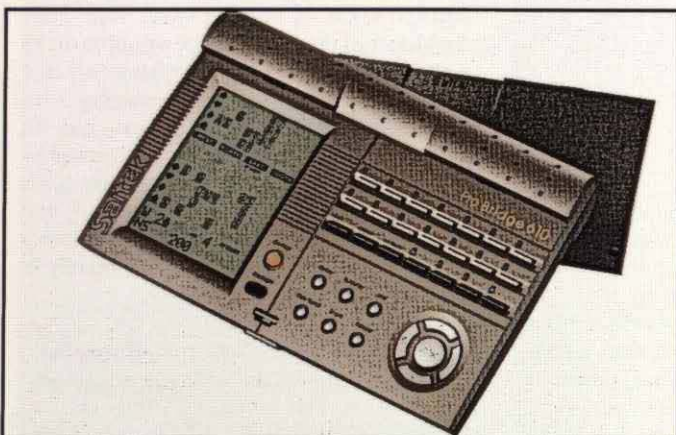
Email your questions to Jeremy on ebuproblems@btopenworld.com or write via the editor (Brian Cook): Hill Crest, 8 Kingsley Road, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 1EY. Please include your name and address.



JACK (CD) RRP £59.99 EBU OFFER £55

Four Time World Computer Bridge Champion (2001-2004)

Recently crowned World Computer Champion for the fourth time in a row! Jack has been developed by bridge players for bridge players. Besides its exceptional bidding and playing strength, Jack offers a very friendly user interface. Over 30 levels provide a challenge for a beginner to an expert! Create your own tournaments, duplicate, IMPs and IMP pairs. You can even create your own convention cards using over 65 conventions! PLUS! Double Dummy and Par score feature.



Pro Bridge 610 £149.95 (£6 p&p)

Fully ACOL compatible with a new design, the '610' is proving to be very popular. Aimed for the intermediate/club level player, in a new portable book size design, backlighting, and choice of either button or cursor controls, playing bridge has never been so convenient!

Dimensions: 24cm x 15cm x 3.5cm. Screen size: 9cm x 7cm

Levels of Play: 11 different skill levels included

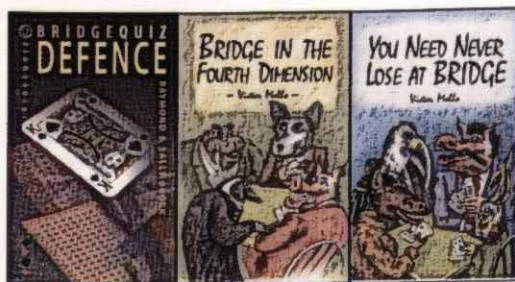
Bidding Systems: ACOL, 5-Card Majors and French Standard

Hint System: Gives advice on bid and play

History: Allows review of previous bidding and play

Additional features: Protective cover, built-in stand and backlight

Power: 3 AA batteries or optional AC adaptor (£9.99 extra)



Bargain Books

Any book for £5

Any two for £9

Any five for £20

All 21 for £60

Postage £1 per book - to a maximum of £5

STOP PRESS! FOUR NEW BARGAIN BRIDGE TITLES

Bridge in the Fourth Dimension

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Bridge Quiz Defence

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

The Times Book of Bridge 2

WAS £7.99

NOW £5

You Need never Lose at Bridge by Mollo

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Destiny at Bay by Victor Mollo

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Basic Defence by Freddie North

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Bridge: Defence in Depth by Martin Hoffman

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Hand Evaluation by Brian Senior

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Opening Leads in Bridge by Tony Sowter

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Secrets of Success by Tony Forrester

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Expert Tuition in Tournament Bridge by Brock & Brock

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Play These Hands with Brian Senior

WAS £8.99

NOW £5

Bridge Club Player's Quiz Book by Sally Brock

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Bridge Quiz: Bidding by Sally Brock

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Bridge Quiz: Slam Play by Sally Brock

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Step by Step: Deception in Defence by Barry Rigal

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Expert Defence by Raymond Brock

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Bridge Quiz: Maastricht Challenge by Tim Bourke

WAS £10.99

NOW £5

Practical Bridge Endings by Chien-Hwa Wang

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Secrets of Expert Card Play by Bird & Forrester

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

Step by Step: Pre-empts by Alan Mould

WAS £9.99

NOW £5

WE STOCK OVER 600 BRIDGE PRODUCTS - CALL US AND REQUEST A FREE CATALOGUE



Pro Bridge 310

rrp £99.99 EBU Offer £79.99

- * Suitable for beginners and less experienced players
- * Choice of ACOL or 5-card major
- * Easy to use, lightweight and portable
- * Infinite number of random hands
- * Plays Stayman, Blackwood transfers over INT and Gerber
- * Power: 4 x AAA batteries (not included)
- * Approx size: 195 x 108mm



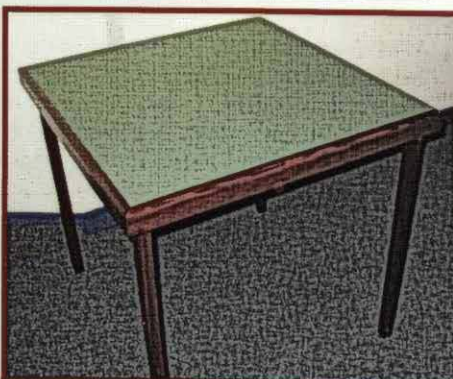
Story of an Accusation by Terence Reese

rrp £14.99 EBU £12.99

The Great Bridge Scandal by Alan Truscott

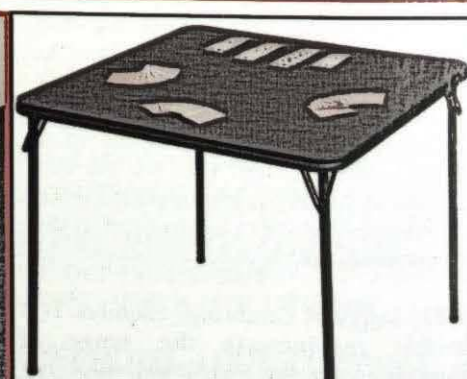
rrp £14.95 EBU £12.99

Buy them together for only £25!



Luxury Table (Mahogany Frame)

RRP £99.99 EBU Offer £89.99



Standard Table (Metal Frame)

RRP £49.99 EBU Offer £39.99

POSTAGE CHARGES: UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED £2.50 FOR SOFTWARE - FOR ALL OTHER ITEMS ADD 10% (£2 MINIMUM)

The London Bridge Centre - 369 Euston Road London NW1 3AR

Tel: 020 7388 2404 Fax: 020 7388 2407 bridgeshop@easynet.co.uk www.bridgemagazine.co.uk

Extracts from the diary of an Essex Girl

Monday

I CANNOT believe the summer is over already. It was good during the holidays to see an increase in the number of junior players in the club. They may be good at bidding and make some stunning plays, but I do wish they would put the empty squash bottles in the bin and maybe in the hot weather the boys could wash a bit more!

Just heard that John *jatthey* Atthey has been selected to represent England in the Peggy Bayer Trophy, playing with his face-to-face partner, Chris.

Young Wolstenhome of London, (*Arthur W* to his online mates) has also been making the older boys sit up, as he was part of the winning team in the under 19s inter-counties teams of four championship. It looks like Essex Girls could be making a takeover, as *Laura Aphrodite Perryman* from Southend has just been to the under 20s trials.

Tuesday

The Sarkpet Trophy, in memory of Peter Millar, who was a great stalwart of the EBU online club in its early days, drew to a close.



Bridge Club Live

fast, fun and friendly online bridge



Peter would have been delighted to see the quality of competition and the range of players from all over the world who took part.

A recent discussion on the club comment board, RKCB the original versus the modern, was echoed in a hand that I happened to watch being bid and played during the summer pairs.

The next day, Ahsan, one of our players from Pakistan, sent it in as a good example of some accurate bidding – thanks to using minor suit RKCB.

The bidding went as follows at Ahsan's table:

North (Ahsan)	South
1♠(i)	2♠(ii)
2♥	3♦
4♣(iii)	4♥(iv)
4♣(v)	5♣(vi)
6♣	

(i) could be minor doubleton (ii) inverted minor showing 11+HCP and 5+ clubs (iii) RKCB in clubs (iv) one control (v) ♠ ask (vi) confirming ♠Q

Ahsan said: 'The slam made on a finesse. RKCB in its original form would not confirm the safety of a slam. Minor RKCB allowed our partnership to bid it and still ask for ♠Q.'

John Chien Fou Probst, the club's chief tournament director, commented: 'It's worth bidding a 50% minor suit slam as you are often competing with pairs in 3NT and once past 3NT 6♣ is the next sensible resting spot.'

Wednesday

Great discussion today about the forthcoming members' reunion in Lisbon in November. Should we have a port drinking competition? Good to make sure the important matters are dealt with first! Looks as though it will be the biggest attendance so far and lots of UK participation.

A fine turnout for the Australian Match Points tourney this morning. The numbers are growing week on week as more members from down under join the club. Set for the mid evening in the Southern Hemisphere, we start at 10am GMT on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Interesting that Aussie Acol is not so very different from UK Acol. Some people play five-card majors, but generally the UK and Aussie Acolites play comfortably together.

Thursday

The automated movement rooms are offering four tournaments in each 24 hours. We are all getting into the swing of short, sharp tournaments of 12 boards that take about an hour-and-a-half or so. A fine way to spend lunchtime – and we don't have to look at the same opponents for more than four boards!

Friday

Getting ready to roll out a whole special events programme for the next few months: teams, pairs, ladder events and individuals are all there. The regular daily programme of imps, mps and movement rooms continues.

I always like to see new faces at the top of the leader boards. The coaching programme is bringing forward many players who used to lurk in the lower regions. Watch your back Ed Whoopsie Scerri!

Saturday

Hairdresser, manicure, theatre ... may be back in time to catch a few hands just before I turn into a pumpkin. The only problem is, that if I get involved in a game I will still be there at 2am.

There are plans afoot for a couple of BIG announcements – at the moment they are 'Need to know' so not even in my diary ... maybe next time.

– Will write again soon

Fran Bramzel, online manager, Bridge Club Live

Having fun, partner?

Book Reviews by Elaine Hamilton



■ Bridge is Fun

Ron Klinger Master Bridge Series,
Cassell 2004 £8.99

WELL, not all the time, most of us would say. But read the introduction to this book and you will find that bridge also strengthens the immune system, improves memory, banishes sleeplessness – and, hey folks, we're all going to live to be a hundred! In the meantime we would do well to study the 80 problem deals offered with real-life bidding and play from recent tournaments. Do's and don'ts are illustrated under five main headings: constructive bidding, competitive bidding, opening leads, defensive play and declarer play. All serious stuff, you are thinking, but the fun element consists of Klinger's famously laconic one-liners at the end of each deal. For example: 'Asking bid: a bid that asks partner to make the wrong decision instead of you.' And 'Bad break: when partner ends up playing the hand.' Love it?

■ Ron Klinger's Master Class

Master Bridge Series,
Cassell 2004 £7.99

LAST autumn Ron Klinger conducted a very successful EBU Master Class tour of 20 bridge club venues around the country and this 'book of the tour' contains expanded versions of his lecture topics. The good news is that he is repeating the exercise this autumn (see page 23). If you can't make the lectures, treat yourself to a copy of this book and get a taste at least of what you're missing.

■ Bridge Hands to Make You Laugh and Cry

David Bird and Nikos Savantakos
Batsford 2004 £11.99

A COLLECTION of deals such as this is similar to a programme of TV out-takes, say the authors, where the world's best players are sometimes seen making the awful mistakes that we ordinary players perpetrate on a regular basis. The difference, however, is that the experts' horrendous errors are vastly outnumbered by their clever plays and brilliancies, whereas ours... Enough said, but the chapter title *Nine Down in Four Spades* brought on a familiar sinking feeling. The deals have been gathered from the world's bridge magazines, championship books and tournament bulletins and they make for great entertainment. The commentaries by David Bird are first class, the layout and typography inviting and, if you are looking for instruction in a more discursive style, then this is the book for you. But now it's time for Fork for Today.

Tons More Fork (anagram)

KING Henry VIII had a good deal of trouble with Bishop Morton (I am told by Peter Stocken) because the good bishop unforgivably had a mind of his own and, as was the fashion in those merrie days, eventually lost the head that contained it following an incident at the Tower of London. Happily he doesn't seem to have troubled Peter Dunn from Northamptonshire, who has won the Morton's Fork competition with an outstanding entry of unrivalled volume and daftness. Well done, Peter, and I declare you to be bridge's Knight of a Thousand Forks. Enjoy Freddie North's book now, before Tate Modern picks up on *Morton's Fork in Formaldehyde*.

Countrywide Computers Ltd

Victoria House, 1 High Street, Wilburton, Cambs CB6 3RB. Tel: 01353 740323

The new **PRO BRIDGE 610** Computer, ACOL version - £149.95

New from **Saltek**, manufacturer of the world's leading Bridge Computer range, the ACOL **PRO BRIDGE 610**

Fully ACOL compatible and with its new design, the 'PB 610' is already proving to be very popular. It contains a strong program aimed for the club to high club level player, but with its 'Hint' option and other features will give great assistance to beginners. The new, portable book size design, with both bigger screen and card symbols than all previous models - plus option to switch on a backlight - and with a choice of either button or cursor controls, means that playing computer bridge has never been so convenient! And it keeps score!

Specifications:

Overall size: 240 x 155mm; **Screen size:** 70 x 90 mm ■ **Levels and Modes of Play:** Rubber Bridge or Team of Four and special "Computer Peek" level for extra challenging play ■ **Bidding Systems:** ACOL, 5-Card Majors, French Standard, French Strong Two ■ **Hint System:** Can give hints and advice during bidding and play, and allows rebid/replay of hand for practice or to investigate alternative ways of bidding or playing the hand! Plus 'Autoplay' - see what the computer would have done! ■ **History:** Allows review of previous bidding and play ■ **User-selectable deal method:** Random shuffle, deal number, or key-in and create your own deal ■ **Memory function:** Unfinished/interrupted games and score retained in memory ■ **Backlighting:** 5 level adjustable backlight for 'poor light conditions' ■ **Protective cover** for safe travelling, stores on back during play ■ **Built-in stand** folds out from back ■ **Portability:** Portable Book-sized, runs off mains adaptor £9 extra, or 3 x AA batteries (not included)

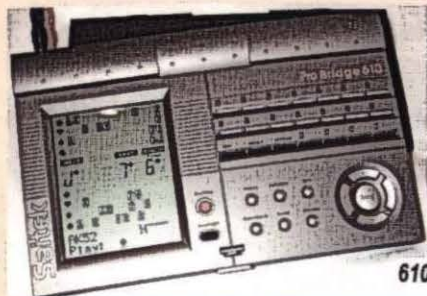
Price: £149.95, plus £9 adaptor if required, + £5 insured Special Delivery

The PRO BRIDGE 610 - the newest and most convenient fun way to play Bridge on your own!

Others in the range: ■ the smaller Pro Bridge 310 (£99.95 + £3 p&p) ■ the teaching computer Pro Bridge Professor (£79.95 + £3 p&p)

Ordering the new computer could not be easier.

- **BY PHONE** using a credit card: simply ring Eric or Pat at Countrywide Computers on 01353 740323 with your card details
- Or use our online **WEBSITE** shop for Computer Bridge and Chess products at www.elhchess.demon.co.uk
- Or if you wish to pay by cheque, postal order or cash, **POST** your order with payment to us at Countrywide Computers, Victoria House, 1 High Street, Wilburton, Cambs CB6 3RB



610



310

BLUE CHIP BRIDGE

The Intelligent Bridge Program

"The best available software...will certainly give you a good game...good fun and excellent value"

Andrew Robson - British International

- Includes Acol, 5-card Majors and Standard English bidding systems
- Bidding Practice feature - covers a wide range of standard and conventional bids
- Bidding and Playing Tutors offer tips and advice as you play
- Random or biased deals, or specify any or all four hands
- The ideal bridge program for players at all levels

Cost £65 (inclusive of postage & packing)

DOWNLOAD A FREE DEMO VERSION FROM OUR WEBSITE



For further information please contact:

BLUE CHIP BRIDGE LTD
P O Box 167
Waltham Cross
Herts EN7 5GB
(tel. 01992-636074)

www.bluechipbridge.co.uk



Friendly Weekend Breaks

4 The Green Brafferton Darlington
Co. Durham DL1 3LB

2004

October 22nd	The George	Piercebridge
October 29th	The New Bath	Matlock
November 12th	The George	Piercebridge
December 17th	The Roseland	Torquay

2005

January 7th	The Lindum	St. Annes
January 21st	The Elms	Morecambe
February 4th	The New Bath	Matlock
February 18th	The George	Piercebridge

All holidays at the low price of £149* for 4 FULL days of Bridge (3 nights)

Dinner, Bed & Breakfast - No Single Supplements - Prizes - Partners guaranteed

*Book before December 31st 2004 and receive 10% DISCOUNT Bridge licensed by the EBU

Write or phone for a 2005 Brochure : 01325 315741

Bob Rowlands' DOUBLES QUIZ

Answers (from page 24)

Dealer East. Love all.

West	North	East	South
Dbl	Rdbl	Pass	1♠
		2♦	?

What do you bid with:

(a) ♠A Q 10 4 2 ♥7 2

♦Q 10 7 5 ♣A 2

Double - Partner's redouble suggests he has a desire to penalise the opponents. You can double 2♦. If they remove to 2♥ or 3♣ hopefully partner can double them.

(b) ♠A J 8 4 2 ♥K 7 2

♦Q 8 ♣A Q 5

Pass - This simply shows a sound opening bid. You can't double 2♦ yourself, but you would be happy to defend if partner could double.

(c) ♠K J 10 8 4 2 ♥7 2

♦5 ♣A Q 10 2

2♠ - Bidding in front of partner suggests a light distributional opening, ie you are not interested in penalising opponents.

(d) ♠A Q J 8 4 ♥K J 10 5 2

♦2 ♣A 4

Pass - Without ♠A you should bid 2♥, but with a sound opening you should pass at this stage and bid hearts at your next turn. You could bid 3♥ now, although this suggests more shape and fewer points.

COUNTY NEWS

Counties picture spot



Fred Robinson (left) and Peter Li-Ping collected £100 as winners of the first Cramlington Congress one day pairs. With them is event organiser Anne Bell. See North Eastern news page 43

IT was champagne and flowers for Pam Remington from her friends at Brevion Bridge Club in Chelmsford, who made sure her 90th birthday was an event to be remembered. There for the celebration were Pam's daughters, Ann and Daphne, Ann having travelled from her home in Canada especially for the occasion.

Pam move to Essex five years ago from Tipton St John near Sidmouth, Devon, where she played at three clubs. She is enjoying her 'new life' in Chelmsford. She has made many friends at Brevion Bridge Club and they have promised to provide a bottle of bubbly on all 25 tables for her 100th birthday. Pictured handing over the blooms is club secretary Vi Webb.



Chris Bainham, Anne McGregor, Nick Levine, and Jean Smallwood, winners of the Swiss teams at Tunbridge Wells Congress. See Kent news on page 40



Manchester turned to golf and bridge and 28 players enjoyed a day at Whitefield Golf Club. Overall winner was Mike Pomfrey, with Dave Matthews top dog at golf. It is hoped to repeat the event next year at Dunham Golf Club. EBU chairman Denis Robson is pictured with some of the players at Whitefield

Dennis Young's SNEAKY ANSWER

WHAT sneaky way do you play this for 7NT against the lead of ♣3

♠ A	N	♠ 9 8 6 5 4 2
♥ K Q J 10	W	♥ A 5 2
♦ A Q 8 2	E	♦ K 7
♣ A Q J 5	S	♣ K 7

DISTRACTING your opponents with prattle or the pulling of funny faces is unethical and illegal. But try this instead.

The club lead goes round to the ace. ♥Q to the ♥A (Gets them wondering if ♥K is in their partner's hand). ♦7 to ♦A, then take your tricks in this order: ♥10, ♣K, ♦K, ♥K, ♠Q, ♦Q, ♥J, ♣J, ♠A, ♦8. Or, of course, not quite that.

So, does the ♦8 win a trick? Perhaps. Did you find the order of play confusing? If you did, then so would your opponents.

Note, by the way, that no two consecutive leads were in the same suit. So that means each opponent must lay aside the suit he was counting and transfer his thinking to another one and then back again and then round and round in little circles. Again and again.

To sum up, you are distracting them; confusing them; putting them off their game; being a downright nuisance. But you are doing it ethically and legally through the cards you play and not by the way you play them.

So let me eavesdrop on their thoughts: 'eight clubs gone earlier and four hearts - and, and - now 12 clubs, no, partner showed out on that last one, must be 11 - no, that's wrong, start again - 11 clubs, plus seven diamonds, no eight, plus ... aaaaargh!'

By then do they know what on earth they are throwing away?

In memory of Barbara



A special bridge drive at the Marches Bridge Club in Bartestree, Herefordshire raised more than £1,000 for the benefit of St Michael's Hospice, Bartestree. The event was held as a memorial to the late Barbara Forryan, a former county secretary, who pioneered *Bridge for All* in Herefordshire and was a much-loved bridge teacher.

Pictured is Dr Susan Munday, chairman of Herefordshire BA, right, handing over a cheque to Louise Wright from St Michael's Hospice. With them is club member Rex Shutler.

Eighty-four players tackled 28 boards of duplicate and enjoyed a full Sunday lunch. Many of them were former students of Barbara Forryan, founder and owner of the Marches Club (see Herefordshire news page 40). The event, which is likely to become an annual fixture, was organised by Rex Shutler, who stood in as leader of the club after Barbara's death earlier this year.

No cheetahs, please!

DEVON CBA is planning bi-monthly gatherings at South Devon beauty spots and places of interest that will combine two-session duplicate with a lecture in the interval. The first venue is Paignton Zoo - hence the above plea. See Devon news on page 39.

Grand Master promotions

S Capal Middlesex, JM Kimpton Yorkshire, AP Letts Avon

Master Point promotions

Avon	4* Star Master	Master	2* Star
Grand Master	Mrs A Banner	P Bhagat	Tournament
AP Letts	Mrs SF Bond	District Master	Master
Life Master	Mrs L Holman	M Neverton	G Stott
Dr HE Oliver	AR Perry	Mrs T Watts	3* Star Master
3* Star Regional	3* Star Master	Club Master	Mrs M Beck
Master	Mrs G Hartshorn	DJ Hodge	4* Star Master
Mrs A Huddleston	LA Mann	Channel	J Turner
5* Star	Mrs JM Patefield	Islands	District Master
Tournament	Dr M Patefield	3* Star Premier	Mrs J Ridley
Master	Mrs RA Reid	Regional Master	Mrs CA Williamson
Mrs JE Oakford	2* Star Master	BJ Youd	Club Master
5* Star Master	BB Haggis	2* Star Premier	Mrs FC Chapman
C Jones	IK Soffe	Regional Master	Derbyshire
3* Star Master	AH Solomons	Mrs J Dorey	Premier National
Mrs S Hodges	BJ Walmsley	Premier Regional	Master
2* Star Master	1* Star Master	Master	RA McEwan
D Fey	Mrs SM Bailey	NS Le Cocq	National Master
EK Page	G Brisbane	Miss RA Pallot	S Haywood
1* Star Master	D Herod	2* Star Master	Mrs JM Lomas
Capt JG Ferrie	Mrs C Hodgson	Mrs VE Babbe	Regional Master
Advanced Master	GW McLeman	District Master	W Howden
JR Massey	Dr H Plant	DJ Stone	5* Star Master
Master	P Sherwood	Club Master	Mrs JA Lippitt
Mrs AG Rossiter	Mrs W Sherwood	Mrs CA Kinnerly	4* Star Master
Bedfordshire	IL Siffre	Cornwall	Mrs P Smith
Premier National	Advanced Master	3* Star Premier	2* Star Master
Master	Mrs C Barker	Regional Master	Mrs BM Craig
AJ Oddie	BJ Feilding	RTJ Putnam	D Knowles
Premier Regional	Mrs J Kemble	2* Star Premier	Mrs M Metheringham
Master	E Robertson	Regional Master	1* Star Master
Mrs VA Lawson	Master	Mrs JA Putnam	TE Woodward
5* Star Master	P Couling	13* Star Regional	Advanced Master
T Pearce	Dr AP Cowling	Master	JD Reavy
4* Star Master	Mrs EM Ellery	SF Collings	County Master
SL Bligh	Mrs P Hughes	7* Star Regional	Mrs SP Dawe
3* Star Master	JE Osborne	Master	District Master
Mrs S Haynes	N Piper	Mrs LMW Ashworth	Mrs JA Barker
2* Star Master	Dr CW Purvis	RH Jackson	S Barlow
HW Watson	AL Ross	6* Star	Devon
Advanced Master	P Steward	Tournament	Life Master
Mrs PA Bligh	M Wright	Master	KF Barton
Master	CR Wroath	WF Berks	Mrs J Pellow
Mrs P Dalvi	County Master	N Grenfell	8* Star Premier
County Master	LF Andrew	2* Star	Regional Master
Mrs DC Burgess	AP Cohen	Tournament	Mrs D Graham
Mrs S Fearon	CJ Field	Master	5* Star Premier
Club Master	BD Garrod	R Bliss	Regional Master
MR Green	Mrs JF Irvine	Mrs S John	F Akyol
Mrs SP Miller	DR Johnson	1* Star	Mrs C Ritzen
GD Robertson	AB Mears	Tournament	4* Star Premier
Berks and	Mrs P Rixon	Master	Regional Master
Bucks	Mrs ML Savill	GE Norman	JD Amos
Life Master	PA Shuttleworth	5* Star Master	Mrs CA Robinson
RF Donato	Mrs UA Sidaway	G Buck	C Rogers
JH Greenhalgh	GL Taylor	Mrs PA Butcher	1* Star Premier
M Ribbins	District Master	RE Fisher	Regional Master
JM Thrower	E Best	4* Star Master	Mrs RL Ainsworth
MD Wiles	P Checkley	N Mathews	4* Star Regional
Premier National	RG Clark	Mrs S Norman	Master
Master	Mrs GM Cooper	3* Star Master	Mrs JD Murray
Mrs AA Hawthorn	JR Edwards	L Burley	Brown
D Owen	Mrs L Gallagher	B Colvin	1* Star
National Master	JR Handfield-Jones	CR Mason	Tournament
Mrs H Broomberg	Mrs PA Harrison	2* Star Master	Master
AA Brown	Mrs LA Maile	Mrs EM Relton	B Cook
6* Star Premier	TJ Mansergh	1* Star Master	Prof PM Doe
Regional Master	PW Sparks	RJ Harrison	Mrs EW Griffith
TS Martin	D Sturgess	H Livesey	Mrs P Taylor
3* Star Premier	Mrs MY Styles	Mrs V Waters	Tournament
Regional Master	A Wiseman	Mrs D Webb	Master
Mrs P Mason	CG Young	DR Wilman	D Carpenter
Premier Regional	Club Master	Advanced Master	R Radley
Master	Mrs S Bell	IR Macfarlane	Mrs C Taylor
Mrs AM Lucy	Mrs J Brown	Master	5* Star Master
3* Star Regional	KG Butler	MJ Martyn	Mrs J Harris
Master	JL Clarke	District Master	4* Star Master
Miss PJ Hopkinson	Mrs C Collier	Ms PA Bogdanov	Mrs BP Corsbie
2* Star Regional	Mrs R Johnstone	G Booth	Mrs BJ Harrison
Master	GK Thwaites	Cumbria	3* Star Master
D Blaine	Cams and	Premier National	WJ Chapman
J Whittenbury	Hunts	Master	Mrs BG Edmonds
1* Star Regional	2* Star Premier	K Anderson	LEG Francis
Master	Regional Master	8* Star Premier	Mrs SE Gregory
Mrs C Poole	Mrs C Bull	Regional Master	Mrs F Lane
2* Star	N Bull	PH Thompson	2* Star Master
Tournament	K Orde-Powlett	3* Star Premier	C Guy
Master	5* Star Regional	Regional Master	Mrs BM Hawkyard
TV Cullen	Master	C Woods	Mrs M Mack
1* Star	E Lancaster	9* Star Regional	ID Moore
Tournament	Mrs S Lancaster	Master	Mrs J Whitlam
Master	3* Star Master	JA Williamson	Advanced Master
P Gibbons	Mrs J Orde-Powlett	6* Star Regional	E Brace
Tournament	2* Star Master	Master	Miss E Highton
Master	ME May	Dr PJ Boardman	Master
B West	1* Star Master	3* Star	Mrs M Vanstone
5* Star Master	Ms G Wilkins	Tournament	County Master
JE Allen	Advanced Master	Master	Miss ME Ackland
D Calcutt	IG Hill	Mrs M Edgar	Mrs BJ Payne
Ms PA Jones	GJ Moore	Bedfordshire	Miss N Sandom
Miss ME Troughton	A Patel	www.Bedfordshire-Bridge-Assoc.co.uk	Ms AM Smith
	DR Sayers	AS part of plans to develop bridge in	Mrs BJ Walker

Avon

www.abca.freereserve.co.uk

AT THE EBU Congress in Shrewsbury Pat and Gwynn Davis, playing with Warner and Louise Solomon from Devon, headed the Swiss teams, winning all their matches with an average in excess of 16vps per match.

Gwynn Davis and his Welsh team-mates came second at the Mid Wales Swiss teams in Llandrindod Wells, a position matched in the Herefordshire Green Point Swiss teams by Andrew Urbanski, Robert Glass, Tony Gammon and Huw Oliver. Also filling a runners-up spot were David Hamper, Colin Cheek, Brian Dyde and Peter Sherry in the Devon Swiss teams.

The Wiltshire County Knockout was won by the Bath team of Ron King, Phil Green, Roger Karn, Richard Samter and James Dunlop.

Two Avon teams were in opposition in the fourth round of the Silver Plate where Brian Dyde, Peter Sherry, David Hamper and Colin Cheek defeated Gareth Evans, Andrew Urbanski, Tony Gammon and Huw Oliver by 8imps to reach the quarter-finals.

In the Cwmbran Swiss teams Andrew, Cathy, Ralph and Lesley Smith finished third, with Brian Dyde, Peter Sherry, Colin Cheek and David Hamper fourth.

At the EBU Summer Meeting in Brighton David Jones and Robert Covill, along with Cathy and Andy Smith, were the highest ranked Avon partners, equal 36th of 574 in the Swiss pairs. Huw Oliver, Tony Gammon, Marc Lee, Angela Pullen and Robert Glass were runners-up in the midweek knockout teams, while in the Swiss teams Dave Cropper, Leigh Chapman, Steve Raine and Michael Prior came seventh in the A final and David Jones, Catherine Jagger, Miles Cowling and Jon Williams were fourth in the B final. Huw Oliver and Felicity Kay came third in the Monday Play-with-the-Experts and David Jones and Gareth Evans were third in the Tuesday evening pairs.

Congratulations to Chris Selway, who won the West of England Monday handicap league.

Huw Oliver chaired the county AGM at Bath Bridge Club and Pat Davies presented the prizes. The new committee is: chairman Brian Goalby, treasurer Mary McKenzie, membership secretary and Western League organiser Robert Glass, tournament secretary and publicity officer David Jones, secretary Janine Griffiths-Baker, youth officer Gareth Evans.

Finally, the ACBA would like to congratulate David Jones and Janine Griffiths-Baker on their marriage and wish them a long and happy relationship both at and away from the bridge table.

Bedfordshire

www.Bedfordshire-Bridge-Assoc.co.uk

AS part of plans to develop bridge in Bedfordshire the county committee is to meet with club representatives to discuss ways of attracting more players to clubs after they finish their bridge lessons and to maintain and improve on the recent increased participation in county events.

The BBA 40th anniversary event at Bedfordshire Golf Club on October 10 is attracting a lot of interest, with bookings from current and past members and from other local bridge players. Sponsored by McCann Homes, the event combines an afternoon of seminars with Andrew Kambites (12.45pm) with an opportunity to socialise over a buffet tea and anniversary cake, and duplicate pairs in the evening (6.30 pm). It is pre-entry only, so please contact Val Lawson on 01525 290609 to check availability for late bookings to all or part of the day.

Many congratulations to Jon Williams for his record Master Points achievements in 2003/04. Jon has also moved to third place in the All Time Top Scorers report. He is already clocking up Master Points for 2004/05 – most recently with success in the Swiss teams at Brighton, where he came fourth in the B final.

Bedfordshire was well represented at Brighton, but enjoyed limited success. Best achievements other than Jon's were Brian and Rita Keable equal 44th in the Swiss pairs; Roger Edmonds 18th in the seniors pairs A final and Gina Dunn (with dual member Dave Dickson) equal 13th in the seniors teams. Congratulations to all.

County players have continued to do well in other events around the country. Warm congratulations to Brian and Rita Keable, who won the Swiss pairs and were fifth in the Swiss teams at the Seniors Congress. David and Jane Jensen were third in the Swiss pairs at the Shrewsbury Congress, while the Jon Williams team was third in the Swiss teams. At the Scarborough Congress Ron Davis was third in the Swiss pairs.

Bedfordshire members will be sad to hear of the untimely death of Barbara Simmonds. She served with distinction on both the county and the congress committees and was instrumental, with her husband Hugh, in establishing and running a weekly non-smoking evening at Milton Keynes Bridge Club. As a player Barbara was competitive and enthusiastic, but above all a consistently courteous and thoughtful opponent and partner. We offer our sympathy to Hugh and his family.

Diary dates: November 18 county teams, Woburn Sands 7.30pm; December 5 Swiss pairs, Shefford 2 pm; January 13 inter-club teams of eight, Shefford 7.30 pm.

Berks and Bucks

www.berks-and-bucks-cba.co.uk

WITH 2004-05 the jubilee year of the county association an additional special event is being held to mark the occasion. It will be on July 10 and entries will be invited through clubs.

Young players keen to improve their game are asked to contact the county's youth liaison officer, whose details are on the website.

Rex Avery, who scored ranking points in seven county competitions, won the Victor Ludorum.

Bucks won all three matches in the Berks and Bucks encounter to carry off the Phil Thornton Trophy.

Committee Cup 1 Norman Gascoyne, Peter Finbow, Peter Russell and John Clifford, 2 David Simms, Mike Shepherd, Phil and Linda Dickson. Both teams represented Thame.

Finchamstead Plate 1 Andrea and Derek Blaine, Jane Dixon-Nutt and Chris Moir, 2 Trish Lee, Riona Read, Lyn Holman and George Sarkey, 3 Bob Gates, John Walker, Alan Westrop and David Andrews.

Burnham Swiss individual 1 Ron Every, 2 Alan Prior, equal 2 Chris Andrews.

Friendly pairs for the Lederer Salver 1 Anthony and Marilyn Collins, 2 Beata Felmer and Hugh Gross, 3 Liz Hayton and Addis Page, equal 3 Keith and Jenny Sheppard.

Diary dates: October 10 Swiss pairs; October 24 Fitch pairs (SBBC); November 14 county teams qualifier; November 21 friendly pairs (SBBC); December 5 GolfPrint teams heat; December 19 mixed Swiss teams.

County News Deadline

COUNTY News contributions for the December edition of *English Bridge* should reach the editor (email and other address details page 3) by October 26.

Master Point promotions

Devon cont

District Master
Mrs GM Balkwill
Mrs BA Campbell
CP Dwyerhouse
Mrs EM Elliot
J Maynard
D Pearson
Club Master
Mrs J Barton
U Dalrymple
AG Foot
Mrs BA Freemantle
K Gibbs
P Tucker

Dorset

National Master

Mrs MW Potter

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

G Barthorpe

Miss Gladwinfield

Tournament

Master

P Hicks

MJ Ryan

5* Star Master

Mrs IP Baker

DJ Reeves

2* Star Master

Mrs JA Kellock

GH Lockwood

VJ Piesles

1* Star Master

S Farrington

P Gibbins

AD King

P Starling

Advanced Master

PC Bowen

Mrs T Farrar

Mrs ID Robinson

Mrs P Williams

Mrs LA Wilson

Master

Mrs RR Barker

Bennett

County Master

HW Rames

Essex

National Master

BA Hunt

3* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs LM Barker

Premier Regional

Master

CJ Taylor

Mrs SA Taylor

8* Star Regional

Master

Mrs EA Savory

5* Star Regional

Master

Mrs A West

3* Star Regional

Master

Mrs IV Seymour

2* Star Regional

Master

AJ Verran

7* Star

Tournament

Master

G Mann

2* Star

Tournament

Master

EJ Cheasman

1* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs H Walicki

Tournament

Master

Mrs VA Iredale

1* Star Master

Mrs H Capal

R Lenger

Mrs J Loveridge

Mrs BA Osborn

RS West

Advanced Master

Mrs M Beecher

AF Brabant

Mrs CL McCue

Master

Mrs JL Furlong

PW Hunt

JA Hutchinson

IM Miller

JS Popkin

M Stares

County Master

RNS Atkins

SJ Curran

Mrs J Hetherington

Mrs JC Renvoize

M Sweeting

SR Timmis

M Tyler

District Master

L Burton

Mrs EM Johnston

D Stewart

Mrs L Yudolph

Club Master

R Clarke

Mrs S Edwards

AC Falder

Mrs LA Falder

AJ Goddard

Mrs BM Goddard

Mrs EE Jeffery

Mrs A Scott

PG Scott

Gloucestershire

Life Master

Mrs CP Moore

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs J Otway

1* Star Premier

Regional Master

RG Kingston

7* Star Regional

Master

AEM Pritchett

Tournament

Master

CJ Froggatt

Mrs DG Smith

5* Star Master

Mrs ME Bridgewater

4* Star Master

GT Vandergrucht

Mrs GM Weaver

2* Star Master

P Clark

PL Rattenbury

1* Star Master

Mrs P Roberts

Mrs T Whitehead

Advanced Master

Mrs DH Cronin

Mrs S Da Costa

MIG James

D Toase

Master

AG Wright

County Master

Mrs ES Armstrong

Buisseret

J Councet

N Ferguson

GA Richards

Club Master

Mrs PF Burrows

Mrs M Havens

JW Polhill

Hants and

low

Premier Life

Master

M Fithyan

Life Master

JG Downes

Mrs PM Glanville

National Master

CR Edgell

6* Star Premier

Regional Master

IF Fearon

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

AS Howell

Mrs N Yew

2* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs T Adams

Cambs and Hunts

www.cambsbridge.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS are due to the Cambridge Club, which has reached the final of the NICKO for the fourth time, drawn against Coventry. Although Coventry have won the event three or four times Cambridge can take heart from being 1-0 up in previous NICKO encounters with them.

Pagan, Wightwick, Jagger and Jagger reached the final of the Hubert Philips, where they lost to Brock.

Teshome, Jagger, Wayne and Jagger won the teams at Scarborough and Pagan and Jagger were second in the Brighton pairs.

We note with sadness the passing of Sheila Barker, who won the county individual trophy earlier in the year and was a regular on the county bridge scene for many years.

Channel Islands

www.gtonline.net/community/cicba

IN Jersey the district open pairs was won by Roz Bavin and Perry Darwen, with Meredith Case and Howard Basden-Smith second.

The district restricted pairs upper section was won by Cathy Hepburn and Marion Miles, with Kay Johns and Douglas Romain second, and the lower section was won by Mike Byrne and Peter Evans, with Denise Dessoude and Maureen Breuilly second.

The county individual qualifier provided a three-way tie for first place with Carl Harrison, Rosemary Pallot and Sue Rankin sharing the honours. The final is to be held in Guernsey.

Highfield Bridge Club's annual competitions brought a win in the men's pairs for Howard Basden-Smith and Norman Le Cocq, with Harold Walden and Carl Harrison second, while the ladies' pairs was won by Sue Rankin and Rosemary Pallot, with Sharon Halston and Jacquie Rumball second.

In Guernsey the district teams championship was won by Mike Allen, Andy Hall, Margaret Allen and Gill Morgan, who had to overcome a strong challenge in the semi-finals from Hugh Bacon's team, scraping home by Simps after trailing by 27 at the half-way stage. In the other semi-final the Plumley team also had a narrow escape, beating Vera, Ann and Don Babbe and Grace Jones in identical manner. The final proved a close battle, with the Allens 26 up at half way before winning by just 11 imps.

Margaret Allen kept up the family reputation by winning the Guernsey individual championship. Colin Tostevin was second and Kath Bott third.

Cumbria

www.cumbriabridge.co.uk

CUMBRIAN players and teams enjoyed a successful summer. Pride of place must go to our President's Cup team that finished third in the event: David Latimer, John Robinson, Trevor Duddle, Ken Johnston, Philip and Sally Wraight, Dave Mullany and Colin Woods. Matches were won against Merseyside and Cheshire, Lancashire, Mid Wales, North Wales and Derbyshire to give the county its highest placing yet.

The annual friendly match against Lancashire for the Macnamara Trophy resulted in a Cumbria win by 13 imps and the annual contest with Merseyside and Cheshire brought victory for Cumbria by 131 imps. Both matches were played in the friendliest spirit and the host club, Barrow, is to be thanked for its hospitality and the wonderful meals provided.

David Strawbridge and Babs Matthews are to be congratulated on winning the Swiss pairs at Risley.

Peter Mollart, partnering John Halliwell of Lancashire, was in the quartet winning the championship teams at Peebles in the SBU Congress.

Diary dates: October 17 pro-am teams of four, Bigrigg; November 14 Butler pairs, Barrow; December 5 championship pairs, Keswick.

Devon

www.dccba.com

ALL in the county will feel the sad loss of Barbara Simmonds, our hard working and efficient secretary. Despite her short tenure (after a long stint in Bedfordshire) the committee had come to depend on her. They offer their condolences to both family and friends. Terence Treeby takes up her work. He can be contacted on 01803 844342 or email ttreeby@aol.com

A good turnout for the AGM reflects the strength of interest in events within the county. New chairman John Lankshear will be ably supported not only by the new secretary, but also the incumbent treasurer, Geoff Fogg, and tournaments secretary Ann Slee.

Congratulations on another win, this time in the one day Green Point teams, for Ann and Kevin Slee, together with Ruth Edmondson and Brigid McElroy.

The Dame Hannah Rogers charity event, successfully organised by Margaret Lamb, despite her so-called retirement, was won by the Torquay team of Joy Murray-Brown without losing a match. Runners-up were the team captained by C Pope. A record £727.19 was raised for this worthwhile charity.

Our autumn congresses are nearing capacity. Entry forms as soon as possible please to Ann Husk 01822 852366 for the Plymouth Congress on November 6-7 at the College of St Mark and St John and to Jean Crabtree 01803 296447 for the Torquay Bridge Club Congress. This year the Torquay event will be held at the five star Imperial Hotel on November 19-20.

The lead in the West Section League is currently held by Mike Hamon, narrowly ahead of John and Gloria Lankshear.

Two innovations in the South Devon section are a directors' course, open to all, and a competition with sufficient prize money to attract the better players, also open to all. The South Devon prize pairs is a must for anyone serious about their bridge. Enquiries to Andrew Leslie 01803 732637 or email aleslie@tiscali.com A spin-off has been the establishment of a pairs competition at Torquay Bridge Club open only to pairs ranked Tournament Master or above. Contact Joy Murray-Brown on 01803 380679.

December will see the inauguration of a two-session duplicate with a lecture in the interval. This will be bi-monthly at a South Devon beauty spot or place of historic interest. The first venue is Paignton Zoo. (No cheetahs please). Details from Pam Ward 01803 326701 or email rambo-gran@supanet.com

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to Richard Perryman, who was in the team that came sixth in the A final of the Swiss teams at the EBU Brighton Congress.

Val and Paul Mollison were second in the Swiss pairs at the EBU Scarborough Festival, where the team of Martin and Sandy Smith, Bill and Angela West were second in the B final of the multiple teams and Chris and Sue Taylor, Michael Wren and Sheila Evans won the open multiple teams. Congratulations to all.

The Essex team of Margaret Curtis, Ray Cornell, Alan Green and David Clark were joint winners at the Essex/Hertfordshire one day events, with Len Garcia the highest placed Essex player in the pairs,

finishing 10th.

Several Essex players achieved good results in the Seniors and Veterans Congress at Eastbourne. In the Swiss pairs Manny Marks and Martin Hoffman were third, Cecil Leighton and his partner sixth and Winnie Godber and John Stimson equal ninth. In the Swiss teams Cecil Leighton's quartet came third and Lionel and Faye Wernick, George and Jean Rance were equal seventh, while in the veterans' pairs Jill Hair and Yvonne Dias finished second.

Maureen and George Vede did well in the EBU Congress in Shrewsbury, taking 16th place in the Swiss pairs.

In the Berks and Bucks one day Swiss teams Jeanette Nicholl, David L'Estrange, Ray Clarke and Bernie Hunt were equal seventh.

From an original entry of 32 teams for the Essex League Cup, the Good Guys (Martyn Caswell, Gareth Dykes, John Francis and Vernon Madge) retained the trophy, beating Waltham Foresters (Tony Verran, Remi Tatur, Phil Mattacks, Andy Barker and Ken Rolph) in the final.

The Essex summer club pairs was won by Wendy Coldham and Patrick O'Gara, with Manny Marks and Martin Hoffman second and Barbara Reeve and Dennis Donovan third.

The non expert teams was won by Chris Mann, Elaine Turp, Ruth Abel and Sue Woodhams.

Diary dates: October 10 Fletcher Trophy and Cup, clubs; October 24 Seniors Cup; November 14 Tony Kelvin Trophy; November 28 Essex novice pairs; December 5 Essex mixed pairs.

Gloucestershire

www.gcba.org.uk

THE Gloucestershire Clubs League for the Cleverly Cup continues to flourish, comprising five divisions each of seven teams. Clubs can enter as many teams as they wish and many of the matches are played at club members' homes, thereby adding to the social side of the event. There are restrictions on the ranking of players to encourage the smaller clubs to enter. Division one for 2003-04 was won by Cheltenham E in a close finish.

The county pivot teams was won by Lindsey Geddes, Pam Pearce, Tony Hill and Graham Sadie, while Tony Hill and Paul Denning, having easily won the Cheltenham heat of the July simultaneous pairs, came fourth nationally.

Good results around the country achieved by Gloucestershire players were John Atthey's second place in the teams at the EBU Shrewsbury Congress and Anne Swannell, Alex Selsby, Ray Foulds and Roger Timmins' eighth place in the teams at the Llandrindod Wells Congress.

Internationally Gloucestershire players were less successful. Wales, with Paul Denning, came 24th of 33 in the European open in Malmo, while at the same venue the English seniors team, with Keith Stanley and Derek Rue, faded to finish eighth of 16.

Diary dates: October 17 Bredon Vale Cup, hosted by Newent; October 24 Lesley Everett inter-county competition, Cheltenham BC.

Hants and low

www.hantsbridge.org

LATE summer brought some notable successes for county members. At the EBU Brighton Congress the Brighton Bowl was won by Jeremy Baker, Steve Auchterlonie, Dave Huggett and Steve Preston, while at the Seniors Congress in Eastbourne Marion Rudd and Ray Crawford won the veterans award in both the pairs and the teams events, the latter with out of county team-mates.

For those members who have not yet

Master Point promotions

Hants and IoW cont

1* Star Premier Regional Master

Dr GDT Carmichael

9* Star Regional Master

Mrs MG Simmons

4* Star Regional Master

WD Lewis

3* Star Regional Master

Miss PA Lee

2* Star Regional Master

NS Vernon

1* Star Regional Master

RMS Cork

1* Star Regional Master

DJ Spencer

Regional Master

Ms J Shortman

13* Star Tournament Master

MC Mollart-Rogerson

6* Star Tournament Master

Mrs MDC Rodbourne

1* Star Tournament Master

D Palmer

5* Star Master

NW Whiteman

4* Star Master

AG Poole

3* Star Master

Mrs J Buckel

2* Star Master

AR Catchpole

1* Star Master

Mrs SM Clifford

3* Star Master

WR Easson

2* Star Master

Mrs BJ Sanders

1* Star Master

Dr RA Ewins

3* Star Master

DE Bessant

2* Star Master

Mrs DG Ginn

1* Star Master

TF Ginn

3* Star Master

GA McDermott

1* Star Master

Mrs L Ray

Advanced Master

KA Brookes

3* Star Master

S Clegg

2* Star Master

RJ Croot

1* Star Master

Mrs E Drew

3* Star Master

Mrs SD Dowle

2* Star Master

DJ Gray

1* Star Master

Mrs SK Weller

3* Star Master

VC Bird

2* Star Master

Mrs JJ Foot

1* Star Master

KE Jennings

3* Star Master

Mrs K Overens

2* Star Master

AJ Teale

1* Star Master

Mrs EZ Warrington

3* Star Master

Mrs S White

2* Star Master

RE Coates

1* Star Master

Mrs A Keeling

3* Star Master

TG Darley

2* Star Master

Miss HM Robinson

1* Star Master

D Arrighi

3* Star Master

Mrs PJ Coombes

2* Star Master

Lewis

1* Star Master

D Palmer

National Master

Mrs M Clare

15* Star Premier Regional Master

Mrs P Shaw

4* Star Premier Regional Master

Mrs JV Wotherspoon

2* Star Premier Regional Master

N Wotherspoon

3* Star Regional Master

J Vaughan

2* Star Regional Master

Mrs J Kendall

1* Star Regional Master

Mrs D Charteris

3* Star Regional Master

RW Castolino

2* Star Regional Master

K Rains

1* Star Regional Master

Mrs E Meechan

3* Star Regional Master

TJ Allen

2* Star Regional Master

DT Hudson

1* Star Regional Master

Mrs MT McKenzie

3* Star Regional Master

I Galletti

2* Star Regional Master

Mrs CA Hughes

1* Star Regional Master

Mrs A Kelly

3* Star Regional Master

Mrs L Korde

2* Star Regional Master

Mrs J Fox

1* Star Regional Master

Mrs ETH Nunn

3* Star Regional Master

JD Walker

2* Star Regional Master

JA Greaves

1* Star Regional Master

PM Wilkinson

3* Star Regional Master

PJF Doswell

1* Star Tournament Master

Mrs H Sutton

5* Star Master

BJ Dawson

4* Star Master

P Taylor

3* Star Master

Mrs I Hepworth

2* Star Master

Miss M Nicolaides

1* Star Master

Dr M Smith

3* Star Master

CB Wood

2* Star Master

RW Thorpe

1* Star Master

R Waddington

3* Star Master

WS Woods

2* Star Master

CJ Ball

1* Star Master

Ms C Darwen

3* Star Master

R Le Vesconte

2* Star Master

JG Ball

1* Star Master

Mrs E Cooper

3* Star Master

CJ Saunders

2* Star Master

C Bancroft

1* Star Master

Mrs J Everton

3* Star Master

JJ Stevenson

2* Star Master

DB Symonds

1* Star Master

F Chinkin

3* Star Master

EW Jones

2* Star Master

PJ Tyers

Advanced Master

Mrs JP Cotson

3* Star Master

RA Moncrief

2* Star Master

SG Barney

1* Star Master

Mrs G Cole

3* Star Master

MF Grant

2* Star Master

I Inglis

1* Star Master

K Preston

3* Star Master

Mrs M Wood

2* Star Master

ST Ye

1* Star Master

R Baxter

3* Star Master

R Mandell

2* Star Master

Mrs I Pacey

1* Star Master

KI Hubbard

3* Star Master

Mrs M Williams

2* Star Master

W Parsons

1* Star Master

Mrs AS Wakelin

3* Star Master

Mrs B Bassford

2* Star Master

Mrs MM Blakeney

1* Star Master

MS Wardell

3* Star Master

Major KM Jeffery

2* Star Master

Mrs S Bunton

1* Star Master

CL Farrow

3* Star Master

Miss SB York

District Master

JC Farmer

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

3* Star Master

GL Lederman

2* Star Master

Mrs E Wardell

1* Star Master

A Gordon

Master Point promotions

London cont

1* Star

Tournament

Master

M Alsford

4* Star Master

Mrs EF Alsford

3* Star Master

Mrs JA Bowers

2* Star Master

MJ Stanton

1* Star Master

Mrs K Diezinger

Mrs M Ferris

Mrs RE Stanley

Master

Mrs LK Clery

J Ramos

Mrs P Wall

District Master

MJ Rysa

Mrs A Silience

Club Master

Mrs P Alcock

Sir E Kulukundis

Mrs M Libson

Miss M Molony

Mrs CT Pritchard

J Wilmot

Manchester

National Master

RA Jones

JP Morris

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

G Barlow

Mrs A Drysdale

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs JB Jones

3* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs J White

Tournament

Master

Mrs HHL Murray

5* Star Master

LG Barnes

JG Story

4* Star Master

Dr HG Blank

3* Star Master

Dr EAM Hyde

JD Mabon

Mrs E Rosenbaum

2* Star Master

Mrs L Furnival

E Glinert

Mrs G McMullan

Mrs V Newgrosh

PW Read

M Rosenbaum

1* Star Master

Mrs YM Brooks

Dr PD Fowler

JA Gardner

R Gupta

Mrs S Marks

Advanced Master

AFD Ferguson

Mrs CM Foulkes

Miss N Marks

Mrs B Silver

Master

L Blouin

Mrs A Murphy

County Master

Mrs H Boydell

K Higgins

Mrs V McKeon

RL Thomas

District Master

Dr R Howe

Club Master

Mrs R Davenport

R Smith

Merseyside/Cheshire

Life Master

IR Mitchell

National Master

Dr EB Krasner

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

JB Green

7* Star Regional

Master

G Eakin

1* Star

Tournament

Master

JBell

IG Topp

Tournament

Master

JAB Clark

5* Star Master

Mrs J Dearing

2* Star Master

Mrs C Andrews

Miss PR Arthur

N Worthington

1* Star Master

Mrs ME Foster

J Rowland

Master

Mrs A Gregory

KR Perry

Mrs BJ Pritchard

RS Ralph

County Master

D Burrows

GF Campbell

MA Pateman

District Master

Miss KE Beckett

JW Dawe

P Shaw

Club Master

Mrs LW Deamley

FC Dixon

Middlesex

Grand Master

S Capal

Life Master

Mrs S Posner

DG Russell

Mrs S Simon

Premier National

Master

JD Gardner

National Master

D Moss

AV Mutukisna

H Wayne

2* Star Premier

Regional Master

J Vos

8* Star Regional

Master

KA Drane

2* Star Regional

Master

Mrs J Feldman

3* Star

Tournament

Master

Miss L Angus

1* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs WM Alper

4* Star Master

AA Qaiyoom

Mrs R Walker

ACD Whitehouse

3* Star Master

Mrs FE Liew

HM Lindsay

2* Star Master

RJC Shephard

1* Star Master

T As'ad

G Dennett

B Whitehead

Mrs E Whitehead

Advanced Master

Miss JM Boot

SE Haring

Master

A Corner

Mrs E Corner

County Master

N Cullerne-Bown

District Master

Mrs P Cohen

Mrs DE Gordon

Club Master

T Argiropoulos

T Downie

B Fairless

B Marshall

MK Shah

Mrs ME Sorum

Norfolk

11* Star Premier

Regional Master

E Lloyd

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

MHS Whiting

Premier Regional

Master

Mrs N Fenwick

5* Star Regional

Master

MA Thompson

The Hythe Festival Swiss teams was won by Bob Shilling, Linda Radford, Margaret White and Valerie Reeves. In the BGB summer simultaneous pairs Vic Brodzowski and Carol Soutter came 12th of 2,917 with 70.36%.

Diary dates: October 2 Beckenham Swiss teams 2pm; October 3 Dyer-Smith Cup mixed pairs, Tunbridge Wells 1pm; October 17 Pilgrims Swiss pairs, Bekebourne 2pm; October 29-31 Kent Congress, Tunbridge Wells (contact Catherine Draper on 01689 826211); November 5-7 Swanley BC weekend, Eastbourne (contact Patsy Llewellyn-Jones on 01732 450103); November 14 KCBA Charity Swiss pairs, Tunbridge Wells 1pm; December 11 Tunbridge Wells Swiss teams, 4pm; December 19 Maidstone Swiss teams, Masonic Centre 2pm.

All members should have received the 2004-05 handbook and Kent Congress entry form, together with the latest newsletter. Anyone who has not should contact Mike de Winter, competitions secretary, on 01883 717795. The handbook contains entry forms and details of all KCBA competitions. Entry forms are also available on the website.

Please email details of anything you would like to be included in this column to LizBlande@aol.com

Lancashire

www.lancsbridge.co.uk

THE Lancashire team has had mixed fortunes in its matches so far. The team lost to Cumbria, won the Henry Huggill Trophy against Manchester and Merseyside and finished fourth out of nine teams in the President's Cup, which was won by Manchester.

Lancashire players performed well at the East Wales Bridge Association's Green Point Weekend at Cwmbran, with Bill and Liz Wattleworth second in the pairs and Bob Loveridge and Helen Montgomery second in the teams, linked up with Alan Cooke and Monica Lucy.

Preston Pairs 1 Bill Winter and Peter Mollart, 2 David Audley and Jackie Pye, 3 Nick Sutcliffe and Helen Dent.

Diary dates: October 2-3 Great Northern Swiss pairs, Risley; October 9 LCBA Simple Systems pairs, Brierfield Bridge Club; October 10 Poulton Barometer Swiss teams, Poulton Bridge Club; October 24 Foundation Cup Swiss teams, Blackburn Bridge Centre; October 30-31 LCBA Autumn Congress, Southport Bridge Club; November 7 Witham Trophy Swiss teams, Lancaster Bridge Club; November 14 Thwaites Smooth Swiss teams, Bury Athenaeum.

Leicestershire

www.leicsbridge.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to Ben Green and Duncan Happer for an outstanding performance in the European Junior (under 25) Championships, but which was unfortunately not quite enough by itself to earn England a place in the world finals in Sydney.

Meanwhile, in Leicester, the Summer (handicap) Knockout Cup finalists are County A (the holders) and County D2. In the Plate final Blaby C has already defeated Grantham 1.

The Hurwich Quah (handicap teams-of-four organised by the County Bridge Club) has been retained by the holders, Katie Barnett, John and Angela Bowness, Ian Bruce, Paul Cross and Linda Stone. Second were Marjorie Boyd, Roger Freeman, Sue Hardie, Jean Hurst, Eddie Lunt, Elizabeth Marlow, Geoff Marlow, Sue Northen and Joanna Tuppen, with third going to Bill Hood, Anne Moncrief, Brian and Sheila Stockdale, Pat Watson and Steve Wright.

Diary dates: October 10 Midland

Counties league, Leicestershire A v Warwickshire; October 13 Stanley Trophy heat two, Loughborough Grammar School (LGS); October 18 Josephs Bowl round one open heat, Leicester Bridge Centre (CEN); October 18 David Boston simultaneous pairs in aid of LOROS, Bradgate, County and Grantham; October 19 David Boston simultaneous pairs, LGS; October 21 David Boston simultaneous pairs, Rutland; October 25 Josephs Bowl round two heat, CEN; October 26 Josephs Bowl round two heat, LGS; October 27 Josephs Bowl round two heat, LGS; October 31 Midland Schools Swiss teams, LGS; November 10 Leicestershire Cup round one, CEN; November 14 Midland Counties league v Gloucestershire, LGS; November 21 Upper 19 pairs qualifier, LGS; November 24 Josephs Bowl round three, CEN; December 8 Stanley Trophy heat three, CEN; December 8 Wilde Cup (non-expert teams of four), LGS; December 12 Midland Counties league v Nottinghamshire, LGS.

Lincolnshire

www.odn.co.uk/lincsbridge

DORIS Fry, one of our honorary life members, celebrated her 100th birthday this year. She was playing bridge until almost 94 and still tackles *The Times* crossword. The Gilbert Fry Cup for the county Swiss teams was given in memory of her late husband some years ago. She and partner Margaret Balch, coming up to 90, started playing in each other's homes before Lincoln BC was formed in 1946. Margaret is another of our honorary life members and still plays duplicate bridge. Sadly Stan Megitt of Grimby, a third honorary life member, died recently, but he also played well into his nineties. Bridge obviously keeps one young!

The Davey Cup has been won by Roy Hughes, Dennis Mellor, Derrick Hickson and Mike Hurst, with Bill Parsons, Mark Wardell, Ann Painter and Brenda Bassford runners-up. As the leagues and Gold Plate have matches outstanding their results will be in the next edition.

The county AGM was held too late for inclusion in this notice, but Roy Hughes, county secretary for the last 13 years, is retiring for a well-deserved rest. Bill Herbert, competitions secretary, is standing down after 11 years. Both are wished a long and happy retirement, with special best wishes to Roy and Jo, who celebrated their golden wedding in September.

With only one nomination for both offices, it was expected that Glyn Elwick would become county secretary and Stuart Knox competitions secretary. Stuart's address is Gloucester House, Station Road, Sturton, North Lincs. DN20 9DW, email stuart@stuartknox.com

Congratulations to Drene and Alan Brown on finishing equal third at the Northern Summer Congress at Scarborough. They also won their open teams section with Stuart Knox and Dave Caldwell.

Diary dates: November 14 Swiss teams (pre-entry essential); December 5 Ghost pairs (pairs are matched with invisible team-mates!).

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to Michael Graham, playing with Shivam Shah, who came second in the junior trials and so qualified for the 2005 England Peggy Bayer team. Well done, also, to Steve Lodge and Robert Sheehan, who won the Hubert Philips Bowl along with Raymond and Sally Brock.

At Brighton no London players made it to the top 10 pairs in the first weekend, although we had winners in two sections of the Sunday evening open teams - Debbie Sandford, Nick Boss, Marshal Lewis,

Richard Johnson and Jonathan Jacobs. We did better in the second weekend and congratulations go to Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, and David Burn, who were Swiss teams A final winners, and Peter Czerniewski and Marc Smith who were B final winners. Other good results came from Artur Malinowski, who was fourth in the A final, and Brian Callaghan, second in the B final.

At the LMBA AGM chairman David Martin stood down in favour of Michael Hill. Other officers were unchanged, but David Graham was welcomed as a new committee member.

Piccadilly Cup 1 Cameron Small's Surrey Marauders, 2 Tim Pike's Young Chelsea 3.

Don't forget to come along to watch the stars at this year's Lederer Memorial Trophy at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club on October 16-17.

Diary dates: October 24 Champions Cup, YCBC 1pm (contact Sati McKenzie on s.mckenzie@gre.ac.uk or 020 7627 0977); November 14 under 19 pairs championship, YCBC noon (contact Dave Muller on dmuller@dircon.co.uk or 020 8204 3975); November 28 under 25 Swiss teams championship, YCBC noon (contact Dave Muller on 020 8204 3975 or

Master Point promotions

Norfolk cont
4* Star Regional Master
 AJ Kimbley
 Mrs JA Thompson
3* Star Regional Master
 RJ Cortis
 Mrs MS Kimbley
 AS La Chapelle
Tournament Master
 RS Fuller
1* Star
Tournament Master
 Mrs M Ward
Tournament Master
 JM Massey
 AJ Wadlow
5* Star Master
 Mrs J Innes
 RR Sudd
 Mrs M Tipler
4* Star Master
 EJ Brister
 Mrs J Knights
 CD Owen
3* Star Master
 JR King
 MJ Taylor
2* Star Master
 Mrs A Ellis
 JP Weddall
1* Star Master
 M Pooley
Advanced Master
 DR Cheal
Master
 Mrs L Browning
 Mrs J Mayhew
 Mrs P Whittle
County Master
 Mrs AB Boote
 RW Boote
 Mrs VA Canham
 Mrs J Hubbard
 MR Seel
District Master
 Mrs BM Everitt
 MB Everitt
 Mrs EA Halpin
Club Master
 Mrs JL Smith
 M Underwood
North Eastern
National Master
 Mrs R Donnelly
11* Star Premier Regional Master
 Mrs E Spalding
9* Star Premier Regional Master
 Mrs J North
6* Star Premier Regional Master
 A Kemp
3* Star Premier Regional Master
 H Moss
2* Star Premier Regional Master
 N Gray
10* Star Regional Master
 B Swallow
3* Star Regional Master
 FE Robinson
2* Star Regional Master
 Mrs E Purvis
Regional Master
 RL Reay
3* Star
Tournament Master
 WR Aynsley
1* Star
Tournament Master
 HK Dryden
Tournament Master
 A Lester
5* Star Master
 JG Brandon
 B Crawford
 Mrs M Crawford
4* Star Master
 P Longley
 Mrs JM Owen
 BA Pacey
 W Sadler

3* Star Master
 Mrs El Twamley
2* Star Master
 Mrs A Bainbridge
 Mrs P Graham
 B Morgan
1* Star Master
 Mrs S Ashurst
 Mrs A Linton
Advanced Master
 E Bell
 W Bell
 Mrs M Davies
 NG Davies
 Mrs A Morgan
Master
 Mrs HMR Hardy
County Master
 Mrs MJ Coughtrie
 Dr RG Farquharson
 Mrs L Marriott
 CR Ramachandra
 Mrs J Slater
 Ms J Teague
District Master
 JK Cocker
 S Goldstraw
 JA Sutherland
Club Master
 JE Spendiff
 Mrs MJ Waller
Northamptonshire
5* Star Premier Regional Master
 Mrs G Baron
4* Star Premier Regional Master
 T Wray
1* Star Premier Regional Master
 JJ Bainbridge
1* Star Regional Master
 Mrs MR King
 TR King
Tournament Master
 Mrs M Jones
4* Star Master
 E Jones
 Dr DE Wilkinson
3* Star Master
 R Gibson
2* Star Master
 RCJ Bates
 IM Clarke
1* Star Master
 Mrs I Richardson
 Mrs GM Webb
Advanced Master
 RB Storr
 Mrs S Stride
 TJ Strudwick
District Master
 Mrs JL Tate
Nottinghamshire
Premier National Master
 Mrs IL Auld
2* Star Premier Regional Master
 Mrs MM McCorkell
1* Star Premier Regional Master
 DK Rodgers
2* Star Regional Master
 JF Glass
5* Star Master
 JD Pick
4* Star Master
 H Thomas
 Mrs M Thomas
3* Star Master
 Mrs MH Ball
2* Star Master
 RE Griffiths
 Mrs J Jacques
1* Star Master
 Mrs P Bailey
 RC Langdon
 Mrs D Mairs
 KM Spencer
Advanced Master
 Mrs J Marron
 ES Poyser
Master
 Mrs S Goodlud
 Mrs M Savage
County Master
 R Evans
 Mrs CD Timmons
District Master
 JW Baylis
 J Teece

Oxfordshire
Life Master
 Mrs ED Yearling
National Master
 N Gascoyne
 Mrs G Pain
7* Star Regional Master
 K Jalie
4* Star Regional Master
 MJ Currie
 PW Jordan
3* Star Regional Master
 Mrs R Auger
 Dr JH Freeman
2* Star Regional Master
 Mrs A Smith
1* Star Regional Master
 K Kazmierczak
Tournament Master
 PW Finbow
5* Star Master
 Mrs DP Atkinson
4* Star Master
 C Morley
 Mrs K Morley
3* Star Master
 MJ Hannon
 RT Kingshott
2* Star Master
 Mrs I Merriman
1* Star Master
 C Redman
 A Tulip
Advanced Master
 Mrs D Evans
 Mrs M Henry
 P Perry
 PZ Perry
Master
 Mrs JG Gunn
County Master
 E Berkeley
 Ms C Saunders
 Dr G Scott-Brown
 Mrs J Whelan
District Master
 Mrs P Cheval
 Mrs M Czapski
 R Czapski
 Mrs L Hamblett
 NS Henry
 P Higgins
 Mrs V Manning
 P Murphy
 Dr I Pearson
Club Master
 Mrs M Baker
 E Belton Jones
 Ms L Driscoll
 Mrs D Max
 Mrs A Roberts
 Mrs L Swadling
 Mrs AL Tench
 Mrs J Thomas
 RA Watts

Somerset
Premier National Master
 Mrs J Farrington
National Master
 Mrs A McBride
8* Star Regional Master
 G Langdale
5* Star Regional Master
 EJ Sutton
2* Star
Tournament Master
 Mrs JAM Jones
1* Star
Tournament Master
 Mrs J Murray
 Mrs M Stodgell
Tournament Master
 MJ Arnold
 JR Cockram
5* Star Master
 Mrs A Harris
3* Star Master
 Mrs RC Brown
 N Cox
 AW French
 MV Smith
 Mrs S Stutard
1* Star Master
 KH Caddy

County Master
 BF Delaney
 B Fulwell
 Mrs S Fulwell
District Master
 Mrs VF Alderton
Club Master
 SA Oldham
 Mrs KP Whittall
Staffs and Shrops
Life Master
 BE Tonks
National Master
 B Stanley
 J Youens
3* Star Premier Regional Master
 DJ Drinkwater
2* Star Regional Master
 Mrs J Hollier
1* Star Regional Master
 A Davies
Regional Master
 J Vickers
5* Star Master
 Mrs P Ewan
2* Star Master
 Mrs MA Edwards
 M Legge
1* Star Master
 Mrs P McCormack
 G Tamber
Master
 C Ayton
 Mrs VB Lupton
County Master
 B Baker
 Mrs GM Caddick
 Mrs RM Crofts
 Ms J Rose
 PZ Withers
District Master
 JP Gillen
 Mrs HUD Millman
 Mrs A Piggott

Suffolk
6* Star Premier Regional Master
 Mrs PE Hanson
2* Star
Tournament Master
 Mrs EC Bryant
1* Star
Tournament Master
 MW O'Reilly
Tournament Master
 Mrs M Wyndham-Lewis
4* Star Master
 CR Saunders
3* Star Master
 Mrs EJ Marsh
2* Star Master
 JM Ede
1* Star Master
 Mrs JL Jones
 P Killen
Advanced Master
 JR Hartley
Master
 Mrs PM Barnes
 JT Heath
 Mrs M Heath
 Mrs AB Parker
 P Speller
County Master
 Mrs J Easton
 RE Jewell
District Master
 B Pinson
Club Master
 M Ling
Surrey
Premier Life Master
 M Garvey
Life Master
 MA Eden
Premier National Master
 C Smart
National Master
 ME Goddard
6* Star Premier Regional Master
 RC Sexton
5* Star Premier Regional Master
 JJ Murtagh

Ron Klinger will be at Manchester Bridge Club on October 6 for a teach-in on slam bidding (noon start). Contact Jeff Morris on 0161 445 3712 to enrol.

Diary dates: October 2-3 Northern Swiss pairs, Risley; November 7 Ben Franks Trophy, Manchester Bridge Club; December 19 Santa Claus pairs, Manchester Bridge Club; January 8-9 Manchester Congress, New Century Hall.

Merseyside/Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk

THE annual match against Dublin saw the Merseyside and Cheshire team travel for a weekend of tremendous conviviality. The Dublin squad managed a narrow victory, but as usual for this event the winner was irrelevant compared to the sociability of the occasion and the opportunity to see old friends. The visiting team was Alan Stephenson, Stuart Matthews, Ralph Churney, Ted Reveley, Dave and Jean Keen (open); Cameron Boyd, Geoff Cowie, Earl O'Keefe, Rob Roberts, Krista Stephenson, Pam Edwards (intermediate); Ann Dunn, Joan Marray, Liz Stevenson, Ann Hughes, Rekha Gatfield, Pat Crossley (ladies); and John Drake, David Stephenson, John and Dawn Herbert and Roger Arnold (officials).

There was a close contest for the Henry Huggill Trophy, the annual three-cornered match between the counties that used to form the North-West district of the EBU. Merseyside and Cheshire faltered at the final hurdle and Lancashire sneaked in for the win. Manchester were third. Our team was Alan Stephenson, Stuart Matthews, Ian Topp, Brian Horn, Joan Marray, Paul Roberts, Simon Edwards, Chris Pope, Matt Foster, John Hampson, Richard Silcock, Dave Shaw, Ted Reveley, Ralph Churney, David Flacks and John Leather.

The same weekend saw a match at Merseyside BC against Derbyshire, which the visitors won by 37imps. Our team was Cameron Boyd, Geoff Cowie, Earl O'Keefe, Rob Roberts, Ian Stanley, Pat Crossley, Rekha Gatfield, Chris Whaley, John Griffith, Lollo Murthwaite, Arthur Orme and Louise Orme.

Unfortunately the county team was also unsuccessful in the match against Cumbria, losing by 6imps - it must have been the long, hot journey to Barrow-in-Furness that tired them! The team was Chris Whaley, Rekha Gatfield, Earl O'Keefe, Rob Roberts, Olwen Brown, John Griffith, Joan King, Ian Stanley, Pat Crossley, Lollo Murthwaite, Bob Mitchell, Tony Pearson, Arthur Orme, Louise Orme, Helen Carsley and Tony Carsley.

The President's Cup was hosted this year by Merseyside and Cheshire at the Deva BC, Chester. Sadly there was no home advantage and the team finished in the middle of the pack, with Manchester winning the nine-team event.

Diary dates: October 2-3 Great Northern Swiss pairs, Risley; October 13-14 simultaneous pairs, clubs; October 10 Chester Bowl charity pairs, Deva BC; October 5 Lady Connell Trophy heat (County Green Point teams - Pachabo qualifier), Blundellsands BC; October 15 Lady Connell Trophy heat, Deva BC.

Middlesex

www.btinternet.com/~mcba

MANY congratulations to Richard Bowdery, who completed his best season by winning the Victor Ludorum. Steven Abad and Alistair Kent tied for first place in the non-expert category.

The Middlesex Plate was won by Jacqui and Peter Tobias, Allan Lipton, Sue Simon and Gary Jones, while Brenda and Geoff Foley finished second in the Scarborough pre-congress pairs and then topped the qualifying round of the seniors and veter-

ans pairs at Eastbourne.

Jonathan Febland and Peter Hasenson were second in the Hertfordshire Swiss pairs, with Jeremy Dhondy, partnering Alan Kay, third.

In the Essex Swiss teams Steve Capal, Andre Gubbay, Ian Pagan and Geoff Lederman tied for first place and Jeremy and Heather Dhondy were in the team that came third.

Congratulations to Shivam Shah and Michael Graham on finishing second in the under 20s section of the junior trials and gaining selection for England in the Peggy Bayer Trophy.

In the Metropolitan Cup Peter Kaufmann captained the Middlesex team to third place in the A section, just one point behind the runners-up. In the B section Middlesex, under captain Brenda Foley, trailed last at halfway, but stormed back to win, while in the C section the two Middlesex teams were in complete charge. Gail Hoffman's team won and Charlotte Vine's team were runners-up. It is the second year running that Middlesex has won both the B and C sections: will it be a hat trick next year?

At the EBU Brighton Congress Andrew Robson and David Bakhshi won the Swiss pairs. Jeremy Dhondy, playing with Keith Bennett, came fourth and Gerald Haase and Tony Waterlow were sixth. In the Swiss teams A final Alexander Allfrey, Andrew McIntosh, Andrew Robson and David Bakhshi came second and Jack Mizel and Victor Silverstone were in the team that was fourth. Peter Kaufmann and Dick Shek were in the winning team in the B final, with Neil and Anne Rosen in the team that was third.

Diary dates: November 3 Dorset Cup semi-final (no heats, book straight into the semi-final); November 20-21 Middlesex Congress, Eastman's, Harrow (Green Point Swiss pairs on Saturday, Green Point Swiss teams on Sunday - phone queries to Gail Hoffman 020 8958 6829); December 1 Dorset Cup and Plate finals, Eastman's.

Norfolk

www.ncba.co.uk

SHAW Trophy 1 Adrian La Chapelle and Paul Darby, 2 John Harrison and Tom Melvin, 3 Stuart Farquharson and Graham Hardman; Wymondham Trophy (below the rank of Regional Master) 1 Paul Carter and Christine Rockett, 2 Peter Smith and Margaret Smith, 3 Gillian Gilvey and Margaret Ward; John Harrison/EDP Trophy 1 J Harrison and N Hill, 2 M Lewis and M Whiting, 3 E Acton and B Cole; Kings Lynn Trophy 1 M Whiting, T Noble, D Newstead and M Walsh, 2 J Harrison, N Hill, B Hacker and N Fenwick, 3 G Allen, J Thickins and R and G Warner.

Diary dates: October 3 Orb Paquet Trophy Swiss pairs; October 10 Houston Trophy Swiss teams; October 17 Eastern Counties Cup teams, first round; November 7 Buxton Trophy restricted teams; November 14 Yarmouth Trophy pairs; December 5 Barclays Bank Trophy qualified pairs.

North Eastern

www.neba.co.uk

THE association's annual foray into the wilds of Northumberland for the Northern Swiss pairs in Alnwick saw 47 pairs in action. Well done to winners Irene Sharff and David Gold. Runners-up were Nan Bell and Ann Cagill.

The summer pairs final was also well attended and this was won by Wearsiders Graham Cox and Alwyn Erskine, ahead of Cramlington's Rosemary Donnelly and Norman Gray.

Last NEBA event of the 2003-4 season, the Summer Swiss teams at Newcastle BC, was won by the Stockton team of Norman

Master Point promotions

Surrey cont	Mrs GAM Isaacs
4* Star Premier	Mrs J Jones
Regional Master	C Jordan
Mrs JA Law	Mrs AJ McNab
3* Star Premier	VTH Parry
Regional Master	Mrs D Perrott
A Knott	PJ Rogers
2* Star Premier	Mrs NM Waller
Regional Master	TP Wickham
Mrs J Cook	Master
6* Star Regional	Mrs MV Amer
Master	PA Amer
BH Smith	Mrs IA Ayshford
5* Star Regional	JW Carter
Master	RP Cunningham
Mrs MK Blundell	EJ Holt
Mrs BE Guillaume	Mrs G Howie
Mrs RL Thompson	EJ Jones
4* Star Regional	Mrs B Kotkowska
Master	Mrs MW Redfearn
Mrs AJ Starte	Mrs A Stark
3* Star Regional	Mrs KM Walder
Master	AA Welsh
RH Starte	County Master
2* Star Regional	HT Buckingham
Master	GR Burgess
Mrs J Beamish	Mrs PM Puszet
Dr RJ Kennedy	PD Thompson
4* Star	District Master
Tournament	Mrs AE Blundell
Master	GT Bourne
Mrs I Hough	Mrs J Faulkner
3* Star	SJ Harding
Tournament	Mrs TA Hayworth
Master	Mrs BE Marston
Mrs E Carter	Dr S Ramdas
2* Star	J Simon
Tournament	Mrs BA Speller
Master	Ms L Whitrow
Mrs MS Dunbar	Dr R Zijlstra
Mrs TL Hall	Club Master
Miss BJ Wheeler	B Bannister
1* Star	Mrs MJ Brindle
Tournament	Mrs M Fleischer
Master	JM Gatrell
RJD Blackburn	Mrs DM Green
TJ Hamlyn	Ms C Howard
SJ Marks	T Jack
MR Oddy	Mrs H Matthew
Mrs FE Trebble	J Seal
Mrs PA Young	RG Windebank
Tournament	Sussex
Master	Premier Life
NF Barnes	Master
SA Lock	CL Bainham
DA Richards	Premier National
5* Star Master	Master
Mrs F W Brook	Mrs KR Bell
RF Mariner	National Master
JF Riley	E Foster
DR Rodgwick	HE Mitchell
Mrs P Webster-Smith	10* Star Premier
AN White	Regional Master
4* Star Master	BL Skimming
MA Bratton	R Underwood
AE Fincham	5* Star Premier
H Morgan	Regional Master
Mrs M Sales	Mrs M Folkes
Mrs E Scrivener	Mrs DM Reece
GJ Cuckling	3* Star Premier
3* Star Master	Regional Master
Mrs BD Burgess	GR Kellert
Mrs VA Cooper	M Wright
KM Jackson	2* Star Premier
A Jenkins	Regional Master
Mrs S Marks	TC Greenhill
Mrs M McCourts	9* Star Regional
Mrs SJ Postlethwaite	Master
Mrs S Quinlan	Mrs KV Gaylor
Mrs J Taylor	8* Star Regional
2* Star Master	Master
Dr AC Bamford	Mrs J Smith
Mrs G Gilliam	7* Star Regional
Mrs EA Hammergren-Smith	Master
GE Searle	Dr PA Dunbar
Mrs JIC Suckling	4* Star Regional
1* Star Master	Master
Mrs JR Buckingham	Mrs EA Hennings
Mrs NK Colley	NDR Pattison
Mrs YJ Hancox	Regional Master
Mrs S Hankin	R George
Mrs LA Harding	10* Star
Mrs EM Hurden	Tournament
Mrs J Kennedy	Master
D Quinlan	Mrs AI Williams
Mrs MM Smith	6* Star
RCP Smith	Tournament
Advanced Master	Master
Mrs S Abletshauser	Mrs M Dufficy
CR Allum	1* Star
Mrs JF Atkins	Tournament
MK Atkins	Master
Mrs M Holt	Mrs A Light

Dykes, Fred Dalton, Tony Jackson and David Milner. On the same day we played our annual friendly against the East of Scotland and both teams lost.

August traditionally starts with Margaret Watts organising a charity event in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief and this year the event raised more than £800. Christine and Derek Bainbridge were the winners, with Inga and Neil Aiston runners-up.

August also saw the first one-day congress organised by Cramlington BC and largely arranged by club secretary Anne Bell. The well-run event had to be restricted to 29 tables. The £100 first prize went to Fred Robinson and Peter Li-Ping, just ahead of Frank Springett and Peter Rodgeron, with Clive and Margaret Owen third. The consolation final was won by Kathleen Armstrong and Marlene Davison. Ian Muir directed.

Congratulations to Christopher Owen on being selected to play for England against the other home nations. Further afield the team of Ajit Shivasani, Ian Rankin, Mike Stansbury and Pat de Leeuw won the Swiss teams event at the SBU Summer Congress in Peebles.

Don't forget to book your place for the NEBA Congress (November 12-14) at the Best Western Derwent Manor Hotel in Allensford. This year both the Saturday pairs and Sunday teams will be Green Point and there will be at least one event for newcomers. Details from congress secretary Susan Green on 0191-2679551 or email susangreen00@hotmail.com

Northamptonshire

www.northantsbridge.info
QUALIFYING rounds start soon for the Eden Cup, the county's Green Point pairs tournament. There are rounds at Northampton on October 19, at Peterborough on November 10, at Towcester on November 16, at Stamford on January 13 and at Kettering on January 28. Please contact the club in advance to ensure there is available space. The final will be held at Peterborough on April 3 with those not qualifying able to play in the Murchie Lerner at Kettering on the same day.

The Lakeland Trophy, club teams of eight, with the winners qualifying for the Garden Cities Trophy, takes place on November 21 at Peterborough (1pm). Those not selected for the Lakeland can play in the teams of four Kettering Trophy at Kettering on the same day (2pm).

There have been some successes by county players. Jimmy Deacon, partnering former county member Bill Taylor, won the midweek pairs championship at the EBU Brighton Congress. The two also won the Swiss pairs at the Shrewsbury Congress, finishing one place ahead of Robert Miller and Trevor Thrower, with the two pairs linking up to finish third in the Swiss teams.

Ray and Janet Porter won the veterans pairs at the Eastbourne Seniors and Veterans Congress, while Peterborough BC's Peter Fountain and Jo Skillern finished third in the B final at the Brighton Seniors Congress and the Stamford pair of Chandra Ramamoorthy and Mike Gore Browne came third in the Green Point Swiss pairs at Spondon.

Diary dates: October 9 Winter League N-E, Peterborough; October 27 Winter League S-W, Northampton; November 10 Eden Cup qualifier, Peterborough; November 13 Winter League N-E, Peterborough; November 16 Eden Cup qualifier, Towcester; November 21 Lakeland, Peterborough; November 21 Kettering Trophy, Kettering; November 24 Winter League S-W, Northampton; December 5 Porch Trophy, Kettering.

Nottinghamshire

www.nottsbridge.co.uk
SEVENTY pairs and 27 teams contested the EBU/Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire Green Point weekend. The Swiss pairs was won by Michael Clayton and Colin Bland, with Ted Fisher and Willie Crook the highest Nottinghamshire pair in sixth place.

Nottinghamshire players were well to the fore in the Swiss teams. Keith Rodgers, Lloyd Eagling, John and Irene Auld won the event, Ted Fisher, Graham Marshall, Robin Fisher and Geoff Topol finished fourth and Tony and Pat Craddock, David and Judy Cadwallader were fifth.

Diary dates: September 29 President's Cup drives begin; October 13 BGB simultaneous pairs; clubs; October 24 Anniversary teams; December 5 Swiss teams championship (Enquiries and entries to Irene Auld on 016230 882425).

The Nottinghamshire CBA under 19 pairs championship is expected to be held at Nottingham High School in November. For details contact Mary Mills (home 0115 9142977, work 0115 9786056).

Oxfordshire

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk
CONGRATULATIONS to Debbie Roberts and Geoff Nicholas, who won the Hertfordshire Swiss pairs at the EBU one day events and then with Bedfordshire team-mates achieved third place in the multiple teams B final at the Scarborough Congress.

Competing against 573 other pairs Keith Bennett, partnering Jeremy Dhondy, finished fourth in the Brighton Congress Swiss pairs. Also at Brighton Peter Baxter and partner reached the final of the consolation seniors' championship.

In addition to his hectic administrative role as manager of the EBU's flagship event, Peter Jordan, partnering Lisa Massey, managed to reach third place in the Tuesday open pairs, while Chris Cooper and partner finished as runners-up in the Friday open pairs.

In the Swiss teams on the final weekend Richard Lonsdale, Stuart McPhee and team-mates performed extremely well to finish runners-up in the Brighton Bowl.

Oxfordshire players dominated the Really Easy Congress at Brighton. Dorothy Max and Elwyn Jones came second in the North/South section of the Welcome pairs, with Nancy Parker and Frank Feates third. Meanwhile Terry Gasking and Kate Taylor won the East-West section, with Christina Brown and Richard King runners-up and Dawn Mertens and partner third.

Congratulations to Kathy Gray and Pat Cheval on winning the pairs championship the following day, with Dorothy Max and Elwyn Jones runners-up. Mary Baker and partner came third and on the last day finished as North-South runners-up in the Farewell-Bon Voyage pairs, where Kathy Gray and Pat Cheval won the East-West section of the same event.

Diary dates: October 10 Dawes league v Worcestershire, Oxford BC; October 31 OBA men's pairs, Oxford BC; November 14 Dawes league v Warwickshire, Oxford BC; November 14 OBA Bridge for All pro-am tournament, Benson; December 5 OBA Swiss pairs, Oxford BC.

Somerset

www.somersetbridge.org.uk
SOMERSET's AGM, followed by a Swiss teams competition, was held for the first time in Taunton and despite somewhat crowded conditions and teams failing to tell anyone they intended taking part most people enjoyed the event.

At the beginning of the meeting the county made a presentation to Cerebra, the charity supported for the year by Somerset.

David Porter is the county's new president and he intends to build on the efforts of many in the county to make Somerset events more inclusive. In this respect it was good to see several new faces taking part in the Swiss teams. The event was won by Dave Latchem, Sheila Coda, Bob Warrender and Jackie Waters (and later Jackie Moody, who stepped in when Jackie Waters had to leave). Runners-up were John Perry, M Lewin and John and Shirley Durrant, with Nigel Maggs, Heinz Brunsch, Joe Melmoth and Chris Jones third.

Somerset players have been doing quite well in events further afield. Bob Lawy, with some non Somerset team-mates won the Swiss teams at the EBU Jersey Congress, while Heinz Brunsch, Nigel Maggs, Jackie Waters and Sheila Coda, representing Somerset, came second in the Beck Cup at Oxford.

Diary dates: October 1-3 West of England Congress, Weston; October 10 Paul Jones, Nailsea; October 10 Newcomers' teams, Curry Mallet.

Staffs and Shrops

www.newcastleulbc.btinternet.co.uk
WHAT a fantastic finish by England in the European Championships in Malmo and congratulations to Jason and Justin Hackett for the part they played in their country's qualification for the Bermuda Bowl World Championships.

The county team of Judy and Malcolm Mitchell, Ian Pendlebury, Dave Smith, Gary Hyett, Craig Fisher, Brian Cornelius and Paul Hackett finished runners-up in the Presidents Cup, losing by one board.

Winners in the Cwmbran Swiss teams were Brian Cornelius, Gary Hyett, Craig Fisher and Paul Hackett.

At Brighton David Moir qualified for the B final of the Swiss teams.

In the American Nationals Paul Hackett won the Swiss teams and Jason Hackett went on to Hong Kong, where he joined a Japanese team to win the inter-cities teams tournament.

Winners of the Wolverhampton Swiss teams were David Jones, Colin Dean, Mike Summersmith and Marilyn Jones. Second were Albert Tipton, Jane Charnell, Pat Poxon and Peter Burton and third Annette Lucas, Mike Cornes, Margaret Tomlinson and Graham Foster.

David Owen is stepping down as Staffs and Shrops chairman. During his term of office he put in a tremendous amount of work for the county and the initial success of the simultaneous pairs was largely due to his efforts and enthusiasm. We thank David and hope he remains on our committee for many years to come. John Withers is our new chairman.

The Mindsports Olympiad, held in Manchester, produced a batch of medals for our members. Justin Hackett started it off with gold in the men's pairs, followed by Peter Sinclair and Paul Hackett collecting silver in the seniors' pairs. Clifford Tavar and John Hartley, in a field teeming with internationals, collected silver in the championship pairs and the team captained by Brigitte Mavromichalis (Paul, Jason and Justin Hackett, playing with the world's number one, Geir Helgemo) did the double by winning the point-a-board and the Swiss teams. Craig Fisher won gold in the multiple teams. The county's tally was 10 gold and four silver medals – an outstanding performance.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk
THERE is good evidence to show that Suffolk is receiving the response from members that it has called for as it seeks to promote duplicate bridge events in the county.

Master Point promotions

Sussex cont

Tournament

Master

GS Glover

JW Hunt

SN Moss

5* Star Master

JP Emery

Ms BE Herold

Mrs M Knott

KJ Latty

4* Star Master

Mrs E Scott

RJ Wheeler

3* Star Master

Mrs MA Burgess

Mrs KJ Dunn

Mrs CM Gray

Mrs AV Grove

CA Helm

Mrs DM Johnstone

PL Keogh

Mrs PM Keogh

Mrs CE Maylen

ED Thornton

2* Star Master

Mrs BJ Bradley

Mrs SD Bugden

Mrs JE Cattermole

JP Clark

LN Manville

LP Satow

1* Star Master

Mrs C Appleby

RE Cannings

Mrs HM Coombs

Dr D Hopkins

S Katz

IW McLennan

AC Turk

RH Weir

Advanced Master

DA Gimson

Mrs H Gimson

Ms CA Mitchell

FE Pole

T Rees

Mrs CA Skimming

Mrs MLM Winn

Master

E Fisher

Mrs E Fisher

Mrs FE Higgins

AH Lawson

Mrs P Neate

J Wrapson

County Master

Mrs K Berger

Ms S Ebsworth

Mrs GC Fletcher

Ms AM Gordon

Mrs HM James

DS Jay

Mrs JM Jay

NJ Levine

Mrs CR Norris

AM Piper

Mrs BJ Piper

District Master

Ms E Fegredo

Mrs JW Friend

Club Master

Dr HA Beveridge

Mrs B Pearson

Woodd

Miss J Pickles

DTH Tarbuck

Mrs P Tarbuck

Warwickshire

Life Master

Mrs M Crangle

T Crangle

7* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs SR Browne

Tournament

Master

Miss JE Satterthwaite

5* Star Master

MJ Roberts

4* Star Master

KR Boutell

3* Star Master

C Malthouse

2* Star Master

AJ Lord

Mrs K Matthews

Mrs J Quincey

1* Star Master

P Bruton

Mrs GB Eden

Dr D Kalderson

Mrs J Morgan

Mrs P West

R West

Advanced Master

Mrs CM Cooper

Mrs J Gallop

Mrs J Griffiths

Mrs D Manders

Mrs S Shires

County Master

WD Jones

District Master

Mrs PM Knight

Mrs BR Stevens

Ms PA Wernick

A Wild

Mrs JA Wild

Club Master

Mrs PM Barrow

Mrs JH Garlick

GW Hudson

MJ Kingman

Mrs S Mills

F Vernon

Ms S Witcomb

Westmorland

3* Star Regional

Master

Mrs P Downes

Tournament

Master

AG Anderson

5* Star Master

Miss EB Limb

1* Star Master

B Gosling

Mrs J Gosling

Master

Mrs JEA Frobisher

County Master

Mrs I Gregory

Wiltshire

6* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs SM Phillips

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs S Hands

3* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs V Crawford

Ms J Gray

5* Star Regional

Master

Mrs GA Dalton

Mrs J Davis

4* Star Regional

Master

Mrs LC Harrop

4* Star Master

AF Harvey

3* Star Master

RJ Gwyer

1* Star Master

DH Hadley

Advanced Master

SAD Hearn

DE Ward

Master

Mrs RJ Fussell

County Master

Mrs W English

Mrs A Merrills

District Master

S Clarke

Worcestershire

Premier National

Master

P Hooker

National Master

Mrs MM Parker

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

WG Everley

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

A Harris

BH Varley

2* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs CM Varley

2* Star Regional

Master

Ms S Sharp

3* Star

Tournament

Master

LR Swift

1* Star

Tournament

Master

R Carman

5* Star Master

DR Halford

FT Rochelle

RG Singleton

There was an increased field in the married pairs for the Lang Cup, which was won by Maureen and John Heath, with Fleur and Rick Waters second and Norma and Paddy Shannahan third. Then 37 partnerships contested the Stokes Trophy (senior pairs) at Stoke-by-Nayland Golf Club. Here Andrew Moore and Barry Davies retained the top spot they achieved last year. Jock Stevenson and David Yorke-Edwards were a close second (and won the Veterans prize), with Peter Markwell and Claude Stokes third.

It will be pleasing to see every club represented at the club teams of eight competition on October 31 at Stoke-by-Nayland (2pm). This is a multiple teams event with the winning club representing Suffolk in the Garden Cities next May.

Equally important is the Suffolk teams championship on December 12 at Stoke-by-Nayland (1pm). There are two sessions of multiple teams in this popular event. Those qualifying from the first session play a second session to determine the four to contest the right to represent Suffolk in the Pachabo. Those not qualifying will play for the Suffolk Plate. Entry for this and the Garden Cities can be made via the Suffolk web site or by notifying competitions secretary Jyl Marsh (01206 322546 or earlings@btopenworld.com).

Jane Moore, Peter Speller and John Standley continue their excellent efforts to promote duplicate bridge. On November 7 a novice pairs event will be held at Stoke-by-Nayland (2pm): entry application to Jyl Marsh (details above) or Jane Moore (01206 263209 or vjmoore@onetel.net.uk).

Suffolk continues the theme with a Bridge the Gap weekend for improvers at the Wivenhoe House Hotel (October 29-31). We also have a Bridge Golf and Spa Break (November 16-19) at Stoke by Nayland Golf Club. Applications should be made through either Jane Moore or Peter Speller (peterspeller@btopenworld.com or 01206 366725).

In November we have two further events: Frinton teams on the 14th (applications through Claude Stokes 01255 674253 or claudestokes@btopenworld.com) and Stowmarket Swiss teams on the 21st (11am). Cooked lunch is provided at this event, which was highly successful last year.

Congratulations to Joan Mayhew's team (including Din Gudka, Eric Newman and Basia Malinowska) on coming 10th in the Spring Bank Holiday event at Bournemouth.

The Suffolk web site now publishes up-to-date news and for those who do not have access to the Internet clubs are requested to display the information on their notice board.

Surrey

www.surreycountybridge.org.uk

SURREY's first simultaneous MiniBridge pairs competition was a great success, with five schools and a total of 26 pairs taking part. There were three heats and Cranmore School produced the first and second pairs, with scores of over 70%! Congratulations to the winners, Ted Caplan and Andrew Burke, to the runners-up, Arthur Kissin and Alex Mitchell, and to third-placed Fay Birch and Kira Gooding.

We are intending that this event becomes a regular feature in the Surrey schools bridge calendar.

Bomi Kavanara (county youth officer) is now trying to encourage the schools to take part in a teams-of-four league. Although based around schools any team of four can enter and Bomi will be pleased to help interested pairs to join up to create a team.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Taylor and David Messer of Guildford on winning the Dorin Salver and to Trevor Hamlyn

and Jacky Taylor of Leisureland, who were second.

Congratulations also to our successful players at the Brighton Summer Meeting: Jeffrey Allerton and Frances Hinden came seventh in the Swiss pairs; Mike Eden and Carrie Eden, with team-mates, won the open Swiss teams; Michael Byrne, Jeffrey Allerton, Graham Osborne and Frances Hinden won the mixed pivot teams; Frances Hinden and Jeffery Allerton came third in the mixed pairs; Chris Smart and Peggy Moss were second in the senior pairs A final, with Tony Turnage and John Cruickshank third.

Another season has started, but it is not too late to put in your entries for the county pairs, mixed pairs, senior pairs and 30K Cup. The only league event still open for entries is the Surrey Bowl, which will be included in the Victor Ludorum this season. The competition brochure and website have full details. If you have not entered a Surrey event before, why not start with the 30K cup - only players below the rank of Regional Master are allowed.

If you can't find a competition to your liking, or have an idea for a competition you would like to see, then please let the committee know.

Sussex

www.sccba.co.uk

AT the Shrewsbury Congress Matthew and Liz Hoskins were second in the Swiss teams playing with Jim Grant (Devon) and John Atthey (Gloucestershire).

There was a victory for Sussex in the annual friendly match between the committee members of Sussex and Surrey, played in the usual happy atmosphere.

The Ardingly Swiss pairs again attracted a large field. There was a creditable win for the non-expert pair Olwen Tuttle and John Burton from Patcham, who finished 3yps ahead of J and D Armstrong, with T Whiteley and P Pratchett third, D Cairns and S Peters fourth and R Fedrick and R Zijlstra equal fourth.

At the Summer Seniors and Veterans Congress at Eastbourne David and Marie Gritt were second in the seniors championship final, Peter Collins and Ian Watt were second in the Swiss pairs and Dave Franklin, Gerry Stanford, Mick Carrington and Martin Pool were second in the Swiss teams. The Sussex A team was second in the Metropolitan Cup.

The SCCBA/EBU Swiss teams (a new event played at the South of England Showground) was won by T Greenhill, J Murrell, C Bainham and E Lucioni, with R Fedrick, R Zijlstra, A Southwell and M Hoskins second and J Durden, Sedgwick, Thompson and Harrison third.

The EBU Brighton Congress again brought its share of excitement, disappointments and surprises. Possibly it is the last factor that causes the buzz and makes this congress a bit different from the rest.

Our best result in the first weekend was equal 29th by G Stanford and D Franklin in the hotly contested Swiss pairs, while at the other end of the week Eddie Lucioni David Moir, Gerry Stanford and Dave Franklin did well to reach the Swiss teams B final, with Eddie also winning the Thursday open pairs with a player from Warwickshire. Sarah and Julian Mitchell, with Alan and Nanette Gillespie, won the midweek KO teams, Peter Collins and Ian Macgregor were second in the seniors championship pairs B final and Dilys Jones, Peter Collins, Martin Neilan and Ian Macgregor were second in the seniors Swiss teams. Other Sussex players to put up a good show were Mike Keeping, Richard Burnett, Jill and Dave Armstrong, Joy Mayall, Andrew Willard, Ros Wolfarth, Liz and Matthew Hoskins, D Galpin, J Hootman, Joy Mayall, A Willard, S Saunter and P Buttery.

Diary dates: A friendly welcome is assured at the Patcham club's teams events held on the first Sunday of each month (details from Martin Haigh tel 01273 682136); October 13-14 BGB simultaneous pairs (During October and November there are plenty of SCCBA heats to enter); October 31 SCCBA ladies' and men's pairs, Eastbourne, West Sussex and Worthing.

Warwickshire

www.warwickshirebridge.co.uk

HATS off to Ben Green and Duncan Happer after their efforts in the under 25 Junior European Championships at Malmo, and their overall place of fifth in individual performances. Also well done to David Jones and John Collings for their part in the seniors championships at the same venue.

Nearer home the Coventry team of David Jones, Gary Watson, John Collings, Martin Jones, Steve Green and Graham Link won both the quarter-finals and semi-finals of the prestigious NICKO event by a single imp and we wish them every success in the final.

This year's Warwickshire Charity Cup (Swiss teams) attracted just 10 teams, compared with 20 or more on previous occasions: Results 1 Margaret Armstrong, Michael Allen, Roger Bowles and Pip Whitehouse, 2 Betty Scholes, Margaret Wort, Beryl Latham and Terry Edge, 3 Hylda Townsend, David Hulston, Anne Crow and Roy Moore. However, £392 was raised which, coupled with the proceeds from an earlier simultaneous pairs event, resulted in a donation of £760 to St Mary's Hospice.

At West Midlands BC the Millennium Cup prize winners were 1 David Kenward and John Robbins, 2 Mike Allen and Colin Dean, 3 Pat Shields and Graham Sadie, with first session winners Bob and Stephanie Galvin and best climbers Hylda Townsend and David Hulston.

Diary dates: October 6 BGB autumn simultaneous pairs, Moseley BC 7.15pm; October 11 Anne Ormond Cup Swiss pairs, Moseley BC 7.15pm; October 14 BBU simultaneous pairs, Kenilworth BC 7pm; October 25 first Warwickshire pairs heat for the enthusiasts and the introductory pairs heat for the lesser experienced, Moseley BC 7.15pm; November 5-7 EBU Seniors Congress, Daventry; November 8 Joyce Hare Trophy mixed pairs, Moseley BC 7.15 pm; November 21 Weston Trophy Swiss pairs, West Midlands BC 1.45pm; November 26-28 Kenilworth Congress; December 5 Garden Cities inter-club qualifier, West Midlands BC 1.45pm (Club secretaries should have their teams of eight ready). Entries for Warwickshire events, please, to P Whitehouse tel 0121 704 9287.

Wiltshire

www.wcba.co.uk

The Premier League has begun again, with all matches at the Town Hall, Devizes, starting at 7.30pm (see dates below).

All home matches in the Western League will be held at the Nursted Centre in Devizes, starting at 2pm. The A team includes Martyn and Vera Kenyon, Bob Bannister, Andrew Law, Kathy Hodgson, Ron King, Peter Sampson, Phil Green, Diana King, Roger Karn, James Dunlop, Danny Miller, Colin Jones and Dave Hale. The B team includes Jenny Gray, Phil Bennett, Gwenda Merriott, Nick Pegg, Barry Kibble, Norman Lambert, Marion and Ian Cowley, Martin Buck, Adam Harvey, Chris Starr, Reg Thorpe, Colin and Gay

Master Point promotions

Worcestershire

4* Star Master
MJ Haywood

3* Star Master
M Smith

2* Star Master
K Collins
Mrs AL Freeston
Mrs A Phillips
Mrs JI Powell
RN Whittington

1* Star Master
Mrs DE Davies
Mrs P Day
Mrs GM Ford

Advanced Master
DH Emery
Mrs VJ Enticknap
Mrs HE Farmer
Mrs BA Holloway
JF Holloway
A Jenkins
Mrs B Rayer
Mrs JM Rutter
RC Rutter
CR Withers
Mrs YL Yorke

District Master
AC Alford
Mrs M Alford
GM Herbert
SC Sawyer
DG Teague

County Master
Mrs J Baer
A Carter
Mrs JC Douglas
C Enticknap
Mrs A Gittins
Mrs J Jackson
OE Nolf
P Sanson
Mrs F Wade

Yorkshire
Grand Master
JM Kimpton

Life Master
JP Hayton
P Radley

Premier National
Master
SE Hall
HB Hoyle
N Ramsey

2* Star Premier
Regional Master
A Jarvis
DR McKham

Premier Regional
Master
R Hutchinson

13* Star Regional
Master
DH Bland

5* Star Regional
Master
Mrs E Hirst

4* Star Regional
Master
Mrs AS Rowan

3* Star Regional
Master
Mrs P McCann

2* Star Regional
Master
Mrs M Allison
Mrs MS Morrisroe
Mrs T Pearce
DH Strawn

6* Star
Tournament
Master
AR Mansfield
Mrs HY Mansfield

2* Star
Tournament
Master
H Luts

1* Star
Tournament
Master
DV Duckworth

5* Star Master
Master
R Barber
J Maltman
RE Mountain
HN Hall
Mrs P Holloway
RW Montgomery
Mrs HJ Shaw

4* Star Master
EJ Crebbin
Mrs KA Crebbin
GP Fry
I Johnson
Mrs M Johnson
Mrs HE Montgomery
L Stronach

3* Star Master
Mrs L Atkinson
Mrs AE Edwards
BW Graham
G Nixon

2* Star Master
AR Beer
R Blamires
G Burley
Mrs PR Cooper
GD Goodall
Mrs B Hoyle
Mrs H Reeve

1* Star Master
R Andrews
Mrs J Bowes
Mrs MW Bryson
CW Davies
B Davison
C Maynard
RC Ransome
Mrs EM Woollard

Advanced Master
K Baines
Miss L Bridson
D Brooksbank
JD Childs
Mrs M Graburn
PM Hannan
Mrs H Harvey
Mrs M Jones
Mrs M Laycock
HCJ Lunniss
Mrs P Lunniss
Miss B Mackereth
Mrs N Mills
Mrs VAH Smith
Mrs D Smithson
Mrs E Snowden
Trigg
Mrs D Swaine

Corsham pairs on October 17 and it is hoped each club will field at least one team. Chippingham Green Point event is scheduled for March 13 at the Olympiad Leisure Centre: entries via the Wiltshire web site or by contacting Gayle Webb on 01985 214102.

The Wiltshire competitions handbook has been distributed to club secretaries who are asked to ensure that all EBU members receive a copy. Details of all events are listed in the handbook. If you wish to play in an event please enter via the web site or telephone tournament secretary Norman Lambert on 01793 762866.

EBU Master Point rankings can be viewed on the Wiltshire web site and a full Master Points list is available on the EBU web site. Simply enter your EBU number to check your rank.

There is bridge teaching this year, in Trowbridge by Diana King and Phil Green and in Swindon by Keith Sharpe. Check the web site for details.

Diary dates: October 11 Premier League II; October 17 October Corsham pairs; November 2 Premier League III; November 14 Garden Cities qualifier, Nursted Centre; November 21 Western League v Avon, Bristol; December 1 Premier League IV; December 5 Championship pairs heat; December 12 Western League v Hereford, Nursted Centre.

Worcestershire

www.wcba.freemove.co.uk
WORCESTERSHIRE sports its own newcomers pairs annually. This year there was a tie for first place between Rufus and Carol James-Moore (Bromsgrove) and Paul Sanson and Ann Gittins (Stourbridge and Halesowen). Andrew Tryndle and Paul Webley (Bromsgrove) were third.

Worcestershire members are striking gold in Welsh events. The Welsh Seniors Congress Swiss teams was won by Hayden Dando, playing with colleagues, and the Welsh Swiss pairs was won by Grahame Weir, playing with Bill Niccol of Merseyside. Gordon Roxburgh and Hayden again won the Mid Wales Swiss teams with colleagues John Squibb and Glyn Davies.

At the Stourbridge one day Swiss Congress a team consisting of Barry Brice, David Horton, James Taylor and Roy Withers won with 100vps, just one vp ahead of David Thomas, Susan Sharp, Heather Westcott and Jennifer Romer. The former champions, John Cattanaach, Suzanne Griffin, Ray Foulds and Norah Allen trailed in third place with 95vps.

Diary dates: October 4 closed teams qualifier, Holt Fleet; October 11 county men's and ladies' pairs (hosts provided), Holt Fleet; October 16 Irene Allen non-expert Swiss pairs (5* Masters or lower. Non-EBU members welcome), Stourbridge Institute - contact John Cattanaach 01905 25265; October 30-31 Malvern Hills Congress Green Point Swiss weekend (including No Fear events) - contact Liz Boyes 01386 861758; November 1 mixed teams (Bill Dalman Trophy), Holt Fleet; December 6 county mixed pairs and Flitch, Holt Fleet.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.freemove.co.uk
THE Ripon BC team of Mike Ferguson, Dave Broadhead, Clive Owen, Malcolm Oliver and Tony Swires did well to reach the quarter-final of the NICKO, where they lost to New Amersham. In the NICKO Plate Scarborough B (Dorothy Rickaby, David Lewis, Martin Carlisle and Peter Franks) beat Sheffield A (Dave Waxman, Richard Pike, Sandy Davies and Tom Gisborne) in the quarter-final, before going out in the semi-final.

Congratulations to Susan Stockdale and Phil Godfrey, who won the mixed pairs championship at the EBU Brighton Congress, with Nevena Senior and Tim Smith sixth. Steve Raine was in the team that finished seventh in the exclusive A final of the Swiss teams and Phil Godfrey and Liz Reese, assisted by Warwickshire team-mates, were sixth in the consolation contest for the Brighton Bowl. The Seniors Congress, part of the Brighton event, saw Agnes Blewitt and Stan Collins come fifth in the championship pairs A final.

Graham Jepson and Dave Musson recorded a fine win in the Swiss pairs at the EBU Northern Congress at Scarborough, where Stuart Davies and Bill Townsend were seventh and John Kimpton and David Colley eighth. Also at this event Sarah Teshome, with team-mates Harold Wayne and Catherine and Chris Jagger, won the multiple teams A final, with Stan Collins, Agnes Blewitt and team-mates Jeff Smith and David Audley fourth, and Peter Stocken, Alan Williams, Philip Mason and Pauline Cooper fifth. Steve Raine and John Raine were third in the pre-congress pairs.

Congratulations to Tom Dessain and Dominic Pinto, selected for the England training squad in the under 20s and under 25s respectively.

Cheryl and Dave Duddell came second in the open pairs at the Shrewsbury Congress, with John Hinton and Shelagh Flett fourth.

Clear winners at the Harrogate Swiss teams were Ted and Janet Latham, Shelagh Flett and John Hinton, ahead of Richard Winter, Tony McNiff, Sue Logan and Giles Foster. Third were Ruth Baker, Lesley Bridson, Paul Barrett and Terry Read.

Winners of the Waddington Cup final were Sheffield's Frank Littlewood, Stuart Fletcher, Raphael Grossman and Geoff Kenyon. Malton (Mike Jackson, Annette Bratley, Richard Hilton and Alan Martindale) were second and Harrogate (Ted and Janet Latham, Shelagh Flett and Judith Biles) third.

The Bridge For All pivot teams was won by the Doncaster family of Paul and Margaret Woodford and 10-year-old Tammy, supported by tutor David Dunsby. David Colley and Andrew Petrie came third in the Lancashire Swiss pairs.

Yorkshire beat Lincolnshire by 14imps in the annual friendly. The team was Judith Biles (captain), Stephen Pollard, Alan Dean, Diane Dean, Raphael Grossman, Roger Taylor, Rob Turner, Mary Whymys, Angela Booth, Peter Radley, Karen Bradley, Les Brown, Richard Hilton, Ken Hayton, Alan Best and Kevin Hawkins. However, in another friendly, Yorkshire was again overwhelmed by Manchester.

Pearl and Denis Murphy won the Yorkshire Flitch for the second year running, with Daphne and Mike Coggles second and David and Pamela Oglesby third.

The Victor Ludorum for the best overall performance in Yorkshire simultaneous pairs was shared by Mary Kenworthy and John Revill.

Diary dates: October 10 Yorkshire League; October 24 Nelson Rose Bowl; October 31 Yorkshire League; November 14 Yorkshire League; November 28 Ryedale pairs; December 5 Yorkshire League; December 19 Yorkshire mixed pivot teams.

Please send items of interest for inclusion in this column to Bill Townsend, email billtoyp@btopenworld.com

TOP PERFORMANCES AT THE EBU BRIGHTON CONGRESS

SWISS pairs 1 Andrew Robson and David Bakhshi, 2 Ian Pagan and Chris Jagger, 3 Ken Forsyth and Wally Scott.

Swiss teams A final 1 Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, Peter Crouch and David Burn, 2 Alexander Allfrey, Andrew McIntosh, Andrew Robson and David Bakhshi, 3 Rune Hauge, Fred Muen, Olaf Reve, Ingvar Erga and Jan Svendsen.

Swiss teams B final 1 Peter Kaufmann, Dick Sheck, Peter Czerniewski and Marc Smith, 2 Ian Monahan, Brian Callaghan, Glenn Grotheim and Terje Aa, 3 Neil and Anne Rosen, Jeremy Willans and Catherine and Ian Draper.

Swiss teams consolation final 1 Jeremy Baker, Steve Preston, Dave Huggett and Steve Auchterlonie.

Seniors Congress: pairs A final 1 Bill Hirst and Alan Nelson, 2 Chris Smart and Peggy Moss, 3 Tony Turnage and John Cruickshank; pairs B final 1 Greer McKenzie and Hastings Campbell, 2 Peter Collins and Ian Macgregor, 3 Peter Fountain and Jo Skillern; consolation final 1 Lawrence Gaunt and Tony Bolton, 2 Ann Sharples and Harold Wayne, 3 Steve Gore and Chris Burley; Swiss teams 1 Jim Luck, Kath Nelson and Rhona and Bernard Goldenfield, 2 Tony Gordon, Roger Jackson, Phil Thornton and Steve Gore, 3 Peter Collins, Martin Neilan, Dilys Jones and Ian Macgregor.

Really Easy Congress winners: first session N-S Larry Doyle and Kate Pritchard, E-W Terry Gasking and

Kate Taylor; second session Kathy Gray and Pat Cheval; third session N-S Larry Doyle and Kate Pritchard, E-W Kathy Gray and Pat Cheval.

Winners of other events: Knockout teams Julian and Sarah Mitchell, Alan and Nanette Gillespie; open pairs first Sunday Coral Fallon and Frank Stirland, Monday Maureen Hiron and Irving Gordon, Tuesday Jeffrey Allerton and Frances Hindon, Tuesday evening Jim Deacon and Bill Taylor, Wednesday Paul Huggins and Dominic Pinto, Thursday Eddie Lucioni and Darren Evetts, Friday Ben Green and Andrew Woodcock, second Sunday Celia and Derek Oram; play with the experts Sarah Whitehead and Leigh Chapman; mixed pivot teams Michael Byrne, Jeffrey Allerton, Graham Osborne and Frances Hindon; mixed pairs Susan Stockdale and Phil Godfrey.

Full results on the EBU web site: www.ebu.co.uk

Were you there?

Were you at Brighton? We were - and we had our camera with us, taking candid pictures of the players. Watch for our Brighton picture spread in the December issue of *English Bridge*.

MEMBER 2 MEMBER

MISCELLANEOUS

EXCLUSIVE GIFTS FOR THE BRIDGE PLAYER

BRIDGE GIFTS DIRECT

♣ Card Tables ♦ Playing Cards
♥ Pens ♣ Pencils ♣ Sweets
♦ Score pads ♥ Bridge Cloths
♣ Soaps ♣ Jewellery ♦ Cushions
♥ Sugar ♣ China ♣ Tea Towels ♦
Mats ♥ Card Holders ♣ Key rings
♣ Melamine wear ♦ Coasters ♥
Aprons ♣ Mugs ♣ Oven Gloves ♦
Jotters ♥ Leather Travelling Sets
♣ Serviettes ♦ Diaries ♥
Calendars ♣ Book-marks ♣ Letter
Openers ♦ Bidding Boxes
♥ Duplicate Boards and Wallets ♣
Bridge Computers ♣ Books ♦
Instructional Videos ♥ Ties
♣ Cuff-links and much more

For the catalogue and further details
contact Bridge Gifts Direct Limited
20 Parson Street, Hendon NW4 1QB
Tel: 020 8346 0979 (Carole)
Fax: 020 8346 4694

PRECISION SCORING

MPpairs/CrossIMPPairs/Average
MPpairs supports customary &
developed systems the only
software to evaluate non-scorers
by tricks. Read all about improved
methods shareware download
www.scorer123.com
www.bridgeassistant.com

PARTNERS WANTED

SEMI RETIRED LADY seeks partner
for competitions and holidays.
Master level in Worcestershire
area. PO BOX 207

ATTRACTIVE SOCIABLE MATURE
LADY (master) seeks unattached
gentleman for bridge weekends
and holidays. BOX NO 208

CLUBS

YOUNG CHELSEA 24 HOUR MARATHON 20/21 NOVEMBER

First prize £3000

020 7373 1665

www.ycbc.co.uk

To reply to box numbers
please write to:

Laura Grimsley,
English Bridge Advertising Sales,
Charlton House,
Old Estate Yard,
East Hendred,
Oxford OX12 8LL

HOLIDAYS

Prizes £700 in value including 3 WEEKEND VOUCHERS:

5 duplicate bridge sessions,
seminar, enhanced master
points, bridge licensed by the
EBU. Generous prizes include
champagne, whisky, wine,
and Coventry Hilton bridge
weekend vouchers.

Sherry reception (1750);
Bridge room soft drinks;
Farewell buffet & prize giv-
ing; 4pm. check out.
All plus d.b.&b: -
29-31 OCT (& 25-27 FEB) 2/3
nights, £80/105pp. sharing,
single supp. £20/25.

Also 27 - 31 DEC, £1200 in
prize value, 7 sessions, 3/4
nights £110/135pp. sharing,
single supp. £30/35.
(Partners not provided)

COVENTRY HILTON,
0247-684-1017 (or -660-3000).

NERJA BRIDGE CLUB (Southern Spain)

Avda Castilla Perez, 1
(side entrance)

Duplicate Mon 7pm Wed
230pm Fri 4pm

Tel Colin (0034) 617 534 342
or email
colinhaldenby@hotmail.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Minimum of £14.25, up to 14
words; additional words £1 each.
Box Number charge £5.00.

Please make cheque payable to:
Blue2, Charlton House,
Old Estate Yard, East Hendred,
Oxford, OX12 8JY.

Telephone:
01235 833060

Advertisements for the
December 04 edition of
English Bridge must be
received by:

**October 26
2004**

CLUB TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR Training Courses – 2004/05

ESSENTIALS

Thurston*	Sun 10th Oct
Darlington	Sat 6th Nov
Halifax	Sat 13th Nov
Welwyn GC	Sat 20th Nov
Bradford	Sat 5th Feb

BOOK RULINGS

Chobham*	Sat 9th Oct
Cuckfield*	Sat 23rd Oct
Wantage	Sat 30th Oct
Thurston*	Sun 14th Nov
Darlington	Sat 4th Dec
Welwyn GC	Sat 4th Dec
Halifax	Sat 11th Dec
Bradford	Sat 12th Mar

JUDGMENT RULINGS

Nottingham	Sat 9th Oct
Kinsham*	Sun 7th Nov
Chobham*	Sat 27th Nov
Wantage	Sat 27th Nov
Thurston*	Sat 4th Dec
Darlington	Sat 8th Jan 05
Welwyn GC	Sat 15 Jan 05
Cuckfield*	Sat 22 Jan 05
Halifax	Sat 5th Feb 05
Bradford	Sat 16th Apr

ASSESSMENT (MAX 8)

Bury	Sun 10th Oct
Keswick	Sat 16th Oct
Tettenhall	Sat 23rd Oct
Nottingham	Sat 13th Nov
Sheffield	Sat 4th Dec
Kinsham*	Sat 11th Dec
Chobham*	Sat 15th Jan 05
Wantage	Sat 15th Jan 05
Thurston*	Sat 5th Feb 05
Darlington	Sat 12th Feb 05
Welwyn GC	Sat 12th Feb 05
Cuckfield*	Sat 2nd Apr 05
Halifax	Sat 13th Mar 05
Bradford	Sat 18th Jun



For further information, or to register
for a course, call 01296 317225 or
email maggie@ebu.co.uk

TD COURSES IN TUNISIA

A series of TD courses will be held at The Bellvue Park Hotel,
Elkantaouri, Tunisia as follows:

Essentials - Nov 30th • Book Rulings - Dec 3rd
Judgment Rulings - Dec 7th • Assessment - Dec 10th

For further information, or to register for a course, please contact
Eddie Williams on 01424 430596 or 07830 243946 or by email:
modbenji@hotmail.com or bridgehols@yahoo.co.uk

- * Kinsham in Herefordshire
- * Chobham in Surrey
- * Thurston near Bury St Edmunds
- * Cuckfield in W.Sussex

● **COMPLIMENTARY COACHING WITH SELECTED PICK-UPS THROUGHOUT THE UK OR FREE PARKING** ● **CRUISE DIRECT FROM THE UK – NO FLYING**

We have selected the **MV Van Gogh**, lovingly operated to the highest standard. Fully stabilised and air-conditioned throughout with an array of facilities and organised activities available. There is a variety of accommodation available. All cabins are of a high standard and well equipped with full private facilities, two music channels, telephone and air conditioning. Breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner (including specially arranged gala dinners) and even midnight snacks are included on board.

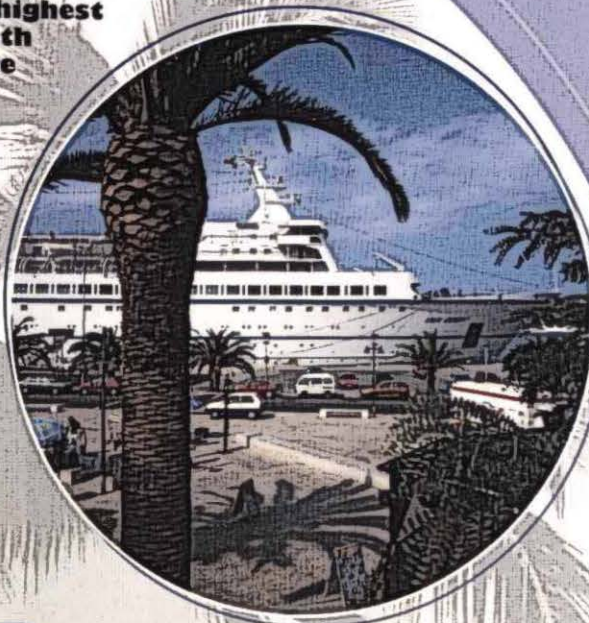
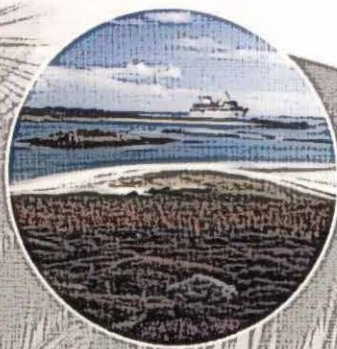
SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS & GARDENS CRUISE

6 DAYS FROM £449*

departing 12th April 2005

- Three ports of call – Ullapool, Scrabster and Invergordon
- Five nights accommodation on board the MV Van Gogh
- All meals & entertainment on board
- Visits to Loch Ewe & Inverewe Gardens
- Optional excursions to Castle of Mey, Loch Ness & Cawdor Castle
- Convenient cruising directly from Falmouth, returning to Newcastle (North Shields)
- Complimentary coaching from selected areas, or free secure parking at Falmouth

* (including Bridge Fee, price based on two people sharing a cabin)



NORWEGIAN FJORDS APPLE BLOSSOM CRUISE

7 DAYS FROM £599*

departing 4th May 2005

- Four excellent ports of call – Bergen, Flam, Gudvangen & Rosendal
- Six nights accommodation on board the MV Van Gogh
- Choice of cabins with full private facilities including air conditioning
- Full board – all meals on board included
- Complimentary coaching from selected areas or free secure car parking at London Tilbury

* (including Bridge Fee, price based on two people sharing a cabin)



THE SCILLY ISLES & GARDENS CRUISE

4 DAYS FROM £299*

departing 29th July 2005

- Excellent cruising itinerary including three ports of call; Honfleur, Tresco & St Mary's
- All cabins with full private facilities
- All meals and entertainment on board
- Included visit to the Eden Project
- Complimentary coaching from selected areas of free secure car parking at London Tilbury
- Convenient cruising from London Tilbury, returning to Falmouth

* (including Bridge Fee, price based on two people sharing a cabin)

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SUNSHINE CRUISE

15 DAYS FROM £999*

departing 21st December 2005

- Seven excellent ports of call including Vigo, Gibraltar, Casablanca, Lanzarote, Gran Canaria, Tenerife & Madeira
- 14 nights accommodation on board the MV Van Gogh
- All meals & entertainment on board
- Services of the ships crew on board
- Complimentary coaching from selected areas, or free parking at Falmouth

* Excluding Bridge fee (not included on this cruise)



SUPERB BRIDGE FACILITIES

Unlike most bridge cruises we have exclusive use of an elegant spacious bridge room throughout the cruises. There will be at least one full daily session of duplicate pairs with Masterpoints and prizes. There will also be a qualified Director and, subject to number of clients, a Bridge Overseas host or hostess on each cruise.

(Excluding the Christmas & New Year Sunshine Cruise where play will be limited)

FOR A BROCHURE AND TO BOOK CALL: 0800 0346 246

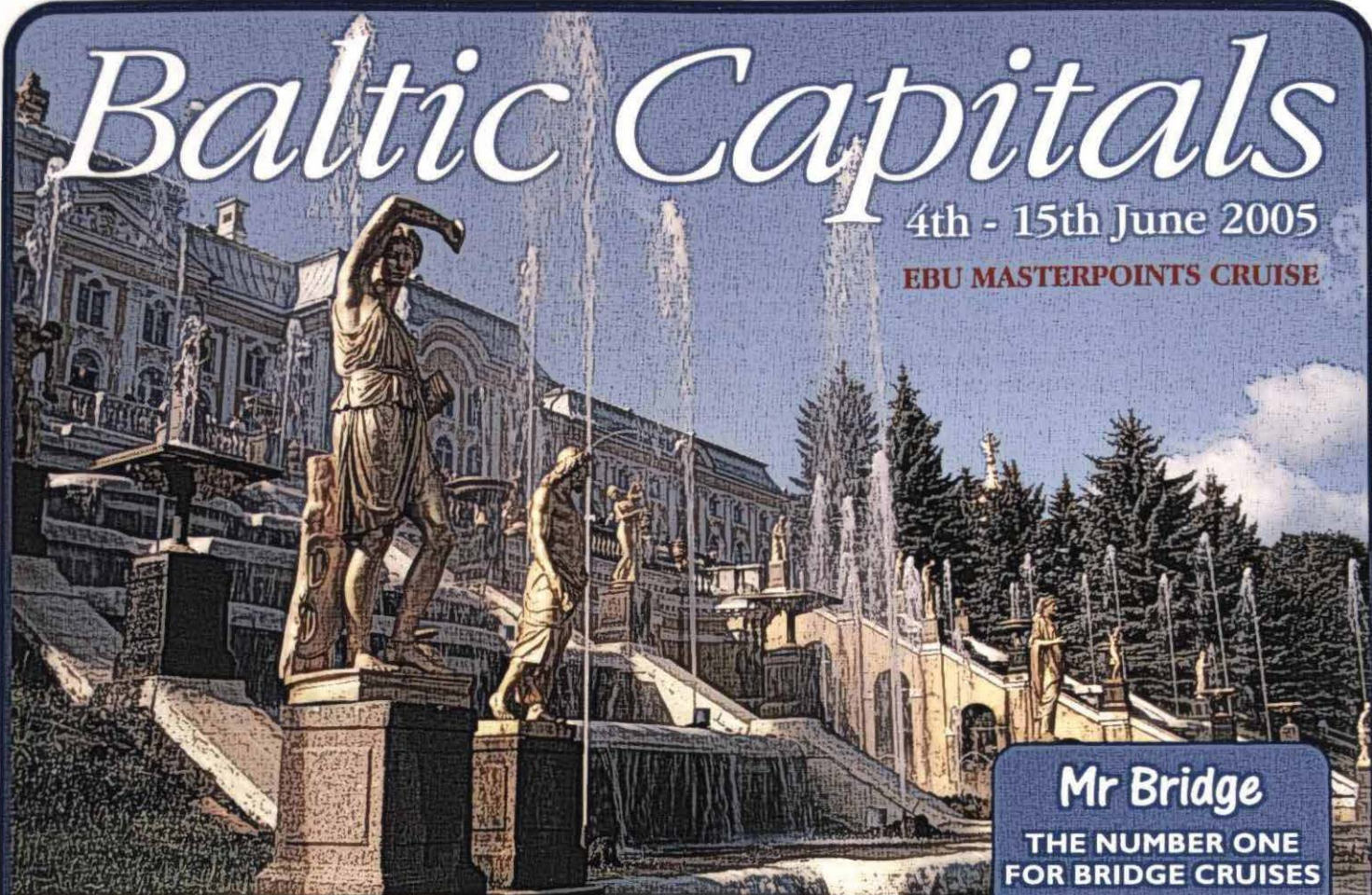
www.bridgeoverseas.co.uk

Bridge Overseas, First Floor Offices, 10 Well Street, Porthcawl CF36 3BE

Baltic Capitals

4th - 15th June 2005

EBU MASTERPOINTS CRUISE



Mr Bridge
THE NUMBER ONE
FOR BRIDGE CRUISES

YOUR BRIDGE HOST
Alison Nicolson

BRIDGE SUPPLEMENT
£50 per person
Bridge Licensed by the EBU

YOUR FARE INCLUDES:

Free parking at Harwich or
selected coach transfers to port

All gratuities to your restaurant
staff and cabin stewards

All portage and port taxes

Guest speakers and
entertainment on board

Delicious meals from breakfast
through to midnight snacks

Captain's Cocktail Party and
Gala Dinner

*Voyages
of Discovery*



Baltic Capitals

4th June for 11 nights

Harwich • Warnemünde • Tallinn
St Petersburg (2 days) • Helsinki
Copenhagen • Harwich



Discover the magnificent treasures of St. Petersburg, where our two days allow time for a memorable evening at the ballet or a folklore performance. Visit Berlin and the remains of the historic wall, from Warnemünde. Stroll through the medieval streets of the ancient Hanseatic city of Tallinn and admire the beautiful natural settings of the Scandinavian capital cities of Copenhagen and Helsinki.

Exclusive Mr Bridge Party

Your experienced bridge director will organise duplicate bridge every evening and hold a series of seminars on different aspects of the game. A friendly atmosphere is always to be expected when cruising with **Mr Bridge**, with welcome and farewell drinks parties to start you off and bring the cruise to a suitable conclusion. For more details please call 01483 489961.

PRICES
FROM
£999
PER PERSON*

Welcome aboard

Cruising is always a pleasure aboard the elegant *Discovery* where, in the company of just 650 fellow passengers, you will find all the facilities you need for a most enjoyable voyage. A variety of bars, restaurants and lounges, two pools, a well-stocked library, an internet centre and a lecture theatre combine to make life on board a relaxing experience. To help make each voyage even more memorable, there will be informative and entertaining talks by guest speakers.



**FOR A BROCHURE
AND INFORMATION
CALL Mr Bridge ON**

01483 489961

*Fare shown is per person based on two people sharing an inside cabin. See brochure for full terms and conditions.
This cruise is operated by Voyages of Discovery, a trading name of Voyages of Discovery Ltd.

