

WBU Simultaneous Pairs

Results of this event are:-

1. M. Peterson & J. Wells (Jersey)
2. M. Hirst & P. Jourdain (Cardiff)
3. E. & A. Favager (Penarth)
4. N. Forrest & S. Jarvis (Haverfordwest)
5. D. Fowler & P. McIlroy (Crickhowell)
6. L. & M. Sheridan (Bridgend)
7. B. Spencer & M. Morris (Cardigan)
8. J. Jones & P.M.S. Jones (Swansea)
9. A. Ratcliff & D. Hill (Mid-Glam)
10. G. Poston & G.L. Jones (Port Talbot)
11. D. Birt & D. Melville (Cardiff)
12. D. Francis & D.M. Williams (Llanelli)

Highest placed Local Masters were
D. Fowler & P. McIlroy (Crickhowell)

Highest placed Club Masters were
A. Gimblett & P. Clayton (Abergavenny)

The WBU is looking for someone to take over the running of this event from next year. There is a honarium paid. Interested parties should apply to the WBU Secretary

SELECTORS' REPORT

LADY MILE TRIALISTS

The deadline is 19th January, 1996.

The trial will be based on teams.

The names of fourteen pairs have already been received.

The selectors are asking the pairs to form a team of four. If you find this too awkward or difficult, then the selectors will do it for you.

Please send your reply to

The Secretary to the Selectors,
Lloyd Lewis,
15 Long Oaks Court,
Sketty,
Swansea SA2 0QH

Pairs/teams wanting an acknowledgment should send an addressed, stamped envelope

Llangollen Autumn Congress Results

Ladies Pairs	Gwen Hurst & Dorothy Phillips
Mens Pairs	Brian Horn & Mike Tucker
Mixed Pivot Teams	John & Dawn Herbert, Brian Horn & Mike Tucker
Pairs Championship	Brian Horn & Mike Tucker
Consolation Pairs	Brian Nicholls & L. Greenland
Swiss Teams	John Poole & Brian Pinnington, Elaine Evans & Brian Edwards
Swiss Teams risers	Linda Tatham & Shelton Cross, Dr & Mrs Arthur

THE WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Winter 1996

Issue 52

NEWSLETTER

<i>Mrs. Mary Aherne, 19 Penygraig, Rhwibina, Cardiff CF4 6ST</i> Secretary: ☎ 01222-611652
<i>Mrs. Noelle Bond, 45 Buttrills Road, Barry, S. Glam. CF62 8EG</i> Master-Point Secretary: ☎ 01446-733425
<i>Dilwyn Evans, 2 Penylan Close, Porthcawl, Mid-Glam CF36 3LF</i> National Tournament Organiser: ☎ 01656-783461
<i>Gary Martin, 83 Tir Capel, Dafen, Llanelli, Dyfed SA14 8SR</i> Newsletter Editor: ☎ 01554-758021

Editorial

Welcome to 1996. Perhaps this is the year that you will finally win that elusive bridge title or achieve your next hard earned Master-point rank.

The change of year is a time of optimism for many people, and that is something that is never in short supply amongst bridge players. How many times have you started badly in a Swiss Teams competition and hoped for five 20-0 wins in the last 5 matches to still win the event? Yes, me too!

Invariably as the years go by, the costs of participating in bridge competitions rises. We are very fortunate in the Welsh Bridge Union that these have not got to the stage whereby these increases have prevented players from entering. Take the Mens & Ladies Pairs as an example. The entry fee was £4 and table money £10. This was for 3 sessions of bridge with tea and sandwiches included!

Contrast this with the Teams in Deauville that I played in in August, we paid over £50 each for 3 sessions of bridge! Admittedly, the prize money was greater - but how many people enter a competition expecting to win the first prize?

I don't think that the WBU membership is quite yet ready for £50 table money for a weekend's bridge! Happy New Year

Gary Martin

National Tournament Organiser's Report

CAMROSE TRIAL

The secretary to the selectors has asked me to announce that the first Camrose trial will be held on 15/16 June 1996.

THE PORTLAND PAIRS

The South Wales qualifier will be held on 24/3/96 at, The Parkway Hotel & Conference Centre, Cwmbran.
Tel.No. 01633 871199

Will those intending to eat in the hotel please book their meal directly with the hotel.

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS

This competition was played at Cardiff B.C. on 12 November.
The results were:

- 1st ADRIAN THOMAS &
ALAN PIERCE
2nd FILIP KURBALIJA &
MARTIN HILL-JONES
3rd TONY DISLEY &
ROBERT CHARLESWORTH

VETERANS PAIRS

This popular competition was held at Swansea B.C. on 26 November.
The results were:

- 1st MAX POWELL &
COLIN HEARD
2nd PAUL ALLSOPP &
DEWI JONES
3rd SYLVIA DAVIES &
MARIAN BROOKE

WELSH and CAMBRIA CUPS

Both these competitions are now well under way, but from the results already in, I can see that quite a few of the matches are being left until near to the closing date, this can create problems when, for one reason or another a team needs to postpone a match.

So would you please start trying to arrange your next match as soon as you have won the current one.



Stop Press..... Scotland triumph in first Camrose Match

Wales travelled to Aberdeen for the first of this year's Camrose matches and were defeated 57-33 by Scotland (17-13; 17-13; 23-7). The Welsh team was A. Thomas & A. Pierce, F. Kurbalija & P. Goodman, A. Ratcliff & P. Jourdain, M. Hirst (NPC).

Thank You Ghestem

by Paul Chimes

In a recent league match we had an interesting hand which required declarer to listen to the clues from the bidding, play to get a count on the hand, and avoid blocking two suits - all very simple, but worth the effort.

I picked up the West hand below, partner opened 1 Club and South overcalled 2 Clubs (Ghestem - showing 5-5 in Spades and Diamonds).

The opponents were vulnerable and we were not, so I passed awaiting developments with interest. I was surprised to hear North jump to 3 Diamonds, which was passed round to me.

As opponents obviously had a big fit, 3D doubled might make and would take some explaining to our team-mates (we had already doubled a making Two Heart contract in the set), so I opted instead for 3 No Trumps which had the merit of inviting less ridicule if things went wrong.

East
♠ J 9 6
♥ A Q 9 2
♦ 4
♣ A 7 6 5 2

West
♠ K 8 5 2
♥ K 10 6
♦ K J
♣ K J 9 3

North started with Ace and another Diamond, so I needed to grab a further eight tricks before losing a trick.

The knowledge that South only had three cards in Hearts and Clubs was a considerable help, but if this included a singleton club, it needed to be the ten or queen. So - King of Clubs, small, small, ten.

So far so good. Now test the Hearts - lead the ten (to unblock the third round finesse - not strictly necessary here, but good practice!), small, Ace, small.

Return the Two of Hearts, small, King, small. Now you have a count on the hand and can safely lead the Jack of Clubs to finesse against North, and avoid any blockage in the Club suit, and take the marked finesse in Hearts either immediately if the Jack of Clubs is not covered, or on returning to hand with the Nine of Clubs if it is.

10 tricks made

At the other table, the bidding had gone 1 Club from East, 1 Spade from South, 3 No Trumps from West. Now North led his Spade, South switched to a small Diamond, declarer guessed wrong, and the defence took the first six tricks.

Thank You Ghestem!

MASTERPOINT OF VIEW

By Noelle Bond



Just when I thought I had seen and heard everything the postal system could do to us....

A while ago, Mike, my husband, took a phone call. An unknown male voice said, "I've found someone's Welsh Bridge card at the bottom of my garden, and it has your number on it." At first Mike was amused by this, assuming it was just a WBU membership card dropped by a local player, and unable to stop himself from thinking the fairies must have taken up a new game. But as the call continued, he decided the man was describing an MP record card, intrigued, he asked the caller where he lived, it was only a quarter of a mile or so from our house so we went to collect the wayward item.

It was indeed an MP record card, but one belonging to a lady in North Wales! The finder added to our bafflement by informing us that he often found personal items at the end of his garden, or in the lane beyond, and believed them to be discarded by local burglars passing by. (The times we live in!) That day, he also had a pair of gold framed spectacles on offer but we refused those. Before we left he could not resist telling us that he had played bridge himself many years ago, and once made a grand slam with two aces missing. (We were not too impressed, we know of a pair who bid a grand slam with all aces missing!)

Despite being dried out on a radiator before our new friend could read it, the card was in surprisingly good condition, apart from the fact that my address label on the back had been nearly all picked away, only the telephone number remaining. While we puzzled about this, trying to imagine how the card could have ended up where it did and in that condition, the lady herself was reading the last newsletter. After learning about other people's trouble with the post, she realised how long it had been since she had sent off her own card.

I was in the process of writing to her when she phoned, only to hear that her card was all that was left of a letter. How it ended up in that garden, where the rest of the letter went, still remains a mystery. I don't want to worry you too much, most letters do arrive safely. Recently I even received one containing a self-imposed fine from a member who had forgotten to enclose his usual SAE when sending in his points. I felt I had to return it, however, or our treasurer would be mystified by such an unusual credit item in my accounts.

But then again, a week or two ago, a worried member who had sent in points for herself and her friend wrote to me; her own points had been returned in a Post Office "sorry our sorting machine damaged your letter" plastic bag, but her friend's had totally

disappeared. As you can imagine, she was more concerned about this than if she had lost her own.

Who says size doesn't matter? At the end of October the WBU purchased a new computer to run the masterpoints system, with much larger memory and higher speed. Of course, while the system was being changed over, we ran into one or two "teething troubles," (I wonder who thought of that nursery metaphor for early problems with machines? Probably someone irritated because his small child was keeping him awake at nights.) So I must apologise for being slower than usual in updating points for a couple of weeks in November. You may not notice any difference when you send points in, but everything works much faster on this lovely new machine. Also the "Rank has changed" reminder notices now show up in a beautiful red, no chance of me ever missing one. I should like to wish a Happy New Year to you all, even if it may be slightly belated by the time you read this, and finally, if you are going to the East Wales Congress in February you might like to know that I intend to have my collecting box for masterpoints there. (Look, no posting risk!)

Noelle Bond

Club name abbreviations used in promotions list

A	Aberystwyth	MG	Mid-Glamorgan
AA	Aberaeron	MH	Milford Haven
AG	Abergavenny	MT	Mitchel Troy
AM	Awel-y-Mor (Porthcawl)	NP	Newport (Pemb)
BR	Bridgend	NT	Newtown
BSC	British Steel Corporation	OH	Old Hall (Cowbridge)
BV	Barrivale	P	Porthcawl
C	Cardiff	PC	Pencoed
CA	Corbett Arms	PD	Penrhyndeudraeth
CB	Cwmbran	PE	Pennal
CBY	Colwyn Bay	PN	Penarth
CD	Cardigan	PR	Prestatyn
CL	Cowbridge Leisure	PT	Port Talbot
CN	Caernarfon	PV	Park View (Wrexham)
CR	Criccieth	PW	Pwllheli
CRI	Crickhowell	R	Rhiwbina
D	Dolgellau	RH	Rhyl
DR	Drury	ROF	Glascoed
F	Flint	Ry	Rhayader
GA	Gwent Academy	S	Swansea
H	Haverfordwest	SH	Shotton
L	Llanelli	SP	South Pemb
LD	Llandudno	STD	St Davids (Aberystwyth)
LP	Lampeter	T	Tenby
M	Mold	W	Wrexham
MB	Mumbles	Y	Ynys-Mon (Anglesey)

Master-Point

Only ranks with promotions are printed

Club Master

Mrs Kit Cross	BV
Mr Peter Cross	BV
Mrs Marj Ganz	MB
Mrs Ann Holmes	NP
Mr John Holmes	NP
Mrs Mary Ings	C
Mrs Janno Jones	PW
Dr Peter M Jones	S
Mrs Joan Jones	S
Mr Peter McColl	C
Mr Pat Mullally	CN
Mr O I Owen	W

Local Master

Mrs Mary Caulfield-Giles	CBY
Mrs Marie Cawley	MB
Ms Jayne Coleman	BV
Mrs Jean H Davies	R
Mr Adam Dunn	CA
Miss Janice Evans	D
Mrs Ann Gimblett	AG
Mr Eric Hitchings	GA
Mr Timothy James	MT
Mr Tom Ogden	S
Mr Timothy Perkins	MB
Mr Eilir Thomas	PD
Mr Viv Williams	BR

County Master

Mrs Eirven Brown	GA
Mrs Doreen Dixon	GA
Mr Les Fletcher	CBY
Mrs Doreen Griffiths	GA
Mrs Beth James	R
Mr Rick Law	S
Mr Ron Lockwood	BV
Mr John Lowther	AG
Mrs Joyce Lowther	AG
Mrs Joanna Salmon	LP
Mr Steve Webb	C



Promotions

Master

Mr J E Barlow	PR
Mrs Connie Green	BR
Mrs Marie Hartland	AM
Mr Leon Katan	CBY
Mr Jeff Morgan	CB

Advanced Master

Mrs Angela Barker	D
Dr Aled Evans	LD
Mrs Eleanor Evans	PW
Mrs Elsie Evans	LD
Mrs Dale C Joy	LD
Mr Ted Lucas	F
Mrs Jean Parry	MB
Mr Mike Samuel	GA
Mrs Margaret Tovey	MB
Mrs Betty Wilcock	NT
Mr Les Wilcock	NT
Mrs Anne Woods	MT

1 Star Master

Dr Jim Arthur	CBY
Mr David Bryant	C
Mr Shelton Cross	DR
Mr Graham Shaw	LD

2 Star Master

Mr John Berni	S
Mrs Donna Lewandowski	ROF
Mrs Kay Perkins	MT
Mr Ken Perkins	MT
Mr John Raymond	OH
Mr Eddie Urbanski	PW
Mr Glyn Williams	BR

3 Star Master

Mrs Enfys Powell	GA
Mrs Betty Spencer	CD

Master-Point Promotions (Continued)

4 Star Master

Mrs Betty Jones	BR
Mrs Gladys Prescott	PW

5 Star Master

Mrs Gwyneth Flaye	CD
Mrs Gill Goddard	MG
Mr Edward Pyke	RH
Mrs Marian Williams	AM

Regional Master

Mr Mike Jones	CA
Mrs Marion Parish	MB
Mrs Margaret Wallis	R

Premier Regional Master

Mr Paul Cunningham	BV
Mrs Gwyneth Poston	PT

Premier National Master

Mr Steve Kennewell	S
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Life Master

Mr Paul Seal	C
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GOLD POINTS

The WBU has decided to join the EBU in awarding Gold Points. A gold point is earned for every five Green (National) Points gained in a single event.

Unlike Local or National Points, Gold Points depreciate by ten percent at the year end.

This quarter has seen the first awards being made, but as no player has yet earned more than one Gold Point, the list below is in alphabetical order.

Noelle Bond
WBU Master Points Secretary



Gilly Clench
Pam Edwards
Patrick Jourdain
Diane Kurbalija
Joe Patrick
Alan Pierce
Maggie Pierce
Tony Ratcliff
Liam Sheridan
Maureen Sheridan
Krista Stephenson
Adrian Thomas
Akram Zaman

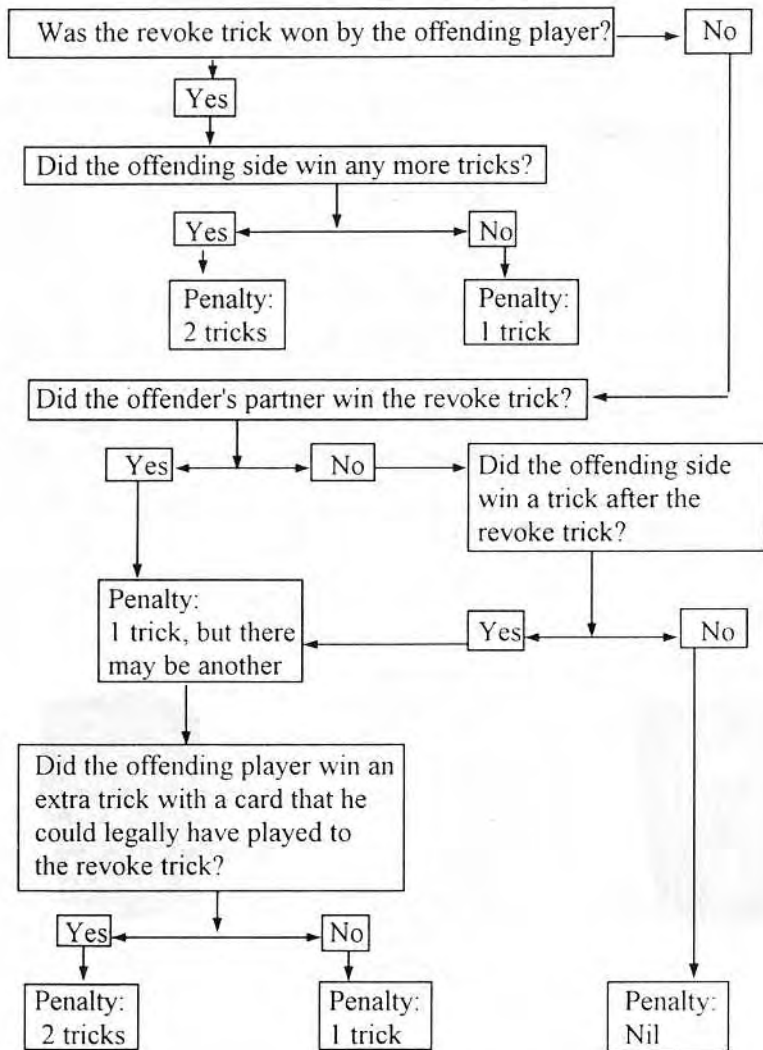




LEARN THE LAWS

With Lloyd Lewis

ASSESSING THE PENALTY FOR A REVOKE L64A p71



INTERNATIONAL MASTERS

By Tony Disley

The format for this prestigious event was amended to incorporate Butler scoring, a development welcomed by the players. Hence the defensive problem below was of far greater importance when game had been bid.

North

- ♠ Q 6
- ♥ Q J 6
- ♦ 7 2
- ♣ J 10 9 7 6 4

West

- ♠ A 10 4 2
- ♥ 9 5 4
- ♦ A Q 3
- ♣ A K 5

After South opened 1NT (15-17) this was passed out. However, after a 16-18 NT, the contract became 3NT doubled (perhaps unwisely) by West.

S2 led to 6, 8 and 9. Declarer advanced the CQ ducked, and then a small C, East showing out. What now from West? If declarer has only 3 spades, it is imperative to continue the attack in this suit. If partner has DJ, that suit must be led. What agreement do you have with your partner regarding his discard on the club? Can you

rely on him, or even expect him to signal the DJ? Best at this point is to cash SA and see if this draws the SJ from South. If not revert to a diamond hoping for DJ with partner or precisely KJ doubleton with declarer.

However, this line fails if declarer has 4 cards in each major, wherever the DJ.

At the table I failed but fortunately the opposition were only in 1NT. Considering at leisure, the "automatic" duck is a mistake as it gives N/S a lead in the race to 9 or 5 tricks respectively. Taking the first club and following the line recommended beats the contract whenever it is possible to do so.

Incidentally would you expect partner to signal DJ when following to SA?

For the record, South's hand was:

- ♠ K J 9 5
- ♥ A K 8
- ♦ K 10 9
- ♣ Q 8 2

Next edition is due out on
 April 1st, 1996
 Deadline for articles is
 March 10th, 1996.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTION

Hi there! I am David Stevenson, your new TDC, which stands for Tournament Direction Co-ordinator. If you (or your club) have any problems in Tournament Direction, or if you want a ruling in a match, give me a ring on 0151-677-7412, or if it is urgent try my mobile phone 0378-40-99-55. I also collect interesting rulings to use in TD training courses so if you get one please send it to me at 63 Slingsby Drive, Upton, WIRRAL, Merseyside, L49 0TY.

The Tournament Direction in clubs tends to be somewhat poor since the TDs usually have no formal training. I am intending to run courses for Club TDs as follows:

Preliminary	For people who have done no Tournament Direction
A	Ordinary rulings
B	Judgment rulings
C	Assessment of abilities
D	Refresher

The Preliminary course is optional and is not necessary for anyone who has been directing for some time. Anyone who attends an A and a B course will be called an Assistant Club Director. People will only be accepted onto C courses who have attended A and B courses. Those who pass will become a Club Director. The D courses will be for those who have passed a C course and attendees will become Senior Club Directors.

All the courses will be held on a Saturday or Sunday from about 11.00 to 5.00. I hope to arrange some courses in the South for East/West members, and some in the Mid or the North for Mid/North members. Since EBU courses are similar then attendance on an EBU course will do: for example you can go on a WBU C course if you have attended EBU A and B courses.

If you are interested in the above you should look out for details of courses which will be given in future Newsletters and sent to Club secretaries, or get in touch with me. If your

club is able to provide a venue, providing a light lunch, tea and coffee on arrival and during the afternoon, please could you let me know, giving details of what they would charge.

I shall also be looking for TDs to help run Area and National events. Eventually I expect to provide training for such TDs but initially I merely wish to compile a register. If you have done any directing at Area or National level, or would like to, please write to me giving the following details:

Your name and address, daytime and evening telephone number. Details of any TD training courses you have attended. Results of any TD exams on assessed courses. Brief details of your directing experience. Your WBU membership number.

You do not need at this stage to have passed any exams to be considered. Whatever your level of experience I do advise you to write in if you are interested. It would also be a great help if more experienced TDs also put themselves forward for the register. Note the details of training courses and experience you supply should include courses and experience in England or elsewhere.

Initially TDs will be given a rank thus:
 Assistant Local TD Local TD Senior Local TD
 Assistant Area TD Area TD Senior Area TD
 Regional TD Congress TD National TD
 Comments on the names of the ranks would be appreciated: an alternative to "Assistant" might be desirable since some people believe it to be somewhat insulting.

So, whoever you are, please give me a ring or write if you have a problem, and please write to me if you have any intention of directing outside your own club. Also please write if your club can help me set up courses. I look forward to hearing from you.
 Happy rulings!

ADVANCES IN BIDDING

Exclusion Key Card Blackwood

By Dr. Dean Hardie



Imagine you have found a trump fit and have enough values to bid slam. You want to use Blackwood to check on aces but have a void in your hand. How can you tell if partner has the ace in that suit or in one of the other suits? The answer is that you can't unless you use Exclusion Key Card Blackwood (EKCB).

EKCB is similar to Key Card Blackwood but demands that you only mention the key cards outside of the suit that partner has a void in. In other words if you have the ace of partner's void suit and he uses EKCB you ignore it and show any other key cards that you have.

How do you employ EKCB? You need to make a *jump bid in a suit beyond the level of game in our trump suit*. You need to be specific in your partnership when you can use EKCB otherwise you will have major fall-outs! For instance you could agree that responder cannot use EKCB at his first turn as he may want to use the ask bid in a natural way. The exception to this is when the ask bid is in their suit.

The responses are:-

1st step =	3 or 0 key cards
2nd step =	4 or 1 key cards
3rd step =	2 key cards without the Q of trumps
4th step =	2 key cards with the Q of trumps

The asker can enquire further about the Q of trumps (if not already shown) and other kings using a similar method as over Key Card Blackwood which was covered in my last article.

Let's see a few examples:-

1S - 3S
 5C =

I have values for a slam. I want to check we are not missing too many controls. I also have a void in clubs so please do not tell me if you hold the A of clubs as it is not a useful card for me.

1S - (2H) - 5H =

I am agreeing spades as trumps. They have overcalled in hearts and I am void in that suit. I have slam values and wish to check we have sufficient controls. Please ignore the A of hearts if you hold it.



Bridge Plus
in association with *Perpetual*
invites you to

***Think of the partner of your dreams
and write a witty bridge Valentine!***

All proceeds to the British Bridge League funds for staging
the 1996 World Youth Bridge Championships in Cardiff



First Prize:
a Bottle of Champagne



Second Prize: a Box of Chocolates

Consolation prizes provided by the BBL and EBU

To enter, send your Valentine (one per entry, please)
together with a cheque for £2 payable to the British Bridge League to:
Valentine Competition, Bridge Plus, PO Box 384, Reading RG15YP

Entries must relate to bridge and not exceed 45 words.

All entrants will receive a copy of the March 1996 issue of *Bridge Plus*
in which the best entries will be printed (anonymously, if required!)

Closing date: 14th February 1996

THE MENORCAN CONGRESS

By Joe Patrick

We recently went to Majorca to play in the 24th Annual Congress at the S'Algar Hotel. The venue was superb with good food, good service, spacious card room and excellent leisure facilities, including scuba diving for those interested.

The bridge was directed by David Boston (friendly, but firm) and the standard was competitive. We met a very cosmopolitan crowd from all parts of the UK and thoroughly recommend this congress for your diary next year at £609 this year's price for 15 days, including £1300 prizes, full board, Gala dinner with wine and cocktail parties.

This was a hand which came up.
You hold, sitting South

♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 6 5
♥ 6
♦ 10 9
♣ 4

Your partner opens 1D and RHO overcalls with 4H. What do you bid?

My choice was 4NT (alerted), LHO bids 5H, partner passes (alerted) and you bid 6S making 13 tricks with a club lead. Your team-mates reached 7H on the E/W cards (which only fails with a heart lead).

This double-swing enabled us to win the Championship Teams.

The full hand was (Love All - Dealer North)

♠ 432	♠ -
♥ 4	♥ -
♦ KQ852	♦ KQ107532
♣ AKQ8	♣ AJ7643

♠ AKQJ109865
♥ 6
♦ 109
♣ 4

We enjoyed the bridge, the lovely sandy beaches and weather in October.

Bridge Plus Valentine Competition

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and write a witty bridge Valentine!**

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Closing date: 14th February 1996

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr):

Address:

Postcode:

Valentine:

I do / do not wish my name to be published (*delete as applicable*)

WBU Officers and other positions

<i>President:</i>	Gary Martin	<i>Immediate P.P.:</i>	Mike Jones
<i>Hon. Sec.:</i>	Mary Aherne	<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	Robert Upton
<i>Nat. Tourn.Org.:</i>	Dillwyn Evans	<i>Master-point Sec.:</i>	Noelle Bond
<i>Hon. Auditor:</i>	Barry Robinson	<i>Membership Sec.:</i>	Val Kennewell
<i>T.D. Co-ordinator:</i>	David Stevenson	<i>Simultaneous Pairs:</i>	Haydn Dando
<i>Junior Co-ordinator:</i>	Michael Ashe	<i>Fitch Pairs:</i>	Gary Martin

Sub Committees:

Finance: Robert Upton, Gwynne Williams, Paul Gagne, Diana Panniers, Tony Jodo

Selection: Tony Disley, Chris Rochelle, Lloyd Lewis, Martin Jones, John Poole

T & M.P.: Dillwyn Evans, Sheila Shea, Joe Patrick, Tony Disley, Rory McKinley, Noelle Bond, David Stevenson

Laws & Ethics: Alan Pierce, Max Powell, Anne Jones.

(Information compiled and supplied by Lloyd Lewis)

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Feb 9 - 12

BATH The Francis
Feb 23 - 25

Ralph & Lesley Smith will be delighted to send you details



Excel Bridge, 10 Station Road, Patchway, Bristol BS12 6LP. ☎ 01454-615378