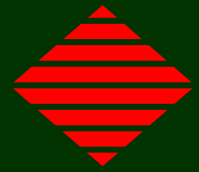
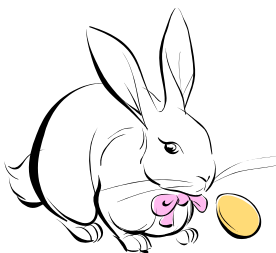


RUFFIAN



The electronic newsletter for students from the EBU studying using the Bridge for All scheme

**Welcome to the Spring 2014 edition of the online Ruffian
The EBU bridge students' newsletter.**



Personnel at the Aylesbury Office

There will be a change in personnel in the Education Department at the EBU Broadfields Office from April.

After 13 years in the department John Pain is half-retiring to concentrate on the other part of his job. A new person will be appointed to take over.

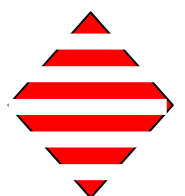
Lisa Miller – Bridge for All administrator. Contact Lisa on 01296 317217 lisa@ebu.co.uk for any help regarding *Bridge for All* membership, books and stationery

John Pain – Education Manager. Contact John on 01296 317218 john@ebu.co.uk for anything else in bridge education.

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BRIDGE for ALL



John's final thoughts

This will be my final editorial after 13 years running the *Bridge for All* teaching scheme and 8 years running the EBU Teachers Association. As you will see on the front cover a new person will be taking over in April.

I've really enjoyed my time here and have met many lovely people either on one of our *Really Easy* events or when I have dropped in to see teachers with their groups. Occasionally I have been asked to make up tables in the classes. That's always very dangerous as there is always a chance of making a complete mess up in front of the students. So that is why I always make my partner play the hand if we should end up declaring the hand.

My biggest adventure came in 2008 when I was invited by the Botswana Bridge Federation to run a weeks tuition on teaching bridge and training to become club tournament directors. An unforgettable time in a beautiful country.

I'm not leaving the EBU completely in that I will be concentrating on the other part of my job which deals with the laws and ethics of the game and acting as secretary of the EBU Laws and Ethics Committee.

We continue to hold our *Really Easy* events. The weekend at Wroxton has been very popular for several years and we are expecting a good turn out this time for March 28 to 30. There may still be spaces available – see the advert at the end of the magazine. The *Really Easy Summer Congresses* are running again at Brighton and will be organized by the EBU Competitions department.

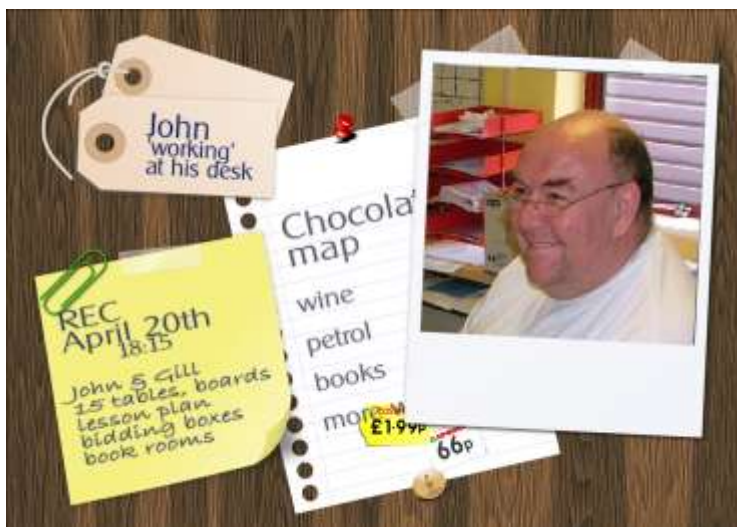
One of our other events is the Junior Teach In, which is held over the bank holiday weekend in August at Loughborough University. Although intended for young players to learn and play bridge at a variety of levels many bring their parents or grandparents who join in as well. So if your bridge is perhaps just one step ahead of your child why not give it a go. It's a really good weekend.

Details of all the events are later on the in the magazine.

Pay to Play

When you start playing in the club, the club scorer will need to make you into a playing EBU member (which is a one button press). Although you have been a member through the Bridge for All scheme, there is no automatic conversion to full EBU membership so the club has to acknowledge that you are now a full playing member.

John Pain – *Bridge for All* Manager



Really Easy Play in No Trumps

There are ten books in the *Really Easy* series. One of the best sellers is *Really Easy Play in No Trumps*. It has just had a reprint so I thought I would take the opportunity to highlight part of it.

Many people, particularly learners say they don't like playing in No Trumps and 1NT in particular. Playing in No Trumps is a race between you and your opponents – you need to set up and take your winners before they set up and take theirs!

But so many times declarer defeats himself leaving the opponents with an unexpected gift. How many times in your class has your teacher told you as the defender on opening lead to either a) lead top of a sequence or b) lead 4th highest? Well, pretty much every time I expect. Why do we do this? The answer is because the defence is trying to set up its own winners and usually starts with their best suit. But what happens? Declarer might win a cheap trick in the suit and then immediately cash the ace in the same suit. The effect of this is to clear the suit for the defence. Whereas declarer should set about establishing the tricks he needs in the other suits while keeping the ace in the enemy suit.

Here is chapter 4 on establishing extra top winners from the book:

Most of the time, the number of top tricks is fewer than the number of tricks needed to make your contract. You have to look for opportunities to make extra tricks.

High cards, which do not start life as top winners, can be established to become winners.

♠ K76	♠ QJ32	West	North	East	South
♥ AK64	♥ 872	1NT	All Pass		
♦ 653	♦ AK2				
♣ A32	♣ 986	North leads ♦ Q.			

It is a modest contract and dummy makes a reassuring sight.

Do not cash your sure tricks and hope that all will come right in the end.

Count your certain tricks: they come to five. Two more are needed and the spade suit can provide them. If you can make a defender win ♠A, by playing any of the king, queen or jack (which, for this purpose are of equal rank), the two remaining high cards in the suit are established as winners. Having identified both the problem and the source of the extra tricks, you must set about the task of establishing those tricks immediately.

Therefore, you win the first trick with the ♦K and, straight away, play a small spade to your ♠K. If North wins the ♠A, you win whatever is the next card played and happily cash the ♠Q and ♠J and your other top winners. If the ♠K wins the second trick, play another spade towards the ♠QJ 3 in dummy, intending to play the queen or jack if North follows with a small card. The fact that a defender, with the ♠A, may choose to let you win both of the first two spades is a matter of no concern. Having made the two extra tricks required, you abandon the suit and take your other top winners.

What has happened here is that, having made your count of available tricks, you are prepared to lose the lead deliberately to set up extra tricks. This is not a decision that comes easily. It is similar to the fear of flying: you worry that you have no control over subsequent events. It is true that there are occasions, and we will look at them in due course, when this fear has some justification.

Here, however, you can see that the lead can be lost in perfect safety. You are bound to win it back because you hold the top winners in all the other suits.

We said, with the example hand, that, after winning the first trick, you must play the spade suit immediately. You would be sailing perilously close to the rocks if you decided to postpone it awhile, maybe by cashing a top winner or two to get the feel of things. For sure, you would be establishing top tricks; but, this time, for the defenders!

When you need to establish an extra winner(s), you must do so before cashing your certain top winners in the other suits.

The mistake of taking certain tricks before establishing others is made so often by beginners that, at the risk of overkill, it is worth another example.

What we will do is simply to remove the top winners from the East-West hands and see what might be left, and the probable outcome. This might be the complete deal:

Start of the play		After each player has played 5 cards	
♠ 105		♠ 105	
♥ 1053		♥ 10	
♦ QJ1097		♦ J109	
♣ Q107		♣ Q10	
♠ K76	♠ QJ32	♠ K76	♠ QJ32
♥ AK64	♥ 872	♥ 64	♥ 8
♦ 653	♦ AK2	♦ 6	♦ 2
♣ A32	♣ 986	♣ 32	♣ 98
♠ A984		♠ A984	
♥ QJ9		♥ Q	
♦ 84		♦	
♣ KJ54		♣ KJ5	

Declarer is assumed to have cashed the five sure tricks (♥AK, ♦AK and ♣A) before turning his attention to setting up the two spade winners that should have been established at the start. The position after everybody has played five cards is shown in the table on the right.

It is now too late! West plays the ♠K and South wins the ♠A, cashes the ♥Q (which has become a top winner) and then leads the ♣5. North wins this trick and three more diamonds, on which South discards three spades, and then leads the ♣Q. South overtakes this with the ♣K and wins the last trick with the ♣J. Declarer ends up with five tricks and the defence with eight.

Count your sure winners.

If the answer is unsatisfactory, ask yourself whether extra winners can be established.

If they can, play to set them up before taking your certain tricks.

Check that there is no problem in regaining the lead.

Certainly, there are hands when there is no hope of making enough tricks and you take whatever is available. There are hands where all is lost if you lose the lead. Both are rare. They also assume that you have thought about, and recognised, the problem at the outset. You have counted and considered, but rejected, the possibility of establishing extra tricks.

The pulse rate goes up when a slam has been bid:

♠K2	♠Q43	West	North	East	South
♥AKQ4	♥J73	2NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass
♦QJ10	♦AK2	North leads ♥10			
♣AJ76	♣KQ32				

West can count eleven top winners and the vital twelfth can be established by playing one top spade. West does this before taking the sure tricks in the other three suits.

Let's make things a little tougher. Sometimes two of the defenders' top winners in a suit need to be driven out.

♠AK5	♠Q86	West	North	East	South
♥Q1092	♥J3	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
♦K52	♦A743	North leads ♠J			
♣732	♣AK85				

On this hand a count of the sure winners comes to seven but two more can be established in hearts. The combined holding lacks the two top winners but contains the next four highest cards. If both the ace and the king can be driven out, by using two of those cards, the remaining two will provide the extra winners required.

This will mean giving up the lead twice but West can see that there is no danger because, after the opening lead, the two top winners in all the three other suits are held.

Therefore, declarer wins the opening lead with East's ♠Q and, following the advice given previously (start with the top card(s) from the shorter suit), immediately leads the ♥J. This should result in a defender winning with the ♥A or ♥K and it doesn't matter which card next appears on the table; West wins, whatever, and plays another top heart.

If the defence holds off winning the ♥A or ♥K or both, West abandons the suit once two tricks in it have been safely secured.

What about this hand?

♠AK5	♠Q86	Once again 3NT by West and North leads ♠J			
♥Q1092	♥KJ3				
♦K102	♦Q93				
♣973	♣AK105				

In the same 3NT contract and after the same ♠J lead, the tally of top winners is a miserable five. You need four extra tricks and the plan will be to set up three tricks in hearts, by driving out the ace, and one trick in diamonds with the same technique. You should start with your stronger suit first and when you can see three heart tricks in the bag, you establish the one trick needed in diamonds.

You will, of course, attend to these matters before, voluntarily, playing your sure winners in clubs and spades!

If you remain unconvinced, make up some possible North-South hands. You will discover that, whatever cards you give them, West, after an initial spade lead and playing sensibly, cannot fail to make 3NT.

It is not necessarily aces and kings that need to be driven out.

♠AK5	♠Q762	West	North	East	South
♥J1092	♥A3	Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
♦K102	♦QJ3	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
♣973	♣AK105	North leads ♠J			

There is some work to be done to make this contract. The tally of top winners is only six. West can establish two more tricks by driving out the ♦A, but needs one further trick.

Look to the heart suit to provide it. Declarer can afford to lose to both the ♥K and ♥Q in the interests of making one certain trick with the ♥A and another from that ♥J 10 9 combination.

West wins the opening lead and plays the ♥2 to the ♥A and leads another heart. It will lose to the ♥K or ♥Q but, as soon as the lead is regained, West plays another heart to drive out the opposition's second winning card in the suit. Subsequently, West plays diamonds to establish two tricks in that suit.

Note that it is better to start to establish the suit in which you have to lose two tricks (hearts) rather than that in which you need only lose one trick (diamonds). Establishing a diamond trick first would give the defenders time, since you have to lose the lead twice more, to establish their own winners in diamonds.

You might even find yourself completely bereft of top winners.

♠KJ2	♠Q86	West	North	East	South
♥Q1092	♥KJ3	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
♦K102	♦Q93	North leads ♠3			
♣QJ9	♣K1082				

Here, you have to try to establish tricks in all four suits. Every time you gain the lead, you must drive out an enemy ace. You should start with your stronger suits, hearts or clubs, which can produce the most tricks.

Say that you play hearts immediately that you get the lead. As soon as the ♥A is played, and you recover the lead, leave hearts alone for the present and play on clubs to drive out the ♣A.

Suppose the full hand was:

	♠A1043	
	♥654	
	♦A75	
	♣A43	
♠KJ2	♠Q86	
♥Q1092	♥KJ3	
♦K102	♦Q93	
♣QJ9	♣K1082	
	♠975	
	♥A87	
	♦J864	
	♣765	

The ♠3 lead goes to the ♠6 from dummy, the ♠9 from South and you win the ♠J. You play the ♥2 to dummy's ♥K and South will probably win and return the ♠7 (North's suit). North will win the ♠A and lead another spade. You win the ♠K and now start to establish some club winners by playing the ♣Q. North will take the ♣A and has the ♠10 to cash.

On this trick you have to make a discard from both hands but your objectives have been completed. This is probably the position:

<p>♠ 10 ♥ 65 ♦ A75 ♣ 43</p> <p>♠ ♥ Q109 ♦ K102 ♣ J9</p> <p>♠ ♥ 87 ♦ J864 ♣ 76</p>	<p>♠</p> <p>♥ J3 ♦ Q93 ♣ K108</p>	<p>North is about to play the ♠10.</p> <p>You have won two spade tricks and your hearts and clubs are now winners. It is perfectly safe to discard a diamond from both hands and the best that North can do is to cash the remaining ace for the fifth defensive trick.</p>
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♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠

Surrey Schools Bridge Event



General Scene



The winners



The runners up

Eighteen pairs from Carshalton High School for Girls, Claremont Fan Court School and Weydon School including 3 non-teaching members of staff participated in this year's Surrey School's MiniBridge competition at St Pauls's School in Barnes on 7th February and the winning pair was Ethan Hurley-Love and Deb Casey from Claremont Fan Court School. Ethan is only 8 year's old and was partnered by non-teaching staff member Deb Casey who was requested not to be the declarer at any time. Prizes, EBU gifts and chocolates were handed out to the children by courtesy of the EBU and the Surrey County Bridge Association. Unfortunately, there was no Teams-of-Four Bridge competition this year as St Paul's School boys had no takers, but prospects of teams competing in future years are promising.



Poetry, please!

Both of these are taken from a very old book 'Bridge Without Sighs' written in rhyme by Reginald Arkell. It is undated but my copy has a hand written dedication 'To Mrs E C Strange, Wishing you the best of luck in 1938. E.M.J.'. I wonder who EMJ was.

A bad night at the bridge club

I'm giving up bridge - tonight's my last night.
It's Amen to Stayman - I give up the fight.
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles
And I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles.
May cards are all rotten and I have forgotten
Who's playing and what's trumps
And what's gone on my right.
So it's goodbye to Blackwood, I'm off to the backwood
I'm bidding goodbye to the dear little club.
I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain.
I'm getting those bad cards again and again.



I'm giving up bridge - tonight's a bad night.
Declarer is horrid and nothing goes right.
My partner's a dope and I'm losing all hope
And when she says double I know we're in trouble.
My partner's points are not high and I'm wondering why
She kept on bidding right up to the sky.
We're in seven spades and all my hope fades
When surprise, surprise, her high bid pays.
We're winning all tricks, the defenders feel sick
And I have to admit my partner's a brick.

I'm giving up bridge - tonight's my last night.
So it's goodbye to Gerber, I give up the fight.
Be kind to your partners and don't mind their cheek,
For it's only a game - oh, I'll see you next week.



Partners (with apologies to Gilbert and Sullivan)

See how the fates their gifts allot;
West is my partner, North is not;
Yet, how much happier I should be
If North or South had played with me.

I've played with both. They understand
Exactly how to call a hand,
Of all the Club I like them best,
And yet I get this awful West.

This awful West, who probably
Is thinking much the same of me.
Heaven send me strength to play with such,
And grant I may not lost too much.

A bit of indulgence At Aylesbury Aces Bridge club

I've been working with a small group of students in Aylesbury for just about a year. We started last February and formal lessons ran until the end of November (when we were kicked out of the room we were using). The plan was always to run for 30 weeks and then start to integrate them into the club. Nice group – we started with 8 and lost one along the way. Since November we have been running a small supervised play session but gradually they have been feeding into the main club games. My wife, Gill and I played with each of them over several weeks to take them through the logistics of playing a full session of 24 boards and slowly they have been going in on their own.

The biggest shock to the system is going from the very pedestrian pace of the supervised play to a full session of 24 boards with hardly any time to stop to draw breath.

To celebrate the end of the classes we had a celebratory meal at a local pub;



Peter Holmes, John Pain
Alan Parry, Jackie Taylor, Jan Holmes, Pat Green, Yvonne Black, Mel Czapski, Ro Parry

Mel helped me out for many of the sessions. Jackie and Pat have already won their first local points playing with my wife Gill. Pat and Yvonne and Peter and Jan now regularly play together at the club and their results are improving each week,



**First for Bridge
Bridge Holidays for Improvers
with Bob & Jacky Baker**

We are pleased to introduce our new programme aimed at less experienced players or those who feel the need for a “refresher” course.

Each holiday will include a daily morning themed seminar, followed by a series of prepared hands. There will also be two afternoon seminars and supervised bridge sessions every evening to practice what you have learnt! Comprehensive notes will be provided for all sessions plus for the morning sessions copies of the prepared hands (with commentary) will also be provided.

These holidays are suitable for pairs or individuals and for those coming on their own bridge partners will be found.

“Bidding: The Uncontested Auction”



Grand Real Hotel, Santa Eulalia*** Algarve, Portugal**
23 Oct 2014 – 7 nights, half board inc flights & transfers from £749
Single supplement £149 or NO SUPPLEMENT when sharing an apartment.

The theme of this holiday is bidding where the opponents do not enter the auction.

“Bidding: the Competitive Auction”



Athena Beach**superior, Paphos, Cyprus**

21 Jan 2015 – 7 nights half board inc flights & transfers from £699
Single supplement £69

The theme of this holiday is bidding where both pairs are involved in the auction.

To make a reservation please contact First for Bridge
01473 660 802 or go to www.firstforbridge.co.uk for full details and to view bridge programmes.

Deposit £200 per person

The harbour at
Paphos



Bridge Scoring – the basics

You wouldn't learn to play cribbage without learning how to score or play darts without knowing that the outer ring scored double or the bull was worth 50. Yet, I've become increasingly concerned that many beginners and novice players are not bothering to work out the score for the hand they have just played.

They rely on the score tables on the back of the cards in the bidding box and have completely forgotten how to work out, for example, that 3NT is worth 400 or 600. If your club is fortunate enough to use table top electronic scorers it does all the work for you.

Don't get me wrong – I'm all in favour of bidding boxes. They are the single biggest boon to teaching bridge, but in this one aspect they have helped players become lazy. Where knowledge of how to score is particularly useful is when you are in a competitive bidding situation.

Should you let your opponents play in 2♠ or should you go on to 3♦?

2♠ making will score 110, whereas 3♦ going down by one trick will concede a lesser score, either 50 or 100. In normal pairs play you are aiming to do the best you can on a board, so going down is often the best result for your side – but if you do not know the scores involved it is very difficult to know what to do for the best. Should I let them play in 6♣ when non-vulnerable or should I sacrifice in 6♠ be doubled and go down four or five tricks. Non-vulnerable four down is 800 and five down is 1100 so four down is a good save. Vulnerable even four down is too many – 1100. I have known teachers say to their students *'We won't worry about the scoring. There is too much to learn besides.'* I think this is misguided and we do not offer the students the best chance.

In an attempt to redress the balance here is the basic scoring table – no references here to doubled or redoubled scores.

Trick scores – scored by declarer's side when the contract is fulfilled		
Normal play		
For each trick above the first six in ♣ and ♦	20	
For each trick above the first six in ♥ and ♠	30	
For the first trick above six in NT	40	
For each additional trick in NT	30	
A trick score of 100 points or more on one board is GAME; A trick score of less than 100 on one board is a PARTSCORE		
Bonus Scores	Not vulnerable	Vulnerable
For making a PARTSCORE	50	50
For making a GAME	300	500
Small slam bid and made	500	750
Grand slam bid and made	1000	1500
Overtricks		
Normal play	Trick value	Trick value
Undertricks – scored by the opponents if declarer fails to make the contract		
For each undertrick	50	100

So why is 3NT vulnerable 600?

It is $40 + 30 + 30 = 100$ trick points; vulnerable game bonus 500. Total 600.

$2\spadesuit$ bid and made is $2 \times 30 = 60$; part score bonus of 50. Total = 110.

7NT bid and made vulnerable: $40 + 6 \times 30 = 220$ trick points, 500 vulnerable game, 1500 for vulnerable grand slam = 2220.

Spend a bit of time learning the scores for the more common contracts you play in. 3NT just making is either 400 or 600 depending on vulnerability; $4\heartsuit$ or $4\spadesuit$ is either 420 or 620 for the same reason. You will find it pays dividends in the long run.



The Beer Card



Certain cards in the pack have special names. They really have nothing to do with bridge in the truest sense of the word but have acquired a certain status in some parts of the world.

Take the $\diamond 7$ for example. In some quarters, notably amongst university students this card is known as the 'Beer Card'. It only counts as the 'Beer Card' if you manage to win the last trick with the $\diamond 7$ and if you contrive to win the last trick with the $\diamond 7$ in dummy, you have done even better.

The reward, of course, is that you shout 'beer card' and everyone at the table has to buy you a beer.

The $\diamond 7$ has a special role in a Danish game called 'Boma-Loma'. Partly because of this, the bridge players of Copenhagen were the first bridge players to use the 'beer card' term.

It became quite common in Europe and reached London in the eighties. The term was imported into North America by the American Junior team after they visited Poland for a Junior Bridge Camp.

It has since spread round the world, mostly via World Junior Championships.



11th Really Easy Summer Congresses at Brighton



First Step – Monday 11th to Wednesday 13th August

Next Step – Tuesday 12th to Thursday 14th August

The **First Step** will be expected to play Standard English Acol and playing sessions will be between 15 and 21 boards. There will be an instructional session on Monday afternoon. There will be two play sessions of Tuesday followed by a short discussion of the hands so you can see where you could have done better. You will probably still be in your first year of learning or be part way through the second year. You may have had some experience of a supervised bridge session at the club but are probably not a regular club player yet.

For the **Next Step event** students will be able to use their own familiar system and more boards will be played – 21 to 24 boards per session. The emphasis will be more on play and there will only be one instruction session for this group. You will probably have been playing at a local club for a few months but may not have tried a County or EBU event before.



Both events are priced at only £46 for the bridge, but players have to make their own arrangements regarding accommodation and refreshments.

You can make your entry by ringing Peter or Dawn in the EBU Competitions Department – 01296 317203/219.

You can book rooms at the Metropole Hotel by ringing 01273 775432 and choose Group Bookings from the menu. Then mention Brighton Summer Meeting. You may find you can get better rates by booking directly online. The 2014 reserved rates are: Midweek £72 single, £143.10 double. The reserved rates are subject to availability.

To make reservations for accommodation in Brighton (other than the Metropole) contact the EBU Accommodation booking service, operated by Bridge Overseas, on Freephone 0800 0346 246 <http://www.ebu.co.uk/competitions/abs>

	Novices & students	Next step
Monday 11th	2.00pm – 4.00pm Lesson 4.00pm Free time 7.30pm – 10.30pm Play session 1	
Tuesday 12th	10am Play session 2 + seminar 11.30am Free time 2.30pm Play session 3 + seminar 5.30pm Free time 7.30-10.30 Free evening or gentle play	2.30pm Play session 1 5.30pm Free time 7.30pm -10.30pm Play session 2
Wednesday 13th	10.30am Play session 4 – Swiss Pairs 3.30pm Final results and departure (1 hour lunch break 12.30 – 1.30)	10.30am Play session 3 – Swiss Pairs 3.30pm Free time 7.30pm -10.30pm Play session 4
Thursday 14th		10am Lecture 11.30am Free time 1.00pm Play session 5 4.30pm Final results and departure

For helpful advice on your visit to Brighton, and to the Congress, visit the Brighton Hub www.ebu.co.uk/brighton which will be regularly updated as the congress approaches.



Bridge for All Breaks Spring and Autumn 2014

**Really Easy Autumn Break –
The Wroxton House Hotel, Nr Banbury
March 28th to 30th 2014
October 24th to 26th 2014**



These weekend house parties are for more experienced newer players, with up to 5 years experience.

There will be one instructional session on Saturday morning but otherwise the emphasis is on play.

The hotel package consists of two night dinner, bed, breakfast and sandwich lunch on Sunday. Tea and coffee will be served twice on Saturday and once on Sunday.

The hotel package is £182 per person, (£156 per person sharing a twin/double room). Hotel bookings should be made direct with the hotel on 01295 730777 quoting Group Booking Reference 47543 for March or 45569 for October.

The bridge fee of £40 per person is payable to the EBU in the usual way.

*Please note that it is not possible to entertain non-residential guests at this event.
There is a limit of 36 places available. There are a limited number of single occupancy rooms.*

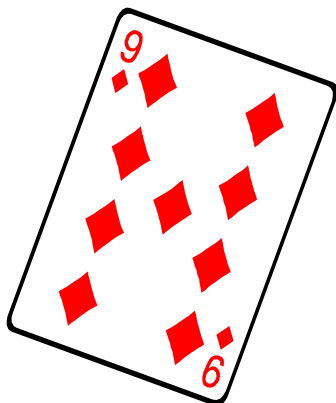
**All our events use duplimated boards with hand records
and the latest Bridgemate technology for scoring.
Final results are displayed within minutes of the final table finishing.**

***You can make your entry for either event by ringing Peter or Dawn in the
EBU Competitions Department – 01296 317203/219.***



The curse of Scotland

The nine of diamonds playing card is often referred to as the "Curse of Scotland" There are a number of reasons given for this connection:



- 1. It was the playing card used by Sir John Dalrymple, the Earl of Stair, to cryptically authorise the Glencoe Massacre. Certainly there is a resemblance between the nine of diamonds and his coat of arms.***
- 2. The Duke of Cumberland is supposed to have scribbled the order for "no quarter" to be given after the Battle of Culloden on a nine of diamonds playing card.***
- 3. It has also been suggested that it is a misreading of the "Corse of Scotland" ie the "Cross of Scotland" or St Andrew's Saltire. There is a resemblance between the pattern of the nine of diamonds and the Saltire.***
- 4. Nine diamonds were at one time stolen from the crown of Scotland and a tax was levied on the Scottish people to pay for them - the tax got the nickname "The Curse of Scotland".***

The first two explanations are the ones most commonly given.



Here's one for you....

Take all the hearts out of a deck of cards. Now lay them out in a row so that no card is in its correct position from left to right, counting the ace as 1 and the jack, queen and king as 11, 12 and 13. The row also has to follow these rules:



No court card (jack, queen and king) may be at either end of the row nor be the middle card, but two court cards should be adjacent with the other three places to the right. Put the ♥4 two places left of the ♥9, the ♥5 two places left of the ♥8, the ♥10 two places left of the ♥6, the ♥7 two places left of the ♥A, the ♥K three left of the ♥2, the ♥Q two left of the ♥3 and the ♥J three right of the ♥A. The two end cards should total 13 and the third and fourth from the left should total 10.

Can you place every card correctly?
The solution is on the back page if you get stuck.



The Junior Teach In 2014 Loughborough University

This is a really fun weekend of bridge for ages 6-20, but adults are welcome too. Absolute beginners and junior internationals. Everyone loves it and many come back each year. You are quite good enough. You will have a room of your own and lots of food. £140 for children; £155 for accompanying adults.

It will be held over the weekend of **22nd to 24th August 2014** at Loughborough University. For more details, visit <http://www.ebu.co.uk/youth/Junior-Teach-In>

You can ask your bridge teacher about it.

Don't miss out next year, join us there for a cool weekend!



Use classroom equipment at home ***Available from the Bridge Shop***



Pellisier tables - folding wood tables

798mm square; Mahogany coloured frame; folding for easy stacking

Club tables - folding plastic tables

Black with metal legs; top 34 inches square

Corded velvet table covers - Green, wine or blue

Bidding boxes, set of four - Red or green

Bidding buddies, set of four – Red, green or dark blue

Card holder (semi-circular, sits on the table)

Plastic card holder (circular, hand held, set of 4: red, green, yellow, blue)

Carta Mundi Superluxe playing cards (supplied per dozen)

Black Jack cards Large figures for easy reading (Min. order 2 packs)

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Prices on application from the Bridge Shop – they often have special deals

How to order: Telephone 01296 397851 between 9am and 5pm and ask for the Bridge Shop, or send an email to bridge.shop@ebu.co.uk.
Alternatively, an order can be faxed (01296 317220)

You can pay by credit card or we can send you an invoice with your goods.

Here's one for you... answer.

The correct order of the cards is ♠7 ♠4 ♠A ♠9 ♠Q ♠J ♠3 ♠5 ♠K ♠8 ♠10 ♠2 ♠6