

English Bridge

£2.50 (No charge to EBU members)



Top young players on show ...

IN THIS ISSUE

- Antidote to dementia?
- Concentrated Camrose
- Leeds leads
- The polite club



... and the heroes they hope to follow

— see page 3



THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

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A National Green Point Event

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**PAPHOS 16 Nov & Xmas 21 Dec 04,
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See page 6 for UK holidays

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Website

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

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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)

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Publications and IT
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THESE TWO WILL TEACH YOU

TOP bridge teachers Andrew Robson (England) and Ron Klinger (Australia) have linked up with the EBU and will each be giving a series of master classes in the autumn. For Ron Klinger it will be a repeat of the highly successful visit he paid to this country last year, which is now the subject of a book, while for Andrew Robson, the England international player and highly respected teacher, it will be a rare spell on the road.

Andrew is confining his travels to Yorkshire in September. Venues and dates so far confirmed are Leeds BC (September 14), Wetherby BC (September 15), Doncaster BC (September 17), Sheffield BC (September 18 - afternoon) and Keighley BC (September 18 - evening).

The EBU is in the process of finalising locations and dates for the Ron Klinger tour - last year he conducted 20 classes in 15 days at clubs up and down the country.

For more information please contact Virpi Ojala at the EBU (see contact details on this page).



Andrew Robson



Ron Klinger

On top of the world

THE England open team has qualified for the Bermuda Bowl World Championships for the first time since England became a national bridge organisation in its own right in January 2000.

The team of David Gold and Tom Townsend, Jason and Justin Hackett, David Price and Colin Simpson produced an amazing recovery in the European Teams Championships in Malmö, snatching the fifth and final qualifying place for the world event right at the death.

With 10 of the 33 rounds played England were languishing in 24th place and seemingly out of contention. Then came the rally that saw the team almost keep pace with champions Italy as they ran

up victory after victory to steadily make up the lost ground.

It was a sterling effort both by the players and by non-playing captain Raymond Brock and team coach David Burn.

The England women's team, unfortunately, met with disappointment. Always in touch with the qualifying positions for the Venice Cup, they eventually finished seventh of the 22 teams and out of a place in the world championships, scheduled to take place in Estoril next year. The team was Sally Brock and Kitty Teltscher, Michelle Brunner and Rhona Goldenfield, Heather Dhondy and Nicola Smith. Heather writes about their experience on page 11.

The England seniors team (John Collings and David Jones, Paul Hackett and Tony Waterlow, Derek Rue and Keith Stanley) also finished somewhat disappointingly. After starting well and qualifying with ease for the top section, they eventually sank to the bottom of the section.

Full results on the EBU website www.ebu.co.uk

Good show!



OUR cover picture features the English junior bridge players and helpers who turned out in force to represent the English Bridge Union at The Sports Show at Earls Court.

Players from every sport you can think of had space at the show and gave displays of their particular disciplines. The England juniors not only did their stuff in the main arena (as pictured here), but also used the occasion for some serious training. The public was clearly impressed to see the young bridge players all turned out in their national strip.

The European Championships were relayed from Malmö and proved of great interest, as did the thought-provoking texts about the recognition of bridge as a sport.

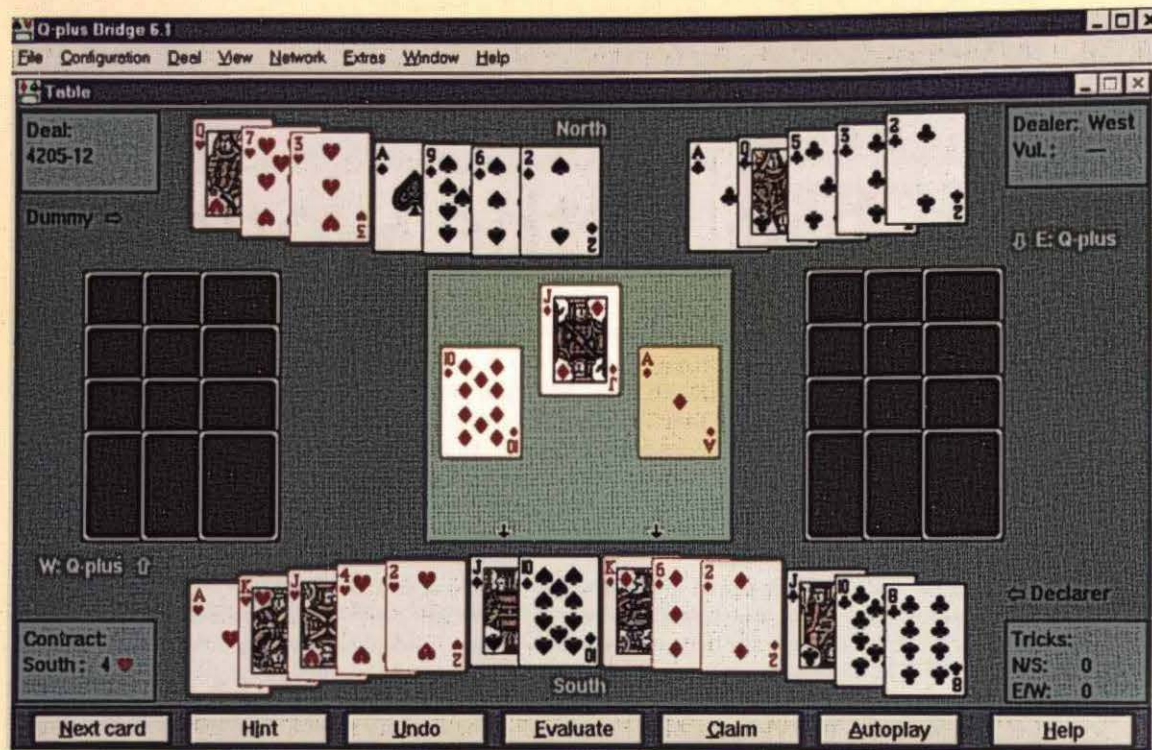
But the most popular attraction at the EBU stand turned out to be the MiniBridge sessions. Well over a hundred people, young and old, had a go and were amazed at how quickly they got hooked by our great game.

INSIDE GUIDE

Lederer preview	5
Camrose change	5
Mind Sports prize bridge	5
Bridge at Castle Howard	6
Rigal from America	9
Prize defence	9
Heather Dhondy at Malmö	11
Kambites on principles	13
Bird's Beat Today's Experts	14-15
Senior on defence	17
Landy on Standard English	19
Card play posers	21
The Townsend story	23
EBU news and diary	24-25
The new Leeds Bridge Club	25
Youth news	29
Dhondy questions and answers	31
You have your say (letters)	33
Prize defence answers	35
Counties picture spot	36
County news/Master Points	37-45

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Camrose Trophy condensed

WHEN the Republic of Ireland rejoined the Camrose Series a few years ago the number of weekends required for head-to-head Camrose matches went up to five, with each country sitting out once.

Now that all the home countries are involved in European and World events this timetable makes too many demands on both players and administrators. So Bridge Great Britain, which organises the series, has decided to bring all five teams together twice a season. Each country will now play two of the other countries on each weekend, with 64-board matches instead of 90 boards.

What are the advantages? Three weekends have been freed up each year for other events. Each home country will play host to just one event per season (including the Junior Camrose and Lady Milne) for four years of a five-year cycle, with the fifth year free.

It is hoped that double matches will stimulate more interest, both for 'live' spectators and on the worldwide web. Some may have

watched the great English victory over Scotland online; others may have followed this year's Lady Milne, when Scotland took some revenge. The good news is that it is intended to continue this live coverage.

Dates and venues for next season are: Camrose Trophy January 7, 8 and 9, Hilton Hotel, East Kilbride and March 4, 5 and 6, Rosspark Hotel, Ballymena; Lady Milne Trophy April 15, 16 and 17, Chancellors Conference Centre, Manchester; Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies January 29 and 30, Rest Hotel, Porthcawl

Information about the teams and how to log on can be found on the BGB website: www.bridge-greatbritain.org

Gold Cup changes

Bridge Great Britain and the English Bridge Union are delighted to announce the re-integration of the Gold Cup and Silver Plate, with BGB organising both competitions. The Gold Cup entry fee will rise to a modest £16 per head, (£5 for under 20s and junior play-

ers in full-time education), but there will be no extra charge for the Silver Plate.

There will be no byes in the first round of the Gold Cup in England and only teams eliminated from the main event at this stage will enter the Silver Plate (unless they choose not to take up the bonus offer of one or more free matches in the plate!).

This means that none of the 32 teams seeded through to round three of the Gold Cup will be eligible for the Silver Plate and only teams that enter the Gold Cup may play. We hope the few teams that entered the Silver Plate direct will have a go in the Gold Cup – the first two rounds are just 32 boards and relatively shark free. Teams unseeded in the Gold Cup are guaranteed at least two matches for their money.

We have moved the early rounds forward to ease the pressure on dates later in the season, so you have to enter earlier than usual, ie by September 20. To enter, and for further information, contact the BGB secretary, Sandra Claridge, 31 Elm Trees,

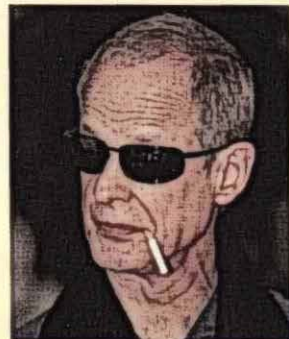
Long Crendon, Aylesbury HP18 9DG, tel 01844 208629, email brian.sandra@tesco.net, fax 01844 208255.

Simultaneous pairs

Please continue to support BGB's simultaneous pairs events. The money raised from these is used to help defray the costs of sending teams to European and World events. Dates arranged are October 13 and 14, January 10, 11 and 12, April 13, 14 and 15, July 25 and 26.

□ For more information about Bridge Great Britain and what it does visit the BGB website: www.bridgegreatbritain.org

BIG NAMES LINE UP FOR LEDERER



ARRANGEMENTS for this year's prestigious Lederer Memorial Trophy are well in hand and participants who have already confirmed that they will play include Zia Mahmood, Andrew Robson, Canadians John Carruthers and the irrepressible Joey Silver (pictured above), the England team that did so well in Malmo, the Irish top team and, of course, the current holders, Phil King, Brian Senior, David Bakhshi and Andrew McIntosh.

The event will be held at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club on Saturday and Sunday October 16 and 17 and spectators can choose to be part of the action by watching at the tables or to be educated and entertained by the expert commentary in the Vugraph theatre.

Make a diary note now, so you can come along to a great feast of bridge. For further information contact Simon Cochemé on 020 7603 3032 or at simonx@simonx.plus.com

Bridge offers a string of tasty cash prizes at Mind Sports Olympiad

THE eighth Mindsports Olympiad takes place in Manchester at the Manchester Conference Centre, UMIST. More than 40 different games disciplines will be contested between August 18-30, including the popular chess, backgammon, Scrabble, poker and Go, as well as lesser known favourites like Pacru, Settlers of Catan and Puerto Rica.

From August 24-30 there is a full festival of bridge.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Brigitte Mavromichalis the prize fund will exceed £8,000 and there will be gold, silver and bronze medals in all events. All will be single day events, with the exception of the seniors. Bank Holiday weekend events start at midday and are expected to finish about 8pm, leaving plenty of time to enjoy the culinary delights of Manchester.

Geir Helgemo will be competing in the point a board and the Swiss teams, while several foreign players will be matching bridge skills with the Norwegian star, as well as taking the opportunity to watch a football match.

The one session point-a-board teams is an unusual event. Instead of imping up with team-mates you win, lose or draw the board. With a first prize of £1,000 this one session event is expected to create a lot of interest.

Seniors pairs kicks off the programme with a Tuesday-Wednesday contest that carries a £600 first

prize (second £280, third £100, fourth and fifth £50 each). On Thursday and Friday the seniors switch to teams, this time with a first prize of £800 (second £280, third £120).

Also there are men's and ladies' pairs on Tuesday, mixed pairs on Wednesday and multiple teams of four on Thursday, all carrying substantial cash prizes.

The point-a-board teams is on Friday (first prize £1,000, second £500, third £240), followed on Saturday by Green Point championship pairs (first prize £500, second £250, third £100, fourth to seventh £50 each).

Into Sunday and it's on with the Green Point Swiss teams, comprising eight seven-board matches (first prize £1,000, second £400, third £100, fourth to seventh £80 each) and finally on Monday comes the seven by seven Green Point Swiss pairs (first prize £500, second £250, third £100, fourth to seventh £50 each)

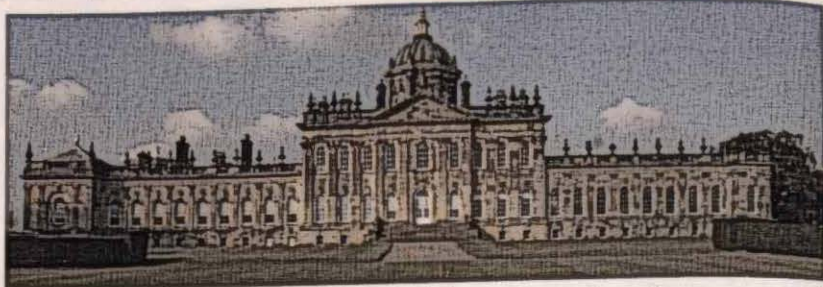
There are special rates for players over 65 and under 25 and a reduction for those who play the full congress. Free tea and coffee is available throughout play and very reasonably priced accommodation is available close to the playing area.

□ Information from www.msoworld.com or Jeff Morris on 01614453712.

IN association with Yorkshire CBA a bridge day out was held at Castle Howard (of *Brideshead Revisited* fame) as part of the range of social events organised by the EBU.

A private guided tour of the house was enjoyed in the morning and after lunch an afternoon of duplicate bridge was followed by a cream tea and prize giving.

Yorkshire's Graham Jepson was in the visiting party and he had this to say:



A wonderful Brideshead visit

BY GRAHAM JEPSON

A WARM, sunny, June day greeted a group of bridge players to Yorkshire's lovely house, Castle Howard. The stately home of the Howard family is worth a visit by anyone and in its lovely gardens the delphiniums were magnificent and the roses superb. Add to that bridge in the Grecian Room played in a wonderful spirit and you have the perfect day.



Bridge in the Grecian Room

I'm sure all those present thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would wish to join me in thanking the EBU for organising it and Helen Barr and Philip Mason, EBU vice-chairman, for directing the tour of the house and running the duplicate bridge.

I am hosting an EBU event of this nature at Chatsworth House on Friday November 5, when we hope to find the house already decorated for Christmas. Derbyshire's top stately home, set in the most wonderful countryside of the Peak District, awaits you and, of course, you can bring non-bridge playing friends or

family. In fact, why not incorporate the visit into a weekend holiday in the area?

Winners of the bridge at Castle Howard were Alan Fell from Doncaster and Linda McFarlane from Loughborough. I was second with May Plant from Derbyshire and Lancashire's Margaret Vinten and Keith Pilcher were third.

Most interesting hand for me was when I held:

♠ AKQ9xx
♥ -
♦ AKJx
♣ AJ9

I opened 2♣ (Acol), partner replied 2♦; I rebid 2♠ and partner said 3♥. I thought 'What now?'

I bid 6♠, no messing!

As I wondered what partner would put down a peacock walked past the open door, squawked loudly and made every-one jump.

Dummy's hand was spread. Was that peacock gloating at my overbid?

♠ 10
♥ K 10 x x x
♦ x x x
♣ x x x x

♣K led, ducked smoothly – and continued!

Attacked trumps, the ♠J fell. Played three more rounds of trumps and the ♣A. West threw two diamonds, saving her hearts.

The diamonds now fell and 12 tricks were made: +980.

The day was getting better still!

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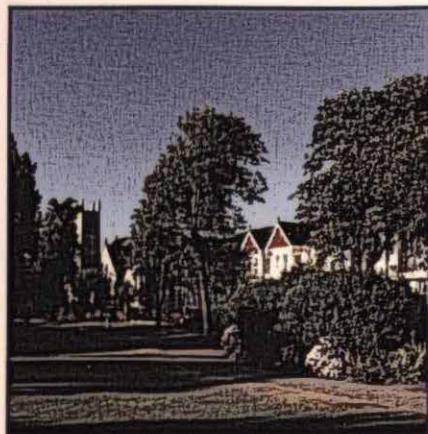
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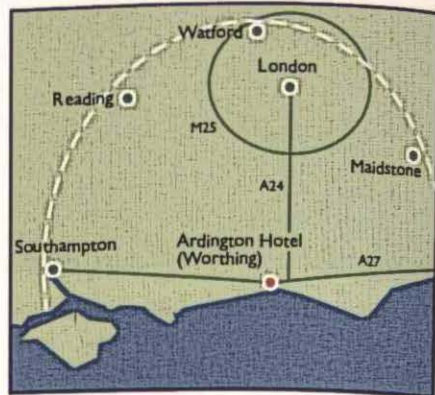
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- 28 Jan Minerva II's arrival in Hong Kong Harbour will be an unforgettable event, after which you can tour the city's Victoria Peak & Stanley Market.
- 29 Jan Transfer to the airport for your return flight home



IT is always pleasant to report on an English success. This year the Cavendish Teams (the introductory event to the Cavendish auction pairs) was won by Charles Wigoder and Gunnar Hallberg (playing with Michael Cornell and Richard Jedrychowski of New Zealand).

Going in to the last match Wigoder's team had a slim lead in the event and they cemented that lead thanks to a very nicely played hand by the captain.



From the 2004 Cavendish

Dealer East
E-W game

♠ K 8
♥ 9 8
♦ 10 3 2
♣ K J 9 7 5 3

♠ A J
♥ 10 6 5 4
♦ A K Q 7 5
♣ 10 4

N		
W	E	
	S	

♠ Q 6 4 2
♥ K Q 3
♦ 9
♣ A Q 8 6 2

♠ 10 9 7 5 3
♥ A J 7 2
♦ J 8 6 4
♣ -

Charles Wigoder as East did very well to make 3NT here. On a spade lead from Alain Levy (South) to the jack and king and a spade back to the ace declarer was already short of entries to establish the diamonds. It was

therefore necessary to play on either clubs or hearts. While clubs needed to be led from dummy hearts might be tackled from hand.

So Wigoder advanced the ♣10, covered with the jack and queen. South pitched the ♥7 so Wigoder led the ♥K, ducked, and the ♥Q, won by South, who found the excellent shift to the ♦J to cut declarer's communications.

Wigoder cashed ♦A K Q (pitching his low spade and heart), then led ♣4 from dummy and ducked North's nine. North, Herve Mouiel, had only clubs left and had to lead into the ace-eight for declarer's ninth trick.

At another table Gene Freed defended 3NT as South by leading a spade also. Declarer Bob

Hamman won the spade continuation and led a heart to the king and ace. Freed also found the shift to a diamond, so declarer cashed his three top diamonds, pitching a spade and a heart. Now he led a club to the queen, cashed the ♥Q and ♠Q and exited with a low club in this ending:

♠ -
♥ -
♦ -
♣ K J 9 7

N		
W	E	
	S	

♠ 10 9
♥ J
♦ J
♣ -

♠ -
♥ -
♦ -
♣ A 8 6 2

If Chris Larsen, North, takes the trick he has to play a top club back. Hamman can duck this trick and now the defence must concede the ninth trick. But Larsen ducked the ♣10 and dummy had to give Freed the last three tricks.

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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?

♠ J 10 8 7 ♥ K 8 ♦ Q J 10 ♣ Q J 10 9

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

*4♠ promises a solid suit

2)

♠ 6 5
♥ A Q 2
♦ A Q 7 5 4
♣ K J 2

N		
W	E	
	S	

♠ A J 7
♥ 10 9 7
♦ K 8 6
♣ Q 10 9 4

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

Your partner leads the ♠3. How should you defend?

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 set of Dealer's Choice playing cards 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)

♠ 9 8
♥ K 8 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ A Q J 3

N		
W	E	
	S	

♠ A 7 5 4
♥ A Q 3
♦ Q J 5 3 2
♣ 7

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

West leads the ♠Q. Plan the defence.

4)

♠ 9 7 4
♥ J 9 5
♦ K Q 10
♣ A K Q J

N		
W	E	
	S	

♠ 10 6 2
♥ 6 3
♦ A 3 2
♣ 10 9 8 6 3

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

You lead your ♥6 and partner cashes ♥A K Q. How can you make sure of defeating 4♠?

Entries to: Andrew Kambites, 1 Stratford Court, Stratford Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 4AO. Entries to arrive by midday August 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.

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What a downer!

THE European Championships were held this year in Malmö, an old town right in the south of Sweden. To get there the easiest way was to fly to Copenhagen and then take the train over the huge and magnificent bridge across to Malmö. We arrived in sunshine, but in a moment the skies had turned black and the heavens had opened. This was to become a pattern with which we would become all too familiar.

Having settled in, we decided to walk to the playing venue. This turned out to be 20 minutes away on foot and because of the changeable weather it was quickly decided that both teams needed to hire a car.

The venue was an enormous building that was virtually an empty shell. Several temporary rooms and facilities had been erected inside this shell, which looked rather odd. But the conditions were light and comfortable for playing, so all was fine.

Within minutes of arriving we were accosted by a local journalist who wanted to ask each team one question. 'What will you be doing in Malmö when you are not playing bridge?' Our response was 'We don't know; you tell us. What is there to see in Malmö?'

There was a short pause 'Well, you can go to Copenhagen on the train... or you can go to Copenhagen by boat!' So it seemed the best thing to do in Malmö, apart from playing bridge, was to get out of place. It didn't sound too promising.

Best to get on to the bridge. The event started OK for us with two 19-11 wins, which including this fun board against the Czech Republic:

Dealer North		♠ K J 10 3 2	
E-W game		♥ K 10 9 7	
		♦ A 8	
		♣ J 5	
♠ Q 6		♠ A 7	
♥ 8 4		♥ Q J 6 5 3 2	
♦ K Q 10 9 3 2		♦ 6 4	
♣ 9 8 4		♣ 10 7 6	
		♠ 9 8 5 4	
		♥ A	
		♦ J 7 5	
		♣ A K Q 3 2	
West	North	East	South
Heather Dhondy		Nicola Smith	
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Nicola began with the ♦6 and the contract looked almost too easy. The Italian open team had bid and made 6♣ on the same lead. Declarer won and crossed to a club to lead a trump to the king and ace. Nicola played another diamond to my king and I caught declarer napping by playing through a low diamond...oops! She ruffed low and that was one down.

Heather Dhondy reports on the Europeans



With five teams to qualify for the World Championships we hovered between fifth and eighth place for much of the event. We had plenty of opportunities, but it was not to be our tournament.

This was one disappointing hand from our match against France:

Dealer West		♠ A J 8 5 3	
Game all		♥ A 10 8 6 4	
		♦ 10	
		♣ 5 2	
♠ Q 7 6 4		♠ -	
♥ K J 7 5		♥ 9 3	
♦ A K J 7 4		♦ Q 8 6 5 2	
♣ -		♣ Q 10 9 8 7 4	
		♠ K 10 9 2	
		♥ Q 2	
		♦ 9 3	
		♣ A K J 6 3	

West	North	East	South
	Heather Dhondy		Nicola Smith
1♦	2♦(i)	3♦	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
(i) majors			

West	North	East	South
Sally Brock		Kitty Teltscher	
1♦	1♠	5♦	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Against 4♠ West led ♦A and ♦K. I ruffed and played ace and another heart, taken by West, who switched to a trump, revealing the bad news. I won cheaply in dummy and now fatally played a club. West was able to ruff this and play a second trump and now there was no way home.

At the other table, playing a natural method, Kitty Teltscher was able to put pressure on the opponents with a jump to 5♦, which was doubled. This could have been made by setting up the clubs, but when she also failed to take advantage of what we had gained in the bidding, what should have been a double game swing for England ended up seven imps away.

We ended up in seventh place, the first time in many years that the English ladies have failed to qualify.

Still, it was well done by the open team with that late run of good results that gave them a qualifying place for the World Championships - we will be back next time, stronger and more determined than ever!

End of an era in Sheffield

GRAHAM's Bridge Club, Sheffield, closed on June 30 and it reopened on July 1 renamed Beauchief Bridge Club.

That bald statement is the way Graham Jepson chose to announce his retirement from 40 years of organising club bridge in Sheffield, the last 20 of them running Graham's with his wife Pat.

All who were members at Graham's are now members at Beauchief and Graham says he trusts they will support the new club as enthusiastically as they did its predecessor. The club is now run by Stan Haywood, Glyn Foley, Gary Heane and Jackie Starsmore.

But one thing will not change. Graham, one of Yorkshire's leading players, and Pat, who does not play bridge, will continue to run their popular bridge holidays.

Fork out, Alaine!

I AM trying to win the Freddie North book with:

- The Road to Morton's Fork* - Crosby/Hope movie.
- Morton's Fork Revisited* - sequel.
- Who Stole Morton's Fork?* - murder mystery at a dinner party.
- Morton's Forkful* - 60s pop band.
- Morton's Fork Emporium* - cutlery retailer. www.mortonsforkandspoon.com - online cutlery retailer.
- Morton's Fork in formaldehyde* - modern art.
- Hit me with your Morton's Fork* - 70s pop song.
- Morton's Fork Constant* - number with six decimal places used in mathematical formula for calculating angles.
- Morton's Fork Manoeuvre* - life-saving procedure for preventing a diner from choking on cutlery.
- Morton's Fork Pat. Pend.* - new garden implement. - Peter Dunn, Moulton, Northamptonshire

Editor's note: Alaine Hamilton, in her book reviews in this magazine in June, suggested the term *Morton's Fork* is wasted on some esoteric bridge ploy and asked for more meanings for the term, offering the Freddie North book prize for the best. She may choose to give the book for one of the above. Alternatively, she may prefer this:

GREAT article! How about: Morton and Guy's Fork Night - the November 5 gourmet celebration of comedy duos? - Annabel Nelms, Bedford

Or this:
MORTON's Fork - a prong in the right direction - Hilton Stansfield, Rochdale

YOUNG ACES

ENGLAND juniors Ben Green, Duncan Happer, Edward Levy and Andrew Woodcock left the big boys and girls in their wake in a practice match for the English national teams prior to this year's major championships.

They finished 2vps ahead of the ladies, with the open team third and the seniors fourth.



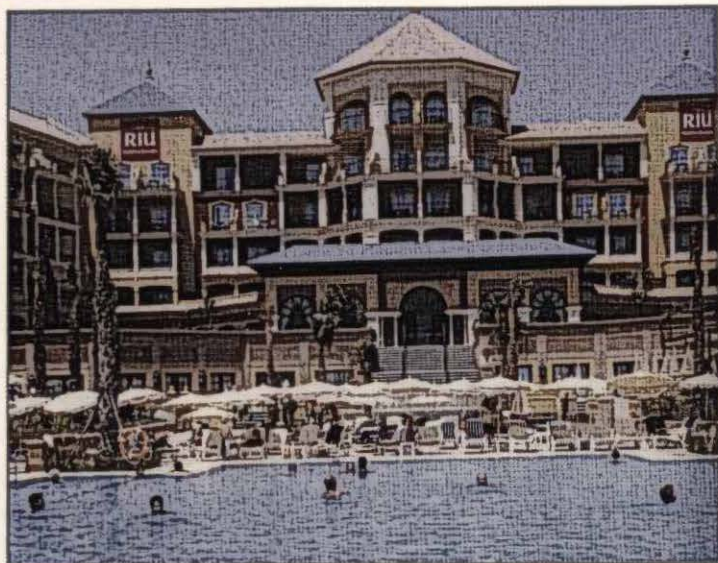
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- 24 Sept Hotel Parco del Sole, Sorrento.
- 30 Sept Our new venue RIU Ferrara, Torrox, Spain.

■ THE REST OF THE AUTUMN

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Bidding principles

Principle: A new suit at the four level in an uncontested auction is a cue bid if the opening bid was at the one level.

In this article I am going to assume that you are playing a system based on modern ideas. In that case I can see virtually no exceptions to my principle. If not, you may feel that these are exceptions:

1) Do you play Gerber? I do, but only if the bidding has gone 1NT (Pass) 4♣. I suppose that is an exception. If you play Gerber more extensively you will need to sort out this exception with your partner. In one of my more mischievous moods I will quote from Ron Klinger's tour of England:

Ron to audience: "How many of you play Gerber?"

Audience to Ron: Plenty of raised hands.

Ron to audience: "I will give you this advice. Try playing without Gerber to see how you get on. Give it a fair trial and then review your progress".

Member of audience to Ron: "What do you think is a fair trial?"

Ron to questioner: "About 20 years".

2) Do you still play that sequences like: 1♣ (Pass) 4♣/4♦/4♥ are pre-empts? If so they are also an exception. They really are not needed as pre-empts. Pre-empts are most effective before anybody has bid because you may score a coup if you are heavily outgunned in high cards, but you create enough confusion to prevent your opponents finding their best contract. After partner has opened 1♣ you have much less to fear because:

- i) It is highly likely that your side has at least half of the high cards in the pack.
- ii) One opponent has already passed.

Modern players play that a double jump shows a splinter (singleton or perhaps void) in the jump suit and good support for partner in a hand worth a raise to game. This can lead to excellent slams on minimal values when the hands fit well, as in (a).

(a)

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

West	East
1♣	4♥
4NT	5♦
6♣	No

West knows that despite probably missing all the heart honours there will be a singleton heart in dummy and dummy will have at least four trumps to deal with his heart losers. Slam is excellent despite a combined total of just 23 high-card points. If repeated trump leads

make it impossible for declarer to ruff three hearts then he can try to set up the fifth club and fall back on the diamond finesse if that fails.

Note that a splinter is a type of cue bid: it agrees partner's suit and shows a control in the bid suit. It is just a specific type of control: shortage.

If you have not agreed the above principle then how would your partnership deal with (b)?

(b)

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

I suggest the following simple auction:

West	East
1♣	2♦
3♣	4♣
4♥	4NT
5♥	6♣

4♣ is a cue bid agreeing spades. When West shows a heart control East decides he has general values for a slam and bids it after checking for aces. If you play a sophisticated version of Roman Key-card Blackwood East may be able to find that West has the ♠Q and ♦K as well as his two aces and six spades, enabling East to count 13 tricks and bid the excellent 7NT.

Incidentally, there are those who will tell you that you can have it both ways here: 4♣ might be a cue bid or a suit. My advice is that unless you are a bridge professional don't even consider it! The potential for misunderstandings is huge!

Many of my principles tie in together. Look at hand (c):

(c)

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

West	East
1NT	2♥
2♠	4♦
4♥	4♣
4NT	5♥
6♣	No

East transfers to spades and then jumps to 4♦. A new suit at the three-level would be game forcing (see my previous article) so this is a cue bid agreeing spades. (Some partnerships may play it as a specific cue bid, ie a splinter, but we will keep it simple here.) West

cue bids the ♥A and East, satisfied with his mild slam try, which pinpoints that he does not have the ♣A, declines to bypass 4♣. Now West should look at his hand. His job is not to count 12 tricks; after all he is hardly able to do that after opening 1NT. Instead he should try to work out whether his hand is likely to be useful. The ♠K is clearly an excellent card, and the clubs will be reassuring to an East who seems to be lacking a club control, so West checks that two aces are not missing before bidding 6♣.

If the opening bid was at the two level or higher, things are a lot more murky. This is because the opening bid took up far more space and the hunt for a suitable trump suit may still be on. Look at these auctions:

(d) West East (e) West East (f) West East

2♠	3♦	2NT	3♥	2NT	4♦
3♠	4♣	3♣	4♦		

You can certainly argue that sequence (d) is similar to (b), ie that West's spades should be excellent and that East is far more likely to want to agree spades than show a minor two-suiter. However after a 2NT opener responder often wants to show a two-suiter in a way that cannot be shown below the four-level. In (e) and (f) 4♦ is clearly natural.

How about this principle? After an opening bid at the two level a new suit at the four level is a cue bid unless the first natural bid made by the partnership was no trumps.

If the opening bid was at the three-level then you must decide what to do:

(g) West East (h) West East

3♣	4♣/4♥	3♣	4♥
----	-------	----	----

You can play the four level change of suit without a jump, (g), as natural or as a cue bid agreeing spades. I prefer to play it as natural. If you choose to play 4♣/♦ as cue bids that will have severe implications for your pre-empts. My three-level pre-empts do not necessarily show such a strong suit that partner is not invited to give an opinion that an alternative denomination may be desirable. However 4♥ in (h) should be a cue bid because I can always bid 3♥ (forcing) followed by 4♥ if I really want to play in 4♥.

Next time: showing controls and using your judgement to decide whether or not to bypass game

Shrewsbury stars

BILL Taylor (Hampshire and Isle of Wight) and his Northamptonshire partner Jim Deacon came out clear winners of the Swiss pairs at Shrewsbury Summer Congress, contested over two days by 170 pairs.

There was an equally impressive success in the Swiss teams for Devon's Warner and Louise Solomon, playing with Pat and Gwynn Davies (Avon). There were 88 teams in this event.

Full results are on the EBU website: www.ebu.co.uk



Beat today's experts

THE first deal comes from the eighth European University Championships, played last year. As winners of the Portland Bowl, Warwick University was invited to participate and finished in sixth position. Sarah Whitehead and Ben Cowling bid well on this hand:

1. Game all. Dealer East.

♠ 8 5 ♥ AQ109842 ♦ K 8 3 2 ♣ -	N W E S	♠ K Q J 5 3 2 ♥ K ♦ A Q J 7 6 5 ♣ K 9 4
West Whitehead		East Cowling
1♥		1♦
4♦		3NT
5♣		4♠
7♦		5♥

Cowling opened 1♦ and rebid 3NT. What does this sequence show? A decade or so ago players made such a rebid either on a hand with long diamonds or on a balanced 19-count. This was a poor idea for two reasons. First, the responder had to guess which type the opener held. Second, there was no space left for responder to seek a 5-3 fit in his major suit.

A much better scheme is to use 12-14 and 15-17 as the two main no trump ranges. So, if an opening 1NT shows 12-14, you rebid 1NT on 15-17. A jump rebid of 2NT shows 18-19, which implies that a rebid of 3NT is always based on a long minor suit.

Whitehead knew of an excellent diamond fit and advanced with 4♦. The partnership uses first-round cue bidding initially, so both 4♠ and 5♣ promised a first-round control. Cowling's 5♥ showed a second-round control. Since it is a poor idea to cue bid a shortage in partner's main suit, Whitehead knew that her

A near impossible task for you this time

partner held precisely the ♥K. It was clear now that every suit was under first-round control and the two red suits would provide the power for a grand slam. She bid 7♦ and the grand was duly made. Pairs from Poland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Italy also bid this grand on just 26 points. Very well bid!

■ Awards: 7♦ - 10, 7♥ - 8, 6♦ - 6, 6♥ - 5, games - 2.

The next deal comes from the 2002 Cavendish and reminds us all what a fine player the late Lionel Wright was.

2. Love all. Dealer West.

♠ 7 4 2 ♥ 6 ♦ J 9 3 ♣ A Q J 10 6 2	N W E S	♠ A K ♥ A 7 4 ♦ A K Q 10 8 6 2 ♣ 5
West Wright		East Cornell
3♣		3♦
4♥		4NT
5♦		7♦

The days when it was regarded as a daring move to pre-empt on a six-card suit have long since departed. Those West cards now represent an 'obvious' 3♣ bid, at any rate when non-vulnerable.

When partner opens with a three-bid and you respond at the same level in a different

suit, this should be natural and forcing. Of course, you will occasionally pick up hands where you would like such a response to be invitational. You must have some way to develop a strong hand, however, and here Cornell's 3♦ was forcing. What would you have rebid on the West hand?

You might raise to 4♦, but Wright reckoned that the ♠A and a singleton heart were sufficient to justify a splinter bid of 4♥. Cornell now knew that he could ruff his heart losers. Since no bonus was on offer for reaching a grand slam in two rounds of bidding, he continued with a disciplined 4NT to check on the club ace. Partner confirmed that he held this card and the excellent grand slam was reached.

■ Awards: 7♦ - 10, 6♦ - 6, 6NT/6♠ - 4, games - 2.

We move next to the National Open Teams in Australia. Tim Seres, one of the greatest card players the world has known, is sitting West.

3. East-West game. Dealer East.

♠ Q J 10 3 2 ♥ K 9 5 2 ♦ - ♣ A K 10 2	N W E S	♠ K 8 6 ♥ A 7 6 4 ♦ A K J 4 ♣ Q 5
West Seres		East Reiner
-		1NT (15-17)
2♥		2♠
3♥		4♥
5♣		5♦
5♥		5NT
6♠		

West begins with a transfer response to 2♥, showing at least five spades. How many hearts does his 3♥ rebid show? The 11♠ A such a rebid promises five hearts. With a 4 shape in the majors, they begin with a game and, over 2♦, jump to a major at the three-level.

Over here a 3♥ rebid promises only four hearts. Alongside this, the possible method is to play that 1NT - 2♣ - 2♦ - 3♥ shows 5-5 in the majors and game-invitational values. 1NT - 2♣ - 2♦ - 3♠ shows 5-5 and slam-invitational values. When you merely want to offer a choice of games you begin with 2♥ and rebid 4♥.

At the table Seres's rebid showed only four hearts and Reiner raised to game. Two cue bids followed and Seres then bid 5♥, leaving any further move to his partner. Reiner continued with 5NT, which had a 'pick a slam' meaning. In the present auction it implied that he held three spades as well as four hearts and wanted Seres to choose the trump suit. With impeccable judgement Seres chose his more solid suit, spades, as trumps. There was no problem in the play (the ♠J fell doubleton but declarer could have ruffed a club anyway).

At the other table Lester and Mullamphy made 650 in 5♥, but still lost 13 imps on the way to a limp defeat. Note that 6NT is a better contract than 6♥, which has no play.

■ Awards: 6♠ - 10, 6NT - 6, 5NT/5♠/4♥ - 5, 5♥ - 3, 6♥ - 1.

Brock team wins by a whisker in Crockfords Cup final

IT was oh, so close in the Crockfords Cup final. In the end Sally and Raymond Brock (Berks and Bucks), Danny Davies (London), John Armstrong (Derbyshire) and Margaret James (Middlesex) won it on a split tie from Manchester's John Hassett, Bill Hirst, John Holland and Michelle Bruner.

Again England's premier teams of four tournament was an outstanding contest, spread over more than half a year. It began in the autumn with 172 teams eager for the fray and was whittled down to eight after five rounds of knockout matches played privately.

The eight met at West Bromwich Moat House in an all-play-all final.

Sixteen teams were originally seeded - the eight finalists from 2003, plus another eight picked by the EBU selection committee. Amazingly only three seeds, and none of them last year's finalists, qualified for this year's final.

Where to next? Let's pay a visit to the 2003 Bermuda Bowl, with Italy facing Norway in the Round Robin.

4. Game all. Dealer West.

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

West	East
Brogeland	Saelensminde
1NT	3♣
3NT	

Appreciating the value of doubleton queens when declaring a no trump contract Boye Brogeland opened with a 15-17 point 1NT. His alternative sequence would be to open 1♣ and rebid 1♠. Opposite 1NT the Norwegian pair use all the three-level responses to show a shortage.

Although the 3♣ response can be made on shapes such as 3-4-5-1, it is quite likely that a 4-4 spade fit exists. Brogeland has massive values in clubs opposite the known shortage, however, and is not in the least tempted to play in spades. He rebid 3NT and on a heart lead this contract was easily made with a couple of overtricks.

The Italian East-West pair did not fare so well:

Bocchi's 1♦ response shows hearts and

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Helness	Bocchi	Helgemo
1♣	Pass	1♦	Dbi
1♠	Pass	4♣	

Helgemo doubles for take-out. It was particularly ill judged to end in spades after South's double because this had strongly suggested a 4-1 spade break. South held ♠ A J 10 3 and the contract eventually went one down.

■ Awards: 3NT - 10, 4NT - 8, 4♣ - 5, 5♣ - 2, part scores - 1.

We will end with a couple of deals from the 2004 Vanderbilt final. First on to the stage are the brilliant Italians, Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin.

5. North-South game. Dealer East.

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

West	East
Duboin	Bochi
	1♥
2♣	2♥
2♠	3♣
4♣	4♣
5♣	5♦
5♥	5♠
6♣	

It will be an obvious point to most readers but, of course, West should not make a jump

shift on his hand. With two suits to show, he should keep the bidding low in order to seek a fit. That said, the first six bids were automatic. Over 4♣ Bocchi could have shown the ♦A without increasing the level. He chose not to for three reasons. His hand was weak, he had poor trumps and his singleton in partner's main suit was no bonus.

Four spades was the least safe contract, since North held ♠AQ32. Should Duboin have passed his partner's sign-off? Let's say that it would have been a commendable view to take. Deciding that his partner might still hold the trump queen and a major-suit ace, Duboin persevered with a cue bid of 5♣. Bocchi could hardly fail to bid 5♦, having already signed off, and Duboin continued with 5♥. I don't admire this bid too much, but East signed off anyway, so it seemed that no further damage had been done. Duboin was not yet finished! He continued to a small slam.

A diamond lead cruelly raised Duboin's hopes, allowing him to discard his heart loser, but justice was served when South showed out on the first round of trumps. One down.

Did you manage to stop at the four-level? Even if East chooses not to open, it is no easy task. Everyone hates to miss a slam, but it is worth remembering that it is just as costly to get too high when a slam cannot be made. My advice is to steer a middle path. Here the middle path was for Duboin to risk going to the five-level, but to leave any further move to his partner.

■ Awards: 4♣ - 10, 5♣ - 7, 3NT - 6, 6♠/5♣ - 3.

The second Vanderbilt deal features the US pair, Michael Becker and Richard Schwartz. A potential slam deal awaits them.

6. Game all. Dealer West.

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

West	East
Becker	Schwartz
1♥	2♣
2♥	4♦
4NT	5♠
5NT	6♣
6♦	6♥

The East hand is too strong for an immediate splinter-bid response and it is more accurate to mention the clubs first. Schwartz heard a 2♥ rebid and jumped to 4♦ on the second round. What should such a bid mean? Some partnerships say it can be either a splinter bid or a cue bid. This makes life rather difficult for partner. It's easy enough to evaluate your hand when you know that 4♦ is a splinter bid, but how should you evaluate something like ♦K Q x when partner might hold the ace or might hold a singleton? It seems best to reserve such a jump to show a splinter bid. With a strong balanced hand seek some other forcing bid.

Becker could now see that he had a good hand and bid Roman Key-card Blackwood,

his partner showing one ace and the trump king-queen. 5NT asked partner to name any king that he held, rather than give a count of kings, and 6♣ showed the king of clubs. If East also held the club queen, a grand slam would be worth bidding. Becker hinted at a grand slam by bidding 6♦, but Schwartz had shown his all. He signed off in a small slam and an excellent investigative auction came to a halt at the right moment. You need a 3-3 club break to make 13 tricks and the clubs broke 4-2.

■ Awards: 6♥ - 10, games - 5, 7♥ - 4.



Our experts leave the stage with the fine score of 53, making 'Beat the Experts' a near impossibility for you. Sorry about that, but the consolation is that perhaps we can all learn something from the five fine auctions that scored a maximum 10 (and even more from the Bocchi-Duboin auction that went off the rails). What tips can we extract?

TIPS TO REMEMBER

★ Do not cue bid a singleton in partner's main suit. If partner cannot rely on you holding the ace or king, he has an impossible valuation to make when his holding is such as A Q x x x.

★ In a sequence such as 3♣ - 3♥, the response is natural and forcing. When a non-game response is made at the four-level (1♠ - 4♣) this is best played as a cue bid.

★ The fact that partner might hold the cards that you need is not sufficient reason for bidding a slam. If your chosen auction has not revealed that partner does indeed hold those cards, be wary of bidding too high. Going one down in a slam is an expensive business. In general, be aggressive in your game bidding and cautious in your slam bidding.

★ In a sequence such as 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♥ - 4♣, treat 4♣ as a splinter bid rather than a cue bid (or possibly either of these). When your hand is strong and balanced and you would have liked to make a cue bid, look for some other forcing bid to keep the auction going.

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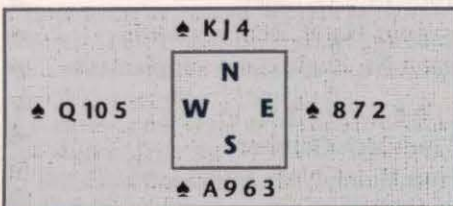
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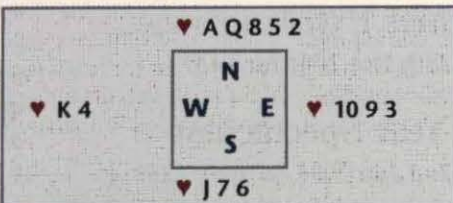
Improve Your Defence Encourage declarer to go wrong

IF you always win tricks as cheaply as possible, always take your high cards at the first opportunity, always follow suit with the bottom of small cards or, if playing distributional signals, always give honest count, then you are a very easy defender to play against. Of course, it is important to help partner out in the defence and one should always bear that in mind, but if you choose your moments wisely a little more flexibility will make declarer's life much more difficult.

Deception may mean nothing more than playing the only card to give you a chance, as in this first example.



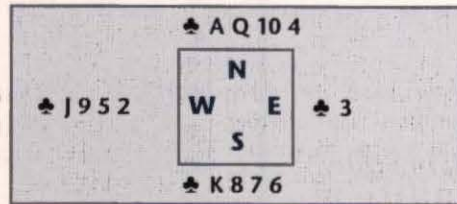
Declarer leads low to dummy's jack then cashes the king. If you follow to the second round with the 10 it will be easy for declarer to drop your queen at the next trick. If, on the other hand, you drop the queen under the king, declarer has a choice of plays and may guess to finesse his nine.



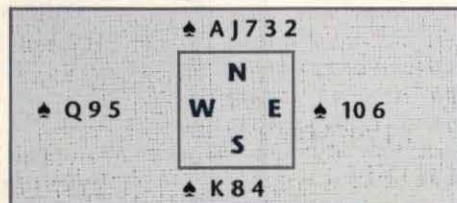
When declarer leads low to dummy's queen, he cannot go wrong on the next round if East follows with the three, when he will surely lay down the ace, dropping West's king. Suppose, however, that East drops the nine or 10. Declarer may still get it right, but he has now been given a losing option, namely to cross back to hand in another suit and lead the jack, hoping to pin the doubleton 10, nine.



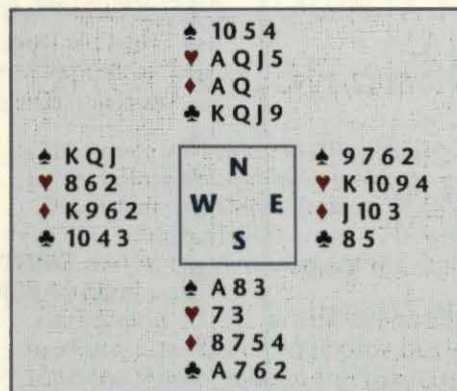
Declarer leads a low diamond from hand intending to play dummy's nine, the normal play. If West plays low this will succeed, forcing East's king and setting up a second finesse of the jack, which will give declarer three tricks in the suit. But what if West puts in the queen on the first lead? Declarer will win the ace and return to hand to lead up towards the jack, nine. When West follows with a small card on the second round, declarer has a decision to make, instead of the automatic play he had previously.



Declarer cashes the ♠A. If West follows with a small card, declarer has no option but to continue by leading low to the king as he can only pick up jack to four if it is West who holds the length. However, should West drop the nine on the first round, declarer has a genuine guess because he is now able to pick up the suit without loss, which ever defender holds the length, so long as he plays the right top honour next. If declarer cashes the queen next, taking the nine at face value, he will no longer be able to pick up West's holding.

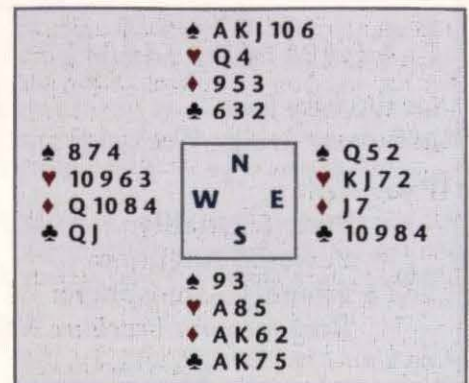


Whether declarer cashes the king or leads a low card off dummy towards his king, his intention will be to finesse the jack on the second round of this suit. East may be able to deflect him from this normal play by dropping the 10 on the first round, tempting declarer to try to drop a doubleton queen off-side.



West leads the ♠K against 3NT. Declarer holds up until the third round then wins and takes the heart finesse. If East wins this trick, or hesitates before ducking, he can cash the thirteenth spade, but then must exit passively with a club. Declarer will cash some club tricks and, when in hand with the ace, will have no option but to take the winning diamond finesse for his ninth trick.

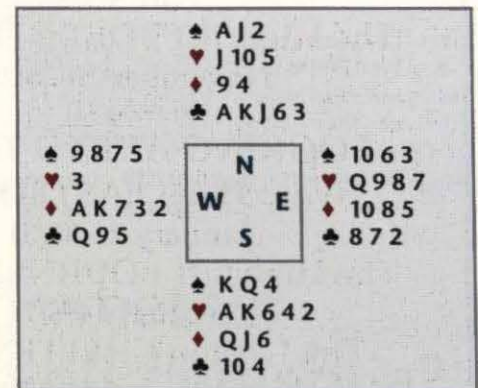
What if East does duck the first heart in tempo? Declarer will cash his club winners, but has only one entry to hand and must choose whether to take the diamond finesse or repeat the heart finesse. Wouldn't you retake the finesse that has already worked once?



Another 3NT contract. West leads a low heart to the queen and king, ducked, and East continues with the ♥J, then his last heart to declarer's ace. Declarer runs the ♠9 at trick four and if East wins with the queen will have four spade tricks to cash as soon as he regains the lead, bringing his total to nine.

How will declarer play if East plays low on the first spade without apparent thought? A suspicious player might divine the true position, but most of us would repeat the finesse and now the contract would be defeated.

The main purpose of a defensive signal is to aid partner in finding the best line of defence. However, there is no law to state that every signal must be an honest one and sometimes a deliberately misleading signal may not only persuade partner to do what you require of him, but also cause declarer to go wrong.



West leads the ♦A against 4♥. If East discourages with the five, West may or may not cash the ♦K, but if he does so then plays a third round of the suit declarer will ruff with dummy's ♥5 then run the ♥J successfully, losing just one trump trick.

East can see that there is little prospect of any black suit defensive tricks, but he does have a promising trump holding. Suppose he peters in diamonds, encouraging with the 10 then following with the eight on the second round. That will have the effect of getting West to lead a third round of diamonds, and what should declarer do? He will not wish to see the five over-ruffed cheaply as he will then be left with a guess as to whether to play for the drop in trumps or finesse East for the queen. There is a good chance that declarer will ruff with dummy's jack or 10, seeing that as the lesser risk. If he does so, East's deception will have created a second trump trick for himself and that will see the contract defeated.

There are many opportunities to be a tricky opponent. The only limitation on a defender's imagination should be that he must be sure that his deception will not lead to an error by partner rather than by declarer.

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Standard English

Watch the cards partner plays

MY last few articles have been about having a bidding conversation with partner. But when opponents are declaring the contract our conversation with partner takes place with the cards we play. Just like bidding, we need defensive agreements about how to hold that conversation. Look at this hand where right hand opponent opens 1NT, raised to 3NT.

♠ Q J 10 5 3
♥ 8 6 4
♦ 10 9 8
♣ K 7

Which card do you lead from this hand and why?

Spades are your best suit and so offer the best

chance to create enough winners to beat the contract. That's the first message you send with your lead. But you also send a message with the size of the card you lead?

It has to be one of the ♠Q ♠J or ♠10 because you want to drive out declarer's ♠A and ♠K if he has them. Leading ♠5, the fourth highest, won't drive out declarer's big cards; it has to be an honour. When declarer's big spades are driven out, your hand will have three winners to cash. It doesn't matter whether you choose ♠Q or ♠J or ♠10, in that any would drive out a high card in spades. But the card you choose sends a message to partner and our agreement is that we lead the top card from a sequence.

So you must lead ♠Q, which says 'I hold ♠J and probably ♠10, too.' If your partner is looking at the ♠K or ♠A it will help in deciding how to defend, as partner will know that declarer has only one stopper in spades.

♠ A 4
♥ K 10 2
♦ Q 7 3
♣ Q J 10 8 4

You lead ♠Q from the hand above and dummy goes down with this hand – five clubs, but only 12 points. Declarer

hasn't got many values to spare on this deal – perhaps 3NT can be beaten. Declarer wins ♠A in dummy and leads ♠Q. With only two clubs you win ♠K, but what do you play next?

Before answering that last question, you should ask me one first – what card did partner play at trick one? Just as you sent a message with ♠Q, so partner begins answering that message using the card with which he follows suit. Did you notice it? Most players just quit the trick without examining the small cards played, but they, too, send a message.

■ Watch the cards your partner plays. They should carry a message for you.

The card partner plays depends on your agreements, but using Standard English leads and signals, the first card played shows your attitude to the suit led. A high card is encouraging, saying 'I like this lead', while a low card is discouraging and says 'I have nothing in this suit to help you take spade tricks'. You can remember these meanings with the word held:

■ HELD = High Encouraging, Low Discouraging

Which card do you think partner should play with each of these hands on your ♠Q lead?

♠ 8 2
♥ J 9 7
♦ A K J 5 2
♣ 9 6 2

With this hand, your partner has nothing exciting in spades and sends that message by playing ♠2. Partner would very much like you to switch to a diamond and seeing no future in spades you might well play ♠10 when you win the ♠K.

♠ K 8 2
♥ 10 9 7 3
♦ A Q 2
♣ 9 6 2

However, with this hand partner knows you have found a good lead. Playing ♠8, a high card, sends the message

'You have found a good lead, please continue spades if you get the opportunity'.

♠ K 8
♥ J 9 7
♦ A J 6 5 2
♣ 9 6 2

With this hand too, partner knows you have found a good lead. But playing ♠8 is not enough. While partner

can win ♠K on the next round, he won't have a third spade to play back to you. He must play ♠K under ♠A. Partner has to hope your spades are good enough to set the contract.

Suppose declarer doesn't play the ♠A at trick one, will it alter the meaning of the card your partner plays? Probably not. With ♠K 8 alone

partner will still play ♠K and return the ♠8 to drive out the ace. With ♠K 8 2, partner should also play ♠K to make the spade position quite clear and set up the spade winners. It doesn't actually hurt to play the ♠8, but ♠K must be dropped under the ♠A to unblock the suit.

■ When partner leads an honour card, use the information to unblock the suit and make sure partner's winners can be cashed.

♠ 8 5 2
♥ J 9 7 3
♦ K 6 5 3
♣ A 2

Without a useful spade, this hand plays the discouraging ♠2 at trick one. But at trick two, when declarer leads a club, partner should pop up with ♠A and play back the ♠8. This will drive out declarer's ♠K and establish winners for you to cash when you win the ♠K.

♠ 8 7 6 2
♥ Q J 7
♦ A 6 2
♣ 9 6 2

You might think that this hand should play a discouraging ♠2, but you would be wrong. With four spades, partner would want you to continue spades and set up winners to cash later. Holding red suit stoppers, he hopes he will get the lead before declarer can cash nine tricks. The correct signal is ♠8 encouraging you to continue spades if you get the lead.

♠ 9 8
♥ J 9 7
♦ A K J 5 2
♣ 9 6 2

Every now and again partner will have to play a high card when they don't want to. This hand has to play its lowest spade, ♠8, but it may prove misleading. No system is perfect!

Aussies look into whether bridge can ward off dementia?

THE Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute in Australia has launched a project aimed at gauging just how good bridge is as a dementia preventive.

An article by Debra Jopson in the *Sydney Morning Herald* tells that about 18,000 bridge players from 170 New South Wales clubs are being asked to take part in the first stage of the study and to raise funds for further research into mind agility.

According to the article Glenda Halliday, principal research fellow at the institute, considers bridge provides just the sort of mental workout that helps tone the frontal lobe in the brain, which she describes as the main driver of activity – the controller.

'The frontal lobe is where you have executive function. It is where you make a lot of your decisions. Some of the decisions are how to activate the rest of the brain and how to collect memories,' she says.

'There's no doubt that thinking about words, about spelling words and about numbers and sequencing of numbers does activate a lot of the frontal lobe.'

While doing crosswords is rated an effective brain-stretcher, the researchers were attracted to bridge because the players regularly exercise their minds in public and it is clearer how much effort they put in.

And Professor Halliday goes further. 'It's a case of use it or lose it,' she claims. 'Physical and mental challenges help people to maintain a vibrant life.'

Regular bridge players who attended the launch session testified that bridge had sharpened them up. Asked if they had any personal evidence that bridge stops advancing senility one 72-year-old woman replied: 'We'll let you know in another 10 years!'

Menorca Once More



HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA - 8th-22nd October 2004

The Hotel S'Algar is still proving as popular as ever with bridge players so we'll be returning for the thirty-third time in October 2004. Bridge is licensed by the EBU and master points awarded at all sessions. Prizes will be presented to the winners of all events. Choice of apartments or hotel rooms. Director **Graham Hedley**.

Price from **£829.00*** is based on Gatwick. Other airports available at a supplement. Includes air travel; airport taxes; insurance; transfers from airport to resort; full board; full bridge programme; prizes and special events as specified. *Single occupancy add £75.00.

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 Value

HOTEL ATLANTIS - 27th January - 10th February 2005

Our first four Vilamoura ventures have been sell-out successes. The hotel, the service, the facilities and the bridge are a huge hit with our guests and **Graham Hedley** is again our bridge director.

Cost is just **£829.00** from Gatwick which includes full board, bridge fees and transfers. Other departure airports available at a supplement.

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 beautifully 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 7th-13th 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**.

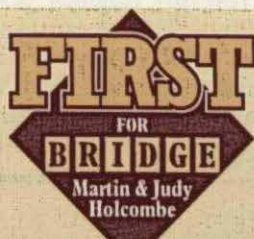
*Limited number of single rooms available without supplement.

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

4 The Lyes, Congresbury, Bristol BS49 5HF

Tel: 01934 876500, Fax: 835819, Mobile: 07771 901579

E-mail - info@bridge-holidays.com



Keep up to date with all the latest First for Bridge news and our new £75 prize competition by logging on to our web site at 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: 2764. Bridge licensed by the EBU/WBU

Well done Petram and late-night Whoopsie



By Po Shing Lee, BCL manager

THIS month we are delighted to share the success of two of our members who play regularly online at Bridge Club Live (www.bridgeclublive.com), showing how online and face-to-face complement each other perfectly.

Petra Mansell, who plays at Bridge Club Live as *Petram*, comes from Durban, South Africa and is often in the club playing in the afternoons. She is 84, has been on the South African women's team for more than 20 years and continues to represent her country. *Petram* teamed up with Arthur Hughes and came first in the Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs with a score of 76.26%, ahead of no less than 6,136 other pairs.

Closer to home is Ed Scerri, who plays at Bridge Club Live as *Whoopsie*, usually after 10pm. Ed is from Amersham and his team (New Amersham B) is through to the semi-finals of the NICKO. The team had a thrilling sixth round match against the de Botton team that featured an impressive line-up, including Gunnar Hallberg, Nick Sandqvist and Jason and Justin Hackett.

This interesting deal came up early in the match and helped to settle the nerves and put the underdogs on their way.

At favourable vulnerability *Whoopsie* picked up:

♠ A Q J 8 7 3 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ 5 ♣ A Q 4

The bidding went:

West	North	East	South
2♦ (i)	Pass	2♥ (ii)	2♣
3♥	Pass	4♥	4♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

(i) Alerted as weak, but not very weak in this position
(ii) Alerted as non-forcing

Whoopsie decided to bid 4♣ as a good two-way shot since either 4♥ might be making, or with a little help in dummy, who is marked with a shortage in hearts, 4♣ could make.

West's opening lead was ♦A and an interesting dummy appeared:

Dealer West E-W game	Moss ♠ 10 9 ♥ J 6 ♦ J 8 7 4 2 ♣ K 8 7 5	Hallberg ♠ K 6 ♥ A K 10 9 8 7 ♦ Q ♣ J 10 9 2									
de Botton ♠ 5 4 2 ♥ Q 5 ♦ A K 10 9 6 3 ♣ 6 3	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	Scerri ♠ A Q J 8 7 3 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ 5 ♣ A Q 4										

West switched to ♥Q, overtaken by East with ♥A, who then played ♣6. After some thought *Whoopsie* played low and won in dummy. His ♥J continuation was taken by East, who now played ♠K to prevent declarer ruffing another heart. Declarer won with the ♠A and drew West's last spade, East discarding a heart. Declarer now knew exactly East's shape and safely ran the remaining trumps, leaving East the impossible task of guarding against both declarer's mighty ♥4 and dummy's ♣5. North-South duly chalked up +590 for a 10 imps gain.

While not immediately obvious at the table, a trump switch by West at trick two defeats the contract.

Bob Rowlands' DOUBLES QUIZ

Dealer East. North-South game

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	1♥ 2♥	Dbl ?

What do you bid with:

- (a) ♠K 6 2 ♥J 3 ♦A Q 6 5 ♣K 7 4 2
(b) ♠K 9 6 2 ♥5 3 ♦A Q 6 5 ♣K Q 7
(c) ♠A K 6 2 ♥5 3 ♦A Q 6 ♣A 10 7 3
(d) ♠A 10 6 ♥5 3 ♦A Q J 5 ♣K Q 7 3

Answers on page 36

and Dennis Young's SNEAKY QUESTION

A NEW – well, I think it's new – principle coming up. It says that if the false picture you are trying to paint shows you doing something that you might have been obliged to do, you are more likely to be believed than if it is something that you could have chosen to do, other options being available.

And if that is not obscure enough to be getting on with, my name is Queen Victoria. So I had better make it clearer by example.

Match Point pairs: 1NT on your left (12-14 points), raised to 3NT on your right. The opening lead, the ♦5, goes round to the jack and the ace. What should you have been working on when you were using the declarer's thinking time?

♠ J 10 5	♥ K J 3	♦ K 8 7	♣ A 10 9 8

The answer, not at all an easy one, is on page 35

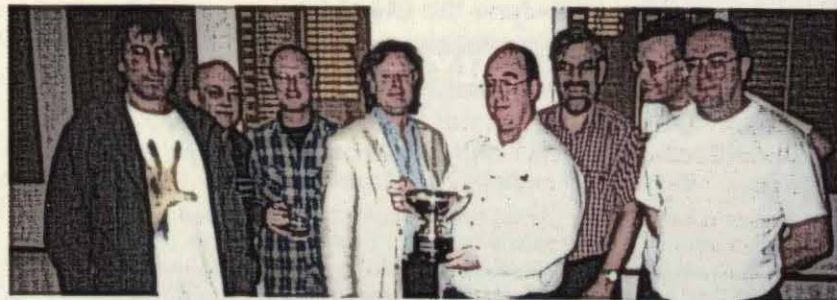
The Garden Cities Trophy goes West

WEST of England BC, representing Avon, emerged as the Garden Cities Trophy winners when the final of this inter-county club teams of eight championship was played at Coventry in June.

The eight teams in the final had first to win their own county event and then secure one of the top two places in a regional final (North, Midlands, South East and South West) in order to take a crack at the top honour.

West of England finished second to Exeter ISCA BC in the South West region, but found their top form at the right time and in the final were pressed only by Bradford BC, the Yorkshire champions.

The winners totalled 92vps, with Bradford on 88 and Merseyside League (Merseyside and Cheshire) third with 77.



A winning team: West of England BC players with the Garden Cities Trophy

Coventry BC (Warwickshire) came fourth, Exeter ISCA BC (Devon) fifth, County BC (Leicestershire) sixth, Farnborough (Kent) seventh and Thorpe Bay BC (Essex) eighth.

The West of England team comprised David Jones, Brian Goalby, Hugh Oliver, Tony

Gammon, Marc Lee, Jeremy Rickard, Robert Covill and Aidan Schofield.

The Bradford line-up was Bob Ross, Nigel Ramsey, Giles Foster, Richard Winter, Stuart Davies, Bill Townsend, Tony McNiff and Sue Logan.

Friendly Five Star Bridge Tours

AUSTRIA

Lake Wolfgang, September 4th-18th
This holiday is **fully booked** and we are now taking bookings for September 2005!

CRETE

Hotel Porto Elounda Mare
(5 star deluxe) October 5th-19th £995

RHODES

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

CYPRUS

Limassol, Amathus Beach Hotel
(5 star deluxe) Nov 17th-Dec 1st £1075
(A member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World')

CYPRUS

Christmas and New Year, Amathus Beach Hotel
(5 star deluxe), Limassol Dec 22nd-Jan 5th £1445.00
(A member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World')

LANZAROTE

Costa Teguisse, Hotel Gran Melia Salinas
(5 star grande deluxe) January 13th-27th £1395.00
(A member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World')

BARBADOS

Hotel Tamarind Cove (4 star plus)
(A member of the 'Elegant Hotels' group)
February 8th-23rd £2280.00
(15 nights, on FULL BOARD basis)
Scheduled flights with Virgin Atlantic

TENERIFE

Puerto Santiago, Hotel Playa La Arena
(4 star deluxe) April 8th-22nd £895.00

ITALY

Lake Garda, Grand Hotel Gardone (4 star deluxe)
May 7th-21st, £1175.00

AUSTRIA

Parkhotel Pörschach (4 star deluxe)
May 25th-June 8th £1045.00

ITALY

Abano Terme, Hotel Bristol Buja (5 star deluxe)
June 23rd-July 4th 11 nights full-board £995.00
(extra nights available at a supplement)

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 the above 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.fivestarsbridge.co.uk email: LRDempster@aol.com

Bridge licensed by the EBU



DIAMOND BRIDGE

Turkey

4th October 2004 - 14 nights

The stylish Hotel Aqua is situated on the wide sweep of Icmeler beach. The resort is relatively quiet yet just a short distance from bustling Marmaris, with its excellent shopping, restaurants and bars.

£735 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Kefalonia

5th October 2004 - 14 nights

Our eighth visit to the ever-popular Hotel Méditerranée on the island that is the setting for "Captain Corelli's Mandolin". Our 2002 & 2003 holidays sold out months in advance, so don't delay if you want to join us.

£715 half-board

(Operated by Clare Travel ATOL3298)

Corals of the Red Sea

6th November 2004 - 14 nights

A cruise aboard Minerva II from Egypt to Kenya that gives you the opportunity to visit the Valley of the Kings, the "rose red" ancient city of Petra and which finishes with a Kenyan safari.

From £2095 including flights, cruise, excursions & gratuities

(Payments to Clare Travel ABTA19308, agents for Swan Hellenic ATOL 6294)

Rainforest Discovery

15th January 2005 - 15 nights

A cruise aboard Minerva II from Singapore to Sarawak, Brunei & the Philippines before finishing in Hong Kong. A post-cruise tour to Shanghai, Xian (home of the Terracotta Warriors) & Beijing is also available.

From £2475 including cruise, flights, excursions & gratuities

(Payments to Clare Travel ABTA19308, agents for Swan Hellenic ATOL 6294)

Benidorm

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 ATOL 3298)

Hammamet, Tunisia

20th February 2005 - 14 nights

Hammamet is one of the largest and most established of Tunisia's resorts, with sandy beaches and busy shopping areas. The Sol Azur is a beautifully appointed hotel with spacious rooms, and a path through the gardens to the beach.

£538 half-board (No single room supplement)

(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, Gibralfar, Portimao, La Coruna, St Malo & Le Havre.

From £1099 All-inclusive

(Operated by Clare Travel ABTA19308)

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



Join us at the teach-in

By John Pain, EBU Education Manager

EBU NEWS AND EVENTS



THE next main event for junior players of all ages up to 21 is the Junior teach-in. This annual event runs from September 3 to 5 at Loughborough University. It is an event for all abilities – those completely new to bridge can start in the Raw Rookies with MiniBridge. There are groups for the Fearless Fledglings (played MiniBridge and ready for the real thing), Eager Beavers (learned the basics but want to improve), Flying Foxes (sound knowledge – ready to learn more), Ace Experts (competent players ready to sharpen up their skills) and Top Guns (those knocking on the door of the junior international squads).

There is also time during the weekend for the famous rounders competition, played under the expert eye of Alan Shillitoe – and

nobody misses the Saturday evening grand bridge tournament, with the real addicts staying on for midnight speedball.

There is plenty to do for the accompanying adults, who can sit in on the groups and play bridge – and rounders!

It's a super weekend get-together (£70 for the children/students and £80 for accompanying adults). For more about it call Alison or John at the EBU – 01296 317206.

Teachers' jamboree

The biennial EBUTA teachers' jamboree at Loughborough University brought together a smaller than normal gathering and led me to think it might not be worthwhile, but the overall reaction was that it had been well worth the effort. There were sessions from several top players. Sandra Landy talked about her experiences setting up and running a MiniBridge course at a local primary school in Stoke Mandeville; John Armstrong (just back from Malmo) gave a fascinating talk on running courses for advanced players in county teams and international squads and Andrew Kamibites gave a lecture on playing fewer conventions, but having more structure to your bidding system. Mike Eden, a former headteacher and OFSTED inspector, led a session on preparing for an inspection by the Adult Learning Inspectorate – very helpful for those teaching bridge through their local education authority. In addition there were group sessions discussing such thorny issues as turning your class students into club players and running your bridge classes as a business, with some helpful tips on making the most of your income and giving as little as

necessary to the taxman.

There was also time for two sessions of bridge. John Cattanach, Ian Mitchell, Alison Nicolson (twice), Sandra Landy, John Pain (that's me), David Lampert and Mike Eden were the players among the honours.

A special mention goes to Edith Dawson, one the oldest members of EBUTA – well into her nineties, but a regular supporter of the jamboree. This time she had to leave a little early, to catch a train to Southport for a dance convention!

England trials

DETAILS of trials to lead to selection of the England teams for the Camrose and Lady Milne Trophies have been announced by the EBU Selection Committee and can be found on the EBU website or obtained from Nick Doe at Aylesbury.

Closing date for entries for both sets of trials is 5pm on Wednesday August 25. There are no seniors trials this season.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

- 1-11 European Youth Championships, Prague
- 13-22 Summer Meeting, Brighton
- 16-19 European Bridge League Seniors Congress, Brighton
- 16-18 *The Really Easy Summer Congress*, Brighton

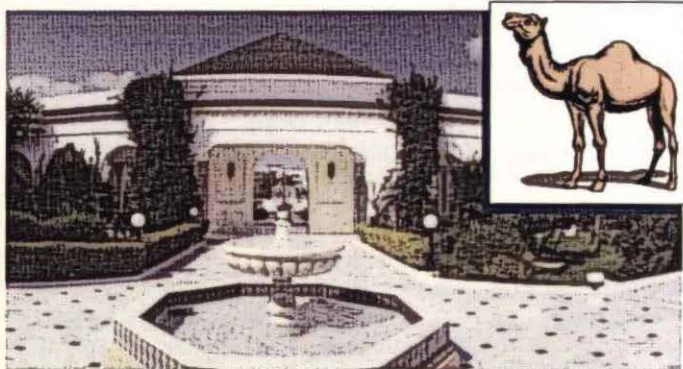
SEPTEMBER

- 3-5 Junior teach-in, Loughborough
- 4-5 Bedford Congress, Cranfield
- 9-12 Isle of Man Congress, Douglas
- 13-14 EBU Autumn simultaneous pairs, clubs
- 17-26 Guernsey Congress and Seniors Congress, Guernsey
- 18-19 Open trials stage I, Solihull
- 19 One day Green Point joint venture, Hertfordshire
- 25 One day Green Point joint ventures, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Hampshire
- 26 One day Green Point joint ventures, Avon, Cornwall, Leicestershire, Surrey, Yorkshire

OCTOBER

- 1-3 West of England Congress, Weston-super-Mare
- 2-3 Open trials stage II, Solihull
- 2-3 Great Northern Swiss Pairs, Warrington

Big response for Tunisia



BOOKINGS for travel and accommodation for the Tunisia Congress (February 4-10) are running at more than double the rate of any previous EBU overseas event.

Venue for the congress, again sponsored by Baker Tilly, is the five star Palm Marina at Port El Kantaoui.

Seven-night stays are available from Gatwick, Heathrow and Manchester, with the Manchester option already half booked. The original allocation of nine-night stays from Gatwick sold out, but another 25 seats have been made available, so for this option don't delay. A deposit of £110 is all that is needed to reserve your place.

The 14 night stays from

Gatwick and Manchester currently have reasonable space, but are proving to be much more popular than expected.

Please note there has been a high take-up of single rooms, so you must act quickly if you need one. To book contact Bridge Overseas on freephone 0800 0346 246.

Bridge Overseas will be represented at the Brighton Summer Meeting and will be pleased to see you there. All flights except possibly the nine-night stay from Gatwick should still be available then.

Also please note the flight from Heathrow for the seven-night stay does not arrive in time for the pre-congress pairs.

See the dealing machine in action

DAVID Stead, sales and technical director of Duplimate UK Ltd., will be at the EBU Brighton Summer Meeting on August 14 to demonstrate the Duplimate Computer Dealer.

The company has been set up to help clubs that may wish to use the dealing machine and in conjunction with Jannersten in Sweden will provide a UK contact on all matters relating to it.

The use of computer-dealt hands has risen

significantly over the past few years and already a number of clubs are involved in Duplimate sharing which allows for a greater variety of competition including Swiss pairs, simultaneous competition and league matches. The machine is also proving a useful aid to bridge teachers in providing suitable set hands on themed subjects.

David Stead can be contacted at David@duplimate.co.uk or on 01295-730230.



Bill Townsend pours praise on new club

Why new Leeds Bridge Club is rare and special



Plaudits from Denis Robson, EBU chairman

LEEDS Bridge Club has proudly opened its new premises and EBU chairman Denis Robson was present on the official opening night to express his delight at this major achievement by the Yorkshire club. A ribbon cutting ceremony was performed by Bill Townsend, leading player and bridge journalist in the north, and both he and the chairman spoke in praise of the club's effort.

Not many years ago, Leeds Bridge Club was a moribund organisation with no home of its own, failing membership and bridge played only once or twice a week, achieving a dozen tables at best.

Then things started to happen. There was an influx of new and interested members, many of whom became active in running the club.

The key change came when rented accommodation was taken up in the local Leeds Moor Allerton Sports and Social Club. This became very popular. Play was on two nights only, but there were regularly 20-plus tables in play and a further eight to 10 tables of improvers on a Monday evening.

With well over a hundred players, something had to be done. The club members, led and guided by their committee, decided to build their own club, but to do it as part of a development and refurbishment of the existing premises. Thus a joint venture was undertaken with the non-bridge playing members of the social club.

As a result Leeds Bridge Club now has something rare and special – a purpose-built club that accommodates 24 tables in modern,

comfortable surroundings. There is also a spacious lounge and the original rented area provides room for overflow play for a further 16 tables if needed.

Not only that, but there is a range of other activities at the club, including tennis, snooker and excellent crown green bowling and, of course, parking facilities.

Bridge is now played on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings and Thursday afternoons. Teams events are planned for Sundays when there are no inter-city competitions.

The first week that the club was in full use was very successful, with more than 50 tables in play between Monday and Saturday – and that in the holiday period as well!

Visitors are very welcome to play and can find further details on the club web site at www.leedsbridgeclub.com or contact the secretary, Gill Mapstone, on 0113 2937986.

Who knows, this may be the way forward for bridge in this country. By co-operating with other voluntary organisations clubs can develop first class facilities in which to play and have the benefit of other organised leisure pursuits as well.



Enjoying bridge in excellent conditions brings a smile to their faces

Booked for Brighton?

IT's not too late if you want to join in the fun at the EBU's Brighton Summer Congress, 10 days of bridge and bridge-related activity centred on the Brighton Hilton Metropole Hotel (August 13-22).

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No Pic!

So I wore this tie all weekend for nothing!

I PLAYED in the 50-pairs final of the National Pairs with David Barton. The event was played in a very friendly fashion and I thought I would share some of the conversations that I had to give you a flavour of the event.

Second round. We play against a married pair from Derbyshire. We receive our first round results. He is clearly not happy. 'I didn't come here to be 38th,' he says, irritated. That is a great saying! I resolve to adopt it as my own.

We have just finished two hands against a casually dressed young man.

CDYM: 'Why are you wearing a tie?' (teasing puzzlement).

Me: 'I wanted people to think this was my first time at this event.'

CDYM: 'This is our first time at this event.' (mischievous).

They have just taken two good results off us. It will not be their last appearance.

We play against a strong pair from Sheffield.

Me: 'We're due to play you this week in the NICKO.'

'Yes, on Tuesday,' from the female half of the pair. Short pause.

In chorus: 'No, on Wednesday.'

'If you had said Thursday we wouldn't have said anything, of course,' I explain to her straight-faced. 'But we didn't see any point in making you turn up on Tuesday and then have to come back the following day.'

She thanks us gravely for our courtesy.

Grand disagreement

We play against a Grand Master husband and wife pair. We have a good board. H leads a trump (spades), the correct attack. W takes the ace and plays one back. I cross to dummy on the ♠A and manage to duck a heart to H, who does not have the third trump. He attempts to cash a diamond, but I trump and now can take a heart ruff.

H: 'That was careless.'

W: 'What was careless?'

H: 'If you duck the first round of spades I will have one left to play back.'

W: 'The reason I didn't duck was because I had the ♣A as an outside entry. In fact,' freezing tones now, 'you know I have the ♣A since otherwise I would have ducked the first round. All you have to do is go and play one instead of this silly diamond.'

Me (ostensibly to David): 'You know, this conversation reminds me of someone I know. Now who is it?' (apparent frustration at my poor memory). 'Oh yes! I remember,' (pleased surprise) 'it's my wife.'

W (continuing): 'In fact, if people would only start examining their own plays instead of criticising partner when partner has done nothing wrong then things might start going a lot better.'

Me (still ostensibly addressing David): 'The

Close encounters of the National Pairs kind

By Alan Jones

odd thing is that when I have these conversations with Peggy, she's always right, too.'

W (warming to this new theme): 'That's because women are cleverer than men. Two women together will always do better than two men. In fact there is nothing that two women together can't do better. Except get married, I suppose. Well, no, they can even do that these days. Not that I would want to. So I suppose there is something that men are useful for after all.'

Well, the bridge may not be going so well, but the marriage seems pretty healthy. Alas the round is called before I can learn more.

We play the following hand against a pair that I do not know:

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

West is the dealer and after two passes East opens with 1♥. This successfully talks us out of our 4-4 heart fit and we bid to 3NT played by David, South.

West has clearly seen his partner's opening bids before and leads a spade, which runs to the king and ace. David crosses to dummy on a heart and leads a diamond; East incorrectly declines to split his honours so the ♠10 wins. Now David is able to strip all the majors and throw East in with the third diamond. The forced club return generates 12 tricks.

So the ultra light opening has had the effect of pushing us into a better contract (3NT+2

instead of 4♥+1) and has then shown us how to do even better (3NT+3) than we might have done (since the endplay was far from obvious).

'Maybe I shouldn't have opened,' opines East (ruefully).

We play against a husband and wife pair that I do not know. It goes well for, as E-W, we play successfully in 2♠, while they can make contracts in hearts. But when we come to score up we find the first result on the sheet is 3♠+1 by N-S, clearly impossible.

'They must have meant 3♥+1,' I volunteer.

H: 'Oh you don't know! I'm a tournament director. You wouldn't believe the things that people can do with bridge hands! DIRECTOR!'

David Jones comes over and is appraised of the problem. He takes the sheet and starts to take it away to make enquiries.

Me: 'Shouldn't we put our score on it first?'

H: 'He'll bring it back!' (incredulity). 'He's a director!'

'I didn't mean it!'

Me (grumpily since I've been overruled): 'Well, he looks a suspicious type to me.'

I have overbid. It has not gone well. Partner stares at me, too shell-shocked to say anything.

'I didn't come here to be 38th,' I repeat my mantra defensively.

Partner wonders whether I came there in order to be 50th. With considerable forbearance he reaches silently for the next board.

We have finished and are waiting while the final round is scored up. I approach David Jones.

'I didn't really mean that you looked suspicious,' (mending fences).

'Oh yes you did!' The playing tournament director emerges from behind a strategically placed bush. 'I was there. I heard him!' My fence building lies in ruins.

The playing TD's wife is behind him. She starts making giant stirring motions with her hands. Much laughter.

The results are out. We have won. No photos! Damn - so I have been wearing this tie all weekend for nothing.

At home, the phone rings. It is a friend.

'I've just heard the news.'

'What news?' I say, in puzzled innocence.

'You won the National Pairs.'

'Surely not!' I exclaim in mock horror.

Instant repartee: "That's exactly what I thought."

Ouch! Serves me right.

On a more serious note I would like to pay tribute to the many people who expressed interest in how well we were doing during the event and who wished us good luck. I found your encouragement very touching. Thank you. Sorry about the photo!

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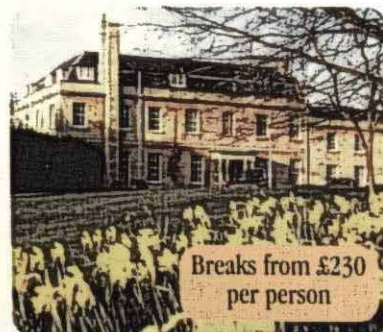
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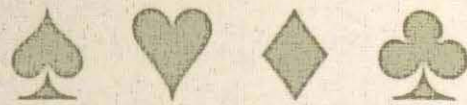
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Rising to the Maths Challenge

THIS is a hand that faced youngsters in the 2004 Tees Valley Maths Challenge, an event in which Minibridge was voted the most popular test in the series by 85% of those taking part.

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

It can be seen that sensibly, by luck and judgement, East-West can make up to 11 tricks in no trumps. The ♠Q is always led and if you test the hearts first and play spades in the correct sequence you can make 11 tricks, otherwise it might be only eight.

The young contestants were given a five-minute introduction to Minibridge,

supplemented by a sheet that detailed honour points, part and game score bonuses, and a guide to how many tricks might be made dependent on the number of points held.

The challenge of counting points, deciding who was declarer or dummy, assessing the hand, deciding whether to be very safe in a 7+ part score or a little more risky in a 9+ game score and how to tackle the problem of making the nominated contract, all tended to have sufficient demands to largely nullify any slight prior knowledge of bridge.

Each competing team of 14-year-olds was marked on teamwork and approach to the problems, these aspects being achieved by dummy, having placed his or her hand on the table, moving round to join declarer so that the two could decide between them on target tricks, risks, understanding and play of the cards.

So well received has Minibridge been with the pupils that the EBU, via its youth officers in the Northeast, is now automatically invited to participate in the five heats and final of the Challenge, which is organised by Tees Valley learn2work, an organisation aimed at encouraging learning through association

with business and leisure companies.

The Maths Challenge presented a golden opportunity to bring an awareness of bridge, both its pleasure and benefits, to about 40 schools in the area in a relatively easy and enjoyable way.

The task now is to find the players willing to support the effort to unlock the enormous bridge potential that resides in our young people.

Overall winners were Laurence Jackson Secondary School, Guisborough.



The challenge of Minibridge: most popular event in the Tees Valley Maths Challenge

York new top uni in the BLUNEY

By Phil Godfrey

AT last Durham has lost its grip on the BLUNEY Cup, the prize for winning the Bridge League for the Universities of the North East and Yorkshire. The honour this time went to York, but it was not without a fight that Durham gave up the trophy when the third and final leg of the 2003-04 contest was played at York Bridge Centre.

The cup has now seen three years of eagerly contested bridge by Durham, Leeds and York, the three main bridge-playing universities of the Northeast. But also welcomed into the competition this time was a team from Harrogate School.

Going into the final round, in which eight teams took part, Durham were leading with 175 imps, York were on 125 and Leeds on 101 (the BLUNEY is scored on total imps over the three days of multiple teams).

York got off to a confidence-boosting start against two of the weaker teams, while Durham narrowly lost their first two matches and Leeds won by only small margins. With York now slightly ahead of Durham and Leeds losing ground, the crunch match saw York A face Durham A.

Some very aggressive bidding by one of the York pairs and an unlucky lead by one of the Durham players saw York win the match by 24 imps.

Durham staged a late comeback, but to no avail and eventually ended up 18 imps behind the triumphant York team.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves during all three legs, but I think that a tab behind the bar picked up by the county associations certainly went a long way towards the enjoyment of the third leg.

Thanks are due to St. Georges, Harrogate and York bridge clubs for hosting the events and providing catering. Thanks are also due to Graham Jepson who kindly agreed to give up his Saturday afternoon to come to York and present the cup and amuse us with stories of his experiences.

The BLUNEY Cup, although initially set up for universities in the North East, is open for any youth team, especially schools. If you would like to find out more or to take part, please contact either Ken Pattison or me (phil@gilchrist.co.uk).

YOUTH TO THE FORE

Ken Pattison, a youth officer in the Northeast, contributed most of the information for this page. He can be contacted on 01325 720782 (mobile 07802718363) email kenpattison@jekp.fsnet.co.uk

Mini students launch into competitive bridge

TWENTY youngsters from three local schools got stuck into a session of MiniBridge at St George's Bridge Centre, Darlington and had a wonderful time, both at the bridge table and during the interval, where refreshments were much enjoyed.

It was the fourth such gathering, designed to introduce primary school children to a gentle game of competitive bridge. Some of those taking part had been playing for only one term. Others were more experienced, including eight-year-old Harry Runnacles, who has been playing for two years.

There was some quite fierce competition throughout the morning, but the young players were all praised for their good behaviour.

Prizes were won by Melissa Emerson and Christina Hodgson (Wolsingham School), Harry Runnacles (Yarm Prep), Deborah Paul, Alex Craggs, Nicola Race and Bethany Courtney (Polam Hall Junior). Prizes and sponsorship were provided by the EBU and Hurworth Bridge Club.



Primary age children give Minibridge a go at Darlington

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YOU QUESTION



JEREMY DHONDY ANSWERS



This is the kind of psyche that should be avoided

DB of Fulham says: 'I was playing in an event recently. Towards the end we were in contention, but our opponents were not. My right hand opponent opened 1♠ first in hand on

♠xxx
♥AKQx
♦K10xxx
♣x

'This was raised to 2♠ and was the final contract. Although we did not defend quite as well as we could it was two down and the result was good for us as they could go plus in hearts. My question is should my opponent have psyched in this way when it could so easily affect the result of the event?'

THE Orange Book says you must not indulge in frivolous psyching, ie psyching because you have lost interest or are having fun at someone else's expense. Even if you are doing badly in an event I think you have a responsibility to take matters seriously. Does this mean you can never take an abnormal action? No, I don't think so, but I think you should avoid psyches such as the one above because its effect is to randomise the event to an unacceptable extent.

MIKE Vail of Hemel Hempstead says: 'The director is called to the table following a hesitation and asks how long the hesitation was.

RHO: "At least five minutes".

Partner: "Honest guv, I never noticed nothing".

Consider the following hands:

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

The auction is

West	North	East	South
	1♠	3♣	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East reserves his rights stating that South's pause after the 3♣ bid was much longer than the 10 seconds recommended.

South thinks he did hesitate for some time, but was not amused when the contract was ruled back to 4♣+2 and thinks East was exploiting the rules.'

HESITATIONS and subsequent calls often stir up great emotion and upset. There are a few points worth considering:
a. South can think for as long as he wants (as long as he has a legitimate reason to do so), but if he does so he puts pressure on his partner.
b. Following a hesitation partner's action

must be fairly clear cut for a player of his standard. The usual standard applied is to ask whether at least 70% of players would have taken a similar action.

c. East did nothing wrong in reserving his rights. It's certainly worse to wait until the end of the hand and then moan when it makes.

d. On the specific hand in question South had quite a hard decision, but I think North was worth one move and I would allow the 5♣ bid.

MONTY Sharron via email asks: 'We have a social game with a couple of tables and would like to play duplicate where everyone plays with everyone else. What can you advise?'

YOU are spoilt for choice. You can play a teams movement where each pair gets to play against each of the other three pairs with as many boards as you have time for. There is also a movement for a two table individual where you can play any multiple of seven boards ie one, two or more with each other player. To save you having to make it up you can download a movement at www.monmouth.com/~colonel/bridge/index.html

AILEEN Cunningham, via email, has been getting into trouble with reverses.

She says: 'Twice recently I have had a hand of 18 points, with five diamonds, four hearts and two doubletons. It seems to me it is very difficult to differentiate between a basic kind of reverse bid showing about 15-17 and a better hand of that distribution.

If the bidding with 15-17 goes something like 1♦ 1♠ 2♥, does 1♦ 1♠ 3♥ show a stronger reverse hand or a splinter bid agreeing spades?'

TO an extent the answers to your questions will depend on parts of your system. I assume you are playing 1NT opening is 12-14 and a rebid is perhaps 15-16. If that is so and I held a 16 count with a 2-4-5-2 shape then I would open 1♦ and over 1♠ I would rebid 1NT. My minimum for a reverse would be 17.

I think it is common to play 1♦ 1♠ 3♥ as a splinter for spades and indeed I don't think there is much case for playing it as a strong reverse.

Imagine you hold

♠KJ87
♥952
♦76
♣Q654

Partner opens 1♦ and you dredge up a 1♠ response. You would not be delighted to think that partner might reverse on a 15 count. I suppose if I thought he might then

I might be tempted to pass, even though I think 2♥ is forcing.

So the short answer is:

- Reverses should be a minimum of about 17 (exceptionally on less with compensating distribution)
- Reverses contain all hands up to Acol two strength
- Thus a jump reverse (eg 1♦ 1♠ 3♥) is a splinter for responder's suit
- A 1NT rebid on 2-4-5-2 is perfectly acceptable

MGR of North London asks: 'Can you give any advice on when 4NT should be Blackwood, natural or a two suiter? I have played in 4NT down five and a slam missing several aces recently because of misunderstanding with my partner about what 4NT means.

FIRST, don't worry. You are not alone. Many top players have serious accidents in this area of bidding.

A few rules can help. One way is to say it is always Blackwood unless... and then define the exceptions.

I would say 4NT is not Blackwood when

- A natural NT bid is raised, eg 1NT 4NT or 1♠ 2♥ 2NT 4NT.
- We have agreed a minor and then bid 3NT to play. Partner now bids four of the minor (slam try) and hears 4NT. This says 'go away', eg 1♥ 2♦ 3NT 4♦ 4NT
- The immediate response to fourth suit is 4NT, eg 1♠ 2♥ 3♣ 3♦ 4NT. This is a hand too good to limit to 3NT.

It is more difficult in competition, but often partner will want to show a two suiter, eg (4♥) Dbl (Pass) 4NT. Is this natural, the minors or Blackwood?

One final auction for you to muse on: 2♣ (2♦) Dbl (4♦) 4NT.

2♣ is your side's strongest bid and the double of 2♦ shows some values. What do you think 4NT is?

You can always find players who will disagree with some or all of the above, but given that getting 4NT wrong is likely to cost lots of imps or match points it is an area which partnerships would do well to discuss.

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.

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Relax rules and help club bridge

A LETTER in the April edition of *English Bridge* suggested there was no hope for the friendly duplicate club to be taken seriously. I tend to agree. I live in a village and our club has a mixture of tournament players, regular club players and social players from the village and nearby. All play to enjoy social duplicate bridge and support the village club. We get from two to four tables, but this year some people have drifted away. Their reasons vary – 'Work', 'The club has become too serious', 'Start time is too early (7.15)' and 'Finish is too late (10.45)'. 'We feel intimidated by the silence.' Sometimes well-meaning advice is taken as criticism or rudeness. In both cases it can put off new players.

On the face of it the EBU doesn't do much for our club. No one wants Master Points. The rules are rather strict and the cry of 'Director' intimidating. Nobody cares about allowed conventions and few players complete a convention card.

I think the EBU is doing a good job for tournament players and EBU clubs. If the EBU wants more members from a wider audience of social clubs and social players, then it must find 'products' that can help these clubs thrive. For example:

Relaxed rules: Encourage an alternative short set of 'social' rules (one page?). Persuade EBU members not to shout 'Director' in a loud voice for a minor mistake that a player is not aware of. It only intimidates.

Consistent conventions: Make it easier to follow conventions, perhaps by supplying a very simple pre-filled convention card as opposed to a blank. Then at least members would have a convention on their card.

Give more support to Standard English in this magazine. For example 'Bid with your partner' could provide a recommended sequence for the Standard English player.

Perhaps create duplicate movements that can finish one round early if we are running late and still be scored satisfactorily.

I'm sure there are many more ideas. – *Hugh Tarran, Sheepscombe, Stroud, Gloucestershire*

Hats off to the Castle Bridge Club four

I WOULD like to give a mention to R Stanners, Mrs J Harrison, M Tuke and Mrs J Creswick, founder members of Castle Bridge Club Morpeth.

Four years ago they decided to form another bridge club in Morpeth, despite the fact that there already existed two clubs.

This was a daunting task and as a result they struggled. But they never gave up, even when down to just two tables on one occasion and having to phone around to find a player to complete the second table.

This did not discourage them and they decided to start teaching complete beginners to play bridge. So far they have taught 30 players and the club is now buoyant and has a membership of 60 and growing. – *Arthur Martin, Cramlington, Northumberland*

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



Time for change on 1NT defence

THERE is nothing special about 1NT any more. Gone are the days when everyone had 16-plus points when they doubled 1NT and they really meant it for penalties and that was where the contract was played.

Players in second seat now competitively double 1NT for 'penalties' with as little as a balanced 12-14 points. They feel safe in doing this because, in the same way that most mini NT pairs have an escape route if they are doubled with the minority of the points, the overcaller's partner will make a take-out bid of the double if he/she holds very few points.

If by chance the 1NT doubled contract is left in and the points are evenly divided, there is still a good chance that the contract will fail because the strong hand lies over the declarer.

I strongly support Chris Ryall's proposal for change. I sometimes think the EBU keeps the 1NT penalty provision as a last line of defence for the Acol weak no trump! – *David Page, Woking, Surrey*

A challenge met and another set

YOUR contributor to the June letters page issued a challenge and asked if anyone could beat his achievement of two consecutive 70%-plus scores in club duplicate events. I recall Jack Lavis and his partner recording three consecutive 70%-plus scores at South Croydon in 2002.

Can we now please revert to my challenge of 1997 and celebrate spectacularly low scores? At least one correspondent, in April 1998, was prepared to open the bidding at 18%. Any 'improvements' on this please? – *Roger Hitt, Kenley, Surrey*

Don't fault system for five-card bloomer

IN a recent edition of *English Bridge* Laurence Young recounts an unfortunate experience playing five-card majors in which a 4-4 spade fit was missed. This was the fault of his partner, not the system.

In countries like Australia, where virtually all players use the five-card major system, even complete beginners know that the five-card requirement applies only to the opening bid and thereafter four-card suits should be bid up the line.

Thus Mr Young's partner's rebid after a response of 1♥ should have been 1♠, enabling the 4-4 fit to be found. – *G H S Jordan, Sydney, Australia*

Jeremy did me a favour

JEREMY Dhondy, writing about Smith Peters in the June issue, reminds me that a long time ago I played against him at Buxton with my then regular partner. We had been playing Smith Peters for about six months, but I had never got to like them, mainly because if you don't get a count in the first suit declarer plays you can't count the whole hand.

On one hand I misdefended 3NT after partner had petered in diamonds, then complained that I couldn't count the suit. Reading between the lines instantly, as usual, partner said 'I don't want to play Smith Peters ever again.' Jeremy handed me my convention card and invited me to cross it out, which I did with pleasure. I have never played them since! – *Richard Pike, Sheffield*

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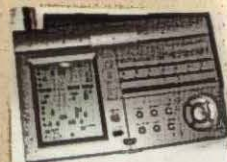
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PRIZE DEFENCE ANSWERS

THE first set of questions in our new competition, begun in the June edition, brought a flood of answers and Andrew Kambites, who posed the questions, had his work cut out to decide the winners. Here Andrew gives his view of the best line of play and awards prizes in three categories.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

OPEN: Alan Best, Wetherby, Yorkshire
REGIONAL: John Erdos, Chislehurst, Kent
COUNTY: N J R White, Llanymynech, Powys

therefore he has at least seven minor suit cards. Exit passively with a trump, heart or diamond and wait for your certain club trick.

Board 1

♠ Q J 10 4
 ♥ A Q 3
 ♦ K 8 7 5
 ♣ K 6

♠ A 5 2
 ♥ 9 5
 ♦ J 6
 ♣ A Q J 4 3 2

♠ 9 8 3
 ♥ 10 8 7 4 2
 ♦ 10 9 4 3
 ♣ 5

♠ K 7 6
 ♥ K J 6
 ♦ A Q 2
 ♣ 10 9 8 7

South	West	North	East
3NT	Pass	1♣	Pass

The textbook lead would be the ♣Q but you can see that in the above layout this gives declarer two club stoppers. The point of this hand is that you have an outside entry, the ♠A, and enough points to make it unlikely that your partner will gain the lead. Therefore you can concentrate on making the lead that will give you the best chance of setting up the clubs for one loser. Lead the ♠A. If clubs had been 3-3 you could have continued with the ♣Q and lost nothing. Here the ♣K appears doubleton in dummy so continue with the ♣4.

Board 2

♠ 8 4
 ♥ K 8 7
 ♦ A J 7 4
 ♣ K Q J 10

♠ K Q J 10
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ 9 8 6 5 3

♠ A 7 5 2
 ♥ 10 9 6
 ♦ 10 8 5 3 2
 ♣ A

♠ 9 6 3
 ♥ A Q J 5 3
 ♦ K Q
 ♣ 7 4 2

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

Your partner leads the ♠K. You want a club ruff. Can you persuade partner to switch to a club? That is the wrong question. Don't expect partner to do what you can do yourself. Overtake the ♠K with your ♠A, cash the ♠A and give him back the lead with a spade. He would have to be particularly obtuse not to give you a club ruff.

Board 3

♠ Q 8 5 3
 ♥ Q J
 ♦ A K Q J 10
 ♣ 8 7

♠ A 6
 ♥ A 7 6 3
 ♦ 7 6 3
 ♣ K 6 5 4

♠ 4
 ♥ K 10 9 8 5 4 2
 ♦ 5 4 2
 ♣ 3 2

♠ K J 10 9 7 2
 ♥ -
 ♦ 9 8
 ♣ A Q J 10 9

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Your ♥A lead is ruffed and declarer switches to the ♠2.

First you must rise with the ♠A. Otherwise dummy's ♠Q wins the trick, declarer ruffs dummy's last heart and plays diamonds. If you ruff a diamond with the ♠A you endplay yourself. If you don't ruff declarer will throw you in with the ♠A to lead a club or give a ruff and discard.

When your partner follows to the first round of spades, counting will help you realise there is no need to do anything. Declarer started with at most six major suit cards;

Denis Young's SNEAKY ANSWER

♠ J 10 5
 ♥ K J 3
 ♦ K 8 7
 ♣ A 10 9 8

♠ 9 6 3
 ♥ Q 8 7 2
 ♦ Q J 3
 ♣ K Q J

AGAINST 3NT your partner's ♦5 goes round to your jack and declarer's ace. What should you have been working on during this time?

AG

You should have been working on the order in which to play your clubs. If declarer does not have precisely three of them it makes no difference what you do. But if he does have three - likely after his INT - and tries to set up a second club trick, you may be able to rob him.

As he finesses the suit twice into your hand you must win first with the jack and then with the king.

The point is that if you started with ♠K J only that is what you would have to do, but if you play queen and then jack, or king and then queen, you might equally have played jack and then queen, or queen and then king. But you would not have played king and then jack because, from your supposed point of view, that could lose you a trick.

So, Young's Principle says that you should play your cards in the way that reinforces what you might have had to do,

but did not have to do in fact. It does this here because the possession of ♠K J could not have been false carded king and then jack, thus increasing the frequency of you having to play jack and then king.

Declarer will not work out this whole business, of course, but will instinctively prefer to treat ♠K J as a doubleton and therefore finesse a third time.

Board 4

♠ A 9
 ♥ Q 5
 ♦ A Q J 10 8 6 5
 ♣ K 3

♠ K 7 6 2
 ♥ K 9 8 4 2
 ♦ 3
 ♣ A 4 2

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

♠ J 5 4
 ♥ A 10 7
 ♦ 9 7 2
 ♣ Q 9 8 6

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

West leads the ♥4 to dummy's ♥5, your ♥J and declarer's ♥A. At trick two declarer runs the ♦9 to your ♦K.

A little thought will tell you that the hearts are not running for the defence. The ♥4 lead tells you declarer started with at least three hearts. How good are they? Suppose he had ♥A 9 7 opposite ♥Q 5. He would surely have tried dummy's ♥Q at trick one. Therefore declarer started with ♥A 10 x and persevering with hearts will just give him an extra heart trick. You can count eight tricks for declarer: the ♠A, six diamonds and the ♥A, so that route leads to nine tricks.

How about switching to spades? Look at the above layout. If you try the ♠3 declarer will play low and West must sacrifice his ♠K to stop dummy's ♠9 winning. That is no good as it leaves declarer's ♠J poised over your ♠Q. However switching to the ♠10 (or even ♠Q) leaves declarer without resource.

COUNTY NEWS



OXFORDSHIRE

Marion Day, right, tournament director at Oxfordshire's prestigious invitation teams of four event, presents the winners' trophy to the successful Middlesex four. They are, from left, Harry Ashar, Geoff Foley, Brenda Foley and Greta King. See Oxfordshire news on page 43



SUFFOLK

Gillian Hall and Iris Green, winners of the Clare Swiss teams, receive the trophy from Adele Wayman, vice-president of Clare Duplicate Bridge Club. See Suffolk news on page 43

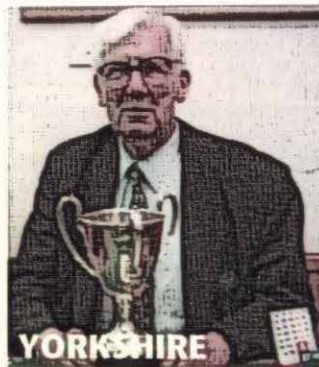


HEREFORDSHIRE

Oncology nurse Anne Mitchell, second right, receives a big cheque from Wyaside Bridge Club members Kate Neale, left (charity bridge event organiser), Elizabeth Drew (instigator of the event) and Harry Cleveland (director). See Herefordshire news on page 39



Ian and Catherine Draper hang on to the Phillimore Cup as Kent Swiss pairs winners for the second time in succession. The couple have also marked up a number of other successes. See Kent news on page 40



YORKSHIRE

Yorkshire's Raymond Betts, a member of Scarborough Bridge Club, holds the club pairs trophy he has just won with Peter Morris. Raymond first won the trophy 45 years ago with Freddie Hyde. Can any reader beat this effort?

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Bob Rowlands' DOUBLES QUIZ

Answers from page 21

Dealer East. North-South game

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	1♥	Dbl
		2♥	?

What would you bid with:

(a) ♠K 6 2 ♥J 3 ♦A Q 6 5 ♣K 7 4 2

Pass – If 2♠ is our contract then partner should bid it

(b) ♠K 9 6 2 ♥5 3 ♦A Q 6 5 ♣K Q 7

2♠ – Competing or, if you prefer, bidding under duress does not promise extra values and game interest, but it does guarantee four-card support.

(c) ♠A K 6 2 ♥5 3 ♦A Q 6 ♠A 10 7 3

3♠ – Without East's 2♥ bid a free raise to 2♠ suggesting game interest would be enough. Now you must bid 3♠ to achieve the same effect.

(d) ♠A 10 6 ♥5 3 ♦A Q J 5 ♣K Q 7 3

Double – Suggesting extra values, but with no clearcut course of action. Don't spring this one on partner without prior discussion.

Courtesy and kindness recognised at Burnham

When Peter Stocken, then EBU chairman, opened the attractive South Bucks Bridge Centre in 1994, he said: 'I cannot imagine that anyone could be rude to their partner or opponents in such lovely surroundings'.

Burnham Bridge Club, which plays every week at the centre, has always had a commitment to courtesy and kindness. A 1993 certificate from The Polite Society (now known as The Campaign for Courtesy) records Burnham's commitment to the highest standards of courteous and considerate behaviour' and the club's membership of the society.

Since moving to the centre Burnham has become one of the strongest clubs in Berks and Bucks; the A team won the county league of eight in 2003 and club members are regularly among the winners of county events, but it still encourages less experienced players and members try to ensure that everyone receives a friendly welcome.

Burnham presents an engraved plate in memory of Raymond Worrall, a founder member of the club, to a nominated member who shows outstanding courtesy and kindness. This year it went to Brenda Vitty (left), pictured receiving it from partnership secretary Emily Say.



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4* Star Regional Master
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4* Star Master
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R Brodie
Mrs J Crowhurst
SM Lee
Mrs H Platt-Higgins
Mrs RA Reid
Mrs JM Turpie
Mrs KL Webster
1* Star Master
KJS Brown
Mrs M Brown
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P Lomax
Mrs VM Lomax
DJ Virgo
Advanced Master
Ms A Burmicz
CP Cherrett
Mrs JR Woolf
Master
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County Master
Mrs G Compton-Burnett
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Mrs NMA Nunn
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Tournament Master
Dr N Mullan
2* Star Master
A Bevan
Master
PR Beavan
J Harrison
Mrs MP Harrison
Mrs A Read
County Master
D Austine
Mrs GJ Blake
P Huggins
Channel Islands
Life Master
Mrs G Hall
Premier National Master
Mrs M Case
National Master
Mrs C Hepburn
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Premier Regional Master
Mrs M Nelson
Miss J Watts-Wakeham
3* Star Regional Master
JE Panter
1* Star Regional Master
Mrs LJ Le Brocq
NS Le Cocq
Miss RA Pallot
Regional Master
Mrs BD Hunter
1* Star Master
Mrs H Wise
K Wise
Master
Mrs S Amy
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County Master
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Mrs SE Le Sueur
M Newman

Avon

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MANY congratulations to the West of England Bridge Club on winning the Garden Cities Trophy for teams of eight. After qualifying via county and regional competitions the team stormed away in the national final at Coventry, leading almost throughout.

The players were Tony Gammon, Brian Goalby, David Jones, Marc Lee, Huw Oliver, Jeremy Rickard, Aidan Schofield and Robert Colvill, Robert taking the place of Mike Elliott, who played in the regional final, in which West of England secured the second qualifying place behind Exeter Bridge Club.

Many congratulations also to Andrew and Cathy Smith, who capped an excellent season by winning the pairs championship at the EBU Spring Bank Holiday Congress in Bournemouth. The event was contested by 158 pairs. After two of the three 18-board stanzas in the final Andrew and Cathy were in seventh place, but scored a fantastic 68.5% in the third stanza to win by half a top. It was Andrew's second win in the event.

Already this season Andrew and Cathy have won the Avon county pairs title and the South West final of the National Pairs.

Well done to David Jones and Miles Cowling, defending the pairs title at Bournemouth and this time finishing third.

In the Gold Cup the team of David Jones, Brian Goalby, Miles Cowling, Jon Williams, Mike Elliott and Tim Brierley is again through to the fifth round, having defeated Denning of Gloucestershire and Bridgman of Devon respectively in rounds three and four.

Results of the county leagues: division one 1 Robert Covill, Aidan Schofield, Jeremy Rickard, Robert Glass, Huw Oliver and Tony Gammon, 2 David Hamper, Chris Mellowish, Colin Cheek, Mike Short, David Porter and Tom Gibbard; division two 1 Tony Letts, Eva Turner, Cathy and Andrew Smith, 2 Sarah Pinchbeck, Janine Griffiths-Baker, Gareth Evans, Andrew Urbanski, Marc Lee and Mark Peers; division three 1 Mike O'Brien, Bill Crymble, Sheila Hodges and Bill Maddox, 2 Damian Nicholls, Lewis Morton, Richard Farrer, Arnold Taylor, Mary McKenzie and Gerry Gowling.

The county knockout has been won by Valerie and Peter Austwick, Chris Dixon and Pat Davies, who beat Andrew and Cathy Smith, Tony Letts and Eva Turner in the final. In the Pachabo held in West Bromwich the Austwick team finished in joint eighth place.

Many congratulations to Cathy and Andrew Smith for their fine fourth place in the Corwen Trophy.

In the Western League Avon finished second in A division, just 1vp behind Herefordshire. In B division Avon again finished second.

In the senior knockout teams Brian Dyde, Peter Sherry, Colin Cheek and David Hamper have reached the quarter-finals.

Bristol BC mixed pairs championship had an entry of 44 pairs and the Hockey Trophy has been won by Ralph and Lesley Smith, with Tina Rankin and Terry Butler second and Paul Bennett and Judith Nightingale third.

The West of England Bridge Club's Jubilee Cup, a two-session combined pairs and imps game, was won by Janine Griffiths-Baker and David Jones.

Bristol teams took first and second places in the Gloucestershire one day Green Point Swiss teams in Cheltenham. The winners were Riki Kittel, Mike Elliott, Cathy and Andrew Smith, ahead of Eva Turner, Mike Davies, Janine Griffiths-Baker and David Jones.

At the East Wales Congress Jeremy

Rickard, Robert Glass, Huw Oliver and Tony Gammon finished third in the two-day Swiss teams and Cathy and Andrew Smith were third in the Swiss pairs.

David Hamper and Colin Cheek won the consolation pairs in the Welsh Seniors Congress.

Bedfordshire

www.Bedfordshire-Bridge-Assoc.co.uk

2004-5 marks the 40th anniversary of Bedfordshire Bridge Association and a special anniversary event will be held on October 10. The event will combine an afternoon of seminars, run by Andrew Kambites, with bridge in the evening. All current and past members of BBA will be invited, including Bridge for All students, and prizes will be awarded to the leading non-expert pairs as well as the overall winners. We will be in contact with many former members, but welcome enquiries from anyone who has moved out of the area and would like to attend. Details of the event are on the county website.

The county AGM elected Ron Davis as the new chairman and Val Lawson as vice-chairman. Janet Marsh joins the committee as county secretary, while Chris Parkin remains treasurer and membership secretary. Former chairman David Gilling continues to represent BBA on the EBU Council and the new committee is very grateful for the continuing support offered to the county by David and other former officers.

In the EBU Spring simultaneous pairs heat that followed the AGM, an excellent score by Alan Shillitoe and Iain Roberts took them to 14th (out of 2185 pairs) in the overall national results. Congratulations to Alan and Iain and to the Pussy Cats team (Dave Dickson, Iain Roberts, Alan Shillitoe and Greg Ward), who won division one in the county league.

The last event of the season was the restricted pairs, in which players are the winners of various county pairs competitions and the pairs champions from affiliated clubs. Final results were very close. After much checking and double-checking of scores congratulations go to Julie and Steve Abley, who finished just ahead of Bob Brown and Phil Gee, with Roger Edmonds and Ron Davis third.

We are especially pleased for and send warm congratulations to the team of Alan Cooke, Maggie Willis, Maris Sheppard, Monica Lucy and Rita Keable, representing Bedford Bridge Club, who have reached the quarter-finals of the Nicko Plate.

Hearty congratulations to Jon Williams on his recent successes. These include first place in the Welsh May holiday teams; first with David Harris and others in the East Wales Congress teams; and third with Alan Shillitoe in the Spring Bank Holiday championship pairs B flight final. Will these have racked up enough points for Jon to lead the field on Master Points again?

Congratulations also to Steve and Julie Abley, Brian and Barbara Taylor, who were equal fifth in the Jersey Festival Swiss teams, and to Ron Davis and Dave Willett, third in the Northamptonshire Swiss pairs.

The new season starts with the popular Bedford Congress. Run jointly by BBA and Northamptonshire CBA, this well-established and well-run event attracts players from many of the surrounding counties. This year, pairs will be on the Saturday and Green Point Swiss teams on the Sunday. Please note that the dates are as published here and not as advertised in the handbook. Entry forms can be downloaded from the county website.

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of Brian Wharton. A member of Bedfordshire for a good number of years, Brian was a regular play-

er at Bedford Bridge Club and took part in most county events. His charming and unruffled demeanour endeared him to all at the table. We all will miss him. Our condolences go to his family.

Diary dates: September 4 Bedford Congress pairs, Cranfield; September 5 Bedford Congress Green Point Swiss teams, Cranfield. September 16 county opening pairs, Woburn Sands; September 30 Inter-club teams of four, Woburn Sands; October 10 40th anniversary event, Leighton Buzzard.

Berks and Bucks

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

MANY congratulations to Raymond and Sally Brock and Margaret James who, with players from other counties, won the prestigious Crockfords Cup in May.

Richard Davey and Richard Palmer have continued their recent remarkable run, winning the Corwen Trophy, the Waller Bowl and the Berks and Bucks Green Point Swiss teams in quick succession.

The Corwen, held at West Bromwich, is the EBU's Green Point event for the leading pairs from each county. The two Richards won it in a field of more than a hundred pairs.

Waller Bowl 1 Richard Davey and Richard Palmer, 2 Ed Scerri and Chris Burley, 3 John Greenhalgh and Tony Parkinson, 4 Finn Clark and Allan Ridgeley, 5 Joan Murphy and Sandra Belcher.

Berks and Bucks Swiss teams A flight 1 Harvey Bengen, David Beever, Richard Palmer and Richard Davey, 2 Bill Gardener, Derek Russell, Nes Charles and Gisella Martin, equal 2 Victor Savage, Sally Bride, Kevin Elstow and Phil Thornton; B flight 1 Di Bidmead, Barry Read, Thomas Cullen and Phil Wilson, 2 Steve Lee, Chrys Poole, Janet Wisely and Pallab Sarkar, 3 Chris Stableford, Margaret Mansell, Solly Laredo and John Hodges.

The county teams championship was won by Steve Eginton, Mike Perkins, Ted Martin, Peter Hawkes, Tim Rees and Ian Reissman. They went on to represent the county in the Pachabo Cup and finished sixth of 28 teams.

Perkins Cup 1 Tim Rees, Ted Martin, Mike Perkins and Steve Eginton, 2 Nigel Lancaster, Addis Page, Alan Boothroyd and Nigel Marlow, 3 Steve Lee, Chrys Poole, Sue and Graham Dickens.

Cambs and Hunts

www.cambsbridge.org.uk

THE 2004 Portland Bowl (inter-university knockout competition) was won by Cambridge A (Stuart Haring, Roger Brown, Gareth Birdsall, Daniel Elstein, Alex Foley and Jon De Souza), who beat Oxford B in the final. Trinity (David Hodge, David Collier, Toby Kenney and Taymur Tahseen) beat Imperial B to take third place.

The winners of the county knockout teams (Catherine and Chris Jagger, Jonathan Mestel and Julian Wightwick) went on to win the inter-county Pachabo competition on a split tie from Gloucestershire. One day Green Point events saw some good results for Cambridgeshire players, with Catherine and Chris Jagger and Jonathan Mestel in the winning team at Stevenage in May and Mike Seaver and Peter Bhagat second in the Northamptonshire Swiss pairs in June.

The Jubilee Swiss pairs was won by Rod and Sue Oakford, with Sheila Evans and Mervyn Carlisle second. Prizes for the leading pair below Regional Master went to Peter Beavan and Sue Hollingworth, and for the leading pair below Master to Angela and Roy Newman. Ascender's prizes were won by Joanne Caldwell and Ian McDonald (first half) and David Collier and David Hodge (second half).

Master Point promotions

Channel Islands cont

District Master

Dr RO Christensen

Club Master

Mrs WL Ethelston

PA Reed

DP Trestain

Cornwall

4* Star

Tournament

Mrs S Fowler

2* Star

Tournament

RP Hubback

5* Star Master

GJ Mortimore

Mrs C Vinson

3* Star Master

Mrs J Tregarthen

1* Star Master

Mrs JE Fisher

Mrs J Fitness

Advanced Master

Mrs SA Harris

Mrs EA Williams

Master

Mrs A Ampleford

Club Master

Mrs EH Fairbairn

Cumbria

Tournament

Mrs M Swan

4* Star Master

Mrs G Ocroft

3* Star Master

Mrs DH Pritchard

WB Rodger

2* Star Master

Mrs J Moritz

1* Star Master

Mrs S Hurd

JB Walker

Advanced Master

Mrs B Bullamore

Mrs MY Thornley

County Master

Mrs JE Cookson

District Master

I Caruthers

Club Master

Mrs C Skellon

TB Ward

Derbyshire

National Master

DD Wright

3* Star Regional

Master

MC Young

4* Star Master

B Marshall

Advanced Master

Mrs J Goulden

Master

Mrs EJ Hall

J Harris

Mrs K Harris

County Master

J Watson

Mrs M Watson

Master

Miss EM Runnalls

Mrs BM Williams

County Master

Mrs M Bess

IH Hamilton

District Master

Dr TD Eastop

F White

Club Master

Mrs JE Harrison

D Kirkness

W MacIntyre

J Maynard

Mrs R Ormerod

Mrs M Waterfield

Mrs G Wiseman

Direct

County Master

W Taylor

Dorset

Life Master

Mrs A Robertson

National Master

Mrs P Hirst

1* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs I Button

6* Star Regional

Master

WR Oddy

JF Rutter

5* Star Regional

Master

J Ball

2* Star Regional

Master

DM Berwitz

Regional Master

Miss JS Humphries

7* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs VER

Bedingham

Tournament

Master

B Hirst

MJ Millican

3* Star Master

Mrs JM Rayner

2* Star Master

Mrs AH Macleod

Advanced Master

Mrs RG Blake

Master

Mrs B Hawkins

Mrs DR Warner

G Wilson

County Master

Mrs JF Tripp

Mrs NI Willis

District Master

J Petran

Club Master

D Evans

Mrs KM Yates

T Yates

Essex

11* Star Regional

Master

TV Clark

1* Star Regional

Master

R Clarke

2* Star

Tournament

Mrs B Green

National Master

Mrs B Green

1* Star

Tournament

Mrs B Green

5* Star Master

J Riddleston

Mrs WA Wagstaff

4* Star Master

N Hunt

M Madden

Mrs D Ross

3* Star Master

Mrs L Butler

Mrs M Hipkin

Mrs IM Mamelok

2* Star Master

Mrs B Hadley

M Hipkin

Mrs S Moorman

1* Star Master

BK Coe

Mrs M Kakoullis

RJ Lebeau

PS Lee

SF Margutti

ME Wood

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Ann Curtin, a long-standing player in the county and former county committee member.

Channel Islands

www.gtonline.net/community/cicba

PRIDE of place this month must go to Guernsey's Channel Islands open pairs champions Robert Plumley and Colin Tostevan, who finished sixth in the Corwen Trophy at West Bromwich. After the first session they were leading the field and in fact were never lower than sixth throughout the competition: a first class performance.

The Lambourne Festival of Bridge took place at the Porlet Hotel and there were some good performances by Jersey members. In the Swiss pairs the Shell Trophy for the best performance by a Channel Islands pair went to Perry Darwin and Roz Bavin, who are now residents of Jersey, and occupied fifth place overall. In eighth position were Norman Le Cocq and Rosemary Pallot, who won the St Helier Trophy for the leading non-expert pair.

In the midweek events the multiple teams championship saw David Hole and David Friswell partnering UK players to win the Jersey Tourism Trophy and the same two Davids won the midweek pairs championship, while in fourth place were Howard Basden-Smith and Meredith Case.

In the mixed pairs championship Marion Miles and David Hole (again) were equal fourth and won the Fox Cup for the highest placed Channel Islands pair.

The county mixed pairs final took place just before the festival and resulted in victory for Jane Watts-Wakeham and David Hole, with Susie Farnon and David Plumley second and Brenda Walker and Dick Langham third.

Jersey has also held its district individual championship, which was won by Robert Brouard, with June Le Blancq and John Panter equal second, while the Victoria Bridge Club's annual teams championship was won by Carl Harrison, Sue Rankin, Gill Hall and Maureen Nelson.

Cornwall

www.jkeast.freeserve.co.uk

THE county AGM was well attended and this was undoubtedly due to the fact that Terry Collier, general manager of the EBU, was present to address the meeting. His presentation was well received by all who attended and was deemed a success by both sides of the platform. Our thanks are extended to Terry for making the effort and we hope this will not be the last time we see a top representative of the EBU in the flesh.

The AGM thereafter followed the normal format, with the main item of note the sad news that Ken Keast has resigned as treasurer, a post he held for more than 20 years. Our thanks go to Ken for all his hard work and the devotion he showed to the county. We wish him all the best for the future.

Mr D L Stone was then elected as treasurer and we wish him well in his new position. The meeting also confirmed the hall at Laddock as the new venue for all county events.

After the meeting the Norman Woodhouse individual event was held and resulted in victory for Mr L Haynes, with Audrey Barker second and Robert Mabley third.

Diary dates: September 26 Green Point Swiss teams, Wadebridge School 1pm; October 10 Clarke Windmill mixed pairs, Laddock 2pm; October 17 Mary Gregson-Brown Trophy, St Austell Arts Club 2pm; October 31 County Swiss teams, Queen's Hotel, Penzance 11am.

Cumbria

www.cumbriabridge.co.uk

WINNERS of our Murray League play-off final were the Barrow team of Alan

Williamson, Peter Thompson, Glenda Lloyd and Peter Boardman. Close behind in second place were Kendal's Bill Thompson, Alan Anderson, Philip and Sally Wraight, with Keswick's John Robinson, David Latimer, Mike Dunstan and George Borwick third. Congratulations to them all.

The popular Carlisle Swiss teams event was well attended. Winners were Alec Watson's team from Dumfries, Mr and Mrs A Watson, A Tough and Mrs S Service. Second place went to Mike Ash, Ian Reeves, Adam Aitken and Ian Smith, with Alan Williamson, Peter Thompson, Glenda Lloyd and Peter Boardman third and Mary Edgar, Anne Harrison, Geoff and Kathleen Bell fourth. The improvers' prize went to Geoff and Anne Stott, Janet Sheppard and Gary Bryson.

The programme of events for the coming season is now with clubs. First event is the championship teams qualifier at Keswick on September 19, with the final three weeks later on October 10.

Derbyshire

www.derbyshirecontractbridge.co.uk

THERE have been three giant killings in this year's Gold Cup by Derbyshire players (with a little help from their friends).

The first notable success was by Richard Edwards, Bob Ross (from Bradford), Don Smedley, John Griffin, Ron McEwan and Andy Wells, who travelled to Wales to take on and beat David Jones, Gary Watson, Martin Jones, John Collings, Graham Link and Steve Green in a third round match. If that was a tough draw our sympathies went out to them when they drew the top seeds and last year's losing finalists Janet de Botton, Gunnar Hallberg, Nick Sandqvist, Artur Malinowski and Justin and Jason Hackett in the fourth round. But our tears turned out to be premature and unjustified when they won that match as well.

Also in a fourth round match another Derbyshire pair, John Squibb and Paul Madden, playing alongside Brent Wormald and Peter Oldbury from Warwickshire, took on the second seeds comprising John Armstrong, Tony Forrester, Paul Hackett and Hugh McGann from their team of six. After 32 boards the Derbyshire-Warwickshire team found themselves 61imps ahead, a lead that was whittled down to 29imps after the full 48 boards had been played. It might be noted that this result was greeted with muted celebrations as John Armstrong is also a Derbyshire player and furthermore one who has given some excellent coaching to Derbyshire's county players.

The all-Derbyshire team of Ian Hall, Roger Mallinson, Peter Kelly and Alex Hogg has also made its way into the fourth round. This four, yet to meet a team of all stars, once made it to the quarter-finals and once won the Silver Plate.

The Derbyshire county teams playing in the Midland Counties championship have had little success in the past few years. Bearing in mind the success of some of our players in top class competition we really wonder why this should be.

The Derbyshire summer competitions are well under way and will be covered in the next bulletin.

Devon

www.dccba.com

A GREAT achievement of Geoff and Nethie White of Exeter, who are the new joint winners of the county Victor Ludorum. They pushed Kevin and Ann Slee, the winners for more years than can be remembered, down to joint third place. Final positions: G White 152, Mrs N White 152, K Slee 118, Mrs A Slee, 118 Mrs R Edmondson 96, W Solomon 95, Mrs L Solomon 95, J Harriman 91, Miss B McElroy 84, T McDermott 83, P Bowles 73,

R Mardlin 71, Mrs M Mardlin 71, Ms A Pollok 67, Mrs A Humphries 66, W Ellis 64.

Congratulations to the Exeter A team who reached the national final of the Garden Cities club teams-of-eight competition by winning their regional final. In the final they came fifth of eight, the winners being from the West of England Club, Bristol. The Exeter team comprised Kevin and Ann Slee, Alan and Jette Bailey, Warner and Louise Solomon, Peter Bowles and Roger Slape.

The county *Western Morning News* KO team competition was won by Peter Bowles, Roger Slape and Warner and Louise Solomon.

A new summer pairs league is now underway at Plymouth, on the fourth Friday of the month - open to all DCCBA members. Results and more info on county website.

Diary date: November 6-7 Plymouth Congress (Details from Ann Husk 01822 852366).

Dorset

www.dorsetbridge.plus.com

CONGRATULATIONS to Miles Cowling (playing with Avon's David Jones) Helen Ackroyd and Martin Brook on reaching the Spring Congress championship pairs final. In the first round of the Hubert Phillips KO Miles Cowling, David Jones, Jon Williams and Daphne Philipps beat Phil Norman, Guy Lawrenson, Leslie Lewis and Christine Bradley, while Martin Brook, Helen Ackroyd, Anne Sharples and Mike Organ beat Peter Cherrett's Wiltshire team.

Dorset were represented in the Pachabo by Miles Cowling, Daphne Philipps, Ann Sharples and Barrie Cantello, who finished 14th of the 28 competing teams.

Stuart Upton, Glenda Shave, Brian Browse and Clive Russell had a convincing win in the Udall Trophy, beating second-placed P Sayer, A Myers, R Marshall and D E Shabner by 22vps. They become the top seeds in the subsequent KO competition for the right to represent Dorset in next year's Pachabo Cup.

Diary dates: August 1, 8 and 15 and September 5, 12 and 26 Swiss team - Wessex Bridge Centre (EBU licensed congress events - contact Terry Udall on 0202 760934); August 15 Weymouth Cup - Wessex Bridge Centre; September 1 Flemmich Cup teams, Christchurch Bridge Club. Dorset events contacts are Martin Brook on 01258 858232, Terry Udall on 0202 760934 and Wendy Mackenzie-Harvey (Shaftesbury) on 01935 850704.

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk

We were very pleased to welcome Ted Schram, our 96-year old vice-president, to the AGM.

The Essex teams of four champions were won by Ian Moss, Mike Graham, Alan Green, and David Clark, who defeated Martin Smith, Ted Cockle, Alaric Cudd, Chris Megahey, Roger and Jill Tattersfield in the final. The teams of four plate were won by Lionel Wernick, Satish Nagpal, John Sutcliffe and Alan Eames, who beat Alan Cohen, Yvonne Dias, Allan Greenstein and Bob Hair. The Switch Cup was won by Denis Valtisaris, Graham Beckett, Ray Clarke, Po Shing Lee and Simon Moorman, who beat Paul Spencer, Marc Chawner, Beryl and Chris Kerr in the final.

The leagues have had another successful season, with 60 teams competing in the two districts. The winners of division one in the West Essex league were The Good Guys (Martyn Caswell, Gareth Dykes, Vernon Madge, John Francis); second were Churchills (Alan Coral, Laurie Burt, Rob and Charlie Trayman). In the South East league the winners were Seeds Llama (Paul Spencer, Marc Chawner, Mike Graham,

Master Point promotions

- Essex cont
- Advanced Master Mrs S Millis
- Mrs LE Perryman
- Mrs S Raven
- Master Mrs SM Danby
- Mrs R Perryman
- County Master JR Aaron
- C Comer
- Mrs J Kennedy
- J Sitch
- Mrs ME Wale
- KA Wenn
- District Master JD Davis
- WC McLeod
- PE Rogers
- Club Master Mrs JE Parrott
- Gloucestershire
- 2* Star Premier Regional Master R Hennell
- 4* Star Regional Master Mrs MF Jones
- KA Rahim
- 2* Star Regional Master J Hayton
- 6* Star Tournament Master PE Franklin
- 5* Star Tournament Master Mrs OSE Davies
- Tournament Master Mrs SE Hetherington
- Mrs ME Howles
- Mrs ME Thomas
- Mrs A Vernon
- MJ Wignall
- 5* Star Master AH Fatenian
- 3* Star Master EA Hill
- WA Wells
- 1* Star Master Mrs DA Evans
- Mrs JM Brichard
- Advanced Master Mrs R Cotes
- J Prosser
- Mrs LA Maynor
- Master Mrs EP Grieves
- County Master ATW Brown
- Club Master Ms J Gougher
- DE Havas
- Hants and loW
- Life Master D Miller
- Premier National Master Mrs M Lawson
- Mrs EA Rice
- National Master Mrs M Stevens
- 12* Star Premier Regional Master B Stapleton
- 7* Star Regional Master PR Carter
- 5* Star Regional Master FC Pharrick
- 4* Star Regional Master Mrs J Whitehouse
- 4* Star Tournament Master Mrs ME Paterson
- 1* Star Tournament Master RA Day
- Tournament Master BC Barnard
- 5* Star Master T Adkins
- Mrs HE Ball
- Mrs AE Tranter
- 3* Star Master GE Collins
- Mrs EM Stewart
- 2* Star Master NM Comber
- HJ Gasser
- Mrs MK Gasser
- Mrs V Moules
- Mrs C Rubra
- 1* Star Master KS Benjamin
- BR Jubb
- Advanced Master Mrs E Bateman
- Mrs M Grasso
- Master Mrs C Parkes
- Mrs Whittingham DM
- County Master M Dodd
- Mrs P Dodd
- Mrs EA Madeley
- WAE Preston
- R Tripp
- District Master Mrs AV Dymond
- AJ Field
- Miss H Perkin
- Mrs Steele
- Club Master Ms EM Churcher
- KW Goldie
- BT Rhodes
- Herefordshire
- 2* Star Master Wg.Cdr N Shorrick
- Advanced Master B Snell
- Master FR Brown
- AJ Morris
- County Master Mrs N Annell
- Mrs D Bourne
- Mrs M Edwards
- Mrs EJ Stomadge
- Mrs YP Western
- District Master Mrs PM Holbrook
- BD Poole
- Club Master CM Sandy
- Hertfordshire
- Premier Life Master WJ Gordon
- Life Master C Cook
- Mrs SA Evans
- Premier National Master AJ Judge
- SY Sachak
- 3* Star Premier Regional Master Mrs BR Wallis
- 2* Star Premier Regional Master Mrs DJ Howes
- 1* Star Tournament Master BWG Morton
- Tournament Master PB Holden
- 4* Star Master C Short
- 3* Star Master Mrs S Grimmond
- RJ Hirons
- D Spruce
- 2* Star Master B Dear
- PE Littlewood
- GA Spence
- DJ Tooke
- 1* Star Master Dr RG Adams
- MG Leach
- JR Stobo
- Advanced Master R Ashdown
- A Peers
- A Swedloff
- Master Mrs BL Brown
- CJ Carreira
- Mrs FL Glenn
- DR Murphy
- Mrs M Murphy
- J Peers

Andy Graham, Dave Baker and Mark Rose); second were Crowstone (Alan Cohen, Yvonne Dias, Allan Greenstein, Bob Hair and George Wilcox).

The Eve Goblets are awarded to the most successful players in Essex competitions during the year. The leading players for the 2003/2004 season were 1 Ian Moss, 2 Mike Graham, 3 Roger Tattersfield for the men and 1 Jill Tattersfield, 2 Beryl Kerr, 3 Margaret Curtis for the ladies.

There have been some exceptionally good results for Essex players recently. The Thorpe Bay team of Yvonne Dias, Allan Greenstein, Paddy Murray, Eunice de Vries, Bob Hair, Alan Drew, Jill Hair and Alan Cohen won the regional heat of the Garden Cities Trophy, thereby qualifying for the national final. The Chelmsford team of Audrey Hartley, Alison Spencer, Richard Eason and Peter Jones reached the last eight in the Nicko, while another team from Thorpe Bay (Roger Bright, Alan Drew, Dave Duffy and Bernie Harrison) have reached the last eight of the Nicko Plate.

In the Bournemouth Spring Bank Holiday Congress Audrey Hartley and her team came third in the Swiss teams, while Rob and Charlie Trayman finished fourth in the championship pairs.

In the simultaneous pairs in May Alan Phillips and Mike Madden achieved second place nationally, playing at the May and Baker club, and John Sutcliffe and Chris Megahey finished eighth, playing at the St Edith's club.

In the Jersey Congress Peter Oake and Gad Chada were second in the Swiss pairs and Linda Barker and her team won the secondary final of the midweek multiple teams.

Diary dates: October 10 Fletcher Trophy and Cup, clubs; October 24 Seniors Cup.

Gloucestershire

www.gcba.org.uk
PAUL Denning's team (Patrick Shields, Andrew Kambites and Richard Chamberlain), reinforced for the final by Adrian Thomas, beat Graham Cornell's team (Richard Butland, John Rookwood and Derek Rue) to win the Gloucestershire Knockout Cup and so qualify for the Pachabo. In the Pachabo itself Paul's team, with assistance from Richard Butland, went on to achieve the splendid result of equal first, keeping up Gloucestershire's good record in this competition.

In the Gloucestershire league, division one was won by Paul Denning (Kambites, Chamberlain, Cornell, Butland), division two by Ian Constable (Val Constable, Allen and Judy Sanis, Lynne Hayes) and division three by Paul Clark (Richard Hennell, Mary Jones, Peter Swales).

Following the AGM the mixed pairs was won by Joe and Wendy Angeesing and the Flitch by Ian and Val Constable.

Guy Vandergucht and Paul Clark finished a creditable 13th in the Corwen.

The Cheltenham Congress, sponsored this year by Pegasus Homes, was again very popular. Many thanks are due to Judy Sanis, Anne Swanell and the many other willing helpers who worked so hard to ensure its success. Local winners were Joan and Geoff Peel (championship pairs), Wendy Angeesing and Albert Sproston (mixed pairs), Roy Collard and Mike Wignell (men's pairs) and Wendy, Albert, Roy, Ian and Val Constable, John Goodwin and Mark Hearsey who formed the most part of the two teams finishing equal first in the mixed teams.

Well done to Paul Denning, whose team got down to the last two unbeaten in the Spring fours before losing their next two matches, and to Keith Stanley and Derek Rue, whose team reached the fifth round before elimination.

The Cheltenham Bridge Club team of Ian and Val Constable, John Atthey, John Rookwood and Andrew Kambites has

reached the quarter-final of the NICKO, while Keith Stanley and Derek Rue, playing with John Collings and David Jones, are through to the semi-final of the Seniors Knockout.

Congratulations to Roger Brown, who was a member of the Cambridge A team that won the Portland Bowl and so qualified to represent England in the World Universities Bridge Championship in Istanbul in October.

Congratulations also to Andrew Kambites on reaching the rank of Grand Master, Gloucestershire's ninth current GM.

Diary date: September 25 Gloucestershire Green Point Swiss teams.

Hants and loW

www.hantsbridge.org

THERE were no changes to the committee at the AGM, but two notable announcements were made. First a Duplimate machine is being purchased and should be in situ for the new season. This means that not only will dealing the hands at the table be a thing of the past, but printouts of the hands will be available at the end of play. Second, a sub-committee for laws and ethics has been set up following several complaints received last year.

Dave Bessant reports that on the Isle of Wight some members have started an introduction to bridge in schools initiative and are impressed by the help received from the EBU. If anyone in the county would like to consider doing the same on the mainland, the islanders would be pleased to help with advice on getting started. If you want to discuss it, ask any committee member to put you in touch with Dave.

Most of the on-going competitions in the county were completed in time for the AGM and trophy presentations were made as follows: Victor/Victrix Ludorum Lesley Lewis; Pottage Cup Eleanor Rice and Stuart Strachan; League division one Jeremy Baker, Andy Hughes, Steve Preston and Heather Maidment; League division two Keith Bennett, Steve Tearle, Tracy Adams, Steve Howell, Marian Stevens and Jan Whitehouse; Solent Cup Gosport; Basingstoke Cup Titchfield; Cahalan Plate Chris and Richard Ray, Daniel Miller, Colin Jones, Gary Reynolds and Dave Hale; HICKO Cup Ian and Liz Borrow, Ted Quincey and Richard Green-Wilkinson; Finale events seniors Jan Whitehouse and Marian Stevens, intermediates Patricia Brookes and Tania Jerrard, juniors May Lawn and Joan Wilson; Philip Graham teams Phil Norman, Derek Maggs, Chris Bradley and Lesley Lewis; IBM pairs 1 Steve O'Kell and John Fryer, 2 John Jones and Mac Nurmohamed, 3 Roger Priestley and Brian Stapleton.

Diary dates: September 5 ladies' and men's pairs; September 19 Harrop mixed Swiss teams; October 3 Simmons Flitch married/mixed pairs; October 9 Petersfield Swiss teams, Community Centre, Petersfield (Entries to Maureen Rubra on 01730 263396); October 24 Wessex Swiss teams; November 7 Jubilee Cup teams of eight. Unless otherwise listed all the above will be in Romsey starting at 2pm - entries to Kathy Vaile tel. 01590 679673 or events2@hantsbridge.org

Herefordshire

www.herefordshirebridge.fsnet.co.uk

IT is a pleasure to report some encouraging results showing improvements in the standard of Herefordshire bridge at county level. In particular, the Herefordshire first team won A division of the Western League; the team was usually drawn from the squad comprising Tony Truluck, Noel Downes, Richard Croot, Rhan Davies, Mike Ralph and John Thacker.

In addition, a three-quarters Herefordshire team won this year's Hereford/EBU joint Green Point Swiss teams, adding to

the success of another Herefordshire team earlier this year in the corresponding Avon event. The winners from the entry of 32 teams (a further reduction on last year) were Ben Britton, David Brown, Peter Watts and Ben's long-standing partner from Berks and Bucks, Mike Foister. Second were H Oliver, R Glass, T Gammon and A Urbanski, while B Cornelius, B Ewert, R Semp and G Hyett were third.

However, we let the visitors sweep the board in the county's invitation Swiss teams event. There were 12 teams entered, the winners being J and D Patrick, L Sheridan and E Parry from East Wales. Second were I and V Constable and A and J Sanis from Gloucestershire, while J Cattanach, S Griffin, D Banks and B Nightingale from Worcestershire were third.

In the last issue we reported the sad death of Barbara Forryan, who had done so much to encourage bridge playing in the county, particularly through the Bridge for All scheme. Rex Shuttler and her former pupils at the Marches BFA Bridge Club organised a duplicate pairs event at Barestree in her memory and in aid of St Michael's Hospice, where Barbara spent her last days. The event, restricted to Standard English bidding and directed by county chairman Sue Munday, was oversubscribed, but 42 pairs were fitted in on the day, enjoying a delicious buffet lunch, raffle etc. The winners were Sue Shore and John Poole.

Another group of Herefordshire bridge players organised a charity Swiss teams event that raised £1,900 for the very busy Charles Renton Oncology Unit at Hereford Hospital. The organisers included a Barclay's Bank pensioner, which enabled them, under Barclay's match funding scheme, to add £750 to the amount raised. The successful and enjoyable bridge event, held at Tarrington Village Hall, also included raffles and an auction. The organisers were overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone they approached. The money will be used to buy a much-needed portable driver, a device that administers drugs continuously, thus keeping the patient pain free. The winning team from the 26 entries comprised D Heslop, M Panniers, H Seabright and B Thornburn.

Hertfordshire

Freespace.virgin.net/herts.bridge

FOLLOWING the AGM we welcome Mike Hancock, our new President.

At the Spring Bank Holiday Congress in Bournemouth Alan Kay, playing with Tim Rees, came fifth in the A final. In the Swiss pairs, Maria Budd and Malcolm Harris were fourth and Richard Irwin and Karima Basse ninth. In the Swiss teams Alan Kay was sixth, and Alex Davoud and Saleem Sachak seventh.

In the Bedfordshire Swiss teams Hertfordshire players had a very good showing. Celia and Derek Oram, Malcolm Harris and Jon Williams were second and Stan and Tara Harding, Anne Flockhart and Mike Hancock were third.

The county's mixed pivot teams was won by Dave Walker, Mike Hancock and Celia and Derek Oram, with Paddy Dymoke, Mike Robson, Gila Tiplady and John Marmery second and Stan Harding, Tara Harding, Tony Judge and Vernon Gaskell third.

Please email details of all your bridge achievements locally and nationally to david.edleston@ntlworld.com

Diary date: September 19 Hertfordshire Green Point Swiss teams. Contact tournament secretary Mike Minting on 01442 833247 to pre enter.

Kent

www.kcba.org.uk

KENT members extend their deepest sympathy to Madeline and her family following the death of Ray White. Ray, a recent

Master Point promotions

Hertfordshire cont

County Master

Mrs J Chost
MJ McGarry

Miss CS Nixon

PJ Rimmer

MV Rodney

District Master

Mrs S Early

B Smith

Club Master

J Bradbrook

NA Stennett

Isle of Man

7* Star Regional Master

Mrs JJ Sherry

3* Star Master

Mrs JR Harrison

J Stewart

2* Star Master

IJ Knight

Advanced Master

TA Emmett

Mrs P Townsend

District Master

Mrs AR Ellis

Mrs ZM Underwood

Club Master

Mrs E Cowell

Kent

Premier National Master

Dr M Alcalay

10* Star Premier Regional Master

Mrs D Servante

5* Star Premier Regional Master

Mrs JMH Rishovd

Premier Regional Master

JP Griffiths

5* Star Regional Master

AW Wardle

3* Star Regional Master

Mrs JW Bell

Regional Master

KA Ashcroft

2* Star Tournament

Mrs L Radford

1* Star Tournament

Mrs D Hilbourne

DE Hilbourne

RC Shilling

Tournament

Mrs AM Burt

D Cooper

Mrs VJ Golding

5* Star Master

Mrs FA Arnold

4* Star Master

Miss RV Ericson

AF Gibb

Miss JM Jones

3* Star Master

Mrs HM Gibbons

MF Golding

Mrs BG Hughes

Mrs M Lay

Mrs LA Trowell

2* Star Master

Mrs GM Evans

Dr E Kloprogge

BJ Ping

Mrs AA Treen

1* Star Master

Mrs PM Bradley

Mrs PA Cheshire

Mrs L Clark

Ms JL Connor

Mrs G Harland-Fisher

Mrs ASM Jeffery

Mrs J Paige

DN Parkinson

Mrs B Smith

Advanced Master

Mrs BC Holloway

O Jamall

Mrs RJ Macfarlane

A Rabot

Mrs B Rolland

Master

Dr EA Boiten

Ms J Prout

E Rochester

A Wilson

County Master

Mrs E Hardwick

Mrs JC O'Doherty

D Reed

DJ Summerfield

KD Wood

District Master

D Bagli

M Barnett

Mrs SM Gillies

Dr NR Padley

Club Master

LA Kendall

Lancashire

9* Star Regional

Master

GD Oliver

3* Star Regional

Master

Miss SM Grey

2* Star Regional

Master

Mrs W Blyth

Tournament

Master

Mrs P Cox

4* Star Master

S Shahn

JM Smith

2* Star Master

Mrs RN Kennedy

A Rosen

Col M Royle

1* Star Master

PN Meadowcroft

D Platts

GB Pollard

Advanced Master

Mrs L Wilkinson

Master

B Curwen

Miss B Ridings

Mrs R Seed

ADB Wilkinson

County Master

Mrs B Mawdsley

Mrs L Willacy

District Master

Mrs A Entwistle

Mrs P Haselhurst

Leicestershire

Life Master

PG Halford

AE Kitson

Mrs IY Krantz

A Langley

National Master

Dr PG Neville

5* Star Premier

Regional Master

GR Duddle

1* Star Premier

Regional Master

J Myles

Premier Regional

Master

Ms L MacFarlane

4* Star Regional

Master

AD Lord

Mrs B Smith

Regional Master

Mrs S Stockdale

3* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs J Grant

Mrs K Lindley

1* Star

Tournament

Master

RC Cook

Master

B Masters

KM Patel

4* Star Master

G Brown

Mrs M Brown

Mrs E Davies

JW Kraus

3* Star Master

DR Bell

Prof RO Davies

Mrs S Fennell

NM Novakovic

Dimmie Fleming award winner, was involved in bridge for many years at club, county and national level. He was county chairman for 12 years and president for the last seven. He will be sadly missed.

Farnborough A (Phil Bailey, Steve Burton, Tony Crouch, Catherine and Ian Draper, Neil and Anne Rosen and Gerald and Stuart Treddinick) beat West Kent for the second year running in the final of the Corbett Cup. The Corbett Plate has again been won by a team from Swanley, this time Don and Ann Mitchell, Norman Inness, Roy Linn, Dave Crawley, Stefan Syplywczak, Brian Evans and Ossie Saeed, who beat Farnborough B in the final.

The Mitchell Salver was won by Beckenham's D team of Paul and Jean Fishleigh, Bettine Dunn, Joyce Boulderstone, Bill and Bernie Prior, Janne Green and Brian Grimwood, who beat Farnborough D in the final.

Catherine Draper's team has held on to the Arnold Cup, thereby qualifying to represent Kent in next year's Pachabo Cup, while the Arnold Plate was won by John Amor's team who beat last year's winning team, Clare. Next year's competitions handbook will be mailed to all Kent members in August so it is time to start thinking about getting a team together for next season's knockout competitions.

The Kent area leagues have also finished for the season. Northwest division one 1 Venner, 2 Russell; division two 1 Mitchell, 2 Dixon; division three 1 Powell, 2 De'Ath. Northeast division A 1 McVey, 2 Anning; division B 1 Crack, 2 Reed. Dover Cup, championship league 1 McVey, 2 Crack. Subsidiary play-off 1 Servante, 2 Salvage. Southwest 1 Hawkhurst, 2 St Julians.

Southeast Bridge League: division one 1 Draper, 2 Bruty; division two 1 Henstock, 2 Foster; division three 1 Price, 2 Smith.

Farnborough beat Beckenham in the annual Haycocks Cup match.

By virtue of winning the Arnold Cup last year Gerald Treddinick, Stuart Treddinick, Catherine and Ian Draper represented Kent in the Pachabo Cup (inter-county championship teams of four) where they finished eighth.

The Crockfords Cup is England's premier open teams-of-four championship, which starts as a privately played knockout event and finishes with the last eight meeting for an all-play-all final. There were 172 teams competing this year and Gerald and Stuart Treddinick, Catherine and Ian Draper and Neil and Anne Rosen qualified for the final, but sadly did not win, although they beat the team that did.

The Jersey Congress attracted a few Kent pairs again this year: Jeremy Willans, Jill Skinner, Margaret Heilbron and Kaia Bell were fourth and Catherine and Ian Draper, Diana Avis and Colin Wilson eighth in the final of the multiple teams; Catherine and Ian, Colin and Diana were joint second in the Swiss teams. Michael Prior and Gary Wiles were second in the pre-congress pairs, with Catherine and Ian fourth. Jeremy Willans and Jill Skinner were joint fourth in the mixed pairs, with Catherine and Ian eighth. Elaine Wilmot and John Condon were sixth in the championship pairs, with Ian Draper and Jill Skinner eighth.

At the Spring Bank Holiday Congress Karen Pryor and John Griffiths were first in the Swiss pairs. Bill Gardner and Laurie Sedar were equal 11th and Malcolm Pryor and David Muller were 13th. Chas Snape came second in the B flight Swiss teams playing with Jenny Irvine, Vivienne Finch and Leonie Lockhart. Paul and Jean Fishleigh, Mirna Goacher and Keith Ashcroft finished seventh.

In the Sussex Swiss teams Jeremy Willans, Neil Benn, Michael Prior and Gary Wiles were fourth. In the Berks and Bucks A flight Swiss teams, Bill Gardner,

Nes Charles, Derek Russell and Gisela Martin were equal second, while in the B flight Swiss teams Keith Ashcroft, John Griffiths, Graham Pollack and Bryan Pinto were fourth.

Kent pairs did well in the Friday evening worldwide sims pairs in June, Carol Soutter and Erica Engels were 16th in the England rankings and 85th overall, Geoff Smith and Darren Steel were 18th and 97th respectively and Mike Rafferty and Liz Blande 22nd and 116th. On the Saturday Michael Prior and Vic Brozdowski were 8th in the England ranking and 322nd overall.

Kent results: Phillimore Cup Swiss pairs 1 Catherine and Ian Draper, 2 Barbara Schultz and Valerie Smith, 3 Marie Horlock and Tony Price; Sussex Swiss teams 4 Jeremy Willans, Neil Benn, Michael Prior and Gary Wiles; Berks and Bucks Swiss teams A flight equal 2 Bill Gardner, Nes Charles, Derek Russell and Gisela Martin, B flight 4 Keith Ashcroft, John Griffiths, Graham Pollack and Bryan Pinto.

The main Tunbridge Wells bridge clubs have amalgamated under the name of Tunbridge Wells Bridge Club and the new committee is aiming to cater for all standards of bridge, with classes for those wishing to learn and opportunities for beginners who would like to play duplicate. For more details call 01892 530739.

Hampton Bridge Club is now operating a weekly host system (except on club competition and sim pairs evenings). For further information contact Audrey Baldwin on 01227 278625.

Please email details of forthcoming local events and results or anything you would like to be included in this column to LizBlande@aol.com

Diary dates: October 2 Beckenham BC Swiss teams; October 29-31, Kent Congress.

Lancashire

www.lancsbridge.co.uk

AT the AGM Betty McNamara was elected county president and David Pendlebury was elected chairman. All other officers remain unchanged.

Congratulations go to Andrew Petrie, who won the Merseyside Green Point Swiss pairs with Giles Foster, and to John Simm and Wendy Blyth, who were runners-up. Jackie Pye captained the winning team in the Lancashire Green Point Swiss teams. Her team-mates were Jeff Smith, Tracy Capal and Boris Ewart.

In the LCBA teams of four Gareth Roberts' team defeated Tony Woollin's team in the final.

Bury Swiss teams 1 Martin Cantor, Baz Caygill, David Waxman and Richard Pike, 2 Steve Haley, Mike Nicholson, Paul and Hilda Williams; 3 John Ashworth, Cath Hornby, Derek and Hazel Jacques; equal 3 Don Cross, Jill Entwistle, Irene Bowers and Dorothy Berry.

Gazette and Herald Trophy 1 Nick and Sue Woodcock, George and Maureen McConkey, 2 Tony Woollin, Dagmar Fazackerley, Bob Loveridge and Helen Montgomery, 3 David Pendlebury, Judy Brearley, David Briggs and Margaret Tott.

Blackburn Swiss Pairs 1 John Holland and Dick Fleischman, 2 Rhona Goldenfield and Michelle Brunner, 3 Sue Hyman and Ewart Evans.

Bolton Spring Bank Holiday Swiss teams 1 Paul Evans, Alan Whittam, Sue Hyman and Ewart Evans, 2 John Hampson, Paul Roberts, John Leather and David Flacks, 3 Michelle Brunner, Rhona Goldenfield, John Holland and Dick Fleischman.

Diary dates: August 13-22 Brighton Summer Congress; August 15 Preston pairs, Preston; August 28 Yorkshire v Lancashire, Huddersfield; September 3-5 Bolton Congress, Bolton Bridge Club; September 9-12 Isle of Man Congress,

Douglas; September 19 LCBA mixed pairs, Poulton Bridge Club; September 26 Pendle Witch pairs, Fence Gate Inn, Burnley.

Leicestershire

www.leicsbridge.org.uk

AT the county AGM officers were elected as follows: chairman Pat Watson (succeeding John Wilcox), treasurer Henry Cooklin, general secretary Robert Northage, league secretary Dennis Yates, tournament secretary Neil Beasley, fixtures secretary Nick Stevens, membership secretary Pat Beasley, minutes secretary Tim Johnson, webmaster Ken Moore, and (without port-folio) Dick Pathan. This committee was pleased to co-opt John Bowness, as education liaison officer, at its first meeting.

The meeting concluded with the presentation of the trophies and prizes by the guests of honour, Dennis and Mary Bradley, representing Glenfield Bridge Club in its anniversary year.

In the first appearance for many years of a Leicestershire team in the national final of the Garden Cities Trophy David Fletcher, Jean Wightman, Marjorie Gilbertson, Pat Watson, Brian Marlow, Robert Northage, Mick Mahoney and David Pollard challenged for a place until losing their last two matches and finished sixth.

Robert Northage, Brian Chamberlain, David Fletcher and Tony Marshall defeated the odds-on favourites Willie Crook, Graham Kirby, Tony Sowler and Rob Sharpe in the final of the Nottinghamshire teams of four championship, but as Nottinghamshire is not their prime county of allegiance they were unable to go on to the Pachabo Cup.

There were two notable performances by local players in the May Swiss Green Point events. Clare Bray and Adrian Fisher from the Loughborough club came third of 88 in the Merseyside and Cheshire pairs and Jean Wightman, David Fletcher, Yasser Haider and Simon Stokes (County Club Clarendon) topped the field of 37 in the Warwickshire teams.

In the opening round of the 2004 Midland Counties league season our three teams recorded victories over Worcestershire, 17-3, 18-2 and 14-0 respectively.

Stanley Trophy heat seven 1 Gary Duddle and David Green, 2 Brian and Sheila Stockdale, 3 Mick Mahoney and David Pollard; overall results 1 Hugh Cairns and Geoff Shaw, 2 Alan Langley and Dick Pathan, 3 Roger Cook and Marjorie Gilbertson, 4 Wojtek Charemza and Derek Deadman.

The Hyman Crammer Trophy, for club champion pairs, was retained by Bob Gibson and Mike Osborne (Melton), while Anne Moncrief and Steve Wright (County Club) second and Brenda Colman and Ray Le Vesconte (Westcotes) third.

Jones Trophy (handicap pairs) 1 Gerry Bucciero and Bob Parker, 2 Tim Johnson and Anne Thomas, 3 Frank Burgess and Paul Webb

Geoff Shaw (Hugh Cairns, Harry Gordon, Jim Taylor) won the aggregate scored Leicestershire Cup, beating Gary Duddle (Bharat, Ramnik Samani, Peter White) in the final, while Roger Cook (Gerry Bucciero, Marjorie Gilbertson, Bob Parker) beat Bill Hood (David Deane, Ramnik Samani, Pat Watson) in a play-off for the Butterworth Trophy.

Diary dates: August 13 play-by-date SKO Cup and Plate semi-finals; August 26 Three Counties, Spondon; September 1 Stanley Trophy heat one, Leicester Bridge Centre; September 2 league meeting, Loughborough Grammar School; September 8 George Taylor simultaneous pairs, most clubs; September 10 play-by-date for SKO Cup and Plate finals; September 16 Three Counties, Spondon;

Master Point promotions

Leicestershire

- cont
- 2* Star Master Mrs P Bloodworth
- Prof L Cantor
- S Foster
- Ms AR Grant
- W Grindley
- Dr Y Haider
- TP Leader
- ME Partridge
- EG Smith
- FS Travers
- 1* Star Master P Bennett
- Dr JG Cooil
- Dr DC Finlay
- Miss K Krzeczowska
- DJ Morris
- AO Norman
- DB Symonds
- R Westerman
- GP Whiteman
- IR Woodward
- Advanced Master
- SEZ Ashley
- SA Francis
- GG Marshall
- Dr GR Olsson
- Mrs JP Wilkes
- Master
- Mrs CJ Brewster
- Mrs M Burley
- GP Gerrard
- Ms JA Hill
- CW Lander
- H Massie
- RM Maddimer
- T O'Rourke
- Mrs LA Stone
- Mrs S Sturgess
- PG Watson
- County Master
- Miss K Barnett
- Mrs A Crispin
- BP Holowina
- Mrs F Lee
- Mrs RA Lewis
- J Richards
- P Talbot
- B Wilton
- District Master
- Mrs C Adams
- G Alford
- CM Allen
- Mrs MM Coverdale
- Dr PG Dusham
- Mrs L Hamilton
- RK Harris
- Mrs C Shaw
- Club Master
- JF Bee
- Ms S Brown
- Miss C Byssade
- Mrs P Gibb
- W Gibb
- G Jones
- PJ Owen
- DV Pettit
- D Pimm
- Mrs M Shadrack
- R Shadrack
- S Shah
- Mrs JRS Thompson
- GE Trevas
- Mrs M Williams
- Lincolnshire
- Premier Life Master
- EF Goodere
- Mrs MA Parsons
- Life Master
- M Grant
- Nations' Master
- GR Elwick
- 1* Star Premier
- Regional Master
- A Brown
- 1* Star Regional
- Master
- W Parsons
- MC Patel
- 4* Star Master
- Mrs PM Harbage
- Mrs EN Herbert
- Mrs MA Neal
- 2* Star Master
- GW Holmes
- Mrs SH Holmes
- 1* Star Master
- A Millington
- Mrs J Smith
- Advanced Master
- DW Bal...
- Master
- Mrs H Wilson

- District Master R Barrow
- Miss A Crowther
- London
- Premier National Master
- G Hallberg
- Regional Master
- N Boss
- C Leong
- Tournament
- Master
- GL Lederman
- 3* Star Master
- Mrs E Kane
- RJ Vaughan
- 1* Star Master
- J Suri
- Advanced Master
- Mrs DS Birshan
- L Porter
- Master
- Mrs AE Alride
- D Gosling
- J Howard
- M Panahpour
- RR Pingle
- B Richter
- Ms SM Taylor
- Mrs MT Wiehe
- County Master
- Miss EJ Fairclough
- Ms C Gidden
- RA Klein
- J Ramos
- I Whiteman
- District Master
- R Blausten
- RK Harris
- B Kelly
- AT Rogers
- Club Master
- G Carr
- Mrs L Davis
- P Davis
- T Ryan
- Manchester
- Life Master
- MG Byrne
- National Master
- Mrs JA Morris
- 2* Star Master
- F Brown
- 1* Star Master
- Mrs J Butterworth
- Advanced Master
- S Gold
- Mrs L Morrish
- County Master
- Mrs A Barlow
- P McWhirter
- Mrs A Walker
- District Master
- NG Matthews
- Club Master
- DR Mitchell
- T Mitra
- Ms C Waters
- Merseyside and Cheshire
- Life Master
- JL Hampson
- National Master
- D Edwards
- JD Griffith
- Regional Master
- Miss B Serres
- County Master
- Mrs A Harwood
- Mrs CR Yates
- Middlesex
- Premier Life Master
- Dr G Hutchinson
- National Master
- Mrs V Durbini
- Mrs SA Moss
- 6* Star Regional
- Master
- MC Patel
- 2* Star Regional
- Master
- DE Lake
- 1* Star Regional
- Master
- JS FeBland
- Tournament
- Master
- NG Shah
- V Washtell
- 4* Star Master
- Master SN Shah
- 3* Star Master
- SM Walter

September 19 Midland Counties League, A team v Oxfordshire; September 22 2004-5 league first match night; September 25 Green Point Swiss pairs, Spondon; September 26 Green Point Swiss teams, Spondon; September 27, 28 and 30 for Josephs Bowl round one club heats; September 29 Otto and Edith (mixed) pairs, incorporating Midland Fitch qualifier, Barkby Bridge Club.

Lincolnshire

www.oden.co.uk/lincsbridge
GOOD weather accompanied the annual championships at Hemswell Court and numbers were up again. Directors Ian Muir and Rob Turner completed an excellent weekend.

The championship pairs was won by Dave Stoddart and Mark Wardell, with Nick Dyer and Mike Perry second and Tony Waine and Mike Grant third.

Consolation pairs 1 John Gaunt and Lawrence Taffinder, 2 Anne Wakelin and Majorie Bevan, 3 David Page and Mike Waters; open pairs 1 Jenny Knowler and Margaret Foster, 2 John Roman and Martin Grant, 3 Stuart Knox and Catherine Caldwell.

Teams was played on the Sunday and it was good to see some of our younger players doing well. Emma Wardell and Sue York, playing together for the first time in the event, qualified for the final, as did Catherine Caldwell, partnering her dad. Result 1 Alan and Drene Brown, Mike Perry and Nick Dyer, 2 Tony Waine, Mike Grant, Lawrence Taffinder and John Gaunt, 3 Roy Hughes, Dennis Mellor, Paul Wokes and Dave Pettengel

Consolation teams 1 John Vickers, Keith Stewart, Isobel Ridgewell and Phil King, 2 Maurice Ladlow, Mo Parsons, Ron Wall and Alan Brown, 3 Maurice Lynn, Elaine Proctor, Paul and Chris Davison.

Open teams 1 Bill and Eileen Herbert, Bill and Shirley Holmes, 2 Tony Hodgkinson, Brian Walsham, David Wootton and Chris Foster, 3 Derrick Hickson, Mike Hurst, Alan Millington and Nick Hunter.

The Margaret Briggs Trohpy for best improvers was won by David Page and Mike Waters. The Lucy Osbourne Cup for the highest placed seniors was won by Bill and Shirley Homes. The Lincoln Gold winners were Maurice Lynn, Elaine Proctor, Paul and Chris Davison, who beat Dave Pettengel, Paul Wokes, Tony Waine and Mike Grant.

Would all members, secretaries, etc. please let county press officer Drene Brown have any news of interest. Email: aalandrene.brown@tiscali.co.uk

Diary dates: September 5 AGM followed by bridge, with a new trophy for the winners; September 19 restricted pairs, plus a national pairs heat; October 10 Lincoln Imp, restricted to no more than a one star Master; October 24 mixed/married pairs. All at Dunholme with a 1.30pm start.

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk
MANY congratulations to the England team for finishing fifth in the European Championships to qualify for the Bermuda Bowl World Championships next year, especially as London members Tom Townsend, David Gold, David Price, Colin Simpson and coach David Burn formed the backbone of the team.

Despite winning the trials, Danny Davies was unable to play in Malmo, but showed himself still on form by being part of the winning Crockfords team, in the finals of which Janet de Botton, Gunnar Hallberg and Nick Sandqvist came fourth.

Congratulations must also go to Janet de Botton's team for winning the new Schapiro Trophy at the Spring Foursomes,

the toughest event in the national calendar.

In the Jersey Lambourne Festival Alan and Olivia Woo had a good run, winning the multiple teams B final, coming second in the Swiss teams championship and making third in the pre-congress pairs, while Mike Fletcher was a member of the Swiss teams winning quartet.

London Trophy: 1 RAC, 2 Royal Wimbledon GC, 3 Old Actonians, 4 Farnham; Plate 1 Shortlands, 2 Coombe Hill GC; London Bridge for All Day 1 Nicola Gollan and Ned Paul, 2 Jen Thompson and Philip Watson, 3 Monique Wakefield and Leslie O'Hara; London teams of four 1 Ian Payn, Rob Cliffe, David Burn and Brian Callaghan, 2 Michael Hill, Mike Clack, Roger Morton and David Ould.

Home Counties league 1 Surrey, 2 London Red; London League division one 1 Young Chelsea I, 2 Young Chelsea III; division two 1 Young Chelsea II, 2 Surrey Marauders; division three 1 Monday Club B, 2 Young Chelsea IV.

Diary dates: September 12 LMBA mixed pairs, Young Chelsea BC 1pm. Contact Nigel Freake 020 8801 2884 or Nigel.freake@paper.co.uk.

Manchester

www.lighton.btinternet.co.uk
CONGRATULATIONS to the team of Michael Byrne, Alex Morris, Edward Levy, Andrew Woodcock, Ben Green and Duncan Happer, who have been selected to represent England in the Junior European championships, to be played in Prague in August.

Twenty-eight players enjoyed a day of golf and bridge at Whitefield Golf Club. Overall winner was Mike Pomfrey and Dave Matthews won the golf. It is hoped to repeat this event next year at Dunham Golf Club.

In Crockfords Cup, John Hasset's all Manchester team of Bill Hirst, John Holland and Michelle Brunner, winners in 2000, came second on a split tie to John Armstrong's southern quartet.

In the Hubert Phillips Bowl Rhona and Bernard Goldenfield, John Hasset and Bill Hirst lost in the semi-final to Jagger. This is the first Hubert Phillips match the Goldenfield team had lost in more than two years.

Congratulations to the unusual combination of Michael Byrne, Michael Newman, Sid Travers and Geoffrey Fink, who won the Staffs and Shrops Green Point Swiss teams at Wolverhampton.

Well done to Jeff Smith, Boris Ewart and Tracy Capal who, along with Jackie Pye of Lancashire, won the Risley Swiss teams.

Jeff and Alex Morris, Michael Byrne and Leslie Klein retained the Manchester County Cup, beating Raymond Semp, Dennis Robson, Irving and Joy Blakey in the final. The winners went on to represent Manchester in the Pachabo, where they finished seventh.

In the Corwen Trophy the four pairs representing Manchester acquitted themselves well, all finishing above average, with Bill Hirst and Bernard Goldenfield 10th, one place above Alan Purdy and John Holland.

A large contingent of players from the Manchester area played with great success in the Killarney Congress. Raymond Semp, Joy and Irving Blakey, along with Andrew Thompson from Norfolk won the mixed teams and Rhona Goldenfield, Michelle Brunner and Joy Blakey playing with Marnie McCormack, won the ladies' teams. In the main teams competition Bernard and Rhona Goldenfield, playing with Jim Luck and Alan William, were joint winners. In the mixed pairs, Joy and Irving Blakey took an enormous lead after the first session, but were just caught by Rhona Goldenfield and Pablo Casselle.

Extra boards had to be played to decide

the premiership division of the Manchester league. The Curry Eaters kept their nerve and kept their title, holding off Proteus by the narrowest margin. Winners of the other divisions were St Titus, Acolytes, Canute B, Woodentops, Poem of Ecstasy, Grosvenor Wednesday, Astra Zeneca Aces, Ruff Diamonds, Mark's Rejects, Ruby Thursday and Sharp Intake.

The league has been restructured for the coming season and there are several changes of procedure. New teams are welcome and any players interested should contact league secretary Bob Cooke, at Robert.cooke@ntlworld.com

At the AGM of Manchester CBA appreciation was recorded for the work done for the county over many years by Kath Nelson and Howard Kay, who have retired as congress secretary and match secretary. New officers elected were vice-chairman Kevin Comrie, congress secretary Steve Mattinson, secretary Maurice Super, selection committee Michael Byrne, David Debbage, Rhona Goldenfield, John Holland and Kevin Comrie

Bridge at the Mind Sports Olympiad starts on Tuesday August 24 and there is a full program of events, including three days of Green Point events over the Bank Holiday Weekend. Full information from Jeff Morris (0161-445-3712).

Merseyside & Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk
WE are sad to report the death of Dave John, a regular player in the Merseyside League for more than 35 years and in the recent past captain of Sutton, one of the league's most successful teams. During his time in the league Dave won every teams event in the calendar, some several times. He was a true gentleman, equally kind and friendly to both team-mates and opponents. Everyone who knew him will miss his cheerful demeanour and wicked sense of humour.

The county representatives this season in the Garden Cities Trophy (club teams of eight) were from the Merseyside League. They finished second behind Yorkshire in the regional final and so advanced to the national final, where they finished third. The team for the national final was Richard Silcock, Dave Shaw, Bob Pitts, Pete Broster, Richard Davies, Steve Downes, Simon Edwards and Paddy Murphy. Simon and Paddy were replacements for David Stevenson and Stuart Scholes who played in the regional final, but were unavailable for the national event.

Merseyside League results: division one 1 Sutton, 2 PSA; division two 1 Wirral B, 2 Aigburth; division three 1 Phoenix, 2 Harlequins; KO Cup 1 Amber, 2 PSA; Consolation Cup 1 Noctorum, 2 Bluecoat; Swiss teams 1 Sutton, 2 Amber; top teams 1 Amber, 2 Noctorum; championship pairs 1 Flo Spriggs and Tony Sheridan, 2 Chris Brooks and Jim Hughes

Jim Davies Swiss teams 1 John Drake, David Stevenson, Bob Pitts and Pete Broster, 2 Pat Tweedle, Lollo Murthwaite, Bunny Davies and David Howe, 3 David Flacks, John Leather, Simon Whitehouse and John Hampson.

Deva BC results: championship teams 1 T Pearson, C Murless, B Mitchell, J Przeworski, 2 A Dunn, S Platt, A Hudson, T Pickering; championship pairs 1 J Hampson and S Whitehouse, 2 B Mitchell and C Murless; KO Cup P Nickson, S Doubt, F McAleavy and D Knight; pivot teams A Dunn, S Platt, S Hudson, T Pickering and D Sinha; Fearn Cup (individual) 1 D Dutton, 2 A Ellis.

Diary dates: September 7 Liverpool BC mixed pairs; September 13-14 EBU simultaneous pairs, clubs; October 2-3 Great Northern Swiss pairs, Risley; October 13-14 simultaneous pairs, clubs; October 10 Chester Bowl (charity pairs), Deva BC.

Master Point promotions

Middlesex cont

2* Star Master

PN Ryan

1* Star Master

RC Boskin

Ms A Ellis

Mrs J Harris

Ms C Stafford

Advanced Master

RJ Bamberg

VC Borgonon

Master

Mrs P Mangion

County Master

Mrs O Carpendale

B Curtis

M Gentry

District Master

HW Havlock

DJ Herman

K Ziewacz

Club Master

Mrs FM Cable

Mrs R Courtney

D Hewlett

Mrs S Kesselwitz

Mrs T Kopelowitz

DV Mithani

M Samuels

Norfolk

National Master

Mrs SD Gill

SJ Langridge

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

G Ip

1* Star Regional

Master

P Clemens

4* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs B Thomson

Tournament

Master

PF Rogers

3* Star Master

Mrs S Briggs

Mrs BE Ingham

Mrs J Major

Mrs D Mullen

P Sutton

2* Star Master

PJ Carter

Mrs B Starkings

1* Star Master

Mrs GM Charter

Advanced Master

Mrs M Hunter

GR Sadd

Master

Mrs E Butler

M Butler

Mrs C Woolf

County Master

Mrs YL Douglas

Mrs PA Seligman

District Master

Mrs B Jones

JD Wawman

Club Master

Mrs AG Middleton

North Eastern

National Master

JE Bagshaw

9* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs B Boast

8* Star Premier

Regional Master

JEK Pattison

7* Star Premier

Regional Master

Mrs ME Berrisford

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

J Greaves

5* Star Regional

Master

Mrs P Bell

3* Star Regional

Master

Mrs PA Burton

2* Star Regional

Master

Miss S Caygill

3* Star

Tournament

Master

B Shepherd

Mrs M Wilson

2* Star

Tournament

Master

WR Aynsley

1* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs TL Lee

T Wilkinson

Mrs T Wilkinson

Tournament

Master

Mrs A Brodgon

KC Piper

5* Star Master

M Flynn

Mrs A Jackson

PH Jackson

Mrs B Seery

Mrs W Usher

Mrs M Van Miert

4* Star Master

Mrs PM Hands

2* Star Master

Mrs A Bell

Mrs IB Murray

Mrs P Procter

H Wells

1* Star Master

Mrs I Bennworth

MP Hatton

Mrs AP Hauxwell

S Hetherington

Mrs GC Saunders

Advanced Master

S Donnellan

GJA Harker

Dr TJ Howells

Mrs A Morse

CG Owen

Master

Mrs C Newton

Mrs C Rivers

M Smith

County Master

Miss M Danskin

Mrs E Gwynne

TA Gwynne

Mrs JE Heslop

Mrs L Jones

Ms LE Leach

Mrs H Richardson

Mrs F Scott

DA Woolf

District Master

Mrs M Booth

G Jackson

JH Smith

Mrs J Thompson

Club Master

Mrs J Beard

P Beard

TH Burn

S Goldstraw

JL Gray

Miss E Humphries

Mrs M Jones

Mrs P Laws

T Smailes

Northamptonshire

Life Master

Mrs M Bryant

RJ Miller

Premier National

Master

D Baines

National Master

Mrs SE Deacon

7* Star Premier

Regional Master

I James

Premier Regional

Master

Mrs J Pearce

3* Star Regional

Master

AGP Evans-Evans

Mrs AGP Evans

Evans

Regional Master

R Stacey

4* Star

Tournament

Master

BM McKenzie

2* Star Master

MJ Bowthorpe

Mrs JL Miller

J Posener

1* Star Master

G Boulby

Master

U Cotuk

Dr MJ Kennedy

Please note the heats for the Lady Connell Trophy (county Green Point teams - Pachabo qualifier) September 30 Merseyside BC, October 5 Blundellsands BC, October 15 Deva BC.

Middlesex

www.btinternet.com/~.mcba

THE Middlesex championship pairs was won by Richard Bowdery and Steve Root. Jerry Cope and Jeremy Dhondy were second and Ray Robinson and Jerry Harouni third. The Middlesex Cup was won by Jeremy Dhondy, Jerry Cope, Heather Dhondy, Nicola Silver and Bill Pencharz, who beat Victor Silverstone's team in the final. The Dhondy team went on to finish fifth in the Pachabo Cup.

The only Middlesex league side containing six Grand Masters finally got itself together and won the first division of the league. Celia and Derek Oram, John Sadler, Jacqui and Peter Tobias and Tony Waterlow ended the dominance of Uday Hegde's squad in the sixth season of the league. Division two was won by Ernest Schlesinger's team and Norman Agran's team came first in the third division. The fourth division was won by Viv Proop's team and the newcomers' division by Michelle Davis's team. Haberdashers Aske's school, whose teams use the Middlesex league as winter training, won the schools cup for the third year in a row as well as retaining the schools plate.

The Committee Cup, a multiple teams event, was won by Peter Hasenson, David Solomons, Mel Walker and Barry Mitchell.

At the Spring Bank Holiday Congress David Bakhshi, playing with Martin Jones, came second in the championship pairs A final, while Andrew McIntosh and Jack Mizel won the B final. At the same congress Andrew McIntosh, Jack Mizel and Andrew Allfrey were in the team that finished second in the A flight Swiss teams.

Margaret James was in the team that won the Crockfords Cup. Middlesex seniors are doing well in the seniors knockout, with players in three of the teams that are through to the semi-finals. Ivor Miller and John Sadler are in Jeff Alper's team; Victor Silverstone, Ian Panto and Tony Waterlow are in Ian Monahan's team, and the third team is an all Middlesex squad comprising Gary Jones, Alan Lipton and Jacqui and Peter Tobias.

Harry Ashar, Greta King, Brenda and Geoff Foley won Oxfordshire's Beck Cup, the first time this event has been won by a Middlesex team. Brenda and Geoff followed this up by winning the Welsh Bridge Union Bank Holiday Swiss pairs.

Diary dates: September 19 newcomers pairs, Howies; September 20 Skidaw individual, Acol; October 3 senior pairs, Howies.

Norfolk

www.norfolkbridge.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to Mike Walsh and Matt Milson for their second place in the Corwen Trophy, the inter-counties pairs event. Overseas news from past member Brian Overy is that he has been approached to captain the Cyprus bridge team in the 2004 World Olympiad in the autumn. He says that it is a daunting role, but a great honour.

Closer to home the international news is that Horning BC are again delighted to welcome Ron Klinger to a give a master class. This will take place on October 4 at 6.45 pm in Horning Village Hall. Wine and savouries will be served during the interval. Tickets priced £18 are for sale from Suzanne Gill Tel: 01692 631456 or suegill@btinternet.com

Dereham Trophy 1 Phil Jones and Eric Lloyd, 2 Adrian La Chapelle and Roger Cortis, 3 Nawal Fenwick and John Harrison; Swaffham Trophy 1 Gill Gilvey

and Margaret Ward, 2 Iris Green and Robbie Roberson; Glauert Trophy men's pairs 1 John Brister and John Massey, 2 Robbie Roberson and Roger Cortis, 3 Phil Jones and Eric Lloyd;

Pam Allwood Trophy ladies' pairs 1 Lily Cox and Julia Caplan, 2 Phyllis Spratt and Lena Taylor, 3 Iris Green and Gillian Hall; Amey Trophy finalists (club teams) - Norfolk and Norwich, Kings Lynn, Noverre, Hoveton; Lowestoft Trophy pairs 1 Iris Green and Neville Hill, 2 Nawal Fenwick and John Massey, 3 Bridget Starkings and John King; Barbara and Dick Cleland Trophy no fear teams 1 Tony and Dawn Wright, Mo Walker and Chris Sellick, 2 Masuma Ali, Julia Crisp, Brian and Abbie Robinson, equal 2 Allan and Brenda Wilson, Richard Claridge and Gemma Claridge.

North Eastern

www.neba.co.uk

THE Kempson Vases final at Stannington was contested by 36 teams and won by Eric and Pauline Knight, Lloyd Jones and Stan Payne representing Hurworth. The Morpeth team of Sue and Dick Davies, Alistair Kemp and Clive Ringrose were runners-up. Wearside won this year's club champion teams event. The team was made up of John Moor, Allyn Erskine, Jimmy Miller and Graham Cox. Middlesborough came second and Newcastle third. In the Garden Cities regional final, Brunton represented the NEBA and narrowly missed out on getting into the final.

The Tyneside league, run by Elaine Purvis, was won by the Morpeth team of John and Jane Edmunds, Sue and Dick Davies, Alistair Kemp and John Kingcome. The newly resurrected Teeside league, run by Fred Robinson, had two divisions. Division one was won by the Hurworth team of Malcolm Oliver, Fred Dalton, Nichola Cockerill-Smith and Felicity Kay, while the division two trophy goes to the Middlesborough team of Joyce Ward, Pat Buckley, Tony Lobo and Ivor Wallis.

The Swiss aggregate pairs was won by Liz Muir and Ian Spoor and the North-East League by Steve and Georgia Ray, Ian Spoor and Dave Roberts. This team represented the NEBA in the Pachabo Cup and assure us they will do better next time!

The Kempson Cup was won by the team of Malcolm Oliver, Clive Owen, Dave Broadhead, Mike Ferguson, Bill March and Brian Smith. The Kempson Plate was won by Fergus and Jean Marshall, Desmond Dunleavy and Tony Bell.

Our AGM, hosted by Hurworth Bridge Club, ran very smoothly and there were no changes of personnel. Congratulations to Durham Bridge Club who are our club of the year and receive the John Clark Salver. For the second year running Ian Rankin was player of the year and he continues to hold the Sunday Sun Trophy.

Hurworth's annual congress was played in its new summertime slot in early June and was well attended. Thirty-four pairs contested the congress pairs, which was won by Janet Mason and David Colley. Runners-up were Kathleen Armstrong and Lady Marlene Davison. In the evening session, the congress teams event went to Clive and Christopher Owen, Malcolm Oliver and Cedric Cockcroft, while the open pairs was won by Brian and Pauline Somerville. The event was run with their usual calm efficiency by Nigel and Pauline Durie.

Northamptonshire

www.northantsbridge.info

ONLY change of official at the county's AGM was the election of Jimmy Deacon as county team selector in place of Jo Skillern, who decided to step down after eight years in office. During Jo's time as selector the county has enjoyed considerable success.

The winter league play-off was tightly

contested, with Trevor Thrower's team (Marcus Witt, Bill Chadwick and Mike Gore Browne) eventually winning by limp.

Congratulations to the Peterborough pair of Mike Kennedy and Richard Brewer, who won the National Newcomers' pairs with 70.56%.

Northamptonshire hosted a Green Point pairs event, with the home pair of Mike Auger and Trevor Thrower winning with 114vps. Peter Bhagat and Mike Seager were second and Ron Davis and Dave Willett third.

The annual Bedford Congress organised jointly between Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire will take place on September 4 and 5, with pairs on the Saturday and Green Point Swiss teams on the Sunday.

On September 19 the county will be holding a day of bridge at Kingsley Bridge Club. There will be a pairs event in the afternoon. After a two-course meal there will be teams, with a draw for team-mates. The entry fee will be £10 per player. The same format proved to be very popular for our 40th anniversary event two years ago. For further information contact Mike Wiggins at 23 Glebeland Road, Dallington, Northampton NN5 7HA, tel 01604 587207.

The winter league will be starting in September with the northeast of the county playing on the second Saturday of each month at Stamford or Peterborough and the southwest playing on the last Wednesday at Northampton Bridge Club. The two winning teams will play-off for the trophy. Entries to Colin Tuton. It is also the time to organise your Broke Cup teams as entries will be required shortly.

Diary dates: September 4-5 Bedford Congress; September 11 Winter League N-E, Stamford; September 19 county day of bridge, Kingsley; September 29 Winter League S-W, Northampton; October 9 Winter League N-E, Peterborough; October 27 Winter League S-W, Northampton.

Nottinghamshire

www.nottsbridge.co.uk

ANY member of Nottinghamshire CBA is welcome to play in its drives on Wednesday evenings at Nottingham Bridge Club.

The Friday Cup was won by John Auld with Irish Foster second. The Black Cup for mixed pairs and the Farr Cup for similar pairs are already under way and the President's Cup will begin on September 29.

In the first county match of the new season, against Gloucestershire, the first, second and third teams lost 3-17, 3-17 and 0-20 respectively.

The Retford Swiss teams was won by Lincolnshire's Dennis Mellor, Andrew Green, Maurice Ladlow and Maureen Parsons, with the local team of Sandi Fulton, Rob Atkinson, Gerry Franklin and Martin Button second.

Keyworth Bridge Club's charity Swiss teams was won by Terry Lynex, Peter Waldron, Eric Nunn and David Burgess, with Bill and Barbara Bucknall, Harold Black and Mary Keyworth second.

The death has occurred of Tony Neale. Andrew Scott writes: 'Tony was a larger than life character at Nottingham Bridge Club and will be greatly missed. His life was colourful. In his early years he was an excellent rugby player and cricketer, but concentrated on playing bridge later in his life. He was the county third team captain and implemented many changes to Nottingham Bridge Club in his capacity as chairman. He also taught bridge and with me was co-founder of Wollaton Park Beginners Bridge Club. I am sure that most of us have an abiding memory

Master Point promotions

- Northamptonshire cont**
District Master
 A Cundy
Nottinghamshire
5* Star Premier Regional Master
 Mrs UM Thompson
Premier Regional Master
 A Craddock
 Mrs PM Craddock
Regional Master
 M Goddard
3* Star Master
 Mrs K Willis
2* Star Master
 Mrs EC Gauntley
Advanced Master
 E Lancaster
 HJ Robinson
 P Savage
 J Smithies
Master
 Mrs Y Dowson
 IA Hawtin
 Mrs PG Hawtin
 DE Smith
County Master
 G Bamforth
 RS Dyke
 C Frost
 P Gross
 Dr R Haynes
 Mrs IM Macey
 A Scott
 JF Stevenson
District Master
 DL Barnett
 J Bates
 G Bowder
 Dr P Brook
 RJ Brooks
 N Clarke
 Mrs T Foster
 Mrs F Kiri
 T Miles
 DH Rawlings
 Mrs BM Richardson
 N Rossite
 Mrs AM Shah
 Mrs SC Slush
 Mrs S Tischer
 P Wood
Club Master
 Mrs J Armitage
 NS Brown
 R Evans
 Dr D Knapp
 Mrs G Lovell
Oxfordshire
Life Master
 ID Mitchell
Premier National Master
 Dr DC Talbot
National Master
 Mrs SJ Nicholson
5* Star Premier Regional Master
 N Gascoyne
4* Star Regional Master
 Mrs C Rowland
5* Star Master
 Mrs W Clive
 CP Sheppard
 Mrs E Sheppard
4* Star Master
 Mrs F McCarthy
3* Star Master
 JL Edwards
2* Star Master
 M Reynolds
1* Star Master
 TJ Binyon
 Ms M Rucic
 Mrs AG Savuzzo
Advanced Master
 C Cooper
 Mrs EJ Dak
 Mrs MR Cooch
Master
 Prof F Harris
 Dr J Murray
 S Nyman
 J Sperry
 Mrs J Sperry
 Mrs BM Watson
County Master
 A Harris
 ARC Humphreys
 Mrs SA Moore
 Mrs E Nash
 Mrs S Savery
 FM Shoulter
 J Walls

- District Master**
 Mrs JM Bennett
 D Brown
 Mrs K Gray
 Miss S Gray
 A Morton
 Mrs L Morton
 Mrs D Rankin
 Mrs GA Weatherley
Club Master
 R Booker
 P Brassey
 O Cotton-Barratt
 T Dawn
 R Farmer
 J Forder
 R Gombrich
 B Hargrave
 Mrs P Hughes
 Mrs C Southgate
 R Southgate
 SI Terry
 A Thirani
 Mrs EM Trewas
 SE Twine
 P Viney
 J Weiniger
Somerset Premier National Master
 RL Sweet
9* Star Regional Master
 Mrs A Taylor
5* Star Regional Master
 Mrs A Adams
3* Star Regional Master
 Mrs HM Dodge
3* Star Master
 Mrs G Bruce
 D Hancock
2* Star Master
 Mrs PM Hancock
1* Star Master
 Mrs G Webber
Advanced Master
 DJ Doyle
County Master
 G Little
 A Mansfield
 Mrs CD Nicholls
 Mrs KJ Senior
District Master
 MJ Duckett
 NV Wisbach
Club Master
 Mrs HJ Bevan
Staffs and Shrops Premier National Master
 DA Owen
 JB Seymour
5* Star Regional Master
 Mrs MN Dummer
1* Star Regional Master
 N Anslow
 Mrs J Townley
Regional Master
 P Cartwright
5* Star Master
 Mrs B Talathi
4* Star Master
 JR Hartley
 K Healey
3* Star Master
 Mrs S Stubbs
2* Star Master
 Dr P Mayland
1* Star Master
 Mrs PMJ Ayton
Advanced Master
 Mrs PA Jones
 Mrs S Stott
Master
 Mrs VM Churchill
 JR Hirst
County Master
 JR Simpson
District Master
 R Reynolds
Club Master
 Mrs MJ Cheshire
 J Rose
Suffolk Life Master
 E Newman
5* Star Premier Regional Master
 DM Gudka

The death has occurred, in his 83rd year, of Alwyn Cook. He, with his wife Sally, had been an active member of Retford Bridge Club, both playing and directing, for more than 35 years. He took part in the drive there in the week before his death. The couple also directed at other clubs and for Saga Holidays, so he will be missed by many.

Diary dates: September 6 teams of eight fixture meeting at Page-Kirk, 7 Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham; September 12 County Swiss pairs championship (Enquiries and entries to Irene Auld on 01623 882425).

Oxfordshire

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk
 SANDY Constable, president of Oxfordshire Bridge Association, had the honour of presenting the prizes at its well-attended AGM, where the following officers were elected: chairman Keith Sadler, secretary Mary-Ann Sheehy, treasurer Alan Wilson, membership secretary Jean Squires, chief tournament director Stephen Brown, tournament secretary Bill McCarthy, Wessex league secretary Brian Claridge, match secretary Nick Smith and publicity officer Brenda Harris.

Oxfordshire players have featured widely in national events. In the regional finals and finals of the national pairs Shirley and James Dutton finished fourth and 15th respectively. They went on to win the mixed pairs in the Green Point Midland event in Spondon.

Two Oxfordshire pairs, Brian and Rosemary Robinson and Ian and Hilary Thomas, finished eighth and 10th respectively in the first golf and bridge event arranged jointly by the EBU and EGU. Final positions were achieved by combining the placings in the golf competition with those of the bridge.

Alan and Lyn Morton won the championship pairs at the Bridge for All Congress in Derby.

Stuart McPhee played in the winning team at the EBU one day event in Sussex.

In the Spring Bank Holiday Congress Gill Pain and Ian Mitchell were in the quartet that won the B flight Swiss teams.

At county level we offer congratulations to Peggy Manuell and Alastair Gidman, winners of the county mixed pairs championship; to Susanna Hornby and Patrick Grant, winners of the Sandra Landy Trophy for less experienced players; to Stephen Brown, winner of the Tuesday pairs ladder; to Nick Smith, winner of the Tuesday teams ladder; to Robert Procter and Nick Smith, winners of the Tuesday championship pairs; and to John and Jean Sperry, winners of the simultaneous pairs.

The President's Cup was won by Geoff Nicholas, Dinah and Andrew Lintott, Debbie Roberts, John Slater and Nelson Stevens.

Robert Procter, Nick Smith, Denis and Kathy Talbot won the Chester Cup.

A team from Middlesex, Brenda and Geoff Foley, Greta King and Harry Ashar, won the final of the Beck Cup, Oxfordshire's prestigious invitation teams of four event. The tournament director, Marian Day is pictured on page 35 presenting the trophy to the winners.

Winners of the Wessex league teams of eight: division one Menagerie B, division two Thame A, division three Bicester A, division four Summertown A, division five Bicester B.

Division one in the summer league of four was won by Brian Claridge's team, division two by Debbie Roberts's team and the Bridge for All division by Pam Eyton's team.

We wish Summertown BC well in their new premises at Summertown Church Hall, Portland Street where, in addition to their regular Monday night duplicates, an innovative programme of additional

events included the only Oxfordshire venue for the worldwide simultaneous pairs.

Diary dates: September 2 OBA management committee meeting, Oxford BC; September 5 Harwell Cup, Oxford BC.

Somerset

www.somersetbridge.org.uk
 THE county Swiss teams was well supported, with 17 teams entering. The winners were Gina and David Howard, Graham Heal and Colin Juneman, from Shirley and John Durrant, David Grier and Stewart Upton, with Sheila Coda, Jackie Waters, Dave Latchem and Bob Warrender third.

Twenty pairs took part in the county percentage final. Overall winners were Mike Whittaker and Roger Sweet, with Bob Warrender and Dave Latchem second and Sheila Coda and Jackie Waters third. The competition saw the introduction of an assistant to the director and this innovation was well received and successful.

The county held a new simultaneous pairs event, in which nine clubs took part. The overall prize was won by George Pring and Tony French, with the handicap prize going to John Friswell and Doreen Gallop.

The county league drew to a close after a successful season. The Langport team captained by Caroline Macpherson won the A division and the Yeovil team captained by Rachel Brown won the B division.

A close match in the final of the championship teams resulted in a victory for Dave Latchem, Graham Heal, Colin Juneman and Bob Warrender.

Somerset pair Colin Juneman and Graham Heal finished fifth in the Corwen Trophy.

In the Western League Somerset finished fifth in both the A and B divisions.

Entries are welcomed for next season's county league.

Staffs and Shrops

www.newcastleulbc.btinternet.co.uk

THE Bearn, our county qualifying event for the Corwen, resulted in a comfortable win for David Beavon and Bob Beech. Runners-up were Des Biott and Brian Stanley, with Barbara and Charles Foster third. As none of the top pairs were able to go to the Corwen our representatives were Arthur Ballham and Margaret Dash and Terry May and Nick Weaver.

The ladies' pairs was won by Margaret Dash and Rita Jordan, with Jane Charnell and Sheila Mudge close behind. Pat Poxon and Gillian Allsop took third spot. The men's pairs was held on the same evening, with Brian Cornelius and Paul Hackett victorious, followed by Robin Adey and Geoff Davies, just ahead of Michael Severs and Dud Russom.

The South Shropshire team of Mike Alexander, Brian Cornelius, Mike Cornes, Sandra Fenton, Jason Hackett, John Holland, Annette Lucas and Brian Senior represented us at the Garden Cities regional final at Bradford. The team finished fourth, missing out on a spot in the final.

The Staffs Cup, our county teams of four event, resulted in a win for David Beavon, Bob Beech, Paul Cutler and Roger Keane over John Seymour's team. However, as only Roger Keane and Paul Cutler were available for the Pachabo they were joined by John Seymour, Anne Jones, Robin Adey and Geoff Davies, where they finished 19th.

Annette Lucas and Mike Cornes won the county mixed pairs. Runners-up were Pat Poxon and James Vickers. James was a last minute replacement for Des Biott, who had to go to hospital, but is recovering well. In third place, and winners of the Fritch, were Barbara and Charles Foster.

Paul and Justin Hackett managed the treble, winning the Manchester, Staffs and Warwickshire leagues. Joining them in the

Staffs and Warwickshire leagues were Brian Cornelius, Sandra Fenton and Jason Hackett, while in the Manchester league Barbara Hackett played a key role.

Staffs and Shrops Green Point teams at Wolverhampton: 1 Sidney Travers, Geoffrey Fink, Michael Byrne and Michael Newman. 2 Elayne Doughty, Mike Meakin, John and Maggs Pyner, 3 Dodo Georgevic, Ian Handley and Sue and Geoff Morris.

On the international front Barbara Hackett has been invited to the six-nation ladies play-off final in Beijing, while Alan Mould, Paul, Jason and Justin Hackett have just come back from representing us in the Europeans.

Diary date: August 24-30 Mind Sports Olympiad, Manchester (Daily Green Point events and large cash prizes. Open to all) Information from Jeff Morris on 01614453712.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk

AT the AGM Mike Sherer, retiring chairman, praised the work of those who had worked closely with him. In turn, the county expressed real gratitude to Mike for his period of chairmanship. The new committee is chairman and membership secretary Claude Stokes, vice-chairman and treasurer Andrew Moore, county secretary Graham Beeton, competitions secretary Jyl Marsh, county youth officer Jane Moore, winter league secretary Norman Less, championship pairs organisation Joan Mayhew and Felixstowe Congress secretary Peter Speller. Peter is also Suffolk representative for the 2005 Suffolk/Norfolk joint venture Green Point event at Thetford.

The winter league programme ended with Bill Tweddell, Mike Sherer, Eric Newman and Rick Hanley winning the premier division, with David Morran's team runners-up. In the second division Joan Mayhew's team narrowly pipped Pauline Hanson's side. The regional East division was won by John Newton's team, with Frank Bettle's side second and the regional West division was won by Mike O'Reilly's team from Harry Huson's team.

We are expecting and hope for a further increase in the number of teams for the new winter league season starting in October. All enquiries to the league secretary Norman Less, 36 Conyers Way, Great Barton, Bury St Edmunds IP31 2SW (telephone 01284 787782 or email: norman@nless.freeseerve.co.uk).

Maria Allnutt, Debby Sutcliffe Peter Markwell and Joan Sparing finished in the top half of the Corwen Trophy. The following weekend Julian Lang, David Morran, Peter Gemmill and Peter Sutcliffe came 15th in the Pachabo teams.

The Ringer Cup for mixed pairs was won by Maureen and John Heath, with Joan Mayhew and Mike Sherer second and Norma and Paddy Shannahan third.

The Clare Swiss pairs was again a great success with a full entry. Iris Green and Gillian Hall from Norfolk were the winners, ahead of Anne Wilmer and Harold Morris, who shared second place with Peter Markwell and Claude Stokes.

The Suffolk web site now contains county information such as the minutes of the AGM and county news. The county appreciates the web site maintenance by Din Gudka.

Dairy Dates: September 1 ladies' and men's pairs, Needham Market 7.15pm; September 12 Ipswich and Kesgrave Swiss pairs, Kesgrave 2pm (please provide own food); October 1-3 Felixstowe Congress, Felixstowe Leisure Centre (pairs in the afternoons and Swiss teams on the three evenings, plus a Bridge For All pairs event on the Friday afternoon sponsored by Wivenhoe Bridge); October 31 teams of eight, Stoke-by-Nayland Golf Club 2pm.

Entry form for the Felixstowe

Master Point promotions

Suffolk cont

5* Star

Tournament

M Malin

2* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs JM Birley

Tournament

Master

ME Stredwick

2* Star Master

RW Johnson

Mrs EA Nunn

Surrey

Premier National

Master

Ms M Andree

Mrs RS Lane

National Master

Mrs VM Finch

TJ Sweeting

FE Willson

4* Star Premier

Regional Master

Dr WL Price

2* Star Premier

Regional Master

JR Bryant

A Knott

9* Star Regional

Master

Mrs M Shoosmith

Mrs J Whiteway

3* Star Regional

Master

Mrs MF Gayner

PR Webb

Regional Master

AM Bamford

2* Star

Tournament

Master

G Gardiner

BSTC Matthews

Tournament

Master

Dr JA Davis

C Gill

Ms G Hanna

5* Star Master

Mrs MB Davis

AW Filkins

KA White

4* Star Master

Mrs DK Beaumont

PM Chan

Mrs M Facey

JG Hayter

AW Holliday

Mrs SM Marshallsay

3* Star Master

Mrs P Burles

Mrs SA Jubb

Miss SM Simm

2* Star Master

IA Cave

M Gurney

Miss D Handyside

Mrs J Outred

Miss VJ Patrick

DA Poffley

DJ Pym

Dr R Spencer

1* Star Master

Mrs JS Adams

Mrs MA Aitchison

J Beresiner

I Robertson

Mrs TP Scott

Miss JE Spence

Mrs NPE Thompson

County Master

Mrs JM Bateman

Mrs J Cadge

Mrs JA Coates

H Degorski

Mrs CG Dillon

Miss KJ Milliner

Mrs ELP Parsons

K Sinden

J Turnbull

Mrs M Turnbull

Mrs RM Walrond

District Master

BC Barrow

AE Bourne

D Hedley-Smith

Mrs PM Mackintosh

AJ Mann

Mrs JR Robson

Club Master

Dr JH Davies

Mrs PG Davies

Mrs L Martin

DE Pearmain

Mrs V Pitzolu

GB Smith

Mrs KR Street

Mrs W Young

Sussex

Life Master

Mrs E Churchill

National Master

Mrs CM Oates

7* Star Premier

Regional Master

AJ Woodford

1* Star Premier

Regional Master

HE Mitchell

10* Star Regional

Master

Mrs J Pells

3* Star Regional

Master

MA Rounds

2* Star Regional

Master

Miss ME Fogo

Regional Master

A Ayub

3* Star

Tournament

Master

Mrs D Nicholson

1* Star

Tournament

Master

RJ Pyart

Tournament

Master

J Muir

5* Star Master

Mrs MD Jones

4* Star Master

Mrs HM Adams

Mrs JM Boydell

JR Hedgecock

Mrs I Richards

3* Star Master

Mrs AG Peppercorn

KW Setchell

Mrs ER Woodford

2* Star Master

Mrs PD Cuthbert

NC Fairbairn

I Platten-Higgins

1* Star Master

CW Beamish

A Constable

M Haigh

Mrs GJ Nightingale

Mrs S Stedman

D Tenquist

Advanced Master

Mrs PA Collings

AP Foley

Mrs AC Gray

D Howard-Houston

Mrs CF Palmer

Dr HS Qazi

Master

Mrs EF Armes

Mrs KE Brown

MJ Davies

JM Hutchings

Mrs SM Lee

J Voller

Mrs CE Wigan

County Master

Mrs EP King

Mrs JL Smith

Mrs PA Sparkes

Mrs CB Turner

District Master

Miss B Albery

PH Cartwright

Mrs HW Hitchcock

D Roy

congress can be found on the web site; the congress secretary is Peter Speller (01206 765980, peterspeller@bopenworld.com).

Contact competitions secretary Jyl Marsh (01206 322546 and email jyl@earlings.freemove.co.uk) for the latest competitions brochure and entry information. The Suffolk web site will contain details of the events.

Surrey

www.surreycountybridge.org.uk

FOLLOWING the AGM our new president is Leonie Lockhart. During this year Leonie would like to visit as many clubs as possible – so if you would like to see her, do drop her a line.

The new season's brochure will be out soon. Things to note are a new venue, the Hilton Hotel, Cobham (replacing Kingswood Golf Club) and reduced entry fees for some competitions. You will also be able to use the web site to enter some competitions. We hope all this will encourage members to enter lots of SCBA competitions.

Talking about the web site, we are pleased to announce a new weekly article by Frances Hindon, our new magazine editor. Frances will be doing a 'hand of the week' for us. Her first magazine will be out in September, so please send her lots of articles.

Our thanks go to Tony Cockerill for doing a very good job with the magazine over the last few years.

Congratulations go to the following: Frances Hindon, Jeffrey Allerton, Graham Osborne and Jonathan Green for winning the Surrey Bowl; Phil Harris, Denny Wade, Jim Wade, Jagdish Aggerwal, Debbie Harris and Rosemary Fellows, joint winners of the county league division two with Tony Cummins, Tony Sweeting, Gordon Barrett and Mrs S Barrett; Busbridge-Kiat Huang and Varda Derwig for winning the Mary Edwards Cup; Andrew Mann, John Howard, Brian Powell, Mike Scoltock, Martin Garvey and Gerard Thompson for winning the county league division one; Guildford BC (Steve Bourton, Peter Webb, Doug Pym and Frank Marshallsay) for winning the Wanborough Cup; Farnham A (Penny MacLeod, Tim Rees, Keith Wilson and Russell Allan) for winning the affiliated league division one final; Old Woking (Chris Stableford, Margaret Mansell, Robin McIntosh and Mike Lipscomb) for winning the affiliated league divisions two and three final; Eleanor Stewart, Phyllis Robertson, Ian Robertson and John Spencer for winning the Kortright Cup final; Gay Davies, John Davies, Michael Clements and David Allen for winning the intermediate league final; Frances Hindon, Jeffrey Allerton, Graham Osborne, Mike Scoltock and Cameron Small for winning the Lady Rose Cup; and

Wendy Miller, Richard Currie, John Clayton and Jane Morton for winning the Lady Rose Plate.

Sussex

www.sccba.co.uk

LEAGUE matches for the past season, much enjoyed by the players, produced the following result: division one A Southwell, M Hoskins, G Stanford and T Wells; division two N Osmer, V Bingham, T Roxborgh and G Park; division three R Smart, O Symons, K Shillam, I McGregor and A Shillam; division four P and K Kent, D Park and M Lawrenson; division five R Hodgson, D Thornton, M Alder, F Fuller, D Caplin and T Hunter; division six J and S Bugden, C Young, R Whiting and R Blin; division seven G Loadman, J Pells M Youngjohns, C Backholer, H Beveridge and P Vinson; division eight A Gardiner, R Harris, D Williams and E Barter.

Sussex inter-club teams for the Chris Summers Trophy 1 The Avenue BC (J and S Mitchell, P Poulter, D Quibell, N Urban and D Franklin), 2 West Sussex (T Bradley,

N Hardy, P Brown, J Mayall, L Northeast, J Jackson, D Jones and C Jago), 3 Thakeham (H and C Linfield, R Herman, M Smith, A Woodford, B Skimming and J and G Kellett).

Sussex players did well in the Sussex and EBU joint one day event at Hove to achieve the following positions: 1 G Stanford, 1 Lancaster, S McPhee (Oxfordshire) and J Gobert (Suffolk) 2 E Franklin, N Urban, M Hoskins and A Southwell, 5 B Cavell, C Dean, P and M Langston, 7 C Endean, C Genders, M Drake and S Robinson, equal 7 M Bailey, V Benson, J and G Kellett.

The Hampshire B flight Swiss teams was won by P Hart, M Kent, G Peppercorn and I Rudd.

In the Sussex championship teams J Mitchell, N Urban, P Poulter D Quibell, M Hoskins and A Southwell beat L Northeast, J Jackson, D Winter, G Hind, R Fedrick and K Nadim by 25imps over 64 boards.

Kremer-Dersch Trophy for club committees 1 R Burnett, D Johnstone, M Keeping and J Cattermole (Lewes), 2 B Loasby, P Kent, D Newton and J Newton (county secretary's team), 3 K Kent, R Newton, P Lindsten and N Watts (Avenue), 4 D Clifton, A Litchfield, H Kent and M Wotton (Crawley).

Sixteen teams took part in the novice Swiss teams for players under 10,000 Master Points, organised and directed by Peter Bates. The winners were N Higham, M Marshall, R Robins and M Harris, from D Reed, J Bowles, B and A Piper, with M Withington, A Bradstock, M Goby and T Merk third.

Forty-three teams contested the Henfield Candles event, which was directed by Martin Pool. It was won by Tom Bradley, H Linfield, J Carter and S Auchterlonie, with A Dunbar, D Stevens, R and K Gaylor runners-up. Third, and winners of the Committee Challenge Cup (all Henfield members) for the second year running were A and D Galpin and B and J Hootman. Fourth place went to T Hennings, J Woodard, H Ashby and A Symons and the non-expert trophy to B Spears J Vidler and D and D Cork.

In the Corwen Trophy, national inter-county pairs, Sussex players Matthew Hoskins and Andrew Southwell achieved a creditable third place. Alex Harding and Duncan Curtis were the highest placed UK pair in the Worldwide sim pairs (24th in Europe and 123rd in the world).

The third Sussex no fears event was played at Hastings and won by V Boniface and J Clark, with B Herald and T Collins second, M Huntingford and R Robinson third and Bodle and J King fourth.

Our three SCCBA no fears events this year have all been outstandingly successful and certainly have achieved their objective of introducing newcomers into playing in a larger field alongside more experienced players, but all playing simple systems.

All have been different. At each venue the directors contributed their own style and we are fortunate to have these talents to draw on. Thank you David and Andrea Galpin, May Langmaid and Janet Sparkes, Eddie and Kathy Williams.

In the lead after three rounds of this season's invitation pairs were Martin Pool and Dave Franklin.

Our new county calendar is about to be published. There is a wealth of information there. Do read it and start to plan ahead.

Warwickshire

www.warwickshirebridge.co.uk

HEARTY congratulations to Ben Green on his further selection for the England under 25 team and to Peter Oldbury, Brent Wormald and their Derbyshire colleagues John Squibbs and Paul Madden, in beating the strong John Armstrong team in the fourth round of the Gold Cup.

The first match of the new season's inter-county teams of eight competitions

provided a bright start at Staffordshire, with Warwickshire winning 15-5, 18-2 and 20-0 in the Dawes, Porter and Markham events respectively.

Elsewhere, a number of second places were recorded. Martin Jones and David Bakhshi were runners-up in the championship pairs at the Bournemouth Congress, and Harvey and Carolyn Brown made second spot in the Jersey Congress pairs.

Sutton Coldfield BC's new venture in hosting the Warwickshire Green Point Swiss teams was a great success. It was won by Leicestershire's Jean Wightman, David Fletcher, Yasser Aaidar and Simon Stokes, with David Kenward, John Robbins, Peter Oldbury and Brent Wormald second, Henry and Hilda McBride, Adrian Palmer and Brian Parker third and Carolyn Fisher, Jane Hall, Mike Fisher and Alan Pagett fourth.

Two Warwickshire teams tied for second place in the Staffs and Shrops Swiss teams at Wolverhampton. They were John and Maggs Pyner with Mike Meakin and Elaine Doughty, and Dodo Georgevic and Ian Handley with Sue and Geoff Morris.

The Goodman Cup, the county's premier knockout teams competition, was retained by Steve Green, Graham Link, Roger Bryant and Mike Allen, with runners-up George Cuthbertson, Phil Glanville, Mike Amos, Peter Heatherington, Mike Leese and Steve Wood.

Darren Evetts and Matt Haag repeated last year's achievement in winning the Warwickshire men's pairs, with Dan Crofts and Kabir Siddiquee runners-up. The Warwickshire ladies' pairs was won handsomely by Hylda Townsend and Mary Shingler, with Sue Goldman and Shauna Wand runners-up.

At the Cock o' the County pairs evergreen Hylda Townsend and Dan Crofts seized top spot, trailed by Sue Goldman and Mike Amos, with Jon Downing and Julian Wernick third.

The Frank Cup attracted a better response this year, when two grand slams proved to be disasters for some. Steve Green, Rob Helle, Darren Evetts and Matt Haag were the winners from Beryl Lathan, Les Wragg, Betty Scholes and Margaret Wort.

The Warwickshire invitation pair Premier Division successes were Steve Green and Rob Helle, Adrian Knight and Tony Poole, Leslie Reece and Norman Selwyn, John Downing and Chris Potter and Adrian Palmer and Pat Walsh. In division one of the Birmingham invitation pairs, the leaders were Sheila Darby and Darren Evetts from Mike Holmes and Paul Hooker, and in division two M Padmore and M Whitfield from Rud, Beran and John West. In the Coventry invitation pairs the winners were Marylyn and David Jones from Mike Butler and Mike Northwood, and in division two Cope and A Green from Mrs M Pinney and Mrs M Taylor.

The successful teams (and captains) in this year's Warwickshire League were: division one 1 Moseley (B Cornelius), 2 West Midlands (R Flood); in division two 1 West Midlands (J Robbins), 2 Arden (N McQuirter); division three 1 Moseley (A Rose), 2 Sutton D; division four 1 West Midlands (D Andrews), 2 Heathercroft.

Division one of the ever-expanding Steve Green pairs-teams competition at Coventry was won by Mike Allen and Roger Bryant, with George Cuthbertson and Phil Glanville second. Division two went to Peter Edwards and David Cass from Steve Byrne and Chris Potter; division three to John Godderidge and Kevin New from Dymna Kenny and Chris Wormleighton; division four to Eddie Kilmurry and John Waring from Sue Goldman and Julian Wernick; and division five to Stella Gill and Jean Wilson from Alf Cowdry and Ken Ross

Master Point promotions

- Sussex cont
- Club Master
- F Howard
- Miss HV Sexton
- Warwickshire
- Premier National
- Master
- HJ Brown
- Mrs M Twyman
- 1* Star
- Tournament
- Master
- DP Brett
- 5* Star Master
- K Bard
- 3* Star Master
- Mrs MK Airey
- Mrs D Rathbone
- Advanced Master
- A Manders
- Mrs E Whiteford
- Master
- Mrs I Golden
- Mrs D Manders
- AJ Poole
- JD Rutter
- County Master
- Dr MN Haag
- S Rutter
- RA Wildon
- Mrs W Wort
- Mrs AP Wright
- District Master
- Mrs G Croft
- P Edkins
- DJ Heighway
- Mrs PE McHarg
- JC Nightingale
- Mrs SM Scott
- Mrs G Scranage
- Club Master
- Mrs S Adcock
- Westmorland
- National Master
- T Matthews
- 5* Star Master
- Mrs J Crawshaw
- County Master
- Mrs J Hagen
- Wiltshire
- 2* Star Regional
- Master
- N Pegg
- 5* Star
- Tournament
- Master
- GR Wilmore
- 2* Star
- Tournament
- Master
- RA Sutton
- 4* Star Master
- MW Buck
- 3* Star Master
- Lt Col WH Cross
- DF Price
- EJ Summerhayes
- 2* Star Master
- L Meale
- 1* Star Master
- A Merrills
- Advanced Master
- Mrs D Blythe
- Mrs R Lucas
- Master
- Mrs HA Martin
- Worcestershire
- Grand Master
- GT Weir
- National Master
- DR Thome
- 3* Star Premier
- Regional Master
- A Harris
- BH Varley
- 1* Star Premier
- Regional Master
- Mrs CM Vasey
- 5* Star Regional
- Master
- Mrs HM Westcott
- 3* Star Regional
- Master
- Dr MJ Cox
- 1* Star Regional
- Master
- Mrs MJ Hannah
- 1* Star
- Tournament
- Master
- Miss MA Osborne
- 5* Star Master
- BG Gittins
- Mrs JC Gittins

- 4* Star Master
- Mrs SM Martin
- 3* Star Master
- Mrs M Tromans
- 2* Star Master
- Mrs E Boyes
- Mrs LI Wright
- 1* Star Master
- CR Gamage
- Miss JN Lowe
- Advanced Master
- IA Gervis
- Miss E Potter
- B Welch
- Master
- CR Moore
- S Norgrove
- County Master
- D Banks
- Mrs JE Billingham
- SJ Grove
- Mrs EE Maybury
- District Master
- Mrs L Gervis
- Mrs I Taylor
- Yorkshire
- Life Master
- JT Smith
- Premier National
- Master
- Mrs CT Duddell
- Mrs E Wickens
- 3* Star Premier
- Regional Master
- Miss H Sanderson
- 6* Star Regional
- Master
- Mrs ME Rodger
- 1* Star
- Tournament
- Master
- A Swiers
- Tournament
- Master
- JLC Raine
- 5* Star Master
- Mrs P Wilson
- 4* Star Master
- T Hind
- JH Smillie
- 3* Star Master
- Mrs MJA Bryden
- Mrs A Lawless
- J Livsey
- SA Mapstone
- J Rouse
- 2* Star Master
- Mrs AM Baldry
- CM Foster
- Mrs C Hare
- Ms S Logan
- M Reid
- Mrs LE Webster
- 1* Star Master
- Mrs S Johnson
- Mrs G Oxendale
- Mrs JD Page
- Mrs E Watson
- Advanced Master
- Mrs P Booth
- Mrs PAJ Havard
- EJ Pearson
- Master
- Mrs PA Isles
- Mrs K Spamer
- Mrs MA Trickett
- County Master
- J Fish
- Mrs ME Keith
- Mrs J Low
- Mrs A Townsend
- P Wallace
- District Master
- WO Boddy
- Mrs M Bray
- Mrs GM Franklin
- Mrs CA Heron
- Mrs A Hughes
- Dr H McGann
- Mrs J Murray
- Mrs M O'Connor
- Ms AL Wall
- Prof TD Wall
- Club Master
- Miss C Bosworth
- TJ Flatman
- Miss P Palmer

The Warwickshire AGM elected chair J Downing, vice-chair Mrs N McWhirter, treasurer A R Pagett, general secretary D Evtets, admin secretary Mrs B Latham, membership secretary J Birch, Master Points secretary Mrs S Galvin, league secretary L Reece, tournament secretary P Whitehouse, match secretary and publicity secretary J Robbins, youth officer S Byrne and committee members M Allen, Mrs J Hall, B Holloway, M Hughes, J Pyner, Mrs H Townsend and N Woosnam.

The Arden BC charity Swiss teams was won by Carolyn and Mike Fisher, Stephen Gore and Peter Bowkley, from Margaret and Terry Crangle, Margaret and Mary Andrew, with the climbers' prize going to Val Bettis, Phil Olive, Chris Curtis and Pete Nichols. Congratulations to Arden BC on raising £615 for the Acorns Children's Hospice.

Diary dates: September 3-5 Coventry Congress, Coventry BC; September 12 Midland Circle teams, Sutton BC 2.30pm; Introductory pairs and newcomers' teams for the non-experts (see club notice boards); Entries for next year's Goodman Cup (teams of four KO) are needed by mid September. Entries for Warwickshire events should be sent to P Whitehouse, 27 Northdown Road, Solihull B91 3LY or telephone 0121 704 9287.

Wiltshire

The Wiltshire knockout final was played between Sam Sloan's team (Roy France, Martin Renshaw and Philip Howard) and Ron King's team (Richard Samter, Phil Green and Roger Karn), with James Dunlop playing in the earlier matches. It was a tight match throughout and was won in the final round by 2imps by Ron's team.

In the Western League the Wiltshire A team of Diana King, Phil Green, Bob Bannister and Andrew Law won their match against Devon, as did the B team consisting of Martyn and Vera Kenyon, Phil Bennett and Jenny Gray. The seventh and final match was played against Somerset and this time both the A team (Ron King, James Dunlop, Martyn and Vera Kenyon) and the B team (Gwenda Merriott, Nick Pegg, Chris Edwards and Reg Thorpe) were defeated.

In the Garden Cities Trophy the Sarum team of Danny Miller, Colin Jones, Sue Hands, Vikky Crawford, Sonia Blandy, Georgie Dalton, Roger Metcalf and Dave Hale represented Wiltshire in the regional final at Bristol and finished seventh.

Bob Bannister and Andrew Law represented Wiltshire in the Corwen Trophy at West Bromwich.

In the Pachabo, also at West Bromwich, Wiltshire was represented by Bob Bannister, Andrew Law, Kathy Hodgson and Geoff Jenkins.

At the Wiltshire AGM Kathy Hodgson was elected as the new county secretary. Other officers for the ensuing year are chairman Martyn Kenyon, treasurer Phil Bennett, membership secretary David Thackaberry, tournament secretary Norman Lambert, premier league organiser Ron King, knockout organiser Gwenda Merriott, Western league organiser and publicity Diana King, Green Point event organisers Gayle Webb and Phil Green. Details of their telephone numbers and email addresses appear in the Wiltshire competitions handbook and on the web site.

A handicap pairs event following the AGM was won by Philip Bennett and Jenny Gray, with Diana King and Phil Green second and Vera and Martyn Kenyon third.

Bridge teaching is being undertaken this year, in Trowbridge, by Diana King and Phil Green; and in Swindon by Keith Sharpe. Please check the web page for details. Keith will be running a set of five

bridge classes on a Wednesday evening starting on September 29. They will be run in Swindon as part of the Bath University programme. For enrolment and more details call Keith on 01666 823568

Diary dates: September 17 Premier League one; September 19 Western League v Cornwall; October 11 Premier League two; October 17 Corsham pairs; November 2 Premier League three; November 14 Garden Cities qualifier; November 21 Western League v Avon; December 1 Premier League four; December 5 championship pairs heat; December 12 Western League v Hereford.

Worcestershire

www.wcba.freeserve.co.uk
AT the AGM Paul Hammond was appointed chairman for two years. Jean Newton was to assume that mantle, but had to decline due to work and other pressures.

Dieter Baer (treasurer), Sue Lane (league secretary) and Susan Sharp (events secretary) were also appointed as new members of the committee.

The Edgar Foster Cup is an annual three-way competition between Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Shrops and Staffs. Each county association submits eight pairs in an all-play-all contest. Congratulations to Worcestershire's run-away winners Sue Evans and Dennis Loynes and the second prize winners, Norah Allen and Ray Foulds. Arthur Williams and Joyce Skelton were third and John Turner and Sue Page shared fourth place with a Warwickshire pair.

The county seniors' pairs for the Turner Trophy, where each player was required to have been on this earth for at least 54 years, was won by Mike Orriell and Ross Garratt. Second was John Turner, the cup's donor, and Jessie Newton, with Nigel Walters and Lyn Jackson third.

For the first time Worcestershire held a veterans' pairs. Here one had to be 65 to compete. This was experimental this year, but as 12 pairs turned up admitting to this glowing age we have decided to make it an annual event. The inaugural event was won by Heather Westcott and Jennifer Romer from Karin Fairweather and Pam Crisp, with Peter Edwards and Gerald Hill third.

Diary dates: September 5 Healey Cup Coppertops, Worcester 2pm; October 4 closed teams qualifier, Holt Fleet 7.15pm; Pre-notice Green Point Swiss weekend (including no fear events) - The Malvern Hills Congress last weekend in October. Contact Alan Reid 07976 426868.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.freeserve.co.uk
BRADFORD Bridge Club reached the final of the Garden Cities Trophy, coming second in a close finish. The team was Tony McNiff, Sue Logan, Bill Townsend, Stuart Davies, Richard Winter, Giles Foster, Bob Ross and Nigel Ramsey.

In another closely-contested event, the Pachabo Cup, the team of Sandra Penfold, Sarah Teshome, Giles Foster, Richard Winter and Tony McNiff was a creditable third.

The first golf and bridge event, a joint venture between the EBU and the English Golf Union, was won by Mike Pomfrey and Manchester's Bill Hirst.

Giles Foster, partnering former Yorkshire player Andrew Petrie, won the Merseyside and Cheshire Swiss pairs. Rod Hose, John Edwards, Mary Whyms and Rob Turner were third in the Manchester Swiss teams.

Graham Jepson's team (Dave Musson, Tom Gisborne and Sandy Davies) reached the fifth round of the seniors KO.

At the Yorkshire Congress Alan Greenwood and Mark Armitage won the Friday afternoon pairs and Penny McCann

and Roger Gowland the evening pairs. The mixed pairs was won by Patrick Barr and Helen Barr; the ladies' pairs by Anne Rowan and Shirley Carter, and the men's pairs by Mike Jackson and Ray Lyall. On the Saturday Geoff Kenyon and Carole Kelly managed second place in the championship pairs, behind Martin Jones and David Bakhshi, while John Kimpton and Richard Philpott won the consolation pairs. On the Sunday, for the second time in three years, the team of Stan Collins, Agnes Blewitt, Ted and Janet Latham won the championship teams, with Les Brown, Karen Bradley, Angela Booth and Peter Radley in second place. Cheryl and Dave Duddell, Maureen Tebb and Tony Swires won one of the consolation teams events, while Steve and Kate Hall, Bobbie Sissons and Dale Strawn won the other.

At the Bridlington Congress the Sunday pairs was won by Ruth Barker and Terry Read, with second place going to Mike Ingham and Phil Godfrey. Winners of the Swiss teams were Christopher and Clive Owen, Margaret and Bob Watts of North Eastern.

Malton Swiss teams 1 Mike Jackson, Richard Philpott, Elaine Tosdevin and Annette Bratley 2 Dave Waxman, Cedric Cockcroft, Ted and Janet Latham, 3 Alan Martindale, Richard Hilton, David Colley and Ian Cook.

The county teams-of-four for the Waddington Shield was retained by Sandra Penfold's team (Sarah Teshome, Richard Winter, Hugh McGann, Tony McNiff and Giles Foster), while the Yorkshire Trophy went to Stan Collins' team.

Yorkshire mixed pairs final 1 Tom Gisborne and Sandy Davies, 2 Alan Jarvis and Sue Pell, 3 Mary Whyms and Richard Pike. Yorkshire individual final 1 John Kitteridge, equal 1 Di Western, 3 David Brown. Castle Swiss pairs 1 Tom Gisborne and Sandy Davies, 2 Jim Proctor and David Lewis, 3 Carole Kelly and Geoff Kenyon.

Yorkshire Masters pairs: grade one 1 Mark Bratley and Derek Williams, 2 Dave Waxman and Richard Pike, 3 Tom Gisborne and Sandy Davies; grade two 1 Mark Armitage and Gill Copeland, 2 Tony Swires and Maureen Tebb, 3 Alan Fell and Derek Rudkin; grade three 1 Tom Dessain and Tom Rainforth, 2 Brian and Mary Stones, 3 Bert Gearing and Barbara Huxstep.

The Sheffield Charity Swiss teams was won by Jean Rodgers, June Dyal, Ann Wall and Toby Wall. The Yorkshire non-league clubs trophy was won by Graham's Club (Eric Cooke, Ann Boot, Shirley Morrisroe and Pam Jackson).

John Gerrard simultaneous pairs 1 Lesley Bridson and Terry Read (Harrogate BC), 2 Peter Wells and Catherine Thompson (Harrogate BC), 3 Patrick Trevanion and Les Brown (Huddersfield BC).

Diary dates: September 5 Huddersfield Examiner Rose Bowl; September 11-12 York Congress; September 19 Garforth Swiss teams; September 23 Kath Grimoldby simultaneous pairs; September 26 YCBA/EBU one day Swiss pairs, Harrogate; October 10 Yorkshire League.

Please send results or other items of interest for inclusion in this column to Bill Townsend, billtoyp@btopenworld.com

County News Deadline

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

Photographs are very much appreciated, but if emailed MUST be sent large format/high resolution. Otherwise prints sent in the post are best.

MEMBER²MEMBER

MISCELLANEOUS

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Advertisements for the October 2004 edition must be received by

AUGUST 24 2004

CLUB TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR Training Courses – 2004/05

ESSENTIALS

Brighton	Mon 16th Aug
Kinsham*	Sat 4th Sept
Cuckfield*	Sat 4th Sept
Wantage	Sat 11th Sept
Chobham*	Sat 18th Sept
Thurston*	Sun 10th Oct
Darlington	Sat 6th Nov
Halifax	Sat 13th Nov

BOOK RULINGS

Brighton	Tues 17th Aug
Kinsham*	Sat 2nd Oct
Chobham*	Sat 9th Oct
Cuckfield*	Sat 23rd Oct
Wantage	Sat 30th Oct
Thurston*	Sun 14th Nov
Darlington	Sat 4th Dec
Halifax	Sat 11th Dec

JUDGMENT RULINGS

Brighton	Wed 18th Aug
Sheffield	Sat 11th Sept
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
Cuckfield*	Sat 22 Jan 05
Halifax	Sat 5th Feb 05

ASSESSMENT (MAX 8)

Brighton	Thur 19th Aug
Andover	Sat 2nd Oct
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
Cuckfield*	Sat 2nd Apr 05
Halifax	Sat 12th Mar 05



For further information, or to register for a course, call 01296 317225 or email maggie@ebu.co.uk

- * Kinsham in Herefordshire
- * Chobham in Surrey
- * Thurston near Bury St Edmunds
- * Cuckfield in W.Sussex

TD COURSES IN TUNISIA

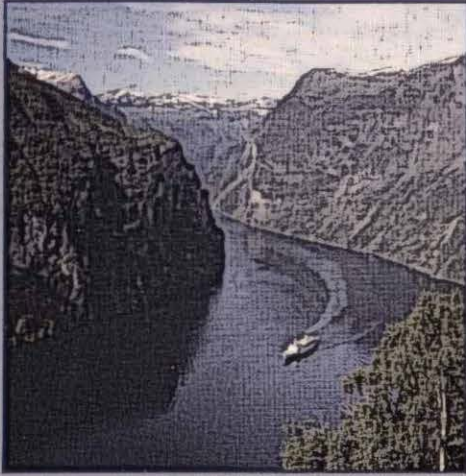
A series of TD courses will be held at The Bellvue Park Hotel, Elkantaouri, Tunisia as follows:

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

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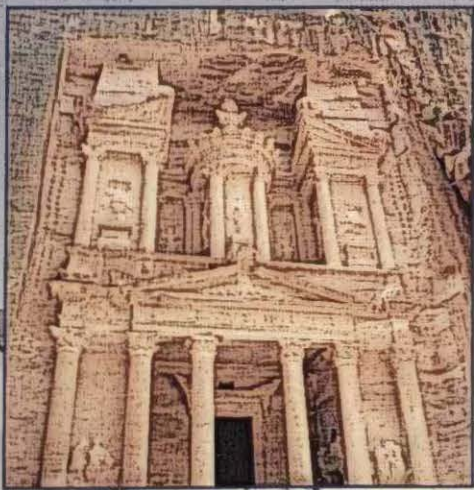
Bridge Supplement £30

4-15 June 2005

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Prices from £899*

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31 Oct – 8 Nov 2005

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FOR RESERVATIONS AND BOOKINGS ☎ 01444 462150

Beat **today's** experts

These hands are all from modern events and David Bird points to some useful lessons to be learned from them. See how your efforts compare with the experts' bidding.

August 2004

West hands

(imp scoring on every deal)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Game All
Dealer East

(Whitehead) | ♠ 8 5
♥ A Q 10 9 8 4 2
♦ K 8 3 2
♣ - |
| 2. Love All
Dealer West

(Wright) | ♠ 7 4 2
♥ 6
♦ J 9 3
♣ A Q J 10 6 2 |
| 3. E-W Game
Dealer East

(Seres) | ♠ Q J 10 3 2
♥ K 9 5 2
♦ -
♣ A K 10 2 |
| 4. Game All
Dealer West

(Brogeland) | ♠ K 6 5 2
♥ Q 2
♦ Q 2
♣ A K J 9 5 |
| 5. N-S Game
Dealer East

(Duboin) | ♠ K J 9 8 6
♥ 7
♦ -
♣ A K Q 8 6 4 3 |
| 6. Game All
Dealer West

(Becker) | ♠ A 7 4
♥ A J 9 8 4 3
♦ A 10
♣ 10 4 |

Beat **today's** experts

These hands are all from modern events and David Bird points to some useful lessons to be learned from them. See how your efforts compare with the experts' bidding.

August 2004

East hands

(imp scoring on every deal)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Game All
Dealer East

(Cowling) | ♠ A 10 2
♥ K
♦ A Q J 7 6 5
♣ K 9 4 |
| 2. Love All
Dealer West

(Cornell) | ♠ A K
♥ A 7 4
♦ A K Q 10 8 6 2
♣ 5 |
| 3. E-W Game
Dealer East

(Reiner) | ♠ K 8 6
♥ A 7 6 4
♦ A K J 4
♣ Q 5 |
| 4. Game All
Dealer West

(Saelensminde) | ♠ Q 9 8 4
♥ J 10 9 3
♦ A K J 9
♣ 7 |
| 5. N-S Game
Dealer East

(Bocchi) | ♠ 10 7 5 4
♥ K 9 8 5 2
♦ A K J
♣ 9 |
| 6. Game All
Dealer West

(Schwartz) | ♠ 9 3 2
♥ K Q 7 2
♦ 4
♣ A K 6 5 3 |

