



AYRSHIRE DISTRICT BULLETIN



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October was a sad month for Ayrshire and Scottish bridge, seeing the loss of the SBU honorary life President, Morag Malcolm and Newton Stewart's David Gaw. Russell McClymont pays a moving tribute to David on sheet 2 of the bulletin and on sheet 3 there's a selection of tributes to Morag.

£15,000

At the recent Chairman versus Vice Chairman match the ABU was presented with a certificate to recognise the £15,000 Ayrshire has raised over the past 15 years . This message below from Jean Morman, Troon Friends of the Ayrshire Hospice : For 15 years The Ayrshire Bridge Union has been competing for the Kenny Mackay Trophy with the monies being gifted to the Ayrshire Hospice. Kenny died from cancer and was nursed in the Hospice. This year they have to be thanked for presenting a cheque for £741. This brings their total to over £15000. A marvellous contribution to the Hospice!

Pictured is Dr Gordon Erskine of the Hospice Management Council presenting Stewart Duguid, President of the Ayrshire Bridge Union, with a framed certificate. Many thanks to all who, over the years, have played for the trophy and supported the Hospice.



David Gaw.

At David's local club Russell McClymont gave this Tribute :

As we remember David Gaw to-night, I also remember the extreme haste with which he liked to complete the business on the first night of a new season. I could almost hear him modestly trying to tell me "A couple o' words'll dae that, boy", which set me thinking, that so long as the two words were enthusiasm & commitment, I'd be almost there.

David's enthusiasm was infectious, and spilled over to be inspirational, to pupils who would like to play the game as well as he did, as it did to almost anyone who came in contact with him. His commitment to Barbara & the family, to the farm, to his community & to this bridge club which his father had founded was almost total.

An example of his commitment to the current theme was shown in one of our most successful outings long ago, when we won the Prestwick heat of the Scottish National Pairs, came second in the Glasgow semi-final, led the final in Edinburgh at halfway, but faded to 5th place by the close. That however was only part of the story, and I can think of plenty of partners who would never have reached Prestwick on the qualifying day to play a single card in the event.

The first hint that anything was amiss came when I answered the phone while awaiting his arrival. He told me that his car was stuck in flood water a couple of miles down the road, & that he had hitched a lift back to Penninghame, where Bob McKillop was starting his tractor to tow him through the flooded river to meet me. Would I please appear at my end of the flood with a rope a.s.a.p. When this flood is deep enough to cause problems it is about a quarter of a mile long & I arrived just in time to see the bow wave of Bob's tractor rounding the bend. As we switched the tow line, Bob told me that he had suggested a shorter escape, only to be met with the retort: "No, No! I want to be pu'ed on through."

When we arrived at Creebank, he walked into the farm kitchen with his trousers rolled up to the knees, & his shoes in his hand: pre-empting any discussion on the wisdom of continuing the journey with a swift "Lend me a towel & a pair o' dry socks boy, and we'll get up the road." As we drove through Prestwick, that afternoon he spotted a local minor road closure and exclaimed "That's the 17th 'Road Closed' sign I've seen since I left Newton Stewart!" Astonishingly, when we returned at eight o' clock to his waterlogged car, it started at the first turn of the key.

His support when I was Scottish President was superb. If I needed a partner he would come & if I needed half a team, he would bring Barbara too, and we shared many events happily over the years. His apparently laid back approach was deceptively superficial, as any enterprise he undertook was carefully planned & well prepared.

He will be missed in many places in Scotland, but it is here in Port William Club that we'll all miss him most. He joined about 40 years ago, & starting in 75-76, won the Club Championship 25 times in the next 35 years. His inspiring captaincy covered the Club's most successful period, winning the Wigtownshire League on about 20 occasions. Some of his many other wins involved team-mates from Newton Stewart, where he was also Club Champion often. He won all the Wigtownshire Cups frequently, and a number of District events too. His contribution to Port William's annual Bridge Drives, which raised thousands of pounds for cancer charities over the years was enormous, and the panache with which he sold raffle tickets on these occasions was memorable.

No David! Two words could never be enough to do you justice. But perhaps, in four lines from Khayyam we can find a reminder of the way you lived, & the advice you would have given us:

"Dreaming when Dawn's Left Hand was in the Sky
I heard a voice within the Tavern cry,
'Awake, my Little ones, and fill the Cup
Before Life's Liquor in its Cup be dry.'"

Morag Malcolm

SBU Honorary Life President

Just a few extracts from some of the tributes paid to Morag on the SBU website.

Morag's contribution to Scottish bridge was enormous.

She was a good player and had many achievements in her own right, but what she will be most remembered for is the way she seemed to put every waking hour into developing the game in Scotland. Every time one met her, she would ask why you hadn't entered this or that event yet. Not having a partner or team-mates was no excuse; she would soon sort that out for you. She did it all with a great sense of humour.....

Harry Smith

Morag was always a great proponent of Scottish Junior Bridge. She offered her support in provision of the Morag Malcolm Shield for Scottish Schools bridge players and in her kind words when she met Juniors in the Glasgow bridge clubs. I'm sure juniors will appreciate her contributions to Scottish bridge for years to come. It's sad that the next generation of young bridge players will not experience her jolly personality when they take their first steps into a bridge club.

Andrew Sinclair (Scottish Junior International)

When I was Treasurer or Secretary and eventually President of the S.B.U. I was very appreciative of the wise counsel and advice I got from Morag. She was on the phone nearly every day asking about something or telling me what was happening.

Also her help over many years in setting up the A.G.M. was invaluable to the Secretary. Morag just had the interest of the S.B.U. and bridge in general at heart. As the saying goes "We will never see her like again".

Jim Wilcox

Sad to hear of Morag Malcolm's death. Few will appreciate the extent of her contribution to our image abroad. Harry has already mentioned her encouragement to budding participants locally, but her leadership and service to Junior Camps in Europe could easily be overlooked. When I went to Amsterdam in 1982 everyone I met seemed to say "You come from Scotland. You'll know Morag?" But what was really astonishing was that every one of them had a different story to tell. Be it hospitality received, a kindness offered or a helping hand given: their personal opinion of Scottish Bridge was almost entirely coloured by their experience on meeting her: and she had clearly left a very favourable impression..

Russell McClymont

.....I will remember a strong vibrant personality that had only the Scottish Bridge Union's interests at heart. I am sad she is now not at the end of the phone to give me her opinions and very sound advice. She is irreplaceable, a one off and I miss her very much.

Michele Alexander SBU President

Scottish Bridge has lost, as far as Allan and I are concerned, its core. Morag was always the driving force of Scottish Bridge in the 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's and had it not been for the loss of her eyesight, would have continued until the present day..... She was a most considerate, kind and extremely generous person and it was a privilege to have known her and her family. The bridge world, globally, has lost one of its finest members as she was well known all over the world for her passion for the game and for her interest in all things connected with it. She will be sadly missed.

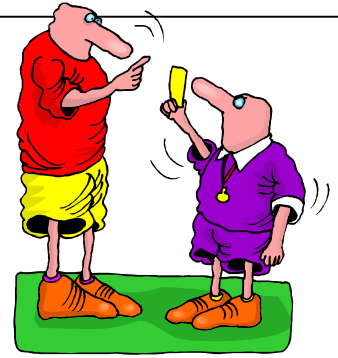
Barbara and Allan Kay.

Top player - Top administrator - Top friend - Top promoter of bridge - Top person
What a hand you played, Morag!

Chris Frohlich

Ask the Director

By Jim Wilcox



Question 1

South is the dealer and after two passes North opens 3 clubs holding 32

K96

J3

AQJ954

The question is – Could E/W have been damaged because it appeared that there was a game their way, and they felt that the pre-empt kept them out of it? (*The 3C opener was described as “a weak pre-empt”*)

Answer

OK let's look at the bid. With an opening of 3C you are expecting a seven card suit and HCP of say less than 10. Is this a major deviation from that? One card less and one point more.

No, I can't see anything wrong with this bid. I can't even class it as a psyche which is “a material deviation from partnership understanding regarding composition and strength of the hand”. Even then E/W could only claim damage if the Director felt that South had in some way fielded the psyche.

No, my answer to this would be that the bid in no way should have contributed to E/W missing game. They should have the mechanism to get round it.

Question 2

With E/W passing throughout, and N/S playing transfers the auction goes:-

1NT 2D* Alerted

2H 3D

All Pass.



The 2D bid was merely a means of stopping off in 3D with a weak hand.

Is this legal and should North in explaining that 2D was a transfer to Hearts also have volunteered the information that it might be a weak hand with diamonds?

Answer

First of all, this sequence is perfectly legal in a responsive situation like this.

It is frowned upon and you might be ruled against if you try to use it in a defensive situation after an opponent opens 1NT.

Another question coming out of this is: “At the beginning of each round, should your opponents attention be drawn to your deviations from standard practice?” The strict answer is YES, but in practical terms it is really impossible to do so. Where do you start?

The obvious way round this is to have a completed convention card with all these little quirks noted. Then you don't have a problem.

If there is no Convention card then make sure that you give a full explanation of partner's bid including anything which may not be obvious.

In other words, going back to the above hand, when you are asked in response to the alert what you understand by your partner's bid you should say, “I expect him to have 5+ hearts or he might have 5++ diamonds in a weak hand”

Holding up an Honour

By Finlay Marshall

Many bridge articles have been written about the sense in holding up an honour. I came across a rather novel application of this in a hand I was watching.

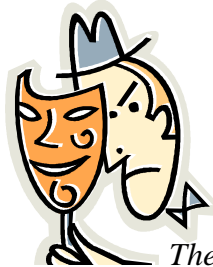
Holding:

♠ AJ8764
♥ KQ7
♦ 43
♣ K2

Love All, our hero (really our villain) saw his partner Pass, then over 1C on his right, bid 1S, and the auction proceeded

| | E | S | W | N |
|----|-----|----|----|---|
| P | 1C | 1S | 2S | |
| 4S | 4NT | P | 5C | |
| P | 6C | P | P | |
| P | | | | |

Well this sequence was a bit surreal, but he refrained from doubling and led the King of hearts.



The Villain!

Dummy went down with :
♠ Q5
♥ 983
♦ KQ9
♣ JT654

So that was at least one question answered, as there just couldn't have been that many points in the pack to justify the bidding.

Declarer won the first trick with the Ace, and laid down the Ace of clubs, and our villain's partner showed out. Declarer now went after the diamonds, and on the third trick, our villain ruffed with the King of clubs. Villain's partner played the Jack. What now? Guessing wrongly, he tried to cash the Queen of hearts! The full deal was :

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| ♠ AJ8764 | ♠ Q5 | ♠ KT32 |
| ♥ KQ7 | ♥ 983 | ♥ JT6542 |
| ♦ 43 | ♦ KQ9 | ♦ J86 |
| ♣ K2 | ♣ JT654 | ♣ - |
| | ♠ 9 | |
| | ♥ A | |
| | ♦ AT752 | |
| | ♣ AQ9873 | |

It was only after he chose to try to cash the Queen of hearts that it dawned on me that he should have held back ruffing the third diamond, and, instead, ruffed the fourth diamond. Note the essential difference in that on the fourth diamond, declarer will have to make a discard from dummy and it will be safe to lead whichever suit he chooses to discard as there would be only one more discard available, and too many cards in dummy in the critical major suit to allow him to discard them all! A novel hold-up play, I thought!

However, the main point of the hand is that when defending against high level contracts, show distribution, not interest or no interest and do so as clearly as possible, here by playing the H6, not the H2, when following suit to show an even number, and equally crucially, look at the cards partner plays!

From Russia With Love

By Neil Falconer

Last month's Bulletin had a piece on husband-wife partnerships at the bridge table. In R. H. Bruce Lockhart's "Memoirs of a British Agent", set in Moscow just before the revolution of 1917, he tells of a husband-wife partnership which must be unique :-

"It amused me to see Madame Zimin, a Moscow millionairess, lunching every Sunday and playing bridge with her three husbands — two ex, and one real."
So different from our bridge world in Ayrshire!

And there's more.....

Overheard at the club.... "Where is the hand you held during the auction?"

And, heard later... "We play forcing hesitations"....

.... And at the end of the evening... "Your play was so much better tonight and so were your excuses"....

And finally.... When Oswald Jacoby was in his eighties he bid every time it was his turn. His partners asked him why he did this. "At my age" he said, "the bidding may not get back round to me again"....



More Cardinal Sins

Cardinal sins - no 2

"Sorry Partner, I lost count of the trumps" **By Sandy Anderson**

Rubbish! What you did was get befuddled in some arithmetical calculation involving adding small numbers and subtracting from 13, that's not the easy way. In a normal suit contract the defenders usually have 4 or 5 trumps so when trumps are being pulled or played all you have to do is subtract from 4 or 5



Cardinal sins - no 3

Not saying "Having None" when partner or declarer does not follow suit. This recent rule is cleverly intended to prevent established revokes as it now takes both members of a partnership to be at fault. In a recent teams final at Peebles, I was in 3NT and had 9 tricks on top after the second round of cards, I had 5 diamonds in dummy and 4 in my hand and while watching discards to see if there was a safe way for a 10th trick, I revoked on the 4th diamond. Eventually the director penalised me 1 trick so my cold 3NT was not. Minus 1 !! I was mortified.

Comparing scores at the end, our team mates were fortunately making 2Hx on this board and we had won this match 20 - 0 even with my revoke. When I confessed to the revoke, it felt good when Fiona said to Stewart "you should have asked" so remember it now takes **TWO TO TANGO, AND REVOKE**. Incidentally Mrs Anderson says my revoke is better!!!

What would you bid now?

By **Stuart McCreadie**

The basic system is Benji Acol with a 12-14 NT (so weak two's in the majors); Stayman, red suit transfers over 1NT/2NT; weak jump overcalls; RKCB; splinters.

In competition: negative/responsive/competitive doubles; Lebensohl after an overcall of our 1NT and after our takeout double of their weak two's. Michaels.

To add interest, marks will be awarded out of ten. The bid with the most votes will automatically receive 10 marks. To break a tie, I will use my casting vote. I will use my discretion to award the other marks. If I like a bid, I will give it a high mark even though there are not many votes for it.

Here are the problems. Decide your answers first and read on...

① *West*

♠ Q52

♥ 9754

♦ AQ8

♣ AKQ

Game all; imps

| W | N | E | S |
|----|----|---|----|
| 1C | 1H | X | 2H |
| ? | | | |

② *West*

♠ KJT4

♥ K84

♦ QJ42

♣ A4

Love all; pairs

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|----|---|
| - | - | 3D | P |
| ? | | | |

③ *West*

♠ QT4

♥ AK652

♦ 7

♣ AK84

Love all; imps

| W | N | E | S |
|----|---|-----|---|
| 1H | P | 1S | P |
| 2C | P | 3NT | P |
| ? | | | |

Problem 1.

Game all, imps

Dealer West

| <i>West</i> | W | N | E | S |
|-------------|----|----|---|----|
| ♠ Q52 | 1C | 1H | X | 2H |
| ♥ 9754 | ? | | | |
| ♦ AQ8 | | | | |
| ♣ AKQ | | | | |

Marks:

Double 10; 2S 9; 4S/Pass 8, 3H 5.

Gordon: Two spades. Like the rest of the panel, I would have opened 1H, which, at least in this case, resolves the immediate problem. The extra values compensate nicely for the lack of a fourth spade in support for partner's four card holding.

Yes, I would open 1H too with this apology for a suit. The rebid after the 1C opening may not be clear, but fortunately now we will avoid ending up in 3NT, losing five heart tricks. Certainly settling for a part score in spades seems sensible.

Stewart: Four spades. Guessing games for problems (1) and (2). Partner has only four spades and possibly a five card minor with a shortage in hearts, but with these values, the vulnerable game must be bid. I will go for 4S even with the four- three fit.

Stewart notes the vulnerability and goes straight to game. There are certainly good high card values. The certain danger is that the four-trump hand will be forced immediately. But if the spades break kindly there may be ten tricks if the hand is played on reverse dummy lines. The reward is big, if game makes. Also you would have to be completely confident that in your system your partner absolutely guarantees four spades.

Janice: Double. I base my reasoning on the premise that our designated system incorporates four card Majors.

West has eschewed opening 1H with his miserable suit. As Sonny Moysé said, paraphrasing slightly, "That's not a four card suit, that's an abomination".

I double, asking partner to bid his

suit. If he bids spades, I will settle for the Moysian fit.

Yes, this double is an example of a competitive double. It clearly does not belong to the responsive or negative double categories. It conveys the message that I want to compete and the hand belongs to us, but I have no satisfactory natural bid to make. This is the third type of conventional double used in competition in the system. It is less well defined than the other two categories, and at times there is a danger that it can be mistaken for a penalty double.

Stewart points out that partner might have a five card diamond suit. The competitive double would allow partner to bid diamonds. The downside of this competitive double is that you would not want to hear your partner bid 3C.

Sandy: Double. I don't like the probable 4:3 spade fit when partner is being forced to ruff hearts. I hope partner knows what to do next with the void or singleton heart, and knowing I won't have four spades but probably three after the double. *Sandy and Janice are on the same wavelength here.*

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continued from page 7

Sam: Pass. It pains me to pass but I still have a partner. With nine plus points he will bid again. If he passes, then defending might be our only way of getting a plus score.

Conservative, but could be right.

Ian: Double. Only because I don't see anything else and at least I may be able to transfer blame to partner. Remember the purpose of the auction is to win the post mortem.

Ian invariably wins the post mortem. He is either right, or I surrender due to exhaustion.

The competitive double wins the day. Any of the Panel's choices could be right. If pressed I would pick Gordon's 2S. It should produce a plus score, and in the other room our team mates may be defeating 3NT.

Problem 2

Love all; pairs; Dealer East

| <i>West</i> | W | N | E | S |
|-------------|---|---|----|---|
| ♠ KJT4 | - | - | 3D | P |
| ♥ K84 | ? | | | |
| ♦ QJ42 | | | | |
| ♣ A4 | | | | |

Marks: 3NT 10; 4D 9; 5D /Pass 8

Gordon: Three no-trump. While the club situation is a concern, there is a good chance that we can come to nine tricks and every chance that there will be three losers in a 5D contract. I'm bidding what I think we might make.

This hand is one from the Pollok-Williamson. We played this hand against Dave Wiseman and yourself. Like the majority of the panel, I would also have bid 3NT. For example if partner has seven diamonds to the Ace and the club King, 3NT has chances.

Stewart: Pass. This again is nothing but a gamble. On a good day 3NT could make and similarly 5D might make, but as it is pairs I am

am choosing to pass.

Stewart is in good company with Sam. He is correct in his assessment that there is no game for his side but...

Janice: Three no-trump. My options are pass or 3NT. It is pairs, so the frequency of bids in "the room" is to be thought about. The success of 3NT most probably depends on the whereabouts of the diamond ace... I know, at the table, I would be "in there" bidding 3NT. So, why change the bridge-habit of a lifetime? In any case 3D would seem to be okay but is not a guaranteed success.... with cards, anything is possible.

Sandy: Three no-trump. Hamman says if you think you might make 3NT, bid it. If partner doesn't have seven diamonds to the Ace, he might have a Q or QJ in a side suit to make up for that. If it's good enough for Hamman, it's good enough for me. *And even when you think that you might not make it, it is sometimes a good idea to bid it!*

Sam: Pass. 3NT is tempting but try to construct partner's hand: Ace, King to seven diamonds, plus, at the most an outside Queen. Anyone who opens a pre-empt with Ace, King and an outside King should go back to bridge classes. *You are right that 3NT fails by one trick (as does 5D), but it must be wrong to pass. You have a ten or eleven card fit. Opponents must have a big fit too. Dave (North) was able now to bid 3H with 1-5 -1 -6 distribution and finished in a making 16 point heart game. They had a double fit in hearts and clubs. The best score now available is minus 100 from 5D doubled. Minus 420 or minus 170 are disastrous. Partner did indeed have Ace, King to seven diamonds.*

"THE LAW" (the law of total tricks) tells you that you must bid. You may not yet know opponents' suit, but a reasonable guesstimate of the total number of trumps between the two hands would be 20. If you can make

10 tricks in diamonds, opponents can make 10 tricks in their suit; if you can only make 9 tricks they can make 11 tricks; etc. Even when the number is only 19, you should bid - try it for yourselves. And it is even borderline if the number was an unlikely 18

You must bid to stop opponents entering the auction. And on a lucky day you might just make 3NT.

Ian: Three no-trump. I hope they don't lead a club, and my partner has either AK of diamonds or one of them with a card in hearts.

Your partner has seven diamonds to AK, but as you suspect there are only eight tricks, when North leads a club from his six card suit. Perhaps it is being wise after the event, but I think there is an excellent case for a raise to 4D, the winning bid, but which no-one suggested.

Problem 3

Love all; imps; Dealer West

| <i>West</i> | W | N | E | S |
|-------------|----|---|-----|---|
| ♠ QT4 | 1H | P | 1S | P |
| ♥ AK652 | 2C | P | 3NT | P |
| ♦ 7 | | | | ? |
| ♣ AK84 | | | | |

Marks: Pass 10; 4S 7.

Gordon: Pass. Holding five spades, partner would surely have bid a fourth suit forcing 2D, and in fact may well hold better diamonds than spades. Our hands appear to fit together badly, and, with partner making no move to go higher, 3NT is quite high enough.

Stewart: Pass. Partner has decided what the contract should be. He could have bid

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8
2D, fourth suit forcing and then progressed, rebidding a five card spade suit or shown delayed heart support. At last an easy problem.

Janice: Pass. The 2C rebid rather understates this hand.

Partner hasn't made use of fourth suit forcing which would have shown some strength and enabled me to show 3-card support for his spades. I conclude a holding of four spades.

My partner always tries to make life easy for me. With a stronger hand I am sure he would not leap to 3NT... he would temporise. I visualise a moderately strong hand with a possible 4/2/4/3 or 4/1/4/4 shape, so I pass.

Sandy: Pass. I always trust my partner!! I have described my hand, although I have a king more than I might have had. I expect partner to have game values only, is not worried about diamonds and is not looking for more information or else a fourth suit forcing 2D would have been used.

Sam: Pass. If partner goes down and 4S is the correct contract, its 100% their fault, as a leap to 3NT should show good diamonds. With poorer diamonds, he can bid 2D and the bidding can progress to reach the correct contract.

Ian: Pass. If my partner had a five card spade suit or three card heart support he would have done something else, for example fourth suit forcing.

This hand featured in a 1980 issue of the IPBM bridge magazine .A majority of the experts voted for 4S and the conductor agreed "failing to see any problem" Yes, West has a good hand but there doesn't appear to be an eight card fit, and therefore any slam would be with a Moysian fit, with wasted values in diamonds. However let two experts make the case for 4S.

Wolff - "Four spades – Not to improve the contract, but to suggest a slam"



Forrester-- "Four spades – This is an exception to my normal rule. i.e. 3NT is to play if bid without the fourth suit first, Here I have two factors suggesting better things, shape and strength."

I really don't think that there would be a majority vote by these same experts today for 4S. This panel all opted for the sensible pass. And the comments were perceptive, everyone commenting on the non-use of fourth suit forcing by partner. The Panel has spoken with a single voice.

Congratulations to Janice, Sandy, and Ian with a maximum 30. Gordon, Stewart and Sam were in hot pursuit. It is quite nice to have an occasional problem where everyone agrees.

| Scores | | |
|--------|----------------|----|
| 1= | Sandy Anderson | 30 |
| 1= | Janice Thomson | 30 |
| 1= | Ian Dick | 30 |
| 4 | Gordon Smith | 29 |
| 5= | Sam Malkani | 26 |
| 5= | Stewart Duguid | 26 |

In Problem 2 Stuart refers to the Law of Total tricks. Simply put, the Law says:

"The total number of tricks available on a deal is equal to the total number of trump cards both sides hold in their respective best suits."

Larry Cohen's book 'To bid or not to bid – The law of total tricks' was seen by many as a major advancement in competitive bidding theory. However, some experts have since expressed scepticism. Mike Lawrence and Anders Wirgren have written 'I fought the law of total tricks' slating the concept of the Law. A website discussing the merits, or rather demerits, of the Law has been created. Check out www.newbridgelaw.com for a bit of light reading!

Perhaps the truth lies somewhere in the middle; to slightly misquote Burt Lancaster from the Crimson Pirate (Burt is on the Bridge, HaHa!!) : "Remember: in a bridge club, in bridge theory, in the bridge world...ask no questions...believe only what you see..... NO! - Believe only half of what you see!" Ed.

Extract from 'The Diary' in the Glasgow Herald

Sent in by Wilma Stewart

A retired reader changing at Green's Gym at Giffnock was chatting to a pal when he noticed his friend had a number of bruises on his shin. "You're not still playing football at your age, are you?" he asked. When his friend said "No" our reader pointed at the bruises, and the chap told him "I play a lot of bridge with the wife as my partner".

All publicity is good publicity!! Ed.

Extracts from October's

Council Minutes**Plus
News****Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer**

The sub-committee had its first meeting. Arrangements are now well in hand. It was decided to have a match between Ayrshire and Glasgow as a practice run for the viewgraph operation.

See page 12



The Scottish team has won the Gold medal at the Commonwealth Nations bridge championships in Delhi. The team was : Brian Spears (playing captain), John Murdoch, Derek Diamond, Sandy Duncan, Derek Sanders and Irving Gordon.

More Please....

The classes for improvers run by Gordon Smith are quickly gaining in popularity. 38 attended the 3rd class on Friday 22nd October. It's hoped to run another class on Friday 19th November.

Super Man

Jonathan Kelk has volunteered to act as back-up 'SuperAdministrator' for the ABU website. He'll fill in when Eddie McGeough is on holiday.

National News

At the Autumn congress at Peebles, Fiona Abbott, Pauline Phillips, Stewart Duguid and Sandy Anderson won the consolation teams event (see picture on page 6). In the Edwin Berry Swiss teams Yvonne Wiseman finished in the 3rd placed team in a very strong field.

Caledonian Dissolved

The Caledonian club was dissolved on Monday 25th October. The club would have been 40 years old on 20th November this year.

Ayrshire Post

Keep your eyes on the Sports section of the Ayrshire post, Henry Crone is ensuring bridge news is printed there every week.

SBU Business

The SBU have asked that when Master points are being issued could you please add Christian names on the certificates.

Winter Sundays

The trial period for the new Winter Sunday club came to an end on 31st October. The club has been quite a success so it'll continued on 7th November and then there'll be a couple of interruptions. The ABU website will publish the dates.

Norvite Simultaneous Pairs

Gibby Reid from Aberdeen has invited Ayrshire to take part in a heat of the Norvite simultaneous pairs. It's hoped to run this on Saturday 15th January. More information about this will be published nearer the time.

I do Declare....

The solution to last month's Declarer play puzzle will be in December's issue.



Gold for Scotland

By Gordon Smith

With Scotland due to host the Commonwealth Games in 2014, the 2010 event held in Delhi, India took on special significance for Alba, and, some ten days after the Closing Ceremony, Bridge took Centre Stage as the 3rd Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship got under way.



With Pakistan having to withdraw at the last minute (I think because of visa problems), 24 teams took part, with around 16 of them being National teams; only these teams could win medals. The remaining teams included a Chairman's team, two ladies' teams and several additional teams from India.

Scotland was represented by Brian Spears (Captain), John Murdoch, Derek Diamond, Derek Sanders, Sandy Duncan and Irving Gordon; while the SBU paid one half of the entry fee. all other expenses were met by the players themselves.

The teams were to play each other in a Round Robin of 23 matches, each consisting of 8 boards, after which the best-placed four teams were to play straight knockout to decide the final top placings and medals.

After a moderately good start, Scotland moved up to occupy second/third place around the halfway point of the Round Robin, before falling away to 6th place prior to the final round in which Scotland was due to meet Wales. Wales had scored maximum points against England, but Scotland reversed that result and scored a maximum win against Wales. As a result, Scotland squeezed into fourth place and, with one non-National team included in the final four, was guaranteed to win a medal.

In the Semi-Finals which each consisted of 28 boards, Scotland met Australia while India 1 met Hemant Jalan, and, as play developed, Hemant Jalan became an overwhelming favourite to reach the final, meaning that the Scotland v Australia match would decide the destiny of the Gold Medal. As it turned out, India staged a remarkable revival, and Hemant Jalan won by only 11 IMPs in the end.

Australia had defeated Scotland by 21-9 in the Round Robin and had a 20 IMP lead after 14 boards, but Scotland produced a rousing recovery and won the match by 15 IMPs. Scotland had won Gold!

The final was very much an anti-climax, and Hemant Jalan defeated a seemingly tired Scotland team in the 32 board final by 48 IMPs, while Australia defeated India 1 to win Silver.

Congratulations to the Scotland team on a fine performance, which is a real boost to Bridge in Scotland.

Congratulations!

 A large, stylized graphic of a blue ribbon with a white star and exclamation mark, positioned at the bottom right of the page.

Clash of the Titans

There will be a match between Ayrshire and Glasgow on Saturday 27th November at the Bridge centre, 2pm start. The match will be a trial run for the Junior Camrose/Peggy Bayer Viewgraph operators, but should make for an enjoyable afternoon if anyone would like to come along. There'll be a bar, and snacks will be available. There will be small admission charge.

Pop in & See, the New Policy

The SBU has a new Systems policy which is available to view on the website. There are now 5 Categories.

Category 1 : This category is confined to international level events and Trials.

Through to :

Category 5 : This category applies to 'No Fear' and Simple System events. *The conventions allowed in this category are more complex than I play.....!!!! Ed.*

To view the Systems policy go to

www.scottishbridge.co.uk - Administration – Documentation – Systems policy

More Bad Press for Bridge Couples....

This couple is playing at home against another couple. The husband is getting progressively more crabbit with his wife and eventually reduces her to tears. She excuses herself from the table saying she will be back shortly.

As they wait for her return, the husband says "Let's deal another hand and I will bid her cards face down. It won't matter as I never know what she has anyway". The other couple agree reluctantly.

The husband deals and opens 1H. the next player passes and he bids 2H for his wife. When his RHO passes, he tries 3H which is passed round to his wife who has still not returned. He thinks a while then bids 4H which ends the bidding.

The opening lead is made and he observes aloud "This is the best contract I've been in all night".

He begins to play the hand and ultimately, it comes down to a finesse. Just as he takes the losing finesse, his wife returns determined to finish the game. He looks at her disdainfully and says "You had to bid 4H didn't you".....



Results



Adamson Cup

26th September

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 1 | Frances Murphy & Nicé McKell | Kilmarnock | 63.75 |
| 2 | Donnie & Anne Graham | Troon | 60.83 |
| 3 | John Haslehurst & Janice Thomson | Kyle | 60.00 |
| 4 | Sam & Kate Malkani | Kilwinning | 58.33 |
| 5 | Sandy Anderson & Pauline Phillips | Caledonian | 56.25 |
| = | Agnes Lamont & Margaret Little | Afton | 56.25 |
| 7 | Jim & Betty Watson | Newton Stewart | 47.08 |
| 8 | Finlay Kerr & Elma Munro | Portland | 43.75 |
| = | Nancy Morgan & Irene Sword | Prestwick | 43.75 |
| 10 | Maureen Murray & Nan Tait | Bruce | 43.33 |
| 11 | | | 43.00 |

SBU Simultaneous Pairs

26th October North-South Local Scoring

| Pos | Players | Score % |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Sam McNair & Anne Braid | 61.34 |
| 2 | Sandy Anderson & Stuart Duguid | 57.18 |
| 3 | Donnie & Ann Graham | 55.79 |
| 4 | David & Sandra Wiseman | 54.63 |
| 5 | Frances Murphy & John Stevenson | 54.40 |
| 6 | Eddie McGeough & Janice Thomson | 53.47 |
| 7 | Angela Rose & Jean Parker | 50.46 |
| 8 | Henry Crone & Patrick Reeve | 42.82 |
| 9 | Mary Clydesdale & Margaret McCrindle | 39.12 |
| 10 | Ann Cattanach & Neil Falconer | 30.79 |

East-West

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Jim & Alison Tudor | 59.49 |
| 2 | Irene Sword & Nancy Morgan | 55.32 |
| 3 | Maureen Murray & Nellie Campbell | 54.17 |
| 4 | Shirley Moore & Steve Gray | 53.01 |
| 5 | Frances Duck & Jim Wilcox | 51.85 |
| 6 | Margaret Little & Ann Boyd | 50.93 |
| 7 | Fred Dean & Roderick MacIennan | 50.69 |
| 8 | Jan Cossar & Ruth McCall | 47.22 |
| 9 | Robert Coulter & Peter Hunter | 41.20 |
| 10 | Isobel Hollingsworth & Marion Ronald | 36.11 |

Round 1

Play by 12th Dec

Round 2

Play by 30th Jan

Semi-final

Play by 27th Feb

Final

30th March

Ayrshire Cup Draw

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|----------------------|---------|-----|-------|
| David Clement | } v | Janice Thomson (bye) | } | } v | |
| Fiona Abbott | | | | | |
| | } v | Donnie Graham (bye) | } | | } v |
| | | John Dick (bye) | | | |
| Gordon Smith | } v | Iain Bannatyne (bye) | } | } v | |
| Frances Murphy | | | | | |
| Alan Lochrie | } v | Jim Tudor (bye) | } | | } v |
| Sandy Anderson | | | | | |

Ayrshire Bridge Union from (Scotland)

Total number of pairs: 17

| Local Pos | Pair # | Pair names (click on name to see Personal Scorecard) | NS /EW | % Local | Club Match points | Overall Ranking | Overall % |
|-----------|--------|--|-----------|------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 14 | Pauline Phillips & Fiona Abbott | EW | 61.90 | 234.00 | 298 | 57.91 |
| 2 | 15 | Nancy Morgan & Irene Sword | EW | 59.23 | 223.88 | 616 | 54.38 |
| 3 | 11 | Stewart Duquid & Sandy Anderson | EW | 58.93 | 222.75 | 79 | 62.59 |
| 4 | 13 | Frances Murphy & John Stevenson | EW | 57.14 | 216.00 | 490 | 55.61 |
| 5 | 4 | Shirley Moore & Steve Gray | NS | 55.29 | 209.00 | 386 | 56.74 |
| 6 | 3 | Alison Hughes & Ann Prigg | NS | 51.32 | 194.00 | 1360 | 48.12 |
| 7 | 2 | Janice Thomson & Eddie McGeough | NS | 50.79 | 192.00 | 965 | 51.32 |
| 8 | 19 | Jim Tudor & Alison Tudor | EW | 49.70 | 187.88 | 1126 | 50.06 |
| 9 | 17 | Frances Duck & Nan Tait | EW | 49.40 | 186.75 | 1204 | 49.36 |
| 10 | 6 | Pat Reeve & Henry Crone | NS | 47.88 | 181.00 | 914 | 51.74 |
| 11 | 1 | Dave Wiseman & Ralph Wiseman | NS | 47.09 | 178.00 | 1549 | 46.50 |
| 12 | 18 | Margaret Withers & Jane Carr | EW | 47.02 | 177.75 | 1586 | 46.22 |
| 13 | 7 | Jean Parker & Angela Rose | NS | 46.83 | 177.00 | 1626 | 45.80 |
| 14 | 16 | Anne Braid & Sam McNair | EW | 46.13 | 174.38 | 1676 | 45.35 |
| 15 | 12 | Gordon Smith & Sharon Lindsay | EW | 44.94 | 169.88 | 1474 | 47.12 |

BGB

Simultaneous
Pairs
13th October

Leagues

30th October

| Division 1 | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | IMPs | VPs |
|----------------------|--------|-----|------|-------|------|-----|
| Kilmarnock Grange | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 57 | 17 |
| Kyle | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 15 |
| Kilwinning Abbey | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 13 |
| Troon South Beach | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | -20 | 7 |
| Riggs | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | -39 | 5 |
| Kilmarnock Annanhill | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | -57 | 3 |
| Portland A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Division 2 | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | IMPs | VPs |
|----------------------|--------|-----|------|-------|------|-----|
| Portland B | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 15 |
| Ardeer | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 15 |
| Bruce | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | -34 | 5 |
| Kilwinning Corsehill | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | -37 | 5 |
| Largs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Troon Bentinck | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Troon Eglinton | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Division One

Kyle v. Riggs 15-5

Kilwinning Abbey v.
Troon South Beach 13-7Kilmarnock Grange v.
Kilmarnock Annanhill 17-3

Division Two

Portland B v.
Kilwinning Corsehill 15-5

Ardeer v. Bruce 15-5