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# WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Newsletter 76, September 2002

## Shock shock: man saved by bridge

WBU member tells of his amazing escape from death and how bridge helped him back to full life.

*Page 10.*

## In the silver chair

Wales produced a fine performance in the first Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship.



28 Commonwealth countries, from Bermuda (pop. 63,503) to India (pop. 1,029,991,145) and two sponsored teams of international players competed for the Maple Trophy.

*Report Page 9.*

## Arvon Hughes

Arvon Hughes was just an ordinary bridge player, seen just in his local clubs or



occasionally in events held there. He never expected to rise very high in the bridge ranks so Arvon would never have been known other than by local players had it not been for misfortune. He contracted Alzheimer's disease and might have been expected to be seen no more. But after a time, for his comfort, he would accompany his wife Eileen, when she played in events around the country. He became a familiar figure to many Welsh and English players as he sat quietly beside her whilst she played.

Arvon was my friend, and when I think of him, what I first see in my mind is the friendly smile he had for everyone. Players like Arvon seem unassuming but form the backbone of the bridge world, the pleasure they show in playing helps to give a welcome to newcomers to the game. He will be missed for a long time.

**Mike Bond**  
**Barrivale Bridge Club**

*Arvon Hughes, died 15th July 2002*



## Letters to the Editor

No letters again this time.



## WBU website tips

The WBU website can be found at [www.wbu.org.uk](http://www.wbu.org.uk) Usage has gone up since the makeover, and the site currently receives 2500 visits per month. Two points are raised by members time and again; set out below are the problems and the solutions.

1. The results listing is jumbled.  
Solution – press refresh on your browser – This reloads the page stored on your ISP's server, usually the results untangle themselves.
2. The latest results aren't there.  
Solutions - sometimes they aren't – we do depend on the organisers to pass them on to us, and for the most part they do. The results of congresses in South Wales are usually posted within 24 hours but most ISPs don't come searching the site every time you ask them, they save a copy

for the first request & then show that copy to subsequent users – it depends on which ISP you use as to how frequently the copies are updated. Pressing CTRL-refresh on your browser can overcome this, however it doesn't always work, but you might succeed by keying in the website address without the 3 leading Ws, i.e. [wbu.org.uk](http://wbu.org.uk)

*Linda Greenland*



## Master Points for those with access to the Internet

If you have sent in Master points and have not yet had a reply from me, find your WBU number (it's in the Journal if you don't know it), and log on to the WBU site at [www.wbu.org.uk](http://www.wbu.org.uk)

- Select MEMBERS from the red menu at the left hand side of the screen and about halfway down the page which then displays you will see the following:-  
**“Those members with a Master point claim in to Noelle that hasn't been returned can find out what is happening here.”**
- Click on the “here” at the end of the sentence.
- You will then see a list of the WBU ID numbers, in alphanumerical order, of those whose master points have been received by me, with the status of their MP claim, i.e. when the points were received or posted back, etc. If you cannot find yourself in the list, after

allowing time for the post, please contact me via my Email address [noelle@glanmor45.freemove.co.uk](mailto:noelle@glanmor45.freemove.co.uk)

Also you will see if directly credited points have been received and actioned, and the current queue backlog.

*Noelle Bond*

**ECatsBridge Club:** [www.ecatsbridgeclub.com](http://www.ecatsbridgeclub.com)

Have your own club pages on ECats Bridge and enjoy "real bridge in a virtual world", where for a modest fee the results from your club have their own place on our site each week (each day if you want). *Your members can view their own results, complete with analysis via their personal score card, as soon as you upload them.* No more waiting until next week to see how they did. We are setting up other services for our member clubs, for example you can have your own private forum where your club members can discuss hands from the night before or meet friends in our public forums.

**Anna Gudge**

# RESULTS



## Perry Shield

**Rhayader Leisure Centre, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May 2002**

1 <sup>st</sup> :	North Wales: Simon Edwards, Paddy Murphy, Peter Hand, Jean Hand, Brian Edwards, Barry Jones, NPC Michael Clare	149 VPs
2 <sup>nd</sup>	East Wales: Patrick Jourdain (C ), Tony Ratcliff, Tony Casey, Filip Kurbalija, Geoff Evans, David Birt	145 VPs
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	West Wales: Mike Baker (C), Steve Jarvis, Graham John, Brian Clements, Robin Parris, Lloyd Lewis	131 VPs
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mid Wales: Phil Dorling, Alan Screen, Dewi Jones, Dai Hayes, Mike Jones, John Evans, NPC Geoff Fielding	114 VPs

## Spickett Bowl

**Rhayader Leisure Centre, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May 2002**

1 <sup>st</sup>	North Wales: Sheila Shea, Andrea Martin, Krista Stephenson, Pam Edwards, Jill Knight, Joan Marray, NPC Peter Garner-Gray	143 VPs
2 <sup>nd</sup>	East Wales: Ann Hirst (C), Ceri Pierce, Linda Greenland, Liz Atkinson, Noelle Bond, Laura Woodruff	135 VPs
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mid Wales: Pat Fielding, Joyce Outred, Betty Spencer, Gwyneth Flaye, Margaret Morris, Dorothy Harris, NPC Geoff Fielding	130 VPs
4 <sup>th</sup>	West Wales: Diana Panniers, (C), Pat Haworth, Irene Thomas, Mary Moore, Colette Davies, Margaret John	126 VPs

## National Club Teams of Eight Championship

**Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2002**

1 <sup>st</sup> :	Cardiff A: Liz Atkinson, Linda Greenland, Phil Felman, David Ronson, Dave Melville, Trevor Towers, Jon Seavers, John Glubb	124 VPs
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cardiff B: Mike Hirst, Tony Casey, David Birt, Ken Richardson, Chris Davies, Martin David, David Teague, Rod Burden	115 VPs
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Bridgend: Bill Turner, Marjorie Morris, Ann Fox, Arwyn Evans, Rob Charlesworth, Irene Thomas, Ray Smith, Glyn Williams,	103 VPs

## North Wales Swiss Pairs

**Llandudno, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> July 2002**

1 <sup>st</sup> :	Simon Edwards, Tony Ratcliff	177 VPs
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Georgina Lineker, Ian Lineker	165 VPs
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Perry Darwen, Roz Bavin	164 VPs

## Mid Wales Congress

**Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July 2002**

1 <sup>st</sup> :	Adrian Thomas, Paul Denning, Jill Casey, Diane Kurbalija	167 VPs
2 <sup>nd</sup>	H Oliver, J Rickard, T Gammon, R Glass	158 VPs
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Mary Moore, Marjorie Morris, Mike Climer, Glyn Williams	157 VPs

## Introducing Bridge In Welsh Schools (enthusiasm reaps rewards)

The number of Welsh club members under the age of 25 is small; Wales was barely able to field a team at the recent European Youth Championships at Torquay even by importing players living in England but of Welsh parentage. In contrast the EBU website shows that with full-time paid staff supported by volunteers, Junior bridge prospers with training courses, competitions and active schools participation. To remedy this, a pilot exercise has taken place entirely with volunteers involving over 12 schools, mainly in West Wales. Children take readily to bridge. Average club players with no special qualifications or Master Point holdings make the best tutors provided they have enthusiasm and the motivation to put something back into the game we all enjoy.

School transport arrangements mean that extra-curricular activities take place mainly in lunch breaks, and initially tuition sessions will have to fit. Experience favours starting with MiniBridge (a form of bridge without bidding), with progression to the full game as soon as the basics are secure. Fastest progress flows where, as in one school (Ffynone House) a teacher has devoted time daily to introduce her hobby of bridge to her pupils – two competed at Torquay. In state schools teacher involvement is less likely, although at Bishopston Comprehensive 4 teachers learn alongside pupils. While pupils at primary schools derive great benefit, there is little point in teaching there unless the secondary school to which they will advance already has a bridge club.

Moreover where availability of volunteers is limited, resources are best devoted to the 13-and-above age group where concentration and assimilation levels are more advanced.

Introducing bridge to schools brings together the very real educational and wider benefits to pupils and the long-term interests of bridge in Wales. There will be a wealth of enthusiasts out there happy to invest a little of their time to this rewarding end (sadly it is necessary to mention that all volunteers must expect to be vetted in police paedophile records). Time-saving detailed documentation outlining approaches to Directors of Education and Head Teachers (personal contacts are best) is available together with full guidance on introduction of MiniBridge etc. A synopsis has already been sent to each Area in the hope that the exercise may be extended, strengthening bridge throughout Wales with participation by young players and with it the long term lowering of the average age of Club members. Areas may consider appointing co-ordinators and clubs may invite volunteers to assist. Those interested are welcome to contact me direct to talk through methods, not least shortcuts for quick results ideally starting in the Autumn term.

The Welsh Schools Championships take place at Swansea Bridge Club on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd November at 2.00 pm. Please contact me. If there is sufficient demand a MiniBridge competition can be arranged the same afternoon.

**Graham John, West Wales Bridge Association** *Graham can be contacted by telephone on 01792 419628, email [gr.john@ntlworld.com](mailto:gr.john@ntlworld.com)*



**MiniBridge at St Cyres School in Penarth**

*(picture from Eric Favager)*

**Bridge Teaching:** Bridge teachers: please contact Linda Greenland with details of your classes (private or Local Authority), which nights, venue and so on, as she does get requests from the public. Tel. 029 2025 5162, email [deri31@ntlworld.com](mailto:deri31@ntlworld.com).

## Orange Book Changes

Since publication of the Orange Book 1998, a number of corrections and additions have been made. The EBU Laws & Ethics Committee conducts an annual review of permitted conventions, and invites applications for authorisation of new conventions. The changes arising from the 2002 annual review are shown below. They will come into force on 1st September 2002.

Details of the cumulative changes since 1998 are available on the EBU website, in the EBU 2002-3 Members Yearbook or in a separate update slip available on request from Aylesbury

1.	Section 13	Level 3 Permitted Conventions	<i>Add:</i> Pagan 3♣ response to 1♥ or 1♠. This shows either a limit raise with 4-card support or a natural strong jump shift in ♣.
	Main paragraph 13.2	Responses to One of a suit opening bids	
	Sub-paragraph 13.2.2	(Other permitted conventions)	
2.	Section 13	Level 3 Permitted Conventions	<i>Amend to:</i> You may open 1NT as either natural (see 12.5.3) or artificial. In addition an otherwise natural 1NT may be played to include hands with 4-4-4-1 distribution (with a singleton of any rank) or 5-4-3-1 distribution with a singleton honour, provided that the point count is strictly within the agreed range for a natural 1NT. More restrictive constraints, e.g. relating to the rank of the singleton or the length of specific suits, are permitted. Note – players who wish to play that a natural 1NT opening may include hands with 4-4-4-1 or 5-4-3-1 distribution must prominently disclose this fact (specifically on the front of the card where an EBU 20A convention card is in use), and must be careful to provide full disclosure of all agreements as to the use of a 1NT opening, stating when a singleton may be expected, and what rank of singleton may be expected. In addition, such 1NT openings must be alerted.
	Main paragraph 13.3	One No trump Opening Bids	
	Sub-paragraph 13.3.1		
3.	Section 13	Level 3 Permitted Conventions	<i>Amend to:</i> Artificial may be any shape, must be forcing for one round and must have at least 17 HCPs or equivalent playing strength. Any response is permitted which is forcing and/or shows at least 4 cards in the bid suit, whether strong or weak. [Note – the only change is to the permitted responses, which are extended.]
	Main paragraph 13.3	One No trump Opening Bids	
	Sub-paragraph 13.3.3		
4.	Section 13	Level 3 Permitted Conventions	<i>Insert:</i> new paragraph 13.4A: Three of a Suit Opening Bids  <i>Insert:</i> new sub-paragraph 13.4A1 You may play these to have any meaning which includes length (at least 4 cards) in the bid suit.
	Main paragraph 13.4	Two of a suit Opening Bids	
	New paragraph 13.4A	Three of a suit Opening Bids	
	New sub-paragraph 13.4A1		

5.	Section 14	Level 4 Permitted Conventions	<i>Amend to:</i> You may open 1NT as either natural (see 12.5.3 and 13.3.1) or artificial (see 13.3.3).
	Main paragraph 14.3	One No Trump Opening Bids	
	Sub-paragraph 14.3.1		
6.	Section 5	Alerting Specific Cases	As a consequence to the changes to paragraph 13.3.1 (One no-trump opening bids), two changes are made to the alerting rules.
	Main paragraph 5.4		
	Sub-paragraph 5.4.3		<i>Add new clause:</i> (h) a natural 1NT opening which may be made on 4-4-4-1 or 5-4-3-1 distribution
	Sub-paragraph 5.4.4		<i>Amend clause g) to:</i> g) a natural 1NT opening that has some agreed distributional restraints like, for instance, having no 4-card major, or allowing a 6-card minor, but where the agreement is that the distribution may contain a singleton, the opening should be alerted.

As is usual, the Laws & Ethics Committee of the WBU will recommend that these changes are adopted in Wales.

### **‘C’ Course for Tournament Directors**

Andrew Kambites will be running a Directors’ ‘C’ course in Aberystwyth on Saturday 5th October starting at 11am. The cost will be £25, to include refreshments. Places are limited to a maximum of 10 people. People who would like to attend should contact Ken Richardson, 31 Deri Road, Cardiff CF23 5AH, Tel. 029-2025-5162 or e-mail me at [ken.deris1@ntlworld.com](mailto:ken.deris1@ntlworld.com).

### **International Bridge Laws Forum**

If you need help with a ruling, or have a question about the laws, you can ask on the Forum which you will find at <http://blakjak.com/iblf.htm>

*David Stevenson*

### **A missed opportunity**

When Bill Gates (he of Microsoft fame) led out of turn in the World Championships in Montreal last month, his opponent did not call the director and say "This player has performed an illegal operation and will be shut down". (*Thanks to David Burn for the suggestion*)

Peter Goodman



Fifth Chair

bridge mentor

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[www.computerknowhow.ltd.uk/services](http://www.computerknowhow.ltd.uk/services)

**ADVANCE NOTICE**

1<sup>st</sup> European Open Championships,  
Menton, 14<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June 2003

Mixed Teams, Mixed Pairs, Open, Women’s and Senior Teams, Open, Women’s and Senior Pairs, Side Games.

Open to all registered members in good standing with their Federation, from any WBF member country. *Contact NTO for details.*

## **International Round-up**

### **European Championships, 16<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> June 2002 Salsomaggiore Terme**



The Welsh team of Adrian Thomas, Paul Denning, Filip Kurbalija, Tim Rees, Patrick Jourdain and Tony Ratcliff competed against 37 other European nations in the championships, held in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy. The team was accompanied by Jim Luck as non-playing captain and Laura Woodruff as scorer and coach. The trip was not without its difficulties: the minibus booked to take the team from the airport to Salsomaggiore failed to materialise, the Po valley was experiencing a staggering, unexpected heatwave, the hotel staff, mysteriously, didn't quite grasp the importance of the England-Denmark World Cup match, for which the team had arrived with 30 seconds to spare, and the minibus was again missing for the return journey. Nevertheless Wales triumphed over these setbacks to score a number of notable wins against strong teams such as Poland, Russia, Sweden and Belgium.

Your editor returned from the trip exhausted by the effort of translating entire restaurant menus into English for Filip and negotiating with uncooperative car-hire companies. Italy's premature exit from the important event of the fortnight (the World Cup) was compensated for by a record 5<sup>th</sup> successive win in the bridge event, their gold medal assured with three rounds to go.

### **Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July 2002, Manchester**

This was the first Commonwealth championship, staged as a prelude to the Commonwealth games, and attracted an impressive 30 teams from around the world. Wales was represented by Filip Kurbalija, Tim Rees, Adam Dunn, Peter Goodman, Dafydd Jones and Gary Jones, with Jim Luck again bravely undertaking the role of NPC. In the round-robin stage, Wales came back from an apparently impossible position with excellent wins against Uganda, South Africa, Pakistan, Bermuda and Malaysia (with a little help from Guernsey, who beat the Australians 22-8) to make up 22 VPs against the Antipodeans and take one of the four semi-final places.

The arrangement of groups meant that the two teams sponsored by the Maple Financial Group and Brigitte Mavromichalis, who were ineligible for medal places, played each other, so the semi-final match between Wales and Canada became the gold-medal encounter.

The strong Canadian team led after the first two stanzas by 27 IMPs, and gained a further 10 IMPs in the next set of twelve boards to lead by 37 going into the final set. This proved to be a thriller, with Wales bidding a good slam and a game contract missed in the other room, and closing the gap to 24, 19, 17, 11 and 8 as the match progressed. For those in the Vu-Graph theatre this was real theatre. Sadly, the match was too short for victory and despite a gain of another IMP on the final board, the Canadians held out to take the gold. We can, however, take pride in a great recovery by the team, and a silver medal for players.

### **Nations Cup, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May 2002, Stadthalle Bonn-Bad Godesberg**

The Welsh team of Peter Goodman, Adam Dunn, Adrian Thomas and Mike Pownall took 4<sup>th</sup> place from eighteen strong European teams in this prestigious event, missing the head-to-head final by a whisker when Austria scored a big win in the final match of the round-robin. Wales finished over a match ahead of the fancied English team.

### **Amstelveen International Bridge Team Tournament, 31<sup>st</sup> May-2<sup>nd</sup> June 2002**

Peter Goodman, John Salisbury, Patrick Jourdain and Tony Ratcliff achieved 8<sup>th</sup> place in the Schiphol invitation tournament, a good enough finish to earn an invitation for next year.

# Cambria Plate Final

By Maggie Pierce

It is small honour to play in the Cambria Plate for some of us. Admitting to having been knocked out in the first round is more than some can bear. For my team the prospect dawned of a match in the Gagnes' house complete with their renowned hospitality. With Tom Reddy and John Glubb in my team I had reservations about our chances, but I knew we would enjoy ourselves.

In the first set of eight a massive swing came from this hand:-

♠ A x	
♥ x x x	
♦ Q x x x x	
♣ J x x	
♠ K Q x x	♠ J x x x x x x
♥ Q x x	♥ K J x x
♦ x	♦ J x
♣ A x x x x	♣ x
♠ x	
♥ A x x	
♦ A K x x x	
♣ K Q 10 x	

In one room, East opened a weak 2♠ and was raised to 4♠ doubled, making. At the other table South was declarer in 5♦ doubled, also making on a spade lead: a swing of 1640. Splendid card that ♣J. Good news for my team, and an aggregate of +780.

A couple of horror shows on the next set. Holding ♠Axxx, ♥1098x, ♦ void, ♣AQJxx, I open 1♣ (could be 2 cards in a weak NT hand) and raise partner's 1♥ to 2♥. Passed out. What a wimp I was: 3♥ should be automatic. Game missed, bid in the other room.

Set three – time for bravery. Partner opens 1NT (12-14). Do you move on?

♠ x x x x
♥ Q J x x
♦ x x
♣ A K x

Possibly a bit undisciplined, but a major suit fit might be profitable, for you hold good cards. If partner bids 2♦ you will wish you

had passed 1NT. I ventured 2♣ Stayman and raised 2♠ to 3♠ which got us to the cold but undeserved 4♠. We are now 2300 in the lead. There are mutterings from (some of) the opposition that it's time to call it a day.

Set four and partner opens 1NT (12-14). You hold ♠AJ9xxx, ♥xx, ♦ void, ♣AQJxx. You transfer to ♠ and continue with 3♣. Over partner's 3NT my seasoned view is you should now bid 4♣. I didn't, but bid 4♠. Opposite, partner held ♠10x, ♥AQx, ♦Kxxx, ♣Kxxx. They bid 6♣ in the other room.

With two sets to go we are a comfortable 2220 in the lead. Then for the horror show.

Partner opens 2♣ game force. Holding ♠Qxx, ♥xxx, ♦xxx, ♣AJxx I responded 2♦ and Tom bid 3♦, a very good hand with diamonds. I raise to 4♦ and over 4♥ bid 5♣. He now jumps to 6♦ and the hand on my left leads an intermediate spade. In dummy is:

♠ K J x x
♥ A K 10
♦ A K Q x x x
♣ void

Why I decided to play the ♠J is between me and my maker. If I play small, RHO rises with the ace to give his partner a non-existent ruff and the spades being 2-4 I make a contract which, left to my own devices, I would have gone off in: the diamonds were 3-1 so I can't ruff a 4th spade. Vulnerable too. Then in another vulnerable slam my partner forgot to count the trumps and pull them. Masses of points out, thousands. All of a sudden we are only 200 up with eight boards to go. It's hairy stuff this aggregate scoring.

A sweaty final eight boards saw us triumph (!) by 170.

All my team, and I'm sure the opposition, look back on a match and think about the mistakes. In all my years of playing bridge there are very few times when I have seen brilliance. But I've seen very many simple mistakes. Seen them, done them myself. It's a simple game, most of the time.



## The jewels in the crown

*By Peter Goodman*

As in any long bridge tournament, all the Welsh players at the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship had their moments of glory and others of shame. This time, the former far outweighed the latter and allowed us to take the silver medal after a nail-biting semi-final medal contest against Canada.

A key match in the round-robin stage was a double-header against the favoured Australian team, who must have been disappointed not to win a medal after holding an apparently unassailable position.

**Board 6**     ♠ K J 4     ♠ A Q 9 8 7  
**Vul: EW**     ♥ A J 8 5     ♥ 4  
**Dealer East**     ♦ A J 5 2     ♦ K Q 10 9 6  
                      ♣ A 6     ♣ Q 7

When the Australian pair held the hand East opened 1♥ (Mosquito Club) showing four spades and 11-16 HCP. West had to bid 1NT forcing, and it proved too difficult to locate the double fit so they settled in 4♠.

For Wales, Peter as East opened 1♠ and Adam bid 2♦ natural and game forcing. Peter jumped to 3♥, a splinter showing 5431 shape with extra values or a non-minimum 6421 or 5521 hand. Adam now bid 3♠ showing 3-card support and Peter bid 4♦ to emphasise the good support. Adam was now able to bid 4NT over which Peter's 5♠ showed 2 of the 5

aces and ♦Q. At this stage there was no hand Peter could hold (unless 3♥ was a poor bid!) that didn't include the ♠Q so Adam could count either 6♠, 1♥, 4♦, 1♣ and 1♥ ruff or 5♠, 1♥, 5♦, 1♣ and a club ruff. The good 7♦ gained us 16 IMPs.



The semi-final against Canada brought another grand slam gain, this time for Dafydd and Gary:

**North**     ♠ none  
**(Gary)**     ♥ A K J 10 x x  
                      ♦ A K  
                      ♣ A K 10 x x

**South**     ♠ A Q J 9 x x x  
**(Dafydd)**     ♥ Q x  
                      ♦ Q 10 x x  
                      ♣ none

West	North	East	South
-	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♥*
Pass	7♥	All pass	

(\*Bid something sensible!) ♠10 was led; Gary ruffed two clubs in dummy and discarded a third on the ♠A for 13 tricks. The contract is solid even on a trump lead, with diamonds 4-3 for a club discard on ♦Q.

A demonstration by Tim Rees of his fine card play brought Wales to a tantalising glimpse of victory in the final set.

**Board 46**     ♠ none  
**Vul: NS**     ♥ J 8 7 4  
**Dlr: East**     ♦ Q 5 2  
                      ♣ A J 8 5 3 2

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

With Canada stopping in 3♠, Tim's bold overcall of 4♠ over East's 1NT offered the chance of a gain. The contract must seemingly fail with a spade, a heart and two diamonds to lose. But when West followed the ♥K lead with a diamond switch, East's play of the ace let Tim draw trumps, win the return and play off his remaining trumps to squeeze East in the minors. A club switch at trick two, or a brave duck of the actual diamond switch by East, would have left South short of an entry to his club menace.

# The force of temporal power

*By our special correspondent in the Far West*

At the time of the incident that I am about to describe, I had been a keen Duplicate Bridge player for 35 years. Soon after I retired in 1995 from a successful professional career, I was working in my field at home with my son and was carrying an aluminium ladder but sadly I failed to notice the power cables 20 feet above me. Even if I had noticed I was not unduly worried as I had assumed that they were well insulated (a serious mistake). The inevitable happened, the ladder momentarily touched the cables and I received a 12,000 volts shock as the current shorted through the ladder, through me to the ground. I went down like a sack of potatoes and woke up in hospital in a very confused state 3 weeks later.



I later found out that what had transpired was that my son ran back up to the house and raised the alarm, my wife (now ex-) called all the emergency services and rushed down to where I was, found me not breathing with no heart beat and rapidly going blue and gave me mouth to mouth resuscitation until the emergency services arrived which was fortunately no more than 10 minutes. Clinically I was dead during this period. My wife fortuitously knew how to do mouth to mouth resuscitation from training that was required to get a Austrian Driving Licence - we were posted to Vienna for 3 years in the '80s. The ambulance personnel very quickly gave me the electric shock treatment (!) to restart my heart which amazingly leapt back into life on the first attempt and I restarted breathing. I was rushed off the hospital and

into Intensive Care where I remained in a critical condition for 2 weeks.

As a result of this accident I had incurred a considerable degree of brain damage though Oxygen starvation so when I woke up my short term memory was minimal and I had initially lost the memory of the previous 20 years of my life though most of this long term memory came back within the first 30 days with a lot of prompting from my family. The only other physical damage was limited burns to the underneath of my toes on both feet where the current had burn holes through the soles of my rubber boots to get to earth.

What followed was 2 years of hell with brain damage and loss of self-confidence but with hindsight I can say that my short-term memory was steadily improving. However the one thing that was unaffected was my Bridge and with this I had no problem! So I located the local clubs and within 3 months of the accident started playing duplicate minimum twice a week and with a considerable degree of success once I had established regular partners. So much so that within a further 6 months I actually headed the Individual Performance Ladder out of 60 regular members of the local club that was posted each week.

At the end of 2 years I endured the stress of divorce and I escaped the M25 and moved to Pembrokeshire by which time my memory and hence self-confidence was much improved and within a year of living down here I became aware that my memory and previous brain power was fully restored and I have never looked back! I am quite certain that (though I say it myself) my remarkable recovery is largely due to playing a great deal of serious Bridge over this period which stimulated the brain to restore the connections with the result that the only thing lost is any memory of those 3 weeks following the accident.

I now play duplicate 3 nights a week in 3 different bridge clubs in the locality and I am the director of two of them. In the winter I also teach bridge on a 4th evening!

# THISTLE HOTEL BRIDGE BREAKS

Again we've teamed up with Thistle Hotels to offer superb weekends in Exeter and Cardiff plus a magnificent week at Grasmere in the heart of England's beautiful Lake District.

Hotel bedrooms all have TV as well as tea/coffee facilities. A limited number of single rooms are available without supplement.

All our UK breaks are hosted by the resident First For Bridge team of Martin and Judy Holcombe with the bridge directed by either Graham Hedley or Andrew Kambites.

- ◆ Programme to suit all abilities
- ◆ Instructive seminars ◆ Master points awarded
- ◆ Partners available ◆ Bridge licensed by EBU/WBU

## Grasmere Thistle

**ONE WEEK - 7th-14th March 2003**

Situated just 10 minutes walk to the village of Grasmere, the hotel stands in beautiful gardens opposite Dove Cottage on the shore of the lake. It has country house style and atmosphere and is the ideal location for exploring the surrounding countryside. Ample free parking. Bridge Director **Graham Hedley**. Cost per person half board **£349.00** for seven nights.

## Cardiff Thistle

In the heart of Cardiff, this Victorian hotel has been beautifully restored to offer luxury with sophistication and provides high standards of service and facilities. Choice of 3 bars, brasserie and 2 lounges. Car parking available.

**WEEKEND - 23rd-26th\* August 2002**

Bridge Director **Andrew Kambites**. Cost per person half board **£139.00** for two nights and **£189.00\*** for three.

**NEW YEAR 2002/3. Mon 30th December to Thu 2nd January.** We will be hosting a four day break at the Cardiff Thistle with **Graham Hedley** as Director. **£295.00** per person.

## Exeter Thistle

**WEEKEND - 8th-10th November 2002**

Easily reached from the M5 and close to Central Station, the shopping centre and the cathedral, the Thistle has a warm, friendly atmosphere and helpful staff. The excellent restaurant offers fine traditional cuisine. Parking available.

Bridge Director **Andrew Kambites**. Cost per person half board **£139.00** for two nights.



## Improve with Andrew Kambites

**HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA - April 2003**

If you enjoy bridge but want to know more, 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 to guide and assist.

Andrew has devised a challenging and instructive programme to appeal to beginners and improvers. You can choose to play in all or as many sessions as you please. If you are on your own, partners and team-mates will always be found.

Andrew is also preparing an interesting and valuable set of seminars which are planned to make you take a new look at your game, covering a variety of techniques and tactics.

2002 was fully booked, so be sure to make your reservation now. Gatwick and Manchester departures, **full board**, all-inclusive prices from only **£459.00** each.

(Subject to Single Supplement)

## Vilamoura Value

**HOTEL ATLANTIS 30th January-13th February 2003**

Our 2002 holiday at the Algarve's magnificent Hotel Atlantis was a sell-out so we're delighted to be back there in 2003 with the usual team of hosts Martin & Judy Holcombe plus Graham & Berry Hedley.

## The Magic of Menorca



**HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA 11th-25th October 2002**

Back to S'Algar for our 31st October holiday where the usual team of hosts Martin & Judy Holcombe plus Graham & Berry Hedley will guarantee great bridge in a superb setting.

This is always a highly popular holiday and is already booking up fast so make sure you reserve your place soon! Choice of departure airport with **full board**, all-inclusive prices from only **£755.00** each. (Subject to Single Supplement)

Full details, brochures and booking forms for all the above holidays from: Martin Holcombe

**FIRST FOR BRIDGE**

4 The Lyes, Congresbury, Bristol BS49 5HF

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



E-mail - [info@bridge-holidays.com](mailto:info@bridge-holidays.com)

Web Site - <http://www.bridge-holidays.com>

Menorca and Cyprus holidays operated by Celtic Line Travel Ltd. ATOL No: 1772  
Algarve holiday operated by Saga Holidays Ltd. ATOL No: 0309



## Master Point of View

Noelle Bond

Hands up all those who thought I'd steamed the stamps off their SAEs to fund a trip to my son in New Zealand during May, June and July? A backlog of a few weeks always builds up during the year end work but this year I also changed over to the new Master Point computer system written by my husband, Mike. First we had to spend some time testing (nowhere near enough) before I could begin to actually use the new system. And then,

of course, having a tame programmer to hand, sometimes I would say "Could you just change this slightly..." or just cry "Michael!"

By the time I was reasonably familiar with the new system and began posting back MP record cards, my backlog had stretched to about ten weeks, instead of the usual two or three! I can do so much more now, and much else is faster, but it still took me an age to catch up. With new letters arriving every day, I felt like froggie in the well, struggling three feet up then slipping two feet down. Now I've explained the delay, I still feel I should apologise to those who were worried about their points and had to phone me up.

But now if you have Internet access, you won't need to phone me to find out whether your points have arrived, for the new MP system allows me to log all points onto the WBU website as I receive them. You will be able to see when I get your points and then when I enter them into the system (almost a reason for getting online, isn't it?). See Page 2 for details. If your number is not there, contact me by E-mail at [noelle@glanmor45.freemove.co.uk](mailto:noelle@glanmor45.freemove.co.uk), but do allow time for the snail mail's slitherings. Comments appreciated.

Returning once again to thoughts of mail: Please make sure that you put enough postage on your letters. It doesn't take many MP slips before you reach 60 grams and first class post is exceeded. Our revered Chief Executive weighs her letters on her kitchen scales, what a good idea! The other morning I was roused by the postman (we won't be paying for early morning delivery) demanding £2.05 excess postage. It was only after he had vanished up the road that I woke up and realised the slip was ill written and I should have been charged only £1.05 (25 pence for excess postage and 80 for handling!). Mike said "You'll never get that pound back," but he was wrong. Later that morning the postman came back hoping to find that he'd delivered someone's Registered Letter to us. I hadn't got his registered letter but I did demand my pound back. I still wonder if that letter was ever found?

The current Promotion List is a combination of the old and new systems; I hope the printer's gremlins don't creep and remove people as they did last time.

Some interesting stories and comments from members have had to be held over for lack of space.

*Noelle*

**Addendum to May 2002 promotion list:** These members were omitted from the last newsletter

<b>County Master</b>		Joy Williams	CD	And these members should have been shown as Masters but were in the County Masters	
Iris Jarman	NT	Meriel Williams	S		
Kenneth Jenkins	P				
Phyllis McGrath	PT	<b>Master</b>			
Kath Moore	NT	Jane Allen	WS	Dorothy Essex	GA
Alun Richards	MB	Gwen Anderson	T	Jean Hughes	PT
Pamela Sherman	PN	Roger Cradick	SU	Megan Jones	WS
Rose Susman	WS			Bob Smith	D
Charles Taylor	R			George Woodhouse	WS
Brian Thorp	PW				

**List of promotions for each rank 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2002 to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2002**

**Club Master**

Rosemary Allen GA  
 Stephen Best R  
 Wyn Bowen CAR  
 Margaret Davies RH  
 Ann Evans S  
 Irene Flannigan GA  
 Janet Heath MG  
 Sylvia John S  
 Michael Jones BRE  
 Alan Lightbody PN  
 Felicity Maitland-Jones AG  
 Robert Miller CAS  
 Kim Morgan L  
 Ian Mullett PN  
 Elen Pierce S  
 Jacqui Roberts A  
 Robert Rowlands W  
 Lona Thomas BRE  
 Richard Tresias W  
 John Waller CAS  
 Vivian Woolley BEN

**Local Master**

Audrey Baston C  
 Geoff Griffiths L  
 Roger Knight MB  
 Brian Jones PR  
 Jean Lee LD  
 Liz May C  
 Alex Melville CAR  
 Jean Mitchell WS  
 Malcolm Mitchell WS  
 Denise Morgan GA  
 Penney Saunders R  
 William O Williams WS

**County Master**

Roger Bowman W  
 Philomena Boyd MB  
 G J Coleman P  
 Eileen Davies S  
 Christine Evans MG  
 Malcolm Frieze GA  
 Phyllis Howells AM  
 Estelle Merlyn S  
 Tommy Moore BV  
 Ken Petters LD  
 Gavin Pike LD  
 Ray Potter BEN  
 Pauline Rhodes CD

**Master**

Fortune Brunt S  
 Liz Crockford T

Valerie Gould CAS  
 Ian Haston H  
 Joy Knight MB  
 Teresa Montoya A  
 Jon Seavers C

**Advanced Master**

Jo Copping BRE  
 Sadie Daniel P  
 Alan Heath PC  
 Anne E Hughes LD  
 Martin Jones L  
 Phyllis Jones NT  
 Christine Wiseman PN

**1 Star Master**

Ken Brinkworth C  
 Lee Collier H  
 Cynthia Luen BV  
 Harry Woolley WS

**2 Star Master**

Aida Aris R  
 Peter Britten SU  
 Babs Dunford C  
 Margaret A Jones R  
 David Rowley WS  
 Richard Senior LD  
 Ron Thompson GA

**3 Star Master**

Margaret Bancroft VOG  
 Christopher Bradshaw MER  
 Lyn Lamb A  
 Syd Phillipps MON

**4 Star Master**

Helen Carsley M  
 Kathleen Charles L  
 Barbara Percival LD  
 G Wyn Robyns F

**Tournament Master**

Beryl Williams MB

**Regional Master**

David Davies A  
 Kay Dyer BV  
 Graham Jones MG  
 Pat Mullally CN  
 Louise Orme M  
 Joan Peach M  
 Jurdy Pearce C  
 Peter Smart MG  
 Catherine Spalding Y  
 Mark Spalding Y

**Premier Regional Master**

Nigel Baker BV  
 Martin David C  
 Chris Davies BR  
 Betty Gardner GA  
 Brian Harden GA  
 Gwen Hurst W  
 Eleanor Price S  
 Alan Screen NT  
 Vaughan Williams NT

**National Master**

Gwyneth Flaye CD  
 Denys Maddock S

**Premier National Master**

Adam Dunn DM  
 Geoff Fielding NT  
 Brian Humphreys PD  
 Mark Roderick BV

**Life Master**

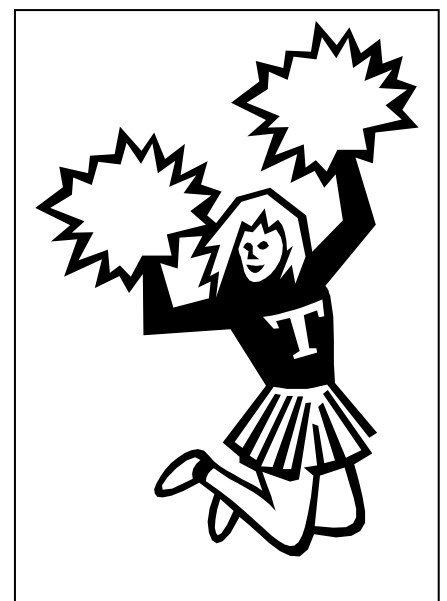
Eric Hartland H  
 Susan Ingham PN  
 Andrea Martin CN

**Senior Life Master**

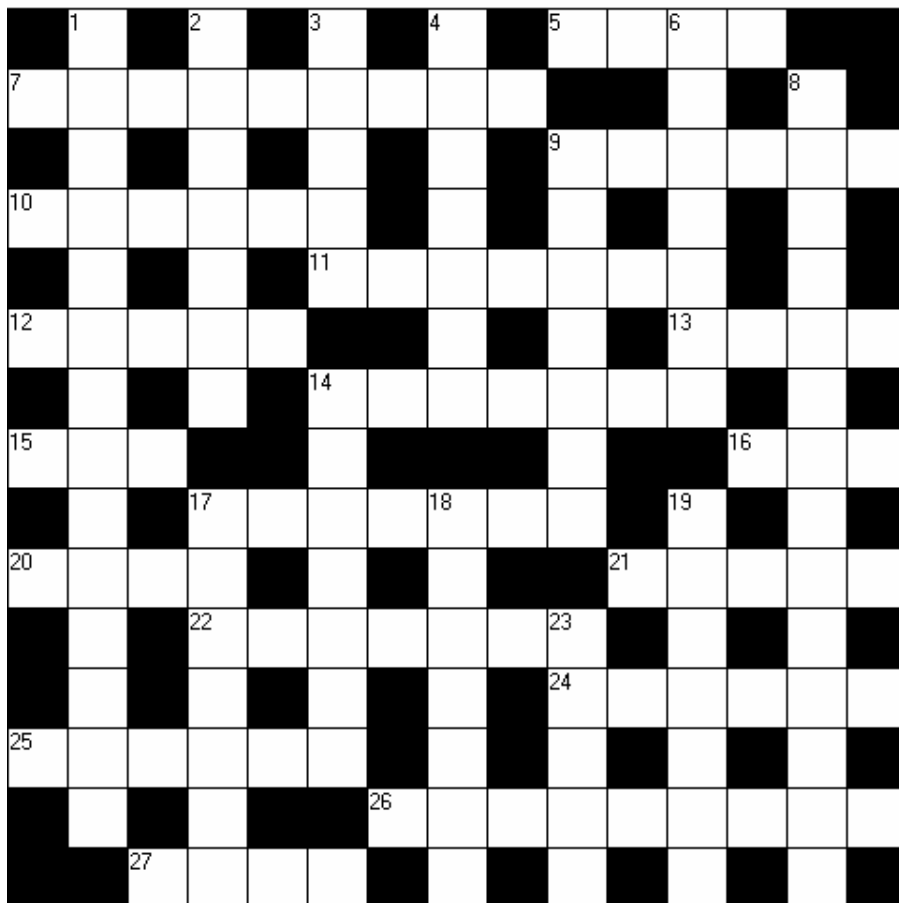
Brian Clements S  
 Jill Knight Y  
 Mary Moore BR  
 Paddy Murphy CBY

**Grand Master**

Diana Harris BV  
 Trevor Towers C



Newsletter 76 Crossword



**For German-speakers only:**

Ich bin ein Spielkartenhändler mit einem vielseitigen Angebot an Spielkarten, Kartenspielausrüstung, Kartomanie und Tarot, Fachliteratur und Software, Bridgebedarf. Ich möchte Sie bitten um eine Platzierung meines Links [www.spielkartenwelt.de](http://www.spielkartenwelt.de) auf Ihrer Homepage Link- Seite. Für die Rückfragen stehen wir gerne zur Verfügung unter Tel. -Nr. +49 (0) 8841 678 678 oder e-mail: [info@spielkartenwelt.de](mailto:info@spielkartenwelt.de)  
Mit freundlichen Grüßen Spielkartenwelt Team Darine Kurniare

ACROSS

- 5. Post-18 (4)
- 7. Fresh growth, raw youth (9)
- 9. Illuming the dark night, love princess embraced by all (6)
- 10. Measure weight of lasting effect (6)
- 11. Suffering? Shuffle off this mortal coil about one (7)
- 12. Setter's sad, money gone and damp (5)
- 13. Georgia leads Lawrence to bar (4)
- 14. Sudden ecstasy shakes bears, we hear (7)
- 15. 2 after 18 (3)
- 16. Before 18 (3)
- 17. Spoilsport TV host changed hands around start of month (7)
- 20. From start to finish and back again, father! (4)
- 21. Take a late meal, turn left, reverse disorder (5)
- 22. Peas, say, what are at bottom of barrel with rubber bung (7)
- 24. Swing a right for jumbo's tent (6)
- 25. Singular philosopher playing in fog (6)

- 26. Played around firm French, one judged (9)

- 27. Force adopts ancient standard (4)

DOWN

- 1. V2 starts before 1927; scatter-bomb grimy East France now (5,2,2,3,2)
- 2. Scurfy rope tangled in chopped relish (7)
- 3. Chew winner's end off (5)
- 4. French is so nice to start with – effect of 11, maybe? (7)
- 6. Where Thomas sleeps, point out junction in message (7)
- 8. What we have at last after 1,19,27 (5,9)
- 9. Weedy spy takes unknown cover, uncertainly (7)
- 14. Gild the drunken joy ... (7)
- 17. ... with lovely form, or with scope for plaything: do alike obscure (7)
- 18. There's honour in drink: another honour to follow for novel American heroine (2,5)
- 19. Inflamed crooner swallows jar (7)
- 23. Go away! A thousand trembled (5)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Ladies' Welsh Cup/Men's Team Championship

28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September, Rhayader Leisure Centre. £20 per head.

The Leisure Centre is able to provide a two-course dinner at a cost of approximately £7.00 for those who book in advance via the National Tournament Organiser, to whom entries should be sent.

### Porthcawl Congress: the 48<sup>th</sup> South Wales National Congress

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2001, The Rest Hotel, Porthcawl.

Entry fees:	A:	Full Congress	£38.00
	B:	Championship Pairs	£16.00
	C:	Championship Teams	£16.00
	D:	Ladies'/Men's Pairs	£ 6.00
	E:	Mixed Pairs	£ 6.00
	F:	Dewi Sant Teams	£ 6.00
	H:	Open Pairs	£ 3.00 per session

Entries to Diana Panniers, 13, Llewellyn Street, Sketty, Swansea SA2 9AL, Tel. 01792 297081

### The 2002 British Gold Cup

Entry forms are available from the National Tournament Organiser, or from:

Sandra Claridge,  
31 Elm Trees  
Long Crendon  
Aylesbury HP18 9DG  
Tel. 01844 208629, Fax 01844 208255, email [brian.Sandra@tesco.net](mailto:brian.Sandra@tesco.net)

Closing date 21<sup>st</sup> October. Entry fee £13 per player (£5 for under 20, or under 25 in full-time education).

### Welsh Bridge Union Swiss Teams

15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November 2001, Royal International Pavilion, Llangollen. Entry fee £192 per team (£48 per player in a team of four).

Entries to: Linda Greenland, 31 Deri Road, Penylan, Cardiff CF23 5AH  
Tel. 029 2025 5162, email [deri31@ntlworld.com](mailto:deri31@ntlworld.com)



**Information page** (*Please mark changes and corrections in your copy of the Journal*)

Item	Journal page	Details
Change of Area Chairman	3	Daphne Patrick has been elected Chairman of East Wales Bridge Association, replacing Eric Favager who is now President of the WBU. Telephone 01633 668778, email <a href="mailto:joepatrick@globalnet.co.uk">joepatrick@globalnet.co.uk</a> .
Change of Area Secretary	3	Mike Cochlin takes over as East Wales Bridge Association Secretary. Telephone 029 2041 1137, email <a href="mailto:grumpigit@btinternet.com">grumpigit@btinternet.com</a>
Change of venue	6	Newtown Bridge Club now meet at Newtown Bowling Club, Back Lane, Newtown Powys.
Correction to Camrose Trophy report	11	Tony Ratcliff and Patrick Jourdain played in the match against the Republic of Ireland (Adrian Thomas and Paul Denning had had to withdraw owing to Adrian's ill health).
Correction to 3-year Master Point totals	30	See table below.

**Correction to 3-year Master Point totals**

Thanks to Colin Nash for pointing out that the 3 year totals were incorrect. We thought the totals were low but ...can only apologise.

*Noelle Bond*

Revised 3 year totals (Top 25 now Top 24)

Tony Ratcliff	740	Mary Moore	402	Simon Edwards	347
Dean Hardie	633	Patrick Jourdain	396	Mike Best	344
Filip Kurbalija	475	Peter Goodman	377	Mike Hirst	334
Paul Gagne	443	Esme Parry	367	Liam Sheridan	318
Sheila Shea	441	Mark Roderick	361	Daphne Patrick	317
Diana Harris	428	Adrian Thomas	350	Warwick Horspool	316
Trevor Towers	421	Irene Thomas	349	Laura Woodruff	316
Paddy Murphy	420	Bryan Edwards	348	Joe Patrick	313

**WBU Council meeting 14<sup>th</sup> July 2002** *Notes of significant items from the recent meeting*

Although a significant amount of business was discussed at the July meeting, no momentous decisions were taken. Watch this space.

**Copy deadline for next newsletter**

Articles, hands, information, obituaries, photographs are all welcome: send to Laura on [laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk) no later than 31<sup>st</sup> October 2002. If you have no access to email, hard copy may as a last resort be sent to 3 Rees Row, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9TR but allow extra time for typing. Please do not send photographs in the post, as I have no scanner.

*Thanks to all who contributed to this issue.*

**Ladies' Welsh Cup/Men's Teams**

There is still time to enter the Men's and Ladies' Teams, to be held in Rhayader on 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September.

Contact the NTO on 01656 724066 or email

[laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk).