



Congress Special

For all those for whom one newsletter a month just isn't enough we have a limited-edition edition with all the happenings of the weekend in Weston-Super-Mare.

Before we broach that subject a couple of updates to the events listing. Bear in mind that the complete calendar of SCBA events 2019/20 can be found here.
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/somerset/calendar%202019-20.pdf>

October 27th – **Ranked masters** at Woolavington 1pm start – a chance to compete against those of the same rank as yourself. Entries and further details can be found here:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwx/bw.cgi?club=somerset&pid=display_page66

November 11th – **Interclub pairs** Woolavington 1pm start – have a chat with your chairman if you fancy defending the club's honour. Entries and further details can be found here:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwx/bw.cgi?club=somerset&pid=display_page35

Bridge Seminar at Normandy Bridge Club!
Monday 25th November 7.15pm

Declarer play – unblocking and overtaking – there will be a short presentation on these subjects followed by some prepared hands. Upper floor Unity Hall Yeovil BA20 4JL is the venue - £5 is the cost including refreshments and notes – please email normandybridgeclub@hotmail.co.uk to book.

The draw for the Knock-out **Teams** will be made this Friday so check the SCBA website for further details at the weekend.

CONGRESS REPORT

A full three days of competition saw a few hundred avid bridge players descend upon the Winter Gardens in Weston-Super-Mare. This event is one of the best supported if not the best supported County Congress in the UK and was put on with the help of too many people to list individually but all of whom should take our thanks as read.

Friday saw a three way competition in the afternoon with most contestants glad to be inside away from the traditional blustery day:

The **West Of England Mixed Pairs** was the most popular category with 34 pairs battling over 27 boards. When the dust settled **Carmen Ruiz Castell and David Southcombe** came out on top with an excellent score of over 66%.

Full results can be found here: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20191004_3&club=somerset

The **West Of England Mens Pairs** attracted 18 pairs with **Ralph and Andrew Smith** beginning a very successful weekend winning with 65%. The editor would like to thank them for rolling him and his new partner over on the first three boards of the day...

Full results can be found here: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20191004_1&club=somerset

The **West Of England Ladies Pairs** saw **Gilly Clench and Mia Deschepper** head the other 15 pairs with 63%.

Full results can be found here: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20191004_2&club=somerset

The winners and their trophies:



The evening event was the **West Of England Championship Pairs** – **Ralph and Andrew** were obviously nicely warmed up from the afternoon event and took the honours again with a little over 69%. In a field of 56 pairs their scorecard looks very impressive indeed.

Full results can be found here: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20191004_4&club=somerset

Saturday saw the **West Of England Swiss Pairs** competition – 126 pairs competed over seven seven-board matches. **Gary Jones and Paul Lamford** headed the table with a total of 112 VP's.

Full results can be found here: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20191005_1&club=somerset



In the evening the room was delighted to see **Sheila Coda** officially presented with the **Dimmy Fleming Award** by Tony Russ, the SCBA chairman.

On Sunday the **West Of England Swiss Teams** event took place with 67 teams battling each other. The day seemed to belong to happy families with **Sam, Venetia, Sally and Harry Anoyrkatis** leading the field with 107 VP's. A wonderful result for a team including a twelve year old proving that the game is for all ages.

An honourable mention to the Smiths (again) – **Ralph, Andrew and Cathy** who came second with team-mate **Steve Tomlinson** with 101 VP's.

Full results can be found here: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwon/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20191006_1&club=somerset



The results of the draw for the holiday vouchers very generously donated by **First for Bridge** - £250 to David Strawbridge and Dorothy Rivers, £150 to Mike Martin and Graham Daniel and £100 to Rhoda Tyley and Alan Evans. Please show your appreciation for their efforts on our behalf by following them on Twitter (@FirstForBridge) or checking out their Facebook page or simply having a look at their website here: <https://www.bridgewebs.com/first/>

The Congress sponsors **A L Fleming** were in attendance giving valuable assistance with their excellent dealing machines. Having been acquired by PlayBridge they have a wide range of services to offer players and clubs.

Their website can be found here: <https://alfleming.co.uk/>

Their hand generator can be found here: <http://playbridge.com/index.php>

Watch out for Terry Collier's blog which looks at a variety of bridge issues with a keen and experienced eye.

A Hand from Congress
(thanks to Werner Solomon for the commentary)
Dealer W NS vul

♠ QJ982
♥ 2
♦ AKJ3
♣ Q53

♠ 1054
♥ 106
♦ Q1076
♣ J1097

♠ K
♥ AQ8453
♦ 842
♣ AK4

♠ A763
♥ KJ97
♦ 95
♣ 862

“North opened 1S and I overcalled 2H. Even though south has a nine loser hand the KJ of hearts improves it making a 3H bid agreeing spades a good call. In the event South opted for a pre-emptive 3S, W passed, N passed and I made a frisky double. South raised to 4 spades – phew, we would have been murdered in anything. I led the AC – partner correctly playing the J and I switched to 4D won by N who then led QS to K and A. Mis-guessing the trumps by playing for the drop on the way back led to one off.

What if the JS had been led rather than the Q? Now the K is more likely to be singleton since a K 10 holding in E is less likely. This might lead to getting the trumps right.”

For sale

This may become a regular feature depending on interest
(due to current slavery legislation we will not take adverts for those trying to flog their partners)

Acer projector and screen as used by Bob in Taunton for his PowerPoint presentations.

Model is **X1130P QSV 0904**

Jacky Baker is looking for offers around **£150**. Please contact her on

jacky@bridgetuition.co.uk after 17th October.