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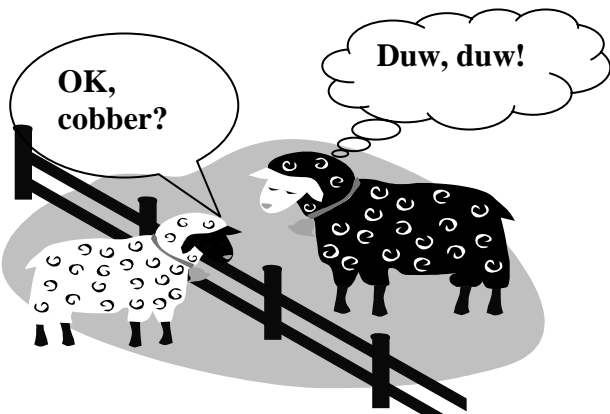


WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Newsletter 80, September 2003

Down Under to Down Wales

The enterprising Bridgend Bridge Club has lured top Australian bridge writer Ron Klinger from the shores of the Tasman Sea to the banks of the Ogmore to give two masterclasses. Many of you will be familiar with Mr Klinger's books for beginners; now you have the chance to meet the man himself.



The masterclasses will take place at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend, on Saturday 18th October. The afternoon session, on Competitive Bidding, starts at 1.00, and the evening session, on Winning Bridge Tips and Winning

Duplicate Tips, at 7.00. At £8.50 each, the masterclasses are excellent value. Bar meals are available at the hotel between sessions.

Contact Bill Turner for full details and an entry form: ☎01656 657762 or email geraint@worldonline.co.uk.



Paul Fegarty and Catherine Curtis, who won the WBU Swiss Pairs in Llandudno, with the President, Graham John.

Letters to the Editor



An Irish Tale



This is a true story that happened to two of my sisters and although it is an Irish tale it really did happen.

My sisters Mary and Helen had just started bridge lessons and they decided to go to the Congress in Killarney and play in the Open Pairs. They knew nothing about artificial bidding systems.

Seated at the table my sister Mary opened One Club. The left handed lady opponent asked my sister Helen 'What kind of a club is that?' Helen looked very puzzled and shrugged and said 'it's just a club'. But what kind of a club is it? the lady persisted. Helen thought for ages and then - realisation dawned and she leaned towards the lady and whispered kindly - 'it's like a black shamrock'!!

Its true - my sisters do not lie!

Kay Clement



Laws & Ethics Update

Opening 1NT with a Singleton

Since last year opening a natural 1NT with a singleton has been allowed thanks to an amendment to the EBU Directives (Orange Book), as reported in English Bridge August 2002.

'You may open 1NT as either natural or artificial. In addition an otherwise natural 1NT may be played to include hands with 4-4-4-1 distribution (where the singleton can be 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.'

'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 on their convention card, 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, all such 1NT openings must be alerted.'

Ken Richardson (WBU Laws & Ethics committee)

WBU Appeals

David Stevenson has produced a document whereby all the appeals in the WBU for last year have been analysed and commented upon by a number of independent experts. The Laws & Ethics Committee hopes to make this an annual event.

<http://www.wbu.org.uk/TD/WBU%20Appeals%2002.pdf>

Anne Jones, Chairman, WBU Laws & Ethics Committee

Tournament Direction Courses

I am running an 'A' and a 'B' course on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 October 2003. The venue is Swansea Bridge Club; Andrew Kambites will be the tutor.

The cost will be £18 per course, or £30 for both. Start time 10am, finish about 5pm on both days. Anyone who wants to attend should contact me at the usual address: Ken Richardson, 31 Deri Road, Cardiff CF23 5AH
☎ 029-2025-5162
email ken.deris31@ntlworld.com

Ken Richardson

RESULTS



Webber Cup

Elephant & Castle, Newtown , 10th-11th May 2003

1 st	Mike Close, Laura Woodruff, David Burn, Peter Goodman	317 VPs
2 nd	Filip Kurbalija, Diane Kurbalija, Tony Ratcliff, Patrick Jourdain	313 VPs
3 rd	Barry Jones, Kevin Jones, Paddy Murphy, Bryan Edwards	310 VPs

Perry Shield

Gwent Bridge Academy , 17th-18th May 2003

1 st	East Wales: Filip Kurbalija, Tony Ratcliff, David Birt, Geoff Evans, Peggy McCombie, Brian Harden, NPC Hayden Dando	147 VPs
2 nd	North Wales: Paddy Murphy, Simon Edwards, Bryan Edwards, Barry Jones, Peter Hand, Jean Hand	135 VPs
3 rd =	West Wales: Margaret Lane, Val Kennewell, Liam Sheridan, Andrew Scott, Mike Baker, Steve Jarvis	129 VPs
3 rd =	Mid Wales: Mike Jones, Dai Hayes, Mike Tedd, David Davies, Alan Screen, Phil Dorling	129 VPs

Spickett Bowl

Gwent Bridge Academy, 17th-18th May 2003

1 st	East Wales: Laura Woodruff (Cap.), Noelle Bond, Aida Aris, Diana Jones	118 VPs
2 nd	North Wales: Sheila Shea, Andrea Martin, Pam Edwards, Krista Stephenson, Jill Knight, Joan Marray	93 VPs
3 rd	West Wales: Ann Fox, Marjorie Morris, Beryl Warner, Lee Collier, Colette Davis, Margaret John	53 VPs

Welsh Seniors' Congress

County Hall, Cwmbran, 23rd-26th May 2003

Teams:	Patrick Jourdain, Mike Tedd, Ted Martin, John Salisbury
Pairs:	Stan Collins, Agnes Blewitt
Swiss Pairs:	Phil Palmer, Terry Cannon

National Club Teams of Eight

Elephant & Castle Hotel, Newtown , 22nd June 2003

1 st	Swansea: Tony Ratcliff, Kevin Maddox, Margaret Tovey, Jan Bradley, Robin Parris, Colin Nash, Steve Kennewell, Peter Lane	114 VPs
2 nd	Cardiff A: Geoff Evans, Philip Felman, Liz Atkinson, Gilly Clench, David Ronson, Dave Melville, Maggie Pierce, John Glubb	104 VPs
3 rd	Shotton: Jean Hand, Peter Hand, Pam Edwards, Bryan Edwards, Tony Pearson, Maureen Borley, Bob Mitchell, Jill Knight	80 VPs

Swansea Congress

Swansea Bridge Club, 28th-29th June 2003

Teams: Noelle Bond, Irene Thomas,
Betty Lewis, Graham Jones

Pairs: John Cox, Roger Penton



Welsh Bridge Union Swiss Pairs

Llandudno, 12th-13th July 2003

1 st	Paul Fegarty, Catherine Curtis	172 VPs
2 nd	Sue Woodcock, Nick Woodcock	172 VPs
3 rd	Jason Hackett, Alan Purdy	157 VPs

Mid Wales Congress

Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells, 18th-20th July 2003

1 st	Mike Best, Geoff Evans, Diana Harris, Paul Gagne	154 VPs
2 nd	Adrian Thomas, Diane Kurbalija, Jill Casey, Paul Denning	152 VPs
3 rd	Tony Ratcliff, Tony Casey, Filip Kurbalija, Patrick Jourdain	151 VPs

WBU Green-point Events

County Hall, Cwmbran, 2nd and 3rd August 2003

Swiss Pairs

Brian Nicholls, Keith Shuttleworth 122 VPs

Swiss Teams

Filip Kurbalija, Tim Rees, Diane Kurbalija, Mike Pownall 112 VPs

International Round-up

Lady Milne Trophy

Moat House, Cardiff, 6th-8th June 2003



Wales was represented by Liz Atkinson, Margaret Lane, Jill Casey, Diane Kurbalija, Mary Moore and Irene Thomas. Full report on Page 12 of the current Welsh Bridge Union Journal.

1st: England 155; 2nd: Republic of Ireland, 130; 3rd: Scotland 116; 4th: Wales 112; 5th: Northern Ireland 82.

European Open Championships

Menton, 14th-28th June 2003

The winners of the 2002 Ladies' Welsh Cup also won their entry fee to the Women's Teams at the European Open Championships in the South of France. Carmel Wiseman, Kay Clement, Lee Collier. Beryl Warner and Judith Graham-Jones report that they had a memorable time, though somewhat daunted by the oppressive heat and the vastly more experienced bridge players they encountered. Kay penned a bit of doggerel to describe their trip – see Page 11.

Ask Mikey: Defence to 2-suited overcalls

by Mike Close

A club member came up to me the other day and told me about two hands where the opponents had bid 2NT (for the minors) over an opening 1♥. The conversation went like this:

Q: On the first hand I had 6 hearts but not many points, so I bid 4♥ straight away.

A: Sounds sensible.

Q: They bid 5♦, partner doubled, and it made. But a few hands later, the bidding was exactly the same, and I had 14 points and only 4♥. I bid 4♥, expecting to make this easily. They bid 5♣ this time, and partner bid 5♥ which went one off. Partner said he didn't have much defence, but I wanted to double. I'm sure 5♣ would have gone at least 3 off. I said he should have let me decide. Who's right?

A: Part of the problem is that your 4♥ bid can be weak or strong, so your partner is not sure what to do – bid, double or pass. What you need is a system for dealing with these 2-suited overcalls, including the Unusual 2NT, Michaels and Ghestem. Something that better describes your hand in one go, so that if your opponents bid against you, it will help partner to make the right decision more often.

Q: That sounds sensible. Do tell!

A: OK, first, the 2-suited bid specifies one or more suits. You should use cue bids of these conventionally. Let's take Michaels first. After 1♥ from partner, 2♥ by the opponent shows spades and a minor. You can bid:

2♠ – good raise to 3♥ or better

3♠ – 10-13 points, singleton spade

3♥ – weak, four trumps

3♣, 3♦ – natural, forcing.

4♥ – weak, but longer in hearts.

3NT to play

Double – shortage in ♥, 10+ points, I can penalise at least one of their suits.

Similar responses over 1♠ – 2♠ (hearts and an unspecified minor). 3♥ shows a good raise to 3♠, 3♠ is weaker.

Q: Oh, I see, partner can now distinguish between a good raise, with points, and a poor raise, with distribution, so if they bid 4 of their suit, or look for the minor, then he can decide sensibly to bid or double.

A: Precisely. Because your hand is better defined he can make an informed choice, not guess.

Q: What happens if I have a very good hand with 4 of partners suit?

A: The cue bid is a good raise to 3 or better, so you still cue bid their known suit, and on the next round of bidding raise partner or cue bid again, depending on what partner does.

Q: OK, so what about bids where they show two suits, so we have two cue bids available?

A: Obviously we need one of the cue bids to show the good raise to 3 of partners suit. Most experts agree that using the highest cue bid below 3 of our suit is the best one to show a good raise. So for the sequence 1♥ or 1♠ – 2NT (minors), we use 3♦ as a good raise, and 3 of our suit as a weak raise.

Q: OK, so what about the other cue bid?

A: We can use this for something else. I suggest you use it to show either a forcing raise with the 4th suit, or a good 4th suit with 3 card support of partner's major. And if opponents allow, partner can bid the other cue bid to ask which!

Q: Can you give me some examples?

A: OK. Partner opens 1♥, next hand overcalls 2NT for the minors. You hold:

a) ♠: K x x
♥: K x x x x x x
♦: x
♣: J x

Bid 4♥ Weak

b) ♠: K x x x
♥: K x x x
♦: x x
♣: J x x

Bid 3♥ Weak

- c) ♠: K J x
♥: K x x x
♦: A x
♣: x x x x Bid 3♦ (raise to 3♥)
- d) ♠: A K Q
♥: K Q x x
♦: A x
♣: x x x x Bid 3♦ agreeing ♥, then cue ♠, looking for a club control for slam.
- e) ♠: K J x x
♥: K Q x x
♦: K x x x
♣: x Bid 4♣ (Splinter)
- f) ♠: K Q 10 x x x
♥: x x
♦: A Q x
♣: K x Bid 3♣; if pard bids 3♦ (ask), you bid 3♠. (forcing)
- g) ♠: K Q 10 x x
♥: K x x
♦: K x x
♣: x x Bid 3♣, if pard bids 3♦ (ask), you bid 3♥ (invitational)
- h) ♠: K Q 10 x x
♥: K J x
♦: A Q x
♣: x x Bid 3♣, if pard bids 3♦ (ask), you bid 4♥.

This arrangement also means you can bid 3♠ on the hand below (non-forcing)

- i) ♠: K Q 10 x x x
♥: x x
♦: A x
♣: x x x

Q: Does this apply when they play Ghestem, showing both their suits immediately?

A: *Indeed it does. And so when their bids have more definition, we can show more hands ourselves straight away. In effect we use their favoured convention against them.*

Q: OK, I've got it. The higher cue bid shows the good raise in partner's suit, the lower cue bid the 4th suit and strong.

A: *Well – not quite, as I found out one day! Partner opened 1♦ and the next hand called 2NT, Ghestem, at least 5-5♥ and ♣. Now 3♥ is the higher cue bid BUT it cannot be a good raise to 3♦ can it? We are already past 3♦. Here you must reverse the meanings, because there is only one cue bid below 3 of partner's suit. 3♥ can still be strong in spades, though.*

Q: I will have to watch out for that situation. Right, can you tell me a bit more about what happens when the double is used.

A: *Yes. We'll use Unusual 2NT as the example again. The bidding goes 1♥ from you, 2NT* (minors), double from partner. RHO might bid 3♣/3♦ (preference), or pass (no preference). Simple rules apply:*

- 1) *Double (if allowed) shows a penalty double of the preference suit.*
- 2) *Immediate bids by you are weak, cannot stand the double (e.g. ♠Kxx, ♥KQJ10xx, ♦QJx, ♣x - you bid 3♥, as you have little defence).*
- 3) *Pass says you want to defend but haven't got a penalty X of the preference suit (and if they passed, don't worry: they can't make 2NT either as your side has at least 22 points).*
- 4) *With a strong, distributional hand, pass first, then bid over partner's double. This shows STRENGTH, not WEAKNESS - with a weak hand you would have bid already.*

Q: Those rules sound familiar. Didn't that appear in your last article, about redoubles?

A: *Yes it did. If you can apply a rule to several situations, then it is much easier to bid in an unfamiliar situation, because you just apply your rules, rather than agonise about "did we talk about this sequence in the last six months?". Much less strain on the grey matter.*

Q: Well thanks Mikey, for clearing this up. Can I approach you with other questions later?

A: *Sure! See me next time, or email me at mg.close@ntlworld.com, and I will try to help.*

Morton's Fork*

By Val Kennewell

Morton's Fork is more usually seen as an answer to a bridge crossword clue or as an item in a book on advanced play. I have rarely observed it at the table. In the last board of the Perry Shield competition a suitable hand occurred, but playing too quickly to trick one, without considering the dangers inherent in the hand, led to a missed opportunity.

Our bidding had gone :

South	West	North	East
			Pass
1	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All pass		

North as declarer held:

♠ K Q 5 3 2
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ A 7 6
 ♣ Q 8 4

and after the Jack of Hearts was led by East, South proudly produced:

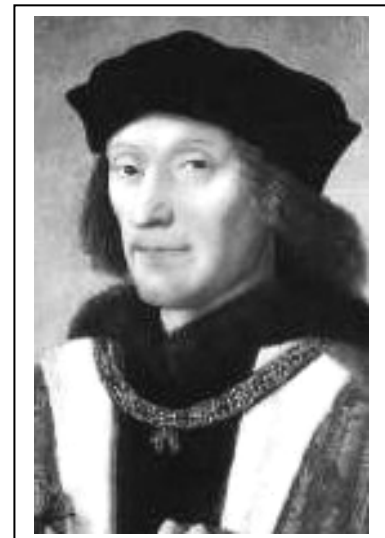
♠ J 4
 ♥ A Q 10 9 6
 ♦ K Q J 10
 ♣ A 2

In our match, both Easts led the singleton jack of hearts. Both declarers covered with the queen and both Wests on taking the king switched to the ♣J, leaving declarer with no club stopper. With hearts obviously 5-1, one declarer managed to sneak a spade through for the ninth trick, the other did not. In the post mortem, we realised that declarer had a certain way of making the contract.

The ♥A should be played from dummy at trick one and a small spade played immediately. If East has the ace of spades he can do no harm, but if West has it he faces a dilemma (Morton's Fork). If he rises with the ace of spades declarer has enough tricks without touching hearts. If he ducks, declarer having made his one spade trick returns to the

heart suit and West has had only one chance to play a club through. Either way, at least nine tricks are made, regardless of how the spades divide. This was the full hand:

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



Henry VII

* *Archbishop Morton (1420-1500), Chancellor under Henry VII, was famous for his method of extracting contributions to the king's purse. A person who lived extravagantly was forced to make a large contribution, because it was obvious that he could afford it. Someone who lived modestly was forced to make a large contribution because it was clear that he must have saved a lot of money on living expenses. Which ever way he turned he was said to be "caught on Morton's Fork"* (Extract from **Winning Declarer Play** By Dorothy Hayden).

Bidding Challenge No. 3

Many thanks to the panel for their time and comments; we haven't got the space to show them all here, but they are all on the WBU website (www.wbu.org.uk/bid3.htm). Congratulations to Sue Ingham and David Williams who led the field with 68 out of 80.

David's name came out of the hat first, so he wins the £25 for this issue.

Mike Close leads the race for the best score in 2003 with 218, followed by Sue Ingham with 213 and David Williams with 210.

Set 4 is on Page 12 – Answers to Linda Greenland by post or email (deri31@ntlworld.com).

The Experts' View

Question 1

Dlr: East **South**
Vul: EW ♠ Q J 5 4
Scoring: IMPs ♥ K Q 10
 ♦ 8 3 2
 ♣ A J 7

West	North	East	South
-	-	1♥	Pass
2♥	2♠	3♥	?

Marks: 3NT 10, 4♠/4♥/3♠, Dbl 7, others 5

The first problem produced many different answers; let's hear from the majority first:

Tim: 3NT. Although I've 4-card support for partner, I've no ruffing value and two heart stops. I hope partner has the diamonds stopped (as he's short in hearts, he should have a few diamonds). He may be quite weak for 2♠, but I've got enough to attempt game.

Geoff: 3NT. I hope to come to the same 9 tricks that I think we can make in spades. West is more likely to lead a heart than a diamond in order to protect his partner's entries. *Geoff isn't the only one who thinks that 9 tricks is the limit in ♠*

Paul: 3♠. 4♠ would be very optimistic with so many values in Hearts. *But....*

Dafydd: 4♠, I am aggressive, who knows whether my partner has diamond values or a shortage. I don't feel 3♠ does justice to my hand.

Jill: 4♥. Shows a good raise to 4♠. I really ought to tell partner I have a good hand although I have wasted ♥ values. Not really very keen on this but 4♣/♦ should be length/values and 4♠ may be pre-emptive.

At least I've set up forcing pass although partner may (will!) misjudge.

Now for science...

Adam: Double. I've only recently picked up on pre-balancing (from some of our Irish cousins). This is where, in the sandwich position (i.e. the 2♠ bidder here), if you have something like a 5134 shape - and maybe only a 7+ count) you bid 2♠ to protect partner from the unpleasant decision he will have to make if it proceeds 2♥-P-P and he has heart length (let's say a 3433 shape and a 13 count). Otherwise you probably have to pass and not compete with this hand type. On that basis I make a game try double

Question 2

Dlr: West **South**
Vul: All ♠ J 4 3
Scoring: Teams ♥ void
 ♦ A K J 5 2
 ♣ A Q 10 6 5

West	North	East	South
1♥	1♠	4♥	?

Marks: 4♠ 10, 5♥ 9, 6♠/5♠/Dbl 7, others 5

Settle for game, bid the slam, or make a try?

Paul: 4♠. I like plus scores. Slam could be there in any of three suits, but which bid sensibly describes the hand?

Tim: 4♠. Although slam could easily be on, I think it's too risky to try anything higher. If partner has to lose a trump trick, dummy may well be out of trumps by then and the opposition may be able to cash hearts.

I may be influenced by my overcalling style on this one (I bid 1♠ on not very much). If I were bidding on, I'd bid 5♥ to let partner know that hearts aren't a worry.

Jim: 5♥. There is a good chance of a slam in spades or a minor. I hope partner will look favourably on a good spade suit or make some other intelligent decision. Not 5♠ which asks for a ♥ control or Dbl which partner is likely to pass.

Adam: 5♠. Fancy a shot at slam if he's got a half reasonable overcall – *and a heart control?*

Dafydd: Double. If partner passes I have tons of defence, if he bids 4♠ I am more confident of moving as he is more likely to hold 6♠ and if he bids 5 of a minor then I am over the moon!

Geoff: 6♠. Should have chances opposite any respectable vulnerable overcall.

Question 3

Dlr: North **South**
 Vul: NS ♠ 7
 Scoring: Teams ♥ 9
 ♦ A 9 8 5
 ♣ 10 9 8 7 6 4 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Dbl	?

Marks: 5♦ 10, 4♦ 9, 3♦ 7, others 5

Jill: 5♦. Pre-emptive. Try and stop the majors

Geoff: 5♦. Ideally, I should have a fifth diamond. The problem with bidding 4♣/5♣ is that it leaves 4♦/5♦ available to show both majors. Don't disclose the forthcoming bad breaks.

Tim: 5♦. The answer to this depends on your opening style (how often you open 4-card majors). If you try to open one of a major whenever you've got four, then the opposition will have a big major fit and want to pre-empt as high as possible. Anything lower would allow West into the auction comfortably. Anyone playing 5-card majors is poorly placed here, as partner could be 4441 (or even worse, 4432).

Jim: 3♦. If West had not already passed, I might take some more dramatic action. Here

the chance of opponents' game is reduced, and the chances of partner having a balanced 15+ with 4 diamonds increased so I take the "normal" action.

Dafydd: 4♦. Should I bid 5♦? Possibly a bit risky as it will just get doubled whenever it is wrong. I will play safe.

Question 4

Dlr: North **South**
 Vul: N/S ♠ A K Q 9 8 3
 Scoring: Teams ♥ A J 7 4 2
 ♦ void
 ♣ 5 4

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

¹ fourth suit forcing

Marks: 4♥ 10, Pass 9, 5♥ 8, 6♥ 7, others 5

Another problem that produced a variety of answers from the panel. First the optimists:

Jim: 6♥. Partner has good values in hearts and a better than minimum hand so there must be fair chances that 6♥ is good. A try such as 5♥ would direct partner's attention to the quality of his hearts but not the fact that we want a club control rather than a diamond control. I will pot the slam and hope that West's blind lead doesn't defeat it immediately.

Geoff: 5♥. Natural, showing my shape. Slam try, of course. Partner has shown a maximum with a heart stop. His shape is not 0454, for he would have bid 3♥. Even if he has 3 hearts, he may prefer 6NT to 6♥, to protect any minor suit tenaces. If by some chance he is missing both top club honours, he should pass.

Paul: Pass -- perhaps I am very pessimistic, but we have no known fit and borderline slam values. My second choice would be 4NT.

Adam: 4♥. This should show a 6/5 hand as partner wouldn't jump to 3NT with 3 hearts in case I was 5/5. Partner can now see that a holding like A♣, A♦, K♥ would be very valuable.

Question 5

Dlr: North **South**
 Vul: EW ♠ A K 8 5 3 2
 Scoring: Teams ♥ A K
 ♦ Q 8
 ♣ 10 6 2

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

Marks: 3♣ 10, 2NT 9, 3NT 8, Pass 7, other 5

Adam: 3♣ – Game try, asking for help in clubs.

Jim: There is still a fair chance of game with this hand. If Partner has a good raise to 2♠ or useful values in clubs he will bid game.

Tim: 2NT. We could have 10 tricks in spades if partner has a few high cards. However, if the spades are running, I only need one more trick from partner. I could bid 3NT myself, but I think that's a bit too aggressive. Over 2NT, partner will usually be able to make the right decision.

Adam: 3NT – you never know!

Geoff : Pass. West's values are in the minor suits. 3♠ from partner would be pre-emptive, so 2♠ can be bid on tram tickets

Question 6

Dlr: East **South**
 Vul: None ♠ A J 10 4
 Scoring: Teams ♥ 5 3
 ♦ Q 10 4
 ♣ A 10 4 2

West	North	East	South
-	-	3♣	Pass
Pass	4♣ ¹	Pass	?

¹ Both majors

Marks: 4♠ 10, 5♣ 9, 4♦ 7, others 5

The majority settle for game

Tim: 4♠. I don't play 4♣ as particularly strong, just ensuring that we get to the right fit. If I was bidding on, I'd bid 5♣ cue, then 5♠.

Paul: 4♠. I don't see any reason to bid anything else, partner is not guaranteeing a strong hand.

Jill: 5♣ cue bid; (4♦ would ask for better major). Then 5♠ over 5♦/♥ response.

Partner will know I could have jumped to 5♠ immediately to ask about ♣ losers so this should be general slam try. I want to be in slam opposite KQxxx, AJ10xxx, Ax, x and she will raise 5♠ to 6♠. On the down side, she will also raise with KQxxx, QJxxx, AKx, void but that's life.

Adam: 5♣. Want to make a try as 4♠ could be any old rubbish and I do have two aces and good 4-card support.

Dafydd: 4♦ then convert 4♥ to 4♠; this must show a mild slam try. *But what if pard bids 4♠?*

Question 7

Dlr: North **South**
 Vul: EW ♠ K 7 2
 Scoring: Teams ♥ A 8 4
 ♦ J 2
 ♣ 8 6 5 4 2

West	North	East	South
-	1♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	?

Marks: 2♠ 10, 3♥ 7, others 5

The panel were virtually unanimous in finding a 2♠ bid here – this was not found at all by the competitors

Tim: 2♠. This shows a maximum NT with values in spades (I can't have four spades). 2NT would be weak, either an attempt to play there or (if you're playing Lebensohl) a weak way to get to 3♦. 3♣ is just weak with clubs.

Adam: 2♠ – close between 2♠ and 2NT but would bid 2NT with more values in ♠ and ♣. As I have values in ♠ & ♥ would show my ♠ values.

Paul: 2♠. Extra values with a spade stop.

Question 8

Dlr: South **South**
 Vul: LoveAll ♠ K 8 5 2
 Scoring: Pairs ♥ Q 4
 ♦ A 8 6 5
 ♣ Q 9 3

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	Pass
2♦ ¹	Dbl	Pass	?

¹ weak 6-10 HCP

Marks: 2NT 10, 3♦ 9, Pass/3♠ 7, others 5

Tim: 3♠. Invitational. I'm not strong enough to insist on game, and the diamond pips don't look good enough for no-trumps. There's little point in 3♦ as I'm only interested in one suit (and it would effectively be game forcing). Therefore, I make the natural bid.

Dafydd: 2NT Lebensohl followed by 3♦ after 3♣. I can use this as some sort of Staymanic bid to ask for majors and promise a diamond stop too!

Jill: 2NT. Relay to 3♣, then I will bid 3♦ which is Stayman with a diamond stop and values for 3 level. Perfect.

Paul 3♦ Lebensohl, showing a diamond stop with at least one four-card major. Over 3♥ I can then bid 3♠. Partner knows I am a passed hand, therefore we should not get too high.

Geoff : Pass. The take-out double of 2♦ can be shaded to some extent, certainly at Pairs, because we have the chance to bail out at the 2 level. 2NT from partner would have shown 15-17 with a diamond stop. 3NT has little chance without diamond help. There is no guarantee that partner has four spades. A jump to 3♠ would be invitational, showing five spades, whilst going through Lebensohl and then bidding 3♠ would be invitational, showing four spades. Although I'm a maximum passed hand, I can't underwrite a game contract, so take the money. Different proposition at teams, particularly vulnerable against not.

Hands for set 4 are on Page 12

Ode to a memorable trip to France

On Wednesday we arranged to meet
Outside the doors of La Chef Petite.
Dave was there with mini-bus
Packed us in with little fuss.

We set off - our spirits rousing
But Judith cannot find her housing
We had to stop and put things right.
Now she's strapped in nice and tight.

To Nice we had a pleasant flight
Lee and Kay held hands with fright
And on by bus to Menton Square
The hotel we found by Shanks's mare

Hotel Richelieu was pleasant and caring
Lee roomed solo, others sharing.
Carmel longed and prayed for morning
She could not sleep 'cos Kay was snoring

Thursday we explored the town
On the beach we got tanned and brown
Carmel went swimming to her cost
Alas! her wedding ring she lost.

To Palais de Europe we made our way
All Nation's flags did gently sway.
We wore our Welsh Flag badges proudly
Our hearts were thumping - surely loudly.

We tried our best to bid and pass
And knew this was a different class.
Although we were in seventh heaven
To be playing bridge at this high level

We lost to Germany and to France
We could beat Italy - had a chance.
But along came the Czechs and were they blue
When Kay pulled off a Vienna coup!

We coped with heat and thirst and sweat
To cool our bodies our heads we wet.
And just when spirits began to sag
Judith appears with drinks and lunch bag



We made new friends there was plenty hwyl
Kay met old pals from the Emerald Isle
Lee got to stand near Zia Mamood
Mike Hirst kept a friendly eye on this brood.

For medical reasons Beryl kept covered.
But a terrible secret soon was discovered.
With gay abandon she discarded her bra
One Frenchman was heard, "Madame, ooh! la la!"

So thank you Beryl for giving us the chance
And taking us to the Championships in
France

In spite of heat, defeat and pain.
We want to do it all again.

Kay Clement

WBU Bidding Challenge – Set 4

Answers to Linda by 13th October 2003

Hand 1	Love all - Scoring: Pairs				
♠ A10	West	North	East	South	
♥ Q74	-	1♠	Pass	2♦	
♦ 986432	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	
♣ A6	Pass	3♦	Pass	?	
Hand 2	N/S Vul - Scoring: Pairs				
♠ 962	West	North	East	South	
♥ AKQ94	-	1♦	Pass	1♥	
♦ A2	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣(i)	(i) Fourth suit forcing
♣ 952	Pass	2♦	Pass	?	
Hand 3	Love All - Scoring: Pairs				
♠ AQ42	West	North	East	South	
♥ A83	-	-	1♥	Pass	
♦ 654	2♥	3♦	3♥	?	
♣ 1092					
Hand 4	Love All - Scoring: Pairs				
♠ AJ874	West	North	East	South	
♥ KQ93	-	1NT(i)	2♥	Dbl (ii)	(i) 12-14
♦ 74	3♦	Pass	Pass	?	(ii) penalty
♣ 62					
Hand 5	N/S VUL - Scoring: Pairs				
♠ AKQ10	West	North	East	South	
♥ 5432	-	1♣	Pass	1♠	
♦ QJ	Pass	3♣	Pass	?	
♣ 53					
Hand 6	Game All - Scoring: Teams				
♠ AQJ4	West	North	East	South	
♥ Q8762	-	-	-	1♥	(i) natural
♦ AQ9	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠	
♣ A	Pass	2NT (i)	Pass	?	
Hand 7	Love all - Scoring: Teams				
♠ 653	West	North	East	South	
♥ K865	-	-	Pass	Pass	
♦ KJ62	3♦	Dbl	Pass	?	
♣ 74					
Hand 8	Game all - Scoring: Teams				
♠ AQJ863	West	North	East	South	
♥ A3	Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠	
♦ K	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠	
♣ 10975	Pass	3♣	Pass	?	

The Best Sacrifice Ever? by Adrian Thomas



Playing in the first round of the Spring Foursomes this year, against a very active Australian team, I held:

♠ none
♥ 4 2
♦ K Q 10 7 6 4
♣ A K 8 7 5

I opened 1♦, and the auction proceeded as follows:

South	West	North	East
1♦	1♠	Pass	2♥ ¹
3♣	Pass	4♣	6♠
7♣	Dbl	Pass	Pass

¹ At least a constructive 4-card spade raise.

At equal vulnerability it seemed clear to me to sacrifice with 7♣, so when partner tabled:

♠ 10 9 8 7
♥ 9 7 5
♦ none
♣ J 10 9 4 3 2

I looked to have done the right thing: 7♣ obviously can go off, but the opponents chose a spade lead, and a few seconds later, with clubs 1-1 and ♦A coming down in three rounds, we were writing +1630 on our score cards.

Our team-mates had had a bad board in letting 5♣ doubled play, and even with a heart lead this was -550. 6♠ was going to be one off, for +50, so this would have lost our team 11 IMPs instead of gaining 14. The Aussies were shell-shocked and we went on to win the match comfortably.

David Hamilton's Cuttings Service

On this deal, South arrived in a delicate contract because he believed North promised a maximum second negative with his jump to four spades.

Dlr South ♠ 9 8 3
Vul: EW ♥ 8 5 2
 ♦ 6 4
 ♣ J 10 9 4 3

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

♠ A K Q J 10 6
♥ A
♦ A Q 8 3
♣ A Q

South	West	North	East
2♣ ¹	Pass	2♦ ²	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT ³	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♠ ⁴	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

- ¹ Game force
- ² Negative
- ³ Second negative
- ⁴ Seems straightforward enough, but ...

West led the ♥Q. One plan was to play the ♣AQ after drawing two rounds of trumps, but West could either duck with the ♣K or take it and give partner a club ruff. South could over-ruff but a winner would have gone. A better plan would be to concede a diamond and ruff two diamonds in dummy, relying on a club finesse for the twelfth trick but as it happens both these plans would fail.

Declarer devised a better plan, at trick two he led the ♣Q! If West wins he can ruff the heart return high, cash two spades and ♣A, then play the ♠6 to dummy and discard three diamonds on the clubs. If West ducks South cashes the ♣A and ♦A, concedes a diamond and ruffs two diamonds high in dummy.

(J Wilson, *West Country Life*).

Odds and Ends

Around the ash bucket

Surrounded by 1960s housing, Hall Farm is these days sadly a farm in name only. We have done our best to lend verisimilitude to an otherwise unconvincing description by adding a small amount of livestock to the landscape.

Our garden now rings to the unharmonious cries of Gretel, a goose whose game leg prevents her working up enough speed for take-off. She did recently launch herself from the barn steps, swooping past Jon's head and skimming millimetres above the blade of the circular saw. Gretel sleeps in the henhouse, and occasionally tries to sit on her house-mates' eggs, but her best feature is her ability to keep the grass down in the back garden.

A family of hedgehogs has taken up residence in the front garden. We disturbed one of them on the path late at night, and she took off at surprising speed, closely followed by a very small baby. The cats are quite interested, but puzzled as to how to get past the spikes.

Our acquisition of a retired racehorse (son of Phardante and great-grandson of the great Northern Dancer) has proved less successful than our other ventures into semi-rural life. He is quite affectionate and loves Polo mints (is this normal?), but regards his release from point-to-pointing as a licence to play with the four ponies (not ours) in his field, and has steadfastly refused to be ridden. Last time I tried he simply lay down on his side, trapping my right leg under him and breaking my foot.

Less successful still is the oddly-named Dandelion (still, it matches our lawn), a middle-aged cat we got from the Cat Protection League to console TomTom in his bereavement (see right). He likes her, but she loathes and despises him. I am awakened each morning at dawn by her yowling and hissing as he passes her on his way to the daily rodent-hunt.

The slow worms who used to live in the back garden have gone to meet their maker. I'm sorry to say. The chickens ate them.

halmer

Through the pearly cat flap



Your editor's companion during many a long night of cutting and pasting, Monkey the cat sadly died aged 18 years on May 26th. The house seems empty without her.

Mid Wales results

Graded Masters 10th August 2003

Bunty Richards Memorial (9 pairs)

1. Pam Woodhouse, Emyr Tudwal Jones 63.02%
2. Alan Screen, Phil Dorling 59.90%
- 3=. Andrew Young, Chris Blackman 55.21%
- 3=. Mike Jones, Dai Hayes 55.21%

Norman Riches Cup

1. Celia Holt, Mair Jones 58.21%
2. Maxine Lainchbury, Val Gould 51.07%
3. Pat Roe, Jean Conway 48.57%
4. Barrymore Lee, Les Mann 47.14%
5. Lyn Lamb, Ralph Lamb 45.00%

Jodo Cup

1. Iris Jarman, Pat Williams 58.57%
2. June Swindley, Nancy Charles 55.71%
3. Pauline Rhodes, Hennie Jenkins 50.71%
- 4=. Fiona Noyce, Jean Cole 42.50%
- 4=. Jean Cufley, Kath Moore 42.50%

Grasmere Thistle Cardiff Thistle

SIX-DAY BREAK - Sunday 7th - Saturday 13th March 2004

A return to Grasmere where we hosted a successful break last year. The Thistle Hotel is right on the shore of the lake and just minutes away from charming Grasmere village. The surrounding scenery is absolutely breathtaking, no wonder it inspired Wordsworth who lived in Dove cottage, just opposite the hotel.

The bridge will be under the direction of **Graham Hedley** assisted as always by his wife Berry. There will be a full and varied programme which will also allow plenty of time to explore the wonderful scenery and surrounding areas. There will also be excursions available dependent on demand.

The cost per person in Grasmere depends on the type of hotel room required. Prices include all bridge fees, half board, tea & coffee during the bridge sessions.

Lake view room **£379.00**, standard room **£325.00**, economy room **£271.00** per person. There are a limited number of single rooms available without supplement.

NEW YEAR 2003/4 - Tue 30th December to Fri 2nd January

Located in the heart of Cardiff, this Victorian hotel has been beautifully restored to offer luxury with sophistication and provides high standards of service. It offers four-star accommodation as well as a choice of three bars, a brasserie and two comfortable lounges.

We are returning to the superb Cardiff Thistle for this event where guests can expect traditional hospitality in a congenial setting. Martin and Judy will be on hand throughout the break to ensure everyone has an enjoyable time.

Both **Graham Hedley** and his wife Berry have an enthusiasm for bridge which they are able to convey to all who come into contact with them. Their friendly, informal approach makes for a relaxed atmosphere in the bridge room.

Half board, full welsh afternoon tea, car parking and all bridge fees. Five course gala new year's eve dinner, cocktails, champagne, piper, entertainment. **£299.00** per person. Limited number of single rooms available without supplement.



Better Bridge with Andrew Kambites Beginners

LA QUINTA HOTEL, MENORCA - 16th-23rd April 2004

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 **£491.00*** which includes half board, all tuition, materials and bridge fees, flights and transfers. *(Subject to Single Supplement)

Improvers

HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA - 23rd - 30th April 2004

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.

SPECIAL OFFER Put into practice what you've learned - combine these two holidays for just **£831.00**, a saving of £135.00

Menorca Once More

HOTEL S'ALGAR, MENORCA - 10th-24th October 2003

The Hotel S'Algar is so popular with bridge players that we're going back to Menorca for the thirty-second time in October 2003. Bridge is licensed by the EBU and master points awarded at all sessions. Prizes will be presented to the winners of all events.

Choose the most convenient airport for you. Holiday prices are based on this and are: Gatwick **£789**; Birmingham, Bristol, Luton or Stansted **£799**; Cardiff, East Midlands, Humberside, Manchester or Teesside **£809**; Leeds/Bradford **£819**; Glasgow or Newcastle **£829**. Price includes: air travel; taxes; insurance; transfers; full board; full bridge programme; prizes; events as specified. (Subject to Single Supp)

Vilamoura Value

HOTEL ATLANTIS - 29th January - 12th February 2004

Always in great demand. We are back there in 2004 with Graham Hedley directing so call us now to make your reservation.

Magical Madeira

ATLANTIC BAY HOTEL nr FUNCHAL - 17th Nov - 1st Dec 2003

Now fully booked but enquire about cancellations.

Absolute Beginners

Do you know anyone who'd like to learn bridge but has never played? We're putting together a series of UK breaks in 2004 for the absolute beginner directed by expert teacher **Andrew Kambites**. Enquire for details or keep an eye on our web site www.bridge-holidays.com

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

FIRST FOR BRIDGE

4 The Lyes, Congresbury, Bristol BS49 5HF

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



Keep up to date with all the latest First for Bridge news by logging on to our web site at www.bridge-holidays.com. You'll also find a £75 prize quiz and photos from all our recent holidays. E-mail - info@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: 2704. Bridge licensed by the EBU



Master Point of View

Noelle Bond

I don't like to nag (at least I think I don't) but I must reiterate how important it is to put the correct postage on letters you send to me. The Post Office has now increased its handling cost for letters with insufficient postage to One Pound, and then there is still the extra postage to be paid. This is such a waste of money,

often for just for the sake of a few pence more in stamps. Also, probably as another cost cutting measure, the Post Office has changed the system. Now, I no longer just pay the postman when he calls, instead I must go and collect my insufficient postage letters from the main post office. So now there's waste of time and, as well, a probable delay of some days. Although I might find a benefit in the new payment system, I should not want the postman knocking on the door demanding money when he calls, as on the other morning, at 6:23 a.m. (a new early record).

Before I finish with postal matters, I should mention (this isn't a nag, you'll be glad to hear) that several letters to me and from me have gone astray lately. In case you should fall victim to this, it is probably a good idea to make a note of the points you send to me (especially greens), making it easier for me to check up and recover them if they get lost. I imagine that the sorting machines tear open the envelopes and all the points fall out and no one then knows where they came from (or don't care?). I'm told that all undelivered or lost letters and contents end up in Northern Ireland, so in view of all the points which have got lost over the years, there are probably several Grand Masters working in a Post Office warehouse over there. (I really should not make such scurrilous statements.)

After nag time, confession time: Have I written on your MP cards lately? I discovered that I had promoted one member to my newly created rank of "Country Master" instead of "County Master" and then, on another occasion, having taken great care with the spelling of a very unusual surname managed to mess up her very ordinary forename. Please blame it on pressure of work.

The Automatic Master Point Entry system, which I mentioned some Newsletters ago, is being used for most WBU events now. The computer program gathers the points awarded and allocates them directly. Players will not be informed of any promotion caused by this until sending in their points, but the promotion will be included in the next list.

I mentioned some time ago we ought to start a list of recommended hotels to avoid the strange (or downright bad); a room I stayed in recently had a large window in the wall beside the door, and, although there was a curtain, even with it pulled completely across there was a perfect view of my bed from the hallway. I felt like I was in a peepshow, but as I wasn't being offered any percentage from those who might look in, I used my shoe bag and a coat hanger to cover up the gap and preserve my modesty.

Noelle@glanmor45.freemove.co.uk

Noelle

List of promotions for each rank from 1st May to 29th August 2003

(Only ranks with promotions are listed)

Club Master		Master		Kathleen Jones	S
Tom Birchall	CBY	Cathy Barlow	PR	Allan Lewis	MG
Joan Boother	S	Peter Cotterill	MON	Cynthia Luen	BV
Irene Delahunty	T	Christine Evans	MG	Hazel Trew	S
Roy Emmott	GA	Monica Evans	PV	Kate Wynds	MB
Rose Jones	F	Geoff Griffiths	L		
Keith Jones	S	Charles F Gurr	S	Three Star Master	
Les Mann	CAS	Ken Millington	LD	Joan Conway	A
Dilys Manning	GA	Eileen Parry	MB	Elaine Galpin	LD
Robert Millinship	GA	Gwen Thomas	P	Henry Page	LP
Meryl Morgan	PN	Pat Williams	NT	Norma Wells	STD
Fiona Noyce	NT	Dorothy Williams	S		
Marion Shewell	GA	Jim Wright	PN	Four Star Master	
Mike Stoddart	H	Tina Wright	PN	Graham Ball	CBY
Maisie Taylor	PN			Glyn Collins	S
Brian Taylor	S	Advanced Master		Barbara Easterbrook	OH
		Audrie Burgess	LD	Joan Jenkins	SU
Local Master		Roger Cradick	SU	Maxine Lainchbury	CAS
Marguerite Aitchison	L	Teresa Montoya	A	Muriel Richardson	WS
Shirley Ash	BR	Mair Owen	L		
Sara Bartlett	OH	Barbara Ponting	S	Five Star Master	
Nancy Charles	CAS	Mick Rogers	OH	John Berni	MB
Moira Currie	BV	Jean Thomas	GA	G Wyn Robyns	F
Gwenda Dagnall	WS	Douglas Thomas	GA	Margaret Tovey	S
Audrey Eves	PN	Pat Verdon	PN		
Kenneth Forbes	S			Tournament Master	
Mary Gardner	PN	One Star Master		Vida Gething	S
Maurice Harris	GA	Peter Bennett	AM	Ian G Metcalfe	LD
Margaret Harris	GA	Olwen Doyle	PN	John Old	LP
Graham Hoare	MB	Phil Forbes	OH	Graham Shaw	WS
David Lovering	C	Jean Herbert	GA	Trish Tracy	PN
Susie Merrette	PN	Huw Jones	S		
June Swindley	CAS	Ted Merrette	PN	Regional Master	
Marion Vanstone	PN	Mike Miles	AG	Anthony Carsley	M
John Williams	PN	Ken Rees	AG	Helen Carsley	M
Vivian Woolley	BEN	Paul Relph	GA	Bryan Clarkson	CN
County Master		Keith Stonehouse	S	Yvonne Evans	F
Alan Cleaver	R	Jacqueline Williams	S	Marie George	C
Val Hetheridge	PN			John D Jones	S
J Barrymore Lee	CAS	Two Star Master		Ralph Lamb	A
Andrew Mountain	W	Amy Britten	SU	Lyn Lamb	A
Angela Roberts	WS	Jim Dalton	LD	John Wain	F
Vera Ross	CN	Joan Davies	S		
Doug Silcox	T	Rosemary Evans	MG		
Ann Slaughter	S	John Hensman	MG		
Pamela Stacey	C	John Hinton	GA		
Janet Valentine	WS	Anita Jones	A		

(continued on Page 18)

Promotion List (contd from Page 17)

Premier Regional Master

John B Jamieson S
 Kevin Maddox BR
 Peter Richards CR
 Jane Scott-Verdon PN
 Frank Scott-Verdon PN
 Marie Topp LD

National Master

David M Evans LD
 Janet Rees L
 Alan Screen NT
 Connie Warren S

Premier National Master

Liz Commins RH
 Philip Dorling NT
 Isabel Evans C

Life Master

Kevin Jones W

Senior Life Master

Val Kennewell S
 Esme Parry GA
 Gordon Roxburgh GA
 Sheila Shea CN

Grand Master

Paul Gagne PN



My First Green *by Noelle Bond*

Whilst travelling to the Teams of 8 final in June of this year with Laura, Mike Close and Betty Lewis, Mike, quite out of the blue said "It's 10 years since I got my first green", whereupon Laura said "My first half was at



Cwmbran in 1992, and I was jolly pleased to get the other half at a Swiss Teams in Bath a month later"; and Betty said "My first green was at the Ladies' Welsh cup

at Caersws in 1987 when I played with Di Jones, Sue Harwood and Evelyn Moran, and we had 1½ greens. One memory I have was how laid back Sue was. Where we take an overnight bag, Sue travelled light, what she needed was in her handbag." I sat there thinking and thinking but I couldn't remember when I got my first green, you can't (or maybe you can) imagine how embarrassed I was not to be able to remember this.

Then, several days later, the memory returned - it was at the Welsh Foursomes in 1984, the rest of the team was Eileen Hughes,

Denis Mottram and Ann Speed (alas no longer with us). we won 3 matches, so I was the proud possessor of .75 of a green point. I duly sent this booty to Barbara Cornish with my ill gotten locals and when my card came back I noticed she had credited me with 1.75 greens - the post had magically increased my points, I would soon be a Grand Master. However, honesty was drummed into me as a child, so I wrote to Barbara, or Mrs Cornish as I timidly called her then, and asked why I had these 1.75 greens.

She went to her archives and replied:- "I have managed to unearth the original batch of points concerned and find that a dark line by the side of the award appears to be a "1" so I gave you 1¾ greens. I've taken the one off now, but I would like to mention just how much I admire your honesty and integrity!!"

You would think that that would be enough to have my first greens etched in my brain for ever more, wouldn't you? But it obviously wasn't.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Welsh Invitation Pairs

20th-21st September 2003

A host of international stars, from as far afield as Ireland and Austria, will compete with our own top players for the Western Mail Cup and a substantial cash prize. Spectators are welcome at Cardiff Bridge Club, Marlborough Road, Penylan – 12.00 to 8.00 on Saturday; Sunday start time to be arranged but likely to be 11 a.m. or 12 noon.

Ladies' Welsh Cup/Men's Teams

27th-28th September 2003

at the Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells. Start times 2.00 Saturday, 11.00 Sunday.

It may be possible to accommodate late entries – contact the NTO, Laura Woodruff, on ☎ 01656 741748 or email laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk.

Porthcawl Congress

13th-16th November 2003

This most popular of traditional congresses is being held at The Rest, Porthcawl. Green points for the Championship Pairs and Teams, and local points for the other competitions (Men's and Ladies' Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Open Pairs).

Contact Diana Panniers on 01792 297081 or email dipanniers@sketty.fsworld.co.uk for further information and entry forms.

WBU Swiss Teams

21st-23rd November 2003

National Eisteddfod Pavilion, Llangollen

Mixed Pairs Friday afternoon.

Green-pointed Swiss Teams starting Friday evening at 7.45.

Contact Linda Greenland on ☎ 029 2025 5162, email deri31@ntlworld.com for details and entry forms

Veteran Pairs

30th November 2003

Open to players over the age of 53, with a combined age of at least 110.

Venues in North and South Wales, with duplicated boards to ensure a fair competition between the two halves of the country.

Entries to the National Tournament Organiser by 10th November: Laura Woodruff, Hall Farm, North Cornelly, Bridgend CF33 4HR, ☎ 01656 741748, email laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk.



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

Item	Journal page	Details
Change of email address	3, 9	West Wales Bridge Association and Haverfordwest Bridge Club: Judith Graham Jones's email address is now Judith@cemais.fsnet.co.uk
Change of Club venue	9	Bridgend Bridge Club will be moving to the new Nolton Church Hall, Bridgend from Wednesday 15th October.
Correction to Area Events 2002-2003	14	The winners of the Arthur James Bowl were Filip Kurbalija, Diane Kurbalija, Tony Ratcliff and Jill Casey
Correction to Masterpoint Listing	35	The Journal listing at line 161 is a non-existent person: it should read Frank McAleavy, not Frank Gravenor.
Correction to date of event	59	The date of the National Club Teams of Eight final is 27 th June 2004, NOT 26 th -27 th as stated in the Calendar.

Top Twenty in John Hockey Trophy (Most Points Registered in One Year) – 2003-2004 latest

1 David Davies	87	8 Mike Jones	57	15 Henry Page	49
2 Ted Merrette	82	9 Mick Rogers	56	16 Mick Green	47
3 Paul Gagne	78	10 Michael Tedd	54	17 Alan Screen	47
4 Diana Harris	74	11 Tony Ratcliff	53	18 Filip Kurbalija	47
5 Simon Edwards	71	12 Betty Spencer	53	19 Paddy Murphy	47
6 David Utting	68	13 Eleanor Price	51	20 Frank McAleavy	40
7 Joan Jenkins	63	14 Sheila Shea	50		

WBU Council Meeting 6th July 2003

Items of interest from the most recent meeting of Council.

Plate Competitions: Since the number of direct entries had continued to be disappointing and many teams found it difficult to arrange matches, the Welsh and Cambria Plate competitions will not be held in future seasons (from 2003).

Communications: Council agreed that the primary method of communication within the Welsh Bridge Union should be by email. *[It is recognised that not all Club Secretaries have access to email. Clubs are asked to appoint, where possible, a member who will be the email contact point for communications from within the WBU. If this is not possible, Clubs should contact the Chief Executive to ask for copies of general communications to be sent by post. Ed.]*

Mobile telephones: Directors are to be asked to announce the new Rule concerning mobile telephones at the start of congresses and competitions. *[See Page 20 of the WBU Journal for details of fines to be imposed for failure to switch off mobile telephones. Ed.]*

Copy deadline for next newsletter

Articles, hands, information, obituaries, photographs are all welcome: send to Laura on laura.woodruff@ukonline.co.uk no later than 10th November 2003. If you have no access to email, hard copy may as a last resort be sent to Hall Farm, North Cornelly, Bridgend CF33 4HR but allow extra time for typing. I now have a scanner, so photos are possible, but it's easier if you can email them all the same.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue.