



Lead Through Strength

Sometimes you might not know what to lead at trick one and be unhappy with the ‘usual suspects’. You might have Q-x in the only unbid suit, for example. Sometimes later in the play, you are unsure what to lead next.

In each case, you might like to try a ‘Lead through Strength.’ You do this in the hope that your partner has a good holding over dummy (or declarer).

In the layouts below, you lead through strength for a finesse against dummy.

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

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

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

Layout A: leading the jack lets you cash three tricks.

Layout B: the ten lead puts your side well on the way to two tricks.

Layout C: needing two quick tricks, you decide to underlead your ace. You would not employ this tactic very often in a suit contract. To ensure one trick and not expecting you to have underled the ace, declarer is likely to play low from dummy. Trustworthy partner plays third-hand high and gets a pleasant surprise when the queen wins.

Note the risks on C. If declarer has the queen, your lead gives him a trick. If he has a singleton, you might lose your ace.

Now let us study three common cases:

- 1 You have the opening lead and the opponents have shown strength in all four suits. You will do better to lead through strength rather than up to it.

♠ 10 9 5
 ♥ Q 6 5 3
 ♦ J 6 4
 ♣ A 10 4

N
W E
S

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3NT
End			

South should have diamonds well held to leap to 3NT. If the opponents have a weak spot, it is likely to be in dummy’s second suit. Lead the ten of spades.

- 2 You may be on declarer’s left and have won a trick. Now seeing dummy, you can judge whether a lead through its strength might achieve something. On this example, South plays in 4♠ after a 20-22 2NT and a transfer.

♠ J 10 6 4 2
 ♥ A 2
 ♦ K 8 3
 ♣ 8 5 4

♠ K 8 5
 ♥ J 10 9 6
 ♦ J 10 9
 ♣ J 10 9

N
W E
S

♠ 7
 ♥ 8 7 5 4 3
 ♦ A Q 7 2
 ♣ 7 6 3

♠ A Q 9 3
 ♥ K Q
 ♦ 6 5 4
 ♣ A K Q 2

West leads the jack of hearts to the ace, three (discouraging) and queen. Declarer then calls for the jack of spades, which runs to the king.

It looks as if there are no more tricks to come in the majors, so West looks for three tricks in the minors.

East is quite likely to hold club values but club values are no good. Any honours partner has in clubs will be sitting under declarer’s strength. Even the ace-queen will not be good enough. Diamond values, over dummy’s strength, will be more useful. West should switch to the jack of diamonds.

- 3 You gain the lead with dummy on your right. You might switch to a suit bid or implied by declarer.

♠ K 7 6
 ♥ A 5 2
 ♦ K Q 9 5 4 3
 ♣ 3

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

N
W E
S

♠ 8 4 2
 ♥ J 10 6
 ♦ A 8 6
 ♣ A K 9 7

♠ A Q J 10 3
 ♥ Q 8 7 3
 ♦ J
 ♣ Q 5 4

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣	End	

Partner leads the jack of clubs, which you win with your king.

You look to the dummy and see no future in the minors. So, you switch to the jack of hearts, South’s second suit – through strength – and are pleased when your side can make four tricks with two hearts, a club and a diamond. ■



Use the Rule of Total Tricks

In this article, I intend to look at some seemingly mundane hands on which each side holds around half the points. Each side finds a fit. Although neither side intends to bid game, each wants to buy the auction in its chosen trump suit, or at least push the other side to a level at which they might go off. The auction starts like this:

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

South has to decide whether to sell out to 2♠ or compete to 3♥. There is a very useful guideline called the *Law of Total Tricks* (or LTT). The total number of tricks that North-South can make if hearts are trumps, added to the total number of tricks that East-West can make if spades are trumps, gives you the *total number of tricks*. The number of hearts held by North-South, added to the number of spades held by East-West, gives you the *total number of trumps*. The LTT states that the *total number of tricks equals the total number of trumps*.

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

On deal A, there is a finesse position in diamonds, which works for East-West; there is also a finesse position in clubs,

which works for North-South. This seems only fair: each side has one success and one failure. North-South can make 2♥, losing two spades and three diamonds. East-West can make 2♠, losing two hearts and three clubs. Each side has eight cards in its best fit: each side can make eight tricks. Total tricks and total trumps both equal 16.

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

Deal B has just a minor change from deal A. North-South can make 3♥, losing one spade and three diamonds. East-West can make 3♠, losing one heart and three clubs. Each side has nine cards in its best fit – each side can make nine tricks. Total tricks and total trumps both equal 18.

Points do not tell you whether to bid on. It is shape, or length in the trump suit. The player who bids on should be the one with undisclosed trump length.

On deal A, there is little case for South to bid 3♥ over 2♠. He has no reason to believe that his side has more than eight hearts, or that East-West have more than eight spades. However, North, if non-vulnerable, should bid 3♥. Even if there are only 16 total trumps, it is better to go one down (even doubled) in 3♥ than let the other side make 2♠.

On deal B, South will pass but, with extra trump length, North competes to

3♥. Now the spotlight falls on West. West has six good spades when he has shown only five so he competes to 3♠.

Each side has good reason to suspect that it has nine trumps, and that the other side probably also has nine trumps. 18 total trumps means 18 total tricks and indicates competing at the three level.

The law of total tricks works well at game level. The bidding starts:

West	North	East	South
1♥	1♠	4♥	?

South has this hand:

♠ K J 5 4 2
♥ 8
♦ Q J 4 3
♣ 9 5 2

He knows that his side holds ten spades because North's overcall guarantees a 5-card suit. East-West probably have nine hearts to justify bidding to 4♥ when each side has roughly half the points. So South assumes there are 19 total trumps. If there are 19 total tricks, it is quite likely that either 4♥ makes with 4♠ going one off or 4♠ makes with 4♥ going one off. Whichever is true, it is correct for South to bid 4♠.

The only time you might be a little more cautious is if only your side is vulnerable and your opponents clearly have the majority of points. A large adverse penalty is painful, even if your opponents can make their game.

Finally notice one point that hugely helps your judgement in estimating total trumps.

On deal A each side had eight trumps. On deal B each side had nine trumps. It is often the case that your opponents have the same length of fit in their best suit as you do. ■

READERS' LETTERS

CAPTION PRIZE

Thank you for awarding me a weekend at one of your venues, one of ten runner-up prizes in your recent caption competition.

I thought you might like some feedback.

I have never been on one of your weekends before. As my wife doesn't play bridge and has no interest at all in card games, it seemed unreasonable either to drag her along, or to leave her at home while I went off to enjoy myself. However, receiving the generous caption competition runner-up prize of a Mr Bridge weekend, the lure of a free lunch was too good to refuse. Mrs C volunteered to accompany me so that we could see for ourselves what such a weekend had to offer.

If you are in a similar position, I can only say, 'Give it a try.' We both enjoyed it so much. Our venue, Beach Hotel in Worthing, is full of character to say the least. Although the hotel is in need of some renovation, the bedroom was large, double aspect, lofty and eminently comfortable and very clean. No frills, but TV and radio, courtesy tray, en-suite, all you could need. The public rooms are large and comfortable, the staff helpful and attentive. The food was superb – we had feared for the idea of mass catering (there were apparently 90 in the bridge party) but there was a choice of four items for each of two

courses (including one fish and one vegetarian), plus two for dessert, with coffee and mints to follow. It was all such good quality, efficiently served, with your choice of vegetables. We found it hard to imagine how they could do it so well, but Mr Bridge regular guests assured us it was absolutely standard for Mr Bridge weekends elsewhere.

The bridge was a mixture of duplicate and seminars, all excellently presented by Mr Magee and his band of helpers, partners found if needed with a minimum of fuss, participate as much or as little as you wish. Mrs C was able to sit in the sun painting (we were blessed with good weather), wander down into town for a little retail therapy, paddle and join me for morning and afternoon coffee if it suited. I could be sure she returned in time for the meals.

The end result I could not have predicted – Mrs C said as we arrived home, 'We must do this again!' I'm sure we will.

Alan Chapman,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.
Great feedback. Thanks.

NEW LINK

Many years ago, my wife and I invested in two bridge computers, a Saitek Probridge 510 and a 310. These could be linked and the two screens allowed us to play as a partnership against the computer. The

machines also had a facility to play in a 'teams of four' format, so that we could compare our play to the computers play.

We have had hours of pleasure playing at home (as well as playing at a bridge club) but, unfortunately, the Probridge 510 has developed a fault, and Saitek's UK agent tells me that the machine is no longer in production, and that they cannot carry out repairs.

I am therefore looking to see whether I can find a software package that fulfils the same requirements that could be played by linking two laptop computers.

Do you have any experience with this, and if so could you please advise?

Mr Dave Morris,
Findern, Derby.

QPlus Bridge does all this and a lot more if required.

NEVER TOO OLD 1

Thank you for sending me BRIDGE 100. The last one I had was issue 96 and I thought that as I had not contacted you in any way I was now omitted from your register.

The situation at present in Merlewood is that out of 12 people classed as residents, only two including myself are bridge players. This makes arranging a game difficult, requiring two volunteers, usually from the organisation's committee. There are two members available but not always at

the same time, so our games are very irregular.

However, April 21 was the charity's Annual Bridge Drive and I offered to play. Nevertheless, at the age of 95, I found it rather embarrassing to be joining three players who were complete strangers to me. I think it was by studying pages of your publication that I had the courage and ability to make a success of the occasion.

Mr Roger P Stokes,
Virginia Water, Surrey.

NEVER TOO OLD 2

I am finding Bernard Magee's 'Declarer Play' utterly invaluable – it's wonderful. I'm also keen to hear that perhaps next year there can be more 'Improvers' weekends – we've done Stayman and Transfers with Sandy Bell, which was super and are keen to do more.

All in all, learning bridge at our tender age of 80 is the best thing that's happened to us – no more tennis and no more cricket unfortunately, but it matters not – we are hooked and this week we even came off the bottom of our Club's result sheet. We're on the way up.

Pat Trickett, by email.

MEMORY LOSS

I wish I could remember what I read in your magazine when I come to the table.

Mrs Maureen Cliff,
Lechlade, Gloucs. ▶

REDUCE THE COST OF YOUR POSTAGE



Postage stamps for sale at 90% of face-value, all mint with full gum. Quotations for commercial quantities available on request.

Values supplied in 100s, higher values available as well as 1st and 2nd class (eg 1st class: 100x37p+100x5p)

☎/Fax 020 8422 4906 e-mail: clive.goff@londonrugby.com

READERS' LETTERS continued

CASH FOR STAMPS

Here is another cheque from sales of used stamps. This time £189.

Colin Bamberger.

**179 High Road,
Trimley St Mary, IP11 0TN.**

Thank you on behalf of Jenna Hoyt of Little Voice. If readers have any used stamps, send them to Colin at the above address.

NEW GROUPING

You agreed to run a paragraph on 'The Association of Bridge Clubs and Groups' with website: www.abc.org.uk in BRIDGE.

I have not been able to devote much time to this and the website is therefore not yet operational.

I will let you have the material in due course.

**Mr Trevor Livesey,
Benfleet, Essex.**

SHARED DELIGHT

One of us is a beginner, the other an improver – this magazine is looked forward to by both of us equally.

**Mr & Mrs Constantine,
Teignmouth, Devon.**

ONLINE 1

Please consider setting up a play online service? I've valued your bridge mag and holidays and would trust you to run such a programme better than anyone else.

Mrs P Ellis, Aberystwyth.

ONLINE 2

Any chance of an internet playing site for your readers?

**Mr & Mrs J Hutchinson,
Rudgeway, Bristol.**

There are lots already.

MATTER OF TASTE

Is it possible to reduce the written words by using bullet points (perhaps with a brief

explanation attached beside it) to emphasise the main points? The verbiage can often be off-putting to beginners.

**Mrs T Summers,
Tiverton, Devon.**

I think most readers are happy as it is.

REMINDER

Thank goodness you introduced me to Donald Russell.

Mrs S Smith, Corsham.

WINNING CRUISE

Imagine my surprise on receipt of your letter saying that my caption had won the above competition. Thank you for such a generous prize – I can only assume that your business is flourishing.

I will contact your office as soon as I have decided upon the particular cruise and my travelling companion.

**Mrs Jill Clark,
Sawbridgeworth, Herts.**
Real winners. Runners-up too. Do have a go at the front cover prize bidding quiz.

GOFF SERVICE

Stamps offered at a good reduction with remarkable pictures.

**Mrs S Crosher,
Ruislip, Middlesex.**

BROCK REMINDER

When the 100th issue arrived I realised that I might not have been receiving recent issues, and it was like meeting up with a long-lost friend.

I was reminded to send this request after reading about Sally Brock's success in the Lady Milne championship. Congratulations to her. The reported hand could be entitled 'fortune favours the brave'.

**John Gillbe,
Guildford, Surrey.**

Your Questions and Suggestions

A few more articles for beginners like my grandson.

Mrs E Dickens, Norwich.

I will feature an ABC of Bridge in 2011.

Having only recently begun to play bridge, I would find a beginners' guide article on a regular basis very helpful.

**Mr L R Cunningham,
Ballymena, Co Antrim.**

See above.

I find the magazine invaluable and wish you did more weekends for novices.

G Jackson, Cockermouth.

I will advertise weekends for novices in 2011.

Are there weekends for new, older players who have progressed but not a lot?

Mrs G White, Billerica.

See above.

More teaching, less humour.

Dr J Latham, Richmond.

Beginners class in south Lanarkshire.

M Thornthwaite, Bothwell.

If you weren't ex-directory, I would have given you a call.

Please could we have more 'Just duplicate' weekends? We do not want seminars and find the usual weekends are too expensive.

Mr J Turner, Gloucester.

I will advertise a few Just Bridge in 2011.

I really miss the Daily Bridge Calendar.

Mr D. Archibald, Morpeth.

Mine could be out next year, just watch this space.

Can we have Mr Bridge weekends in Scotland?

Mr Ian Pascoe, Milngavie.

Planned for 2011.

More explanation of words and phrases for beginners.

J W Clifford, Chippenham.

Note coming ABC.

Could you cover the Ghestem system at some time please?

Mrs P Houlden, Liverpool.

Very good articles, but too much on cruises. Would welcome return of offers on bridge equipment etc.

Mr S Cowherd, London.

Could Bernard Magee do a calendar from his quizzes?

Good large print. Quiz on one side, answer on reverse.

Mrs E Grimmer, Sherbourne, Dorset.

I should think so. What a good idea.

More articles on 5-card majors and strong no trump (Standard American).

Mr B Elliot, Abergale.

I will feature a four-part series in 2011.

I still buy from a mail order booklet. Doesn't this count as being re-registered?

Mrs B John, Heswall.

How can it? The booklet has nothing to do with me.

Please discuss computer dealt hands.

Mr L E White, Beckenham.

What is there to discuss?

More about rubber please.

Mrs S Mayer, Middlesex.

Much the same as duplicate or teams bridge really.

Have you/will you review the bridgemate system?

Mr A Naish, Salisbury.

I'm sure I will in due course.

Some examples using 5-card majors and strong no-trump. Also standard American.

Mrs P Smith, Fife.

See above.

More on rules re revoking, bids out of turn, etc.

Mr J C V Lang, Colchester.

Perhaps you should buy the Yellow Book.

The 'chatty' storyline articles leave me cold.

Mr D Norris, Peterborough.

Excellent publication. Could we 'review' online?

Mr Keith Mackenzie, Jersey.

Please give address for used stamps for charity.

Mrs C Impey, Bonvilstone.

Mr Colin Bamberger,
179 High Road,
Trimley St Mary, IP11 0TN.

Please can you tell me if the used stamps you want are foreign or English or both.

Mrs P Wormleighton, Ealing.

Both kinds please.

Send me Your Questions and Suggestions
using the form provided on page 6.

READERS' LETTERS

continued

MISSING LINK

Missed your publications, was it something I said?

Mr F Gardner, Penarth.

No, more likely was something you didn't say.

BRIDGE WEEKLY

Recently have been getting your emails. Lovely, but I prefer this magazine.

Mrs Edmond, Potters Bar.

GLOSSARY NEEDED

As a not particularly advanced player, an explanation of some regularly used terms would be useful.

Mr A Malpass, Dudley, West Midlands.

A detailed ABC of bridge words, terms and expressions will be published throughout 2011 and 2012.

FUNDRAISING

Bishops Waltham was great. Is it on again next year?

Mrs Robinson, Bournemouth.

Regretfully, no. All good things come to an end.

THAT'S ALL

When my copy stopped coming last year, I thought it was due to the recession.

Mr Brookfield, Cleckheaton.

No, just your failure to re-register.

MORE I.T.

I wish to make you aware of a new, just-released, iPhone application for Bridge players, named 'iBid', that brings a lot of bidding conventions directly into their pocket.

With iBid, Bridge players can access descriptions, examples and anecdotes of the most important conventions, without the need of any Internet connection.

For more details please visit: www.istartapp.com

Stefano Tosi
comm@istartapp.com
mob +(00)39 335 354568

CYBERSPACE

With regard to the second to last article of the editorial in Bridge 101. QPlus and the associated tutorial software can be used on a Mac using Parallels Desktop for Mac.

Eric Smith, Crowthorne, Berkshire.

CHARITY REALLY BEGINS AT HOME

I have just joined a group of ladies in my area who play bridge once a month. The lady who runs this group starts us at 10.30am and we carry on until lunch time when we have sandwiches and cakes with tea/coffee. We carry on playing until approx 2.30pm and then we go home. There are always three tables (and a waiting list) and the session is really lovely, with the entrance money sent to charity.

I understand that they have been trying to find some inexpensive 'boxes' to play with and I was wondering, if through your magazine, we could ask if there are any clubs who are buying new boxes and could therefore sell us theirs? We need twelve and would happily pay postage.

Sara Starr, by email.

Surcharge or add to the table money to buy the equipment you need. Similarly for clean playing cards.

AND HONOURS TOO?

Playing rubber bridge, my unfortunate opponent opened 1NT followed by two passes. With 20 points, I doubled. She attempted to escape into two clubs. I had 6 of these, including 4 of the 5 honours. So I doubled her clubs, as you would.

As we all know each other well, when we had finished laughing about the dreadful unfairness of the penalty incurred (massive!), I added fuel to the flames by wondering if, even as a defender, I could have claimed honours on top.

The club chairman thought I could, but we weren't 100% sure. Could I have claimed?

Stella Burnett, by email.

Yes.

PRIZE

Thanks for the software voucher. The CD is great, a real help. It's as if I have my own teacher at home.

Mrs Claudette Storer, Southport, Lancs.

MORE RUBBER/CHICAGO

I just wanted to write and tell you how much my husband and I enjoyed our Chicago weekend in Worthing. It was so well organized by Diana Holland. It made for a most relaxed enjoyable break.

The Beach Hotel and staff were excellent – it is such a pity it will be closing down.

Could we have more Chicago/rubber bridge breaks, as you seem to favour duplicate, which is not

to everyone's liking. Particularly over the Christmas period. We could not find any Chicago/rubber breaks last Christmas, which was most disappointing. We have been on many of your pleasurable events and would like to take more, so please, consider our request.

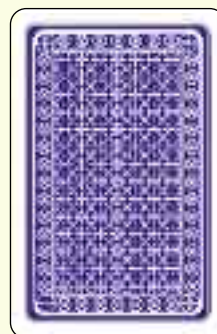
Mr & Mrs K Speyer, New Barnet, Hertfordshire.

POINT COUNT

The brief account of this 'new' point count evaluation was very interesting - but hardly new. I used a similar evaluation back in the mid 1950s with the Hester bidding system. This also included points for voids etc. A bid of 1 club showed 12 - 15 Hester points, 1 diamond 16 - 18 points etc. Partner's response also showed a point count and a simple maths formula gave the number of likely tricks; all you then needed was a fit. Then along came this new bidding system with light interference bids (called Acol or something like that) and the Hester system could not cope. But this point count evaluation really works.

Brian Roberts, Cullercoats, North Tyneside. ▶

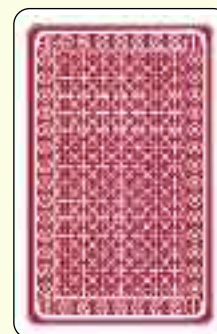
Premium Quality Playing Cards



Standard Design. Unboxed.

**6 red
6 blue
£19.95**

**30 red
30 blue
only £60**



**Available from The London Bridge Centre
44 Baker Street, London W1U 7RT.**

[www.http://www.bridgeshop.com](http://www.bridgeshop.com) ☎ 020 7486 8222

BETTY ELLSON (1935-2010)



I am saddened to report the recent untimely death of Betty Ellson, who was killed on her way home from a bridge session just after midnight when she was involved in a road accident. The other driver, allegedly having earlier failed to stop for the police, ignored the red light at the crossing through which Betty was innocently driving.

Betty taught bridge for nearly 20 years at the Wessex Bridge Centre before hosting at least twenty bridge cruises for my organisation. Black Watch, Black Prince, Albatros, Ocean Majesty, Marco Polo and Discovery.

It was she who introduced me to the Bournemouth bridge mafia and it is from among these people that I have been able to build my wonderful team of helpers.

Betty was a proud mother and grandmother. She was also a great hostess, so that after our first visit we knew what to expect and always went on a visit with an empty stomach. We were never disappointed.

Wherever Betty is remembered or talked of in bridge circles, it will never be said that she knowingly underbid.

READERS' LETTERS continued

WHAT'S ITS NAME

May I describe a convention then ask your readers if they know the history of it?

A 4♣ asks for aces and kings in one reply. For the purpose of replying an ace = 2 and a king = 1. A 4♦ reply is the negative showing 2 or fewer ie, one might hold 2 kings or an ace but no more and perhaps none. 4♥ shows 3 meaning AK or KKK; 4♠ shows AA, AKK or KKKK. 4NT – AAK or AKKK and so on up the ladder. Responder's double of an intervention shows that the intervening bid was the intended reply.

I am aware of the similarities between this and 'Norman', which was a 4NT bid and used king = 1/2 and ace = 1.

The 4♣ trigger means that a slam enquiry can be made below game especially in a minor.

It is also occasionally very useful to be able to stop in 4NT.

Mr Allan James by email.

HELPFUL ADVICE

Many thanks for the recent copy of your excellent magazine – do please put me back on your mailing list.

However, reading David Stevenson's section caused me to despair for the game.

Surely bridge is a game which at club level should be played for pleasure, entertainment and nothing else. What we see are

many pointless and trivial questions to answer i.e. hesitation, delay and minor rule infringements. Why?

People make mistakes. Surely the only answer to many questions of this type should be:

- Relax.
- Do not be hidebound by the rules.
- Be forgiving of your opponents' mistakes.
- Play to the best of your ability.
- Do not suspect your opponents are unethical in their approach to the game.
- And above all – enjoy yourself.

**Tony Stevens,
Linslade, Bedfordshire.**

RECENTLY MARRIED



We met on board Discovery sailing Cape to Cape.
**David and Pauline Howard,
Abingdon, Oxon.**
Congratulations. ■

**Write to Mr Bridge at:
Ryden Grange, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2TH
or e-mail letters@mrbridge.co.uk**

E-mail correspondents are asked to include their name, full postal address, telephone number and to send no attachments.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity.



PROGRAMME

This is the format for all weekend tutorial events except those hosted by Bernard Magee.

FRIDAY

- 1500 **Mr Bridge**
Welcome Desk open
Afternoon Tea
- 1745 to 1830
Welcome drinks
reception
- 1830 to 2000
DINNER
- 2015 **BRIDGE 1**
DUPLICATE PAIRS

SATURDAY

- 0800 to 0930
BREAKFAST
- 1000 to 1230
SEMINAR &
SUPERVISED PLAY
of SET HANDS
(tea & coffee at 1100)
- 1230 to 1330
COLD BUFFET
LUNCH
- 1400 to 1645
BRIDGE 2
FURTHER
SUPERVISED PLAY
of SET HANDS or
DUPLICATE PAIRS
- 1815 to 2000
DINNER
- 2015 **BRIDGE 3**
DUPLICATE PAIRS

SUNDAY

- 0800 to 0930
BREAKFAST
- 1000 to 1230
SEMINAR &
SUPERVISED PLAY
of SET HANDS
(tea & coffee at 1100)
- 1230 to 1400
CARVERY LUNCH
- 1400 to 1645
BRIDGE 4
FURTHER
SUPERVISED PLAY
of SET HANDS or
DUPLICATE PAIRS



2010 and 2011 Bridge Breaks

AUGUST 2010

6-8 The Beach Hotel
£215 Leads & Defence
Chris Barrable

SEPTEMBER 2010

3-5 The Beach Hotel
£215 Dealing with 1NT
Sandy Bell

17-19 Blunsdon House
£215 Take-out Doubles
Improvers*
Alison Nicolson



Blunsdon House Hotel
Swindon SN26 7AS

OCTOBER 2010

15-17 Wychwood Park
£199 Signals & Discards
Ray Hutchinson

22-24 Staverton Park
£199 Hand Evaluation
Alex Davoud

29-31 The Olde Barn
£199 Slam Bidding
Ray Hutchinson

NOVEMBER 2010

5-7 Wychwood Park
£199 Declarer Play
Gary Conrad

5-7 Staverton Park
£199 Leads & Defence
Alex Davoud

12-14 The Olde Barn
£199 Better Defence
Crombie McNeil

19-21 Wychwood Park
£199 Slam Bidding
Gary Conrad



Staverton Park
Nr Daventry NN11 6JT

NOVEMBER continued

26-28 The Olde Barn
£199 Stayman & Transfers
Alison Nicolson
Improvers*

JANUARY 2011

14-16 Ardington Hotel
£215 Signals & Discards
Ned Paul

21-23 Ardington Hotel
£215 Suit Establishment
Alex Davoud

FEBRUARY 2011

25-27 Ardington Hotel
£215 Doubles
Ned Paul

MARCH 2011

25-27 Ardington Hotel
£215 Pre-emptive Bidding
Crombie McNeil



The Beach Hotel
Worthing BN11 3QJ

*aimed at the novice player and/or those picking up the game after a long break



BRIDGE BREAKS

- ◆ Full-board
- ◆ All rooms with en-suite facilities
- ◆ No single supplement
- ◆ Two seminars
- ◆ Two supervised play sessions
- ◆ Four duplicate sessions

Please book me for places at £..... per person,

Single Double Twin Sea View¹ Executive²

Name of Hotel/Centre

Dates

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

Postcode

☎

Special requirements (these cannot be guaranteed, but we will do our best to oblige)

Please give the name(s) of all those covered by this booking

Please send a non-returnable deposit of £50 per person per place by cheque, payable to Mr Bridge. An invoice for the balance will be sent with your booking confirmation. On receipt of your final payment, 28 days before the event, a programme and full details will be sent together with a map. Cancellations are not refundable. Should you require insurance, you should contact your own insurance broker. ¹£30 supplement per room (Beach Hotel only). ²£50 supplement per room (Blunsdon House and Denham Grove only).

Mr Bridge, Ryden Grange, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2TH

☎ 01483 489961 Fax 01483 797302

e-mail: jessica@mrbridge.co.uk

website: www.holidaybridge.com

Ardington Hotel
Worthing BN11 3DZ
Blunsdon House Hotel
Swindon SN26 7AS
The Beach Hotel
Worthing BN11 3QJ

The Olde Barn Hotel
Marston, Lincs NG32 2HT
Staverton Park
Near Daventry NN11 6JT
Wychwood Park
Near Crewe CW2 5GP



GLOBAL TRAVEL
INSURANCE
Services Limited

GLOBAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

Amelia House, Crescent Road, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 1RL.

☎ 01903 203933 Fax 01903 211106 Email info@globaltravelinsurance.co.uk



GLOBAL TRAVEL
INSURANCE
Services Limited

INSURANCE PRODUCT SUITABILITY

This insurance is suitable for persons whose Demands and Needs are those of a traveller whose Individual round trip starts and finishes in the UK and is of no more than 122 days duration, and whose age is 90 years or less and is a permanent resident of the United Kingdom and Channel Islands.

As this description contains the Key Features of the cover provided it constitutes provision of a statement of demands and needs. This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident and domiciled in the UK.



SUMMARY OF COVER

The following represent the Significant and Key Features of the policy including Exclusions and Limitations that apply per person. A full copy of the policy document is available on request.

CANCELLATION & CURTAILMENT up to £1,500

If you have to cancel or cut short your trip due to illness, injury, redundancy, jury service, the police requiring you to remain at or return to your home due to serious damage to your home, you are covered against loss of travel and accommodation costs.

Policy Excess £50. For persons aged 61 to 70 years the excess is increased to £100.

For persons aged 71 to 90 years the excess is increased to £150.

See section headed **Increased Excess for Pre Existing Medical Conditions** for increased excesses applicable to claims arising from pre-existing medical conditions.

PERSONAL ACCIDENT up to £15,000

A cash sum for accidental injury resulting in death, loss of sight, loss of limb or permanent total disablement. **No Policy Excess.**

MEDICAL AND OTHER EXPENSES up to £10,000,000

Including **FIRSTASSIST 24 HOUR WORLDWIDE MEDICAL EMERGENCY SERVICE**

(a) The cost of hospital and other emergency medical expenses incurred abroad, including additional accommodation and repatriation expenses. Limit £250 for emergency dental treatment and £5,000 burial/cremation/transfer of remains. Limit £2,500 for transfer of remains to your home if you die in the UK.

Policy Excess £75 unless travelling within North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise when increased to £150. For persons aged 61 to 70 years the excess is increased to £150 unless travelling within North or Central America or the Caribbean when increased to £500. For persons aged 71 to 90 years the excess is increased to £300 unless travelling within North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise when increased to £1,000.

See section headed **Increased Excess for Pre Existing Medical Conditions** for increased excesses applicable to claims arising from pre-existing medical conditions.

(b) **HOSPITAL BENEFIT up to £300**

An additional benefit of £15 per day for each day you spend in hospital abroad as an in-patient.

No Policy Excess.

PERSONAL LUGGAGE, MONEY & VALUABLES up to £2,000

Covers accidental loss, theft or damage to your personal luggage subject to a limit of £200 for any one article, pair or set and an overall limit of £200 for valuables such as cameras, Jewellery, furs,

etc. Luggage and valuables limited to £1500. Delayed luggage, up to £75. **Policy Excess £50.**

Money, travel tickets and travellers cheques are covered up to £500 against accidental loss or theft (cash limit £250). **Policy Excess £50.**

No cover is provided for loss or theft of unattended property, valuables or money or for loss or theft not reported to the Police within 24 hours of discovery.

PASSPORT EXPENSES up to £200

If you lose your passport or it is stolen whilst abroad, you are covered for additional travel and accommodation costs incurred in obtaining a replacement. **No Policy Excess.**

DELAYED DEPARTURE up to £1,500

If your outward or return trip is delayed for more than 12 hours at the final departure point to/from UK due to adverse weather conditions, mechanical breakdown or industrial action, you are entitled to either (a) £20 for the first 12 hours and £10 for each further 12 hours delay up to a maximum of £60, or (b) the cost of the trip (up to £1,500) if you elect to cancel after 12 hours delay on the outward trip from the UK. **Policy Excess £50 (b) only.**

MISSED DEPARTURE up to £500

Additional travel and accommodation expenses incurred to enable you to reach your overseas destination if you arrive too late at your final UK outward departure point due to failure of the vehicle in which you are travelling to deliver you to the departure point caused by adverse weather, strike, industrial action, mechanical breakdown or accident to the vehicle. **No Policy Excess.**

PERSONAL LIABILITY up to £2,000,000

Covers your legal liability for injury or damage to other people or their property, including legal expenses (subject to the laws of England and Wales). **Policy Excess £250.**

LEGAL EXPENSES up to £25,000

To enable you to pursue your rights against a third party following injury. **No Policy Excess.**

SCHEDULED AIRLINE FAILURE up to £1,500

Covers scheduled airline tickets cancelled prior to departure and cost of replacement equivalent tickets incurred in order to return to the UK due to bankruptcy/liquidation of the airline. **No Policy Excess.**

MAIN EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS

The following represents only the main exclusions. The policy document sets out all of the conditions and exclusions. A copy of the full policy wording is available on request in writing prior to application.

MAIN HEALTH EXCLUSIONS:

Insurers will not pay for claims arising

1. Where You (or any person upon whose health the Trip depends) are undergoing tests for the presence of a medical condition receiving or on a waiting list for or have knowledge of the need for treatment at a hospital or nursing home.
2. From any terminal illness suffered by You (or any person upon whose health the Trip depends).
3. From any medical condition for which You (or any person upon whose health the Trip depends) have within 12 months prior to the date of issue of this insurance been diagnosed with a medical condition or have been admitted or undergone a procedure/ intervention in a hospital.
4. If You are traveling against the advice of a Medical Practitioner.

OTHER GENERAL EXCLUSIONS

Claims arising from

1. Winter sports, any hazardous pursuits, any work of a non sedentary nature.
2. Self inflicted injury or illness, suicide, alcoholism or drug abuse, sexual disease.
3. War, invasion, acts of foreign enemies, hostilities or warlike operations, civil war, rebellion, **Terrorism**, revolution, insurrection, civil commotion, military or usurped power **but this exclusion shall not apply to losses under Section 3 - Medical Expenses** unless such losses are caused by nuclear, chemical or biological attack, or the disturbances were already taking place at the beginning of any Trip.
4. Failure or fear of failure or inability of any equipment or any computer program.
5. Consequential loss of any kind.
6. Bankruptcy/liquidation of any tour operator, travel agent, airline, transportation company or accommodation supplier.
7. Travelling to countries or regions where the FCO or WHO has advised against travel.
8. Your failure to contact the Medical Screening Line where required.

POLICY EXCESSES:

The amount of each claim for which insurers will not pay and for which you are responsible. The excess as noted in the policy summary applies to each and every claim per insured person under each section where an excess applies.

Medical Screening

Unless you are traveling to North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise, there is no need to advise us of your pre existing medical conditions. The term 'Cruise' does not include River or other inland cruises or boat trips.

If You have a history of any medical condition and are traveling to North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise, you must first contact the Medical Screening Line to establish whether we can provide cover for your trip. If you are accepted, the following levels of excess will apply. You will receive written confirmation that you are covered for the trip. The number to call is:

0844 8921698

Increased Excess for Pre Existing Medical Conditions

Provision for the acceptance of pre existing medical conditions has been made by the application of increased excesses in the event of claims arising.

For claims arising from any medical condition, other than those that are specifically excluded, the excess is further increased as follows:

Under the **Cancellation & Curtailment** section – **double the normal excess.**

Under the **Medical & Other Expenses** section –

For persons aged **60 years or less** the excess is increased to **£500 unless travelling within North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise when increased to £1,000.**

For persons aged **61 to 70 years** the excess is increased to **£1,000 unless travelling within North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise when increased to £2,000.**

For persons aged **71 to 90 years** the excess is increased to **£1,500 unless travelling within North or Central America or the Caribbean or on a Cruise when increased to £3,000.**

MEMBER OF THE



ATII

ASSOCIATION OF TRAVEL INSURANCE INTERMEDIARIES

Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and our status can be checked on the FSA Register by visiting www.fsa.gov.uk/register or by contacting the FSA on 0845 606 1234.

This insurance is administered by FirstAssist Insurance Services Limited on behalf of the insurer Great Lakes Reinsurance (UK) PLC registered in England No. 2189462. Registered address: Plantation Place, 30 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 3AJ, and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority other than Scheduled Airline Failure which is underwritten by IGI Insurance Company Ltd. Registered address: Market Square House, St James's Street, Nottingham, NG1 6FG.

If you have a complaint about the sale of this insurance, you must first write to the Managing Director of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd. Subsequently, complaints may be referred to the Financial Ombudsman Service. If we are unable to meet our liabilities you may be entitled to compensation under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

If you would like more information or are unsure of any details contained herein, you should ask Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for further advice.

PREMIUM RATING SCHEDULE

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

1. United Kingdom

England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man, including all islands comprising the British Isles (except the Channel Islands and the Republic of Ireland).

(Any British Isles or UK Cruises are rated as Area 2).

2. Europe

Area 1 and Continental Europe west of the Ural mountain range, all countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea (except, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya & Syria), the Channel Islands and the Republic of Ireland, Iceland, Madeira, The Canaries and The Azores. (Persons residing in the Channel Islands need to pay Area 2 rates for UK trips).

3. Worldwide excluding North America

Areas 1 & 2 and All countries outside of the above (except the continent of North America, countries comprising Central America and the Caribbean Islands).

4. Worldwide including North America

Areas 1,2 & 3 and The United States of America, Mexico and other countries comprising Central America, Canada, Cuba and the Caribbean Islands.

SCHEDULE OF PREMIUMS

Valid for policies issued up to **31/3/2011** and for travel completed by **31/12/2011**.

Areas 1 & 2 - Applicable per person up to age 90 years on the date of return to the UK.

Areas 3 & 4 - Applicable per person up to age 80 years on the date of return to the UK.

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
1 - 3 days	£13.80	£21.20	£44.40	£63.90
4 & 5 days	£16.60	£26.60	£55.80	£80.30
6 -10 days	£19.40	£35.90	£75.60	£108.30
11-17 days	£22.10	£39.30	£84.10	£121.20
18-24 days	£24.90	£45.20	£94.70	£136.40
25-31 days	£27.70	£51.40	£107.80	£155.20
Each + 7 days or part thereof	£ 5.00	£10.10	£25.30	£36.50

(maximum period of 122 days)

All premiums include the Government Insurance Premium Tax (IPT), which is 17.5% and is subject to variation.

PREMIUM ADJUSTMENTS

All age adjustments apply to the age on the **date of return** to the UK
The following adjustments apply **ONLY** to trips in excess of **31 days** for all persons aged **65 years** and over

Geographical Area	Premium Increase
Area 2 Europe	Plus 50% (1.5 times)
Area 3 Worldwide excl. North America etc	Plus 100% (2 times)
Area 4 Worldwide incl. North America etc	Plus 200% (3 times)

Infants up to 2 years inclusive are FREE subject to being included with an adult paying a full premium.

Children 3 to 16 years inclusive are HALF PRICE subject to being included with an adult paying a full premium. Unaccompanied children pay the adult rate.

Group Discounts – Contact us for discounts available starting at 10 persons.

Single Trip Travel Insurance

Suitable for individual round trips up to 122 days duration that start and finish in the UK arranged by

GLOBAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

Amelia House, Crescent Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1RL
☎ 01903 203933 Fax 01903 211106

SINGLE TRIP APPLICATION FORM

Please FULLY complete the following in BLOCK CAPITALS. Once complete, return the application panel direct to **Global Travel Insurance** with a cheque or with card details entered.

Insurance is **not effective** until a Policy has been issued. Please allow at least **5 days** before you need to travel.

Details of the Applicant

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss)	Initials
Surname	
Telephone No.	
House Number/Name	
Street Name	
Town Name	
Postcode	
Date of leaving Home	
Date of arrival Home	
Introducer	Mr Bridge
Geographical Area - See Premium Panel (1,2,3 or 4)	

Names of all persons to be insured

	Age	Premium
1		£
2		£
3		£
4		£
5		£
6		£
Credit/Debit Card Details		TOTAL PREMIUM £

Card No	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Start Date	<input type="text"/>	End Date	<input type="text"/>	Issue No <input type="text"/>
Security Code	<input type="text"/>			

DECLARATION

On behalf of all persons listed in this application, I agree that this application shall be the basis of the Contract of Insurance. I agree that Insurers may exchange information with other Insurers or their agents. I have read and understood the terms and conditions of the insurance, with which all persons above are in agreement and for whom I am authorized to sign.

Signed **Date**

The form MUST be signed by one of the persons to be insured on behalf of all persons to be insured.

Mr Bridge is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.



The Old Baron Triumphs Again

by Dick Atkinson

Ach, mein Papa!' intoned the Baron soulfully, holding out a large sheet of slightly yellowed parchment.

I glanced at it and, deciphering the large gothic characters among the fancy scrolls and curlicues, realised it was a certificate for a block of ten thousand shares in De Beers. My uncle had often bewailed the loss of the family estates, confiscated by the Russians in 1945, but obviously his father had not left him destitute. 'A handsome bequest,' I replied.

'Bequest? *Nein, nein!* The bridge hand in the margin . . . Somehow the old man always got the better of me. Always.'

I looked more closely, and sure enough there was a deal neatly recorded in black ink. It was typical of Uncle Leo to jot a bridge hand down, oblivious at the moment to the importance of the paper it was written on.

Uncle Beats His Papa

'Cover the West and South hands.'

I obediently obscured those twenty-six cards with my right thumb.

'North was my mother. Julius, our butler, was making up the table, and opened 1♣. *Mutti* overcalled with 1♥, giving me my first problem. Well?'

This was the hand:

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

'I . . . Obviously there is a danger of being shut out. They may reach 4♥ when you have a game in spades or even diamonds, so -'

'Nevermind. You pass, of course, to await developments. My father leapt to 4♠ which was passed round to me. I doubled and Julius led the ace of clubs, rather than the obvious and lethal diamond. I discarded the four of hearts, and Papa ruffed low, then cashed the ace of hearts before starting on trumps, Julius discarding a club on the first round. Analysis?'

How to Beat the Contract

'Well. I suppose -'

'*Keep those hands hidden!* To have any chance, you must assume that my father holds only a singleton heart, otherwise eleven tricks are easy.'

'Er -'

'So if you can beat it at all, you have a 33% chance of defeating the contract.'

'Er -'

'Come, come. Since declarer must be 7-1-5-0 if we are to defeat him, then partner has just one diamond. Provided partner holds the nine or eight rather than one of the four little cards . . .'

I cunningly varied my interjections: 'Ah!'

'You see it!' I didn't. 'I unblocked defensively in trumps - five times - to avoid the throw-in. After taking his six further trump tricks, Papa had to lead a diamond to the king and ace. I cashed the queen, and threw my father in with my four of diamonds to lead back into my ten-seven. One down.'

'Then, surely, on this occasion you

got the better of your father?'

'My father was quick to point out that 5♣ must make on normal defence . . .' And so it would, with that perfect lie of the diamond honours.

Dealer: West. East-West Vul.

Baroness

♠ Void
♥ K Q 10 6 3 2
♦ K J
♣ 8 6 5 3 2

Julius

♠ Void
♥ J 9 7 5
♦ 9
♣ A K Q J 10 9 7 4

Uncle Leo

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

Old Baron

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

Intellectual Victory

'But there was worse to come. I was unwise enough to claim an intellectual victory in the post-mortem. After all, it seemed that five defensive unblocks in a single suit must be an unprecedented coup . . .'

'You mean your father claimed to have achieved the same feat? Surely the precise circumstances, almost, would have had to be duplicated. It seems hard to credit.'

'No. It was worse than that. On the next deal my mother made 4♥ on a simple hexagon squeeze. And then . . .' The Baron turned the fancy share certificate over. 'This was the third deal.'

Papa Gets His Revenge

Dealer: East. Game All.

North

Baroness

♠ AKJ87

♥ Void

♦ 8532

♣ 9862

West

Julius

♠ Q109

♥ J1095

♦ AKQJ109

♣ Void

East

Uncle

Leo

♠ 65432

♥ AKQ

♦ Void

♣ AKQ54

South

Old Baron

♠ Void

♥ 876432

♦ 764

♣ J1073

'I opened 1♣, Julius responded 2♦, a ridiculous over-valuation with that void in my suit, and I rebid 2♠. Julius made the easy I-don't-give-a-damn-how-you-take-it bid of 3♥, and I settled for 3NT, well aware that it was an underbid, but happy to conclude the rubber since my partner and I were obviously not in tune. Papa led his eight of hearts, and *Mutti* discarded the eight of diamonds. She played two more diamonds on my remaining hearts, and it was apparent that there was a very similar blocked position to that other hand. I started the clubs from the top. With the clue of that previous position fresh in their minds, there was no chance that they would go wrong, so between them my parents unblocked the clubs six times! I was unable to use

either of them as a stepping stone to that dummy. Eventually the three and two fell under my five, I cashed the four, and lost the last five tricks to my mother's spades. My father was cock-a-hoop, I remember, about that sextuple defensive unblock.'

It certainly seemed unfortunate. 'I see what you mean. Presumably Julius could have made 4♥?'

'Pshaw! Perhaps – if he hadn't been at the brandy that night! But my father had a different contract in mind.'

I was mystified. '4♠ must be two down . . . 5♦ could be, oh, four down easily . . . 5♣ must be even worse –'

'Six down, I think. But my father felt that I was guilty of a serious *faux pas* in the auction. He was scathing about my strong call in a suit with no card above the six-spot.'

'But how can it help to do anything else?'

Epilogue

The Baron folded the certificate neatly into four, and tucked it back inside the priceless first edition of Goethe's *Faust*, where it had been doing duty as a bookmark. 'Papa suggested I should rebid 2♥, a much more natural bid.'

'But then you would probably end up in 5♥, or even . . .'

'Nincompoop! 6♥ is unbeatable played by East – in fact you can make the Grand if you don't get a trump lead. *Ach, mein Papa!*'

I decided, tactfully, not to inquire who won the rubber. ■

CHARITY BRIDGE EVENTS

AUGUST 2010

- 15 **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**
St George's Bridge Centre,
Darlington. Duplicate Pairs 2pm.
Prizes, masterpoints, meal. £12.50.
Details ☎ 01325 360340
- 25 **EAST ANGLIA AIR AMBULANCE**
Dick Powell Charity Bridge Event
2-5pm at South Wootton Village
Hall, Kings Lynn. £5.00 entry
includes a cream tea.
Ivan Gerstel ☎ 01553 768236

SEPTEMBER 2010

- 10 **CHILDREN'S CHARITIES**
Doddington Village Hall.
10 for 10.30am. £13.50.
Val Topliss ☎ 01354 653696
- 16 **Huddersfield Pennine Rotary Club.** Outlane Golf Club. 12 for
12.30pm. £44 a table, inc lunch.
Brian Noble ☎ 01484 427356
- 17 **ST MARY'S CHURCH EATON SOCON,**
St. Neots 10 for 10.30am. £13.
Malcolm Howarth
☎ 01480 212910
- 23 **UPWOOD CHURCH RESTORATION FUND.** Upwood Village Hall
Chicago Bridge Day. 10 for
10.30am. £15pp includes lunch.
Chris Bruce ☎ 01487 812327
Peter Somerfield
☎ 01487 812167
- 24 **SAM BEARE HOSPICE.** Christ the
Prince of Peace Church Hall,
Portmore Park Road, Weybridge.
2pm. £7pp includes tea. Please
bring tables, scorers and cards.
Claire Bartoli ☎ 01932 855799
Susan Hanrahan
☎ 01932 400009
- 28 **ST TERESA'S HOSPICE.** Hudswell
Village Hall, nr Richmond,
N. Yorks, £10pp. Bridge the Gap
duplicate directed by Mr M Baker.
1.30-4pm followed by tea
Mary Lovell ☎ 01748 850208
- 29 **PRINCESS ALICE HOSPICE**
Putney Leisure Centre. 10.30am
for 11am. £64 per table inc. lunch.
Pam Turner ☎ 0208 995 2270

OCTOBER 2010

- 1 **RNLI.** Salwarpe Village Hall,
Droitwich, Worcs. 10.30 for 11am
£10pp including buffet lunch.
Mrs P Main ☎ 01905 381395
- 7 **WEST WIRRAL INNER WHEEL**
Charity Bridge Drive. Heswall
Hall, Heswall, Wirral at 6.45pm.
£50 per table including supper.
Ruth Foggan ☎ 0151 6254201
- 16 **THE FRIENDS OF ST ANNE'S CHURCH.** Kew. Church Hall.
1.30pm for 2-5pm. £25 per pair.
Ian Lewty ☎ 020 8876 3681
- 16 **CHRISTIAN AID.** St Andrew's Church
Rooms, Preston, Weymouth. 1.45
for 2pm, £6.50pp includes tea.
Julia Moore ☎ 01305 776138
juliamoore1@btinternet.com
- 16 **RNLI**
Cheltenham Bridge Club. £15pp.
11am-4pm. Lunch & glass wine.
Margaret Beverley
☎ 01242 510193
- 21 **HELP FOR HEROES** Congregational
Church Hall, Market Harborough
2pm. £7.50pp.
Margaret ☎ 01858 464777
Ann ☎ 01858 465508
- 22 **CHESHIRE HOMES.** Village Hall,
Hartford. 10 for 10.30am. £13.50.
M Howarth ☎ 01480 212910

NOVEMBER 2010

- 2 **FRIENDS OF EAST SUSSEX HOSPICES.** Glyndebourne Opera
House, The Mildmay Hall. 5.30pm.
Bridge supper, champagne.
Dianne Steele ☎ 01435 813630
- 10 **FRIENDS OF LEATHERHEAD PARISH CHURCH.** Parish Church Hall. 1.45
for 2 p.m. £32 per table inc tea.
Fran Fleming ☎ 01372 375957
- 11 **ST MARGARET'S SOMERSET HOSPICE.** Oake Village Hall. 10.30am
for 11am. £15 includes coffee
and lunch with glass of wine.
Audrey Pike ☎ 01823 256059
- 15 **RNLI.** Village Hall, Swanmore,
Hants. 1.30 for 2pm. £40 per
table including tea and prizes.
Sue Carpenter
☎ 01489 893843
- 16 **CANCER RESEARCH UK.**
Memorial Hall, Christchurch Road,
West Parley, Dorset. 6.30pm for
7.00pm. £24 per table includes
refreshments.
Joyce Earll ☎ 01202 894319
- 25 **Huddersfield Pennine Rotary Club.** Outlane Golf Club.
12 for 12.30pm.
£44 per table, including lunch.
Brian Noble ☎ 01484 427356
- 26 **ALZHEIMER'S CARE & RESEARCH FUND.** Village Hall, Hemingford
Abbots. 10 for 10.30am. £14.
Sheila Poval ☎ 01480 395394
- 28 **DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE.** Batcombe Village
Hall. 2pm £32 per team inc tea.
John Perry ☎ 01373 467508

Previously published in BRIDGE 52.

E-mail your charity events: maggie@mrbridge.co.uk

ANSWERS TO THE DECLARER PLAY QUIZ ON PAGE 26 by DAVID HUGGETT

1.

♠ Q 10 7 5 3											
♥ A 10 9 3											
♦ A 6 3											
♣ 5											
♠ Void		♠ K J 2									
♥ Q 8 6 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♥ K J 5 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♦ 10 8 7 2		♦ 9 5									
♣ K Q J 8 2		♣ 10 9 7 4									
		♠ A 9 8 6 4									
		♥ 7									
		♦ K Q J 4									
		♣ A 6 3									

You are declarer in 6♣ and West leads the ♣K. How do you plan the play?

The slam you have reached is undoubtedly a good one and it would be a shame if careless play led to defeat. With no losers in the red suits and with the two losing clubs in hand capable of being ruffed in dummy, the only concern is not to lose two trump tricks and there can only be a chance of that if the suit breaks 3-0. It would be a mistake to cash the ace first if the East hand has all three missing trumps cards; better is to lead a low card from hand at trick two. If West follows with a low card, you simply cover in dummy; if East wins that, then the suit will have broken 2-1. If West discards, you play dummy's ♠Q and can later finesse against the ♠J. There is a slight improvement on this play however by entering dummy with the ♥A at trick two and leading a low spade, covering whatever East plays. So, if East should have a singleton king, you do not lose a trump trick at all.

2.

		♠ 8 6									
		♥ A 7 5									
		♦ 8 7 6 4									
		♣ A Q J 6									
♠ K 10 7 4 3		♠ J 9 2									
♥ Q 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♥ J 10 8 6 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♦ A 5 3		♦ 10 9 2									
♣ 7 5 4		♣ K 3									
		♠ A Q 5									
		♥ K 9 2									
		♦ K Q J									
		♣ 10 9 8 2									

You are declarer in 3NT and West leads the ♣4. East plays the ♠J. How do you plan the play?

There can be no reason not to win the first trick with the ♠Q. With the lead in your hand, it might seem right to finesse in clubs. Just see what might happen if you do. East will return a spade, which you can duck if you like, but you will have to win the third round. With nowhere near enough tricks without attacking diamonds, you now have to hope that it is East – the hand without the spade winners – who has that card. On the actual layout, you would be defeated. Now try things the other way round and attack diamonds first. Whoever wins will carry on with spades and again you hold up the ace as long as possible. Now when you take the club finesse, it can lose only to East, who probably has no more spades. (If he does have another spade, the suit will have broken 4-4 and all you would lose are two spades, a diamond and a club.)

3.

		♠ A Q 7 3									
		♥ Q 9 5									
		♦ 6 5 3									
		♣ Q 10 7									
♠ 6 4		♠ K 5									
♥ J 8 6 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♥ 10 7 4 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♦ Q J 10 8		♦ K 9 2									
♣ A 9 8		♣ 6 5 4 3									
		♠ J 10 9 8 2									
		♥ A K									
		♦ A 7 4									
		♣ K J 2									

You are declarer in 4♣ and West leads the ♦Q. How do you plan the play?

The diamond lead has attacked a weakness and you have to be careful as to how to proceed. It might look right to win the diamond and immediately take the trump finesse: if the finesse works, you will not lose a trump trick and make the contract with ease. Can you do better than that? You have a third-round heart winner in dummy on which to throw a losing diamond. The trouble is the defenders can probably cash two diamonds when they gain

the lead. While holding up the ♦A might help if East holds a doubleton diamond and the ♣A, better still is to eschew the trump finesse. You win the diamond lead and cash the ace-king hearts. Now lead the jack of trumps if you wish but, if West follows with a low card, rise with the ace in dummy and play the master heart on which you throw a losing diamond. You would be unlucky to find the hearts 6-2 (and the ruff not to be with the ♠K), which constitutes a lower risk than finding the trump finesse failing. On a good day, you will drop the singleton king of trumps offside!

4.

		♠ 9 7 5									
		♥ K 10									
		♦ K 9 7									
		♣ A Q J 6 4									
♠ A 10 8 6 4		♠ J 2									
♥ Q 7 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♥ J 8 6 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♦ Q 8 4		♦ J 6 5 2									
♣ 10 8		♣ K 9 7									
		♠ K Q 3									
		♥ A 9 5 2									
		♦ A 10 3									
		♣ 5 3 2									

You are declarer in 3NT. West leads the ♠6, East playing the ♠J. How do you plan the play?

The rule of 11 tells you that East holds only one spade higher than the six, which you have seen at trick one. This marks the ♠A-10 with West. As you have to rely on clubs to provide you with four tricks in order to succeed in your contract, the most obvious – and correct – way is to finesse against the king. However, if the finesse fails, East will return a spade and you will go down if West started with an original holding of five. Of course, all this presupposes that you won the first trick! If you had ducked, East would have returned a spade – no other return is any better – and West could have cleared the suit; that way, when the club finesse fails, East has no further spade left. If you had started with the ace of spades in your hand instead of the king and queen, the hold-up play would have looked obvious. Somehow, it is much more difficult to spot with the actual holding. ■



Making Stayman better after 1NT

by Bernard Colvin

When you have a weak hand and your partner opens 1NT there is a danger that a 1NT contract fails, possibly quite badly. When the partnership has few high cards, the extra control afforded by having a trump suit can be vital. Furthermore, when one hand is weak, playing with a trump suit has another benefit. A ruffing entry to the weak hand may enable declarer to take a finesse or reach a winner, a chance that would not exist in 1NT. No longer does the 1NT opener struggle by having to keep leading out of the same hand.

Clearly, a 4-4 fit will nearly always score better because you have trump control and will gain tricks by ruffing in either hand. However, you will often gain by playing in a 4-3 fit too. While you cannot make an extra trick on quite a few deals, in which case clearly you would prefer not to be a level higher, quite often you can make an extra trick. If trumps break 3-3 or you manage a ruff in the short trump hand, even a 4-3 fit can be more productive than no-trumps.

Traditionally, you will have heard that you should only use Stayman with 11+ points – but then it seemed sensible to include some weak options: hands that could easily deal with any response:

1 5-4 or Longer in the Majors and Weak

```

♠ J 8 7 6 5
♥ Q 9 8 7
♦ 4
♣ K 5 4
  
```

2 Shortage in Clubs and Weak

```

♠ J 8 7 6
♥ Q 9 7 6
♦ K 8 7 6
♣ 4
  
```

With hands of type 1, you can bid Stayman and then rebid 2 of the longer major if partner replies 2♦. With hands of type 2, you simply pass any rebid by opener.

Extensive research supports my belief that we can take things a step further:

It is correct to use Stayman with two 4-card majors whatever your strength

Either you will find a 4-4 fit or you will find a 4-3 fit; computer simulations suggest the resulting suit contract will play better than 1NT most of the time.

To play this method requires only a slight change to your methods:

When you have two long majors (4+ cards in each

and a weak hand then bid Stayman. If opener replies in a major, you are happy because you have a fit and can pass.

If the reply is 2♦: Now you rebid in your longer major, if you have one, while with equal length you must bid 2♥.

Over 2♠, when responder shows longer spades, opener passes as usual.

The key difference is the progression over a rebid of 2♥:

Opener passes with 3 cards in hearts or converts to 2♠ with only 2 hearts. This ensures there will be at least a 7-card fit.

This idea allows the partnership to escape on many hands and find any 4-4 major fit that is available. The hand below shows a prime example where the system gains:

```

♠ A K Q 2
♥ Q 8 7
♦ Q 4
♣ 8 6 4 2

♠ 10 9 7
♥ 6 5 4
♦ A K 2
♣ K J 9 7

♠ J 3
♥ J 10 9
♦ J 10 9 8 3
♣ A Q 3

♠ 8 6 5 4
♥ A K 3 2
♦ 7 6 5
♣ 10 5
  
```

In this example, if North plays in 1NT, he should make only 4 tricks (3 undertricks) because the defenders can run both minors. If he plays in 2♠, he should make 9 tricks (1 overtrick).

Clearly, things are much easier when you find a 4-4 fit. Let us also see how things would progress otherwise:

```

♠ 8 6 5 4
♥ A K 3 2
♦ 7 6 5
♣ 10 5
  
```

This is the responding hand from the above diagram: you should bid 2♣ Stayman to check on the opener's shape. Here are four examples of hands for opener:

Hand A	Hand B
♠ A K Q 2	♠ A K Q
♥ Q 8 7	♥ Q 8 7
♦ Q 4	♦ Q 9 4
♣ 8 6 4 2	♣ 8 6 4 2
Hand C	Hand D
♠ A K Q	♠ Q 7
♥ Q 8	♥ Q 8 7
♦ Q 9 4	♦ Q 9 8 4 3
♣ 9 8 6 4 2	♣ A K 2

With Hand A, opener should rebid 2♠, and you can pass knowing that there is at least an 8-card fit.

The opener should reply

Making Stayman Better continued

2♦ to your 2♣ on the other three hands, after which you call 2♥. This is not a weak take-out, rather it asks opener to choose hearts or spades.

With Hand B, the opener should pass. He has equal length in the majors and he should disregard the fact that his spades are stronger. He knows there is at least a 7-card fit. He also knows that if you had 5 spades and 4 hearts you would have rebid 2♠ rather than 2♥.

With Hand C, the opener should convert to 2♠; with Hand D, he should pass. In each case there will be at least a 7-card fit at the two level.

After the sequence 1NT-2♣-2♦-2♥, opener will pass whenever he holds 3 hearts. Therefore, if opener has 3 hearts facing responder's 5 hearts and 4 spades, they will get to the same contract on the recommended method as they would if the 2♥ rebid forced opener to pass. If the opener has only 2 hearts, he will have 3 spades. He will then convert to 2♠. This puts them in a 7-card fit if responder is 4-5 or 4-4 in the majors and in an 8-card fit if responder is 5-5. Again, you never end up with fewer trumps than if opener had to pass 2♥, as some methods require and you might end up with more.

As suggested in the introduction, Acol usually treats the sequence 1NT-2♣-2♦-2♥ as a weak take-out (i.e. obliging opener to pass) showing at least 5 hearts and 4 spades. This prevents the

possibility of catering for situations when responder has 4 cards in each major. It is also inefficient if responder has 5 cards in each major because it means you may play in 2♥ on a 5-2 fit when a 5-3 fit is available in spades.

In the new system this sequence asks opener to 'pass or correct' so that he always has three cards in the final trump contract.

Computer simulations show that, with the above responding hand, 1NT makes about 34% of the time but two of a major 43% of the time. This confirms that playing in a suit is quite often worth an extra trick. However, one important proviso is that the play of the contracts can be difficult, and the defence too!

Conclusion

This system does not suggest wholesale changes – it is adding only one tiny chink to the Stayman convention. You can use Stayman in the normal way with 11+ points. It just adds to the number of weak hands on which you can use it – 0-10 points and 4-4 in the majors – as well as the usual hands with 9+ cards in the majors or short clubs.

The only change you need to make to your system is when the Stayman bidder rebids 2♥: 1NT-2♣-2♦-2♥. In this sequence it is important for the opening bidder to bid 2♠ if his spades are longer than his hearts (otherwise he passes).

It is a minor change to have to make, for what appears to give major gains. I would suggest having a go and seeing how you get on! ■

DOUBLE DUMMY SOLUTION

by Richard When

(Problem on page 7)

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

So there we were, in another South-East Surrey Senior Novices' event. I was South in a no-trump contract and, as is the custom in such events, my partner had manoeuvred his Zimmer frame behind my electric buggy to watch me play. With dummy to lead, I needed the last six tricks. With luck, I would make three spades (with two finesses) and two diamonds (with another finesse). That (and I write as someone who passed maths O Level 60 years ago – grade C) made at most five tricks. Where was the other to come from? As so often, I would have to rely on my opponents to discard badly.

Not knowing what else to do I led a spade off dummy and took a deep finesse, covering East's nine with the ten, which held – so far so good. I returned to dummy with a successful diamond finesse – so far even better – and took another winning

spade finesse (put my queen on East's jack – brilliant!). Now, since I did not need further entries to hand, I played my ace of spades, to fell East's king. After some thought, West threw a diamond. With limited options, I led a diamond to the king and ace. When I played dummy's five of diamonds to the last trick, I found, to my astonishment and delight, that it won – contract made.

What chuffed me most was that I had spotted and successfully taken three finesses – that being about the limit of my bridge-playing ability. The mathematician within me later worked out this was a 1 in 8 chance, so I had been very lucky.

'Bother', said West, 'I must throw my heart, not a diamond.' I was about to commiserate when North weighed in: 'My partner squeezed you! If you throw your heart, he cashes his heart before taking the last trick with the ace of diamonds.' It was news to me that I had executed a squeeze. Would I have known my two of hearts was good if West had thrown his three? I doubt it (O level maths does not equip one to deal with such a conundrum) but, for the sake of a few minutes' glory, I kept quiet. We S-ESSN's do that sort of thing.

Have you subscribed to my weekly e-magazine yet?

Register online at www.mrbridge.co.uk

Mr Bridge Single-Suited Design Pens



**Boxed
Set of Four
£19.95**

Available from  www.mrbridge.co.uk/mrbridge-shop

ANSWERS TO THE DEFENCE QUIZ ON PAGE 13 by JULIAN POTTAGE

1.

♠ A Q 9 ♥ 10 7 ♦ Q 9 6 5 3 ♣ K 9 5	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	S	E				♠ 10 5 3 ♥ A K J 6 2 ♦ J ♣ A Q 7 2	♠ Void ♥ Q 4 3 ♦ A 10 8 7 4 2 ♣ 10 8 6 3
	N											
W	S	E										

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	End	3♠

You lead the five of diamonds: jack, ace, king. Partner switches to the three of clubs, covered by the four. What do you play?

With the ace-queen of clubs poised over your king, it might appear that it does not matter what you do. In the sense that your king will not make while the ace and queen always will, this is true. However, by saving your king to play on declarer's possible jack, you can make a difference overall. You should play the nine, taking a finesse against the jack. This way, declarer ends up losing a heart as well as two trumps and a diamond.

2.

♠ A 7 4 ♥ 9 7 ♦ 8 5 3 ♣ K 9 7 5 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	S	E				♠ K 5 3 ♥ J 10 6 2 ♦ A Q 9 6 2 ♣ Q	♠ J 10 9 6 ♥ 4 3 ♦ K 4 ♣ A 10 8 6 3
	N											
W	S	E										

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
End	2♥	Pass	4♥

You lead the five of clubs. Partner wins with the ace and switches to the jack of spades. What do you do when declarer plays low?

From partner's switch to the jack, you can be

sure where the queen is – on your right. The rules for switches are similar to leads – top of a sequence. If you grab the ace, declarer will make two spade tricks – the king in dummy and the queen in hand. It is another story if you withhold your ace, saving it to capture the queen. So long as partner has the nine of spades as well as the presumed ten, this restricts declarer to one spade trick.

You should play the seven of spades to encourage spades. You hope that partner will gain the lead, perhaps with the ♥A or, as here, the ♦K and play a second round of spades. You defeat the contract with a club, a diamond and two spades.

3.

♠ A 9 4 ♥ Q 8 7 3 ♦ J 5 ♣ 9 8 7 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	S	E				♠ Q 8 3 ♥ J 10 2 ♦ A Q 7 4 ♣ J 5 4	♠ J 10 6 5 ♥ Void ♦ 10 8 3 2 ♣ A Q 10 6 3
	N											
W	S	E										

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	End	3♥

You lead the eight of clubs: four, ace, king. Partner switches to the jack of spades and declarer plays low. What do you play?

This time the spade honour you can see in dummy is the queen. This means you cannot so quickly deduce the spade position. Could partner possibly hold the ♠K? You need to count the points to work this out. If you assume the ♠K at trick one is a true card, partner has 6 points in clubs and you have seen the ♠J, giving 7 in total. The unseen hands have 23 points between them. If partner has 3 more points (with the ♠K), South's jump rebid with 13 points is looking very skinny. Besides, if holding a spade suit headed by the king-jack, partner could have led low to avoid giving you a guess. Now that you are sure the ♠K is on your right, the position is much the same as on the previous deal.

You want to save your ace to capture the king.

This time, however, you do not try to encourage with the nine. For one thing, you do not expect partner to regain the lead. More importantly, you do not signal with winners. You need to keep the ace-nine as a tenace over the king.

4.

♠ A J 8 ♥ 8 7 3 ♦ K J 5 ♣ J 9 7 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	S	E				♠ Q 4 3 ♥ A K 6 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 4 ♣ 5	♠ K 10 6 2 ♥ 9 4 ♦ 8 3 2 ♣ A 8 6 3
	N											
W	S	E										

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

You lead the two of clubs. Partner wins with the ace and switches to the two of spades, on which declarer plays low. What do you do?

You are probably into the habit of finessing by now. If you do not play the ace then you will play the eight rather than the jack. The eight is just as good as the jack in forcing out the queen and you would want to keep the ace-jack over South's possible K-9.

This time, you need to study the dummy before reaching a decision. The diamond position is horrible, with the ace-queen over your king-jack. The trump position does not seem good either – it looks like whatever partner has there will fall under the ace-king.

What is more, if declarer can get to hand, one of dummy's spades will go away on the ♣K (partner has denied holding the ♣K by winning the first trick with the ♣A).

By far your best chance of defeating the contract is to find partner with the king (and ten) of spades. In this case, you can cash three spade tricks straight away. You go up with the ace and continue with the jack. Whether dummy covers or not, declarer cannot make a spade trick. You know that the third round of spades will stand up since the switch to the two indicates a four-card suit. ■

Q PLUS 9.1

Still the very best Acol-playing Software available



FEATURES

- The Usual Friendly Interface (see above)
- Hint and Help Buttons – always at hand
- Easy Windows Installation
- Comprehensive Manual
- Rubber, Duplicate and Teams Scoring
- Instant results playing in teams mode
- 2,500 pre-played hands for teams
- 2,000 pre-played hands for match-pointed pairs including 1,000 new hands
- NEW** Check your pairs percentage and ranking
- NEW** Systems include: several versions of Acol, including Bernard Magee's system, Standard American or create your own.
- **£84** including p&p

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- 8mb RAM
- CD-ROM
- Pentium or equivalent
- Windows XP or Vista

SECOND HAND OFFER

I have some copies of QPlus 8.8 that I have accepted in part exchange for the latest version.

Excellent value at £54.

Order with absolute confidence.

Mr Bridge

**Happy BRIDGE reader,
Gill Smith of
Thames Ditton writes:**

I love my QPlus Bridge. As a learner, I always have a faithful partner whenever I want one. She is always available (late at night too) and she bids and plays perfectly. She has never kicked me under the table, rolled her eyes or taken a sharp intake of breath. If I bid or play badly she is on hand with sound advice yet she doesn't take offence if I ignore it.

There is also a use which I didn't realise when I bought the CD. It is the facility to feed in the real hands that we deal, and see how it would have bid and played them. I have done this on arriving home, usually cross with myself, after a duplicate session. My faithful friend gives me a sensible perspective on the matter. When playing Chicago or rubber at home, at the end of the bidding and playing a difficult hand, I have opened up my laptop and switched on QPlus. With fellow learners, I have looked at hands and seen how our electronic friend would have bid and played. We still have lots to learn.

I bracket my QPlus disc together with the dishwasher – an essential luxury that I would find difficult to live without.



Make your cheque payable to **Mr Bridge** and send to: Ryden Grange, Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2TH



01483 489961 www.mrbridge.co.uk/mrbridge-shop **Fax 01483 797302**

