



Surrey County Bridge Association

Newsletter # 51, Winter 2023

Introduction

Tim Warren

A Merry Christmas from all of us in Surrey CBA.

Prior to Covid, we used to hold each year what we called a Chairman's Consultation, an informal bridge session that gave us the opportunity to meet representatives of Surrey bridge clubs and, during the lunch break, get their views on topics of the moment. We've just held the first such Consultation since 2019.



Bookham BC – pictured, above; surely one of the most attractive Surrey bridge club locations – was our venue once again, and I thank the team there for hosting us so well.

Representatives from 23 Surrey clubs came along, and we were joined by Tim Anderson and Jonathan Lillycrop from the EBU. During the lunch break, Tim gave a presentation on how best to attract new learners and encourage them to make the transition into playing at a club; and Richard Banbury and Tony Cherrett talked about what Richmond and Caterham BCs respectively are doing in this area.

Their main points were:

EBU members' average age where known is 73, with few under 50 – so attracting new players is an urgent matter.

Transition from lessons to playing at a club is a big one: newer players can be daunted, feeling rushed and aware of other people's frustration, and many find 24 boards exhausting – 18 boards or even fewer might encourage them to come again.

Socialising is often important to newcomers – consider a break for tea (or whatever...).

Because of the importance of the social element, local clubs are essential to learning, but the EBU can help: [contact Tim here](#).

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Teams play can be particularly useful for novices, as they can play at a slower pace, and have time for more socialising.

It's important to schedule teaching to be at the same time as your regular session: if you'd like help with this, [let Tony know](#).

EBED run 2-day courses to give aspiring teachers the skills to teach bridge effectively. The next one is at Horsham 27-28 Apr 2024, with others in the pipeline. EBU affiliated clubs are eligible for discounts and maybe even a free place – why not invite your younger players to attend. Farnham Bourne BC sponsored a member, Manda Kimberly, to attend a course in April 2023, and she tells us she's now having great fun teaching a Beginners course on the same evening as the club meets. If you'd like to follow in her footsteps, please contact [Clive Turner](#) or [Douglas Wright](#).

If you'd like more information, or a copy of the slides presented, please let me know.

Calendar

Jan 7 th	Teams of 8	Wimbledon
Apr 21 st	County Pairs and Plate	Richmond
May 12 th	Mary Edwards	Wimbledon
June 9 th	Wanborough Cup	Wimbledon
July 7 th	AGM	format TBA

Asking questions – and answering them!

Richard Banbury

When the opponents get busy with their alert cards it's a natural instinct to jump in and want to ask questions about what all the fancy bidding means. Unless it is genuinely going to make a difference to your bid try to resist the temptation!

Asking unnecessary questions has several drawbacks – not least is the way it can slow things down and disrupt the train of thought for everyone else at the table. More often than not in ambiguous or messy auctions the answers to your questions are likely to be more helpful to the opponents in clarifying their own uncertainties than they are to help you! The laws treat such information as “unauthorised” but players can't “un-hear” things that their partner have explained (right or wrong)!

Also the laws make it clear that you can't ask questions just for partner's benefit – ie when you think they may not have understood the auction.

Some key points

- During the auction at your turn to bid - or whenever it is your turn to play a card - you can ask for an explanation of their auction or about the significance of the play of a card (better than asking about a specific bid) – this includes asking about the meaning of alternative bids which they might have made. Questions should only be answered by the partner of whoever made the bid in question.
- Players may not consult their own system card during the bidding or play of the hand.
- When answering a question provide a full and complete explanation – and don't just use the name of a convention – most conventions exist with many variations.

When things go wrong

- If you don't know what an apparently conventional bid means it is right to alert it anyway – and if asked then say “no agreement”. Try not to embellish by saying “I am taking it as. . . .” or “I think it means. . . .” – such statements can be inaccurate and misleading – but worse inevitably give “unauthorised information” to the original bidder.
- If you realise that an explanation you have given is wrong then call the director
- If you think partner has given the wrong explanation (which might also just be an alert or a failure to alert) then don't say anything at the time or let your body language give this away – partner is not allowed to know they have got it wrong.
- Defenders should only tell declarer at the end of play that an incorrect explanation was given - whereas Declarer or Dummy should do so after the final pass of the auction.
- If the defenders feel damaged by any misinformation the TD may allow them to take back the final call made by a defender and to make an alternative call.
- Where there is a disagreement between players – the director shall assume the explanation is wrong rather than the bid itself.

Double Dummy Puzzle #20

John Manches

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

Contract: 6C by South

Lead = 6C

For this month's puzzle I am indebted to Alan Brown. Using a hectic week ahead as excuse for insufficient time I looked at his solution. Rather neat I thought, and with thanks to him I now offer it to Surrey's aficionados. Good luck. I rate it as difficult (so does he).

Please send your answers to me at johnmanches74@gmail.com.

The Deadline Date is end of January. As usual, the winner will be drawn from all those with a clear, full, correct-first-time solution. The prize, which is open to all Surrey members, will be free entry to one of our county competitions for the winner and partner of choice.

Have Your Say

Bridge, Tiddlywinks and the Individual Duplicate

Lest the casual reader be tempted to pass this by thinking "Huh, a facetious article", let him be straitway confounded. For what follows is for the serious student.

For a couple of decades or more I've been playing tiddlywinks at a national level and for rather longer than that have played bridge at a club level - and still do.

And I've often been struck by the similarities between the two games.

Both are played around a four-sided table - one square, the other oblong. (Long gone are the days when traditionalists insisted that tiddlywinks be played on the floor).

Both involve four players arranged into two partnerships, with team-mates playing opposite each other. In bridge North and South play against East and West. In tiddlywinks, Blue and Red play against Green and Yellow.

Both have adopted a vocabulary all of their own. In bridge we have trumps, fits, sputniks, dummies, redoubles, Jacobys, stoppers, slams etc etc. In tiddlywinks we have squops, scrunges, boondocks, Carnowskys, Bristols, gromps, bring-ins etc etc. In both cases these are but small samples. Both, by the way, have doubletons.

Both have highly sophisticated strategies and tactics. In bridge these are agreed and set in advance and are made known to the opposition upon request. In tiddlywinks they are constantly adapted according to the fluctuations of the game and are discussed openly within the partnership, but out loud so that the opposition is privy to them and can adopt suitable counter-measures.

When the EBU introduced its NGS ranking system it bore a striking resemblance to the means by which tiddlywinks world rankings are calculated. For the principle in both cases is not to rely solely upon raw results, but rather to take into account the quality/proficiency of partners and of opponents.

So where are the differences? Well, tiddlywinks has an additional physical skill requirement. No amount of intellectual theorising regarding strategy is of any avail if not accompanied by an expertise in making the shots, which can be attained only by years of practice.

And it is this which distinguished tiddlywinks from bridge in an area where both have tried and failed. Both have sought Olympic status. Bridge failed through the absence of that physical ingredient. Tiddlywinks failed because too few countries play it at an international level.

It sometimes used to occur to me how unlikely it would be for the likes of Djokovich, Graf, Nadal or Navratilova to show up casually to enjoy an afternoon's tennis at our club. These people are wholly out of the reach of the average player.

Bridge is a little better; for it's possible to join in tournaments where the top players are taking part. But they will probably be playing in their established partnerships; they won't be

partnering any old novice or average player. Although I read that this is sometimes possible if one is prepared to fork out a large sum of money for the privilege.

Tiddlywinks is more straightforward in this respect. Apart from elite competitions such as the Golden Squidger and the like, many, if not most, tournaments are based upon random draws, where each competitor plays with a different partner for each round (or hand/s in bridge terms).

This format should be familiar to bridge players as the Individual Duplicate.

It's very democratic since it means the World No 1 might well be partnering a rank novice. (I've frequently been partnered by such notables) Neither party minds. The novice is not over-awed and benefits from some experienced advice. The top player has to exhibit some spontaneous flexibility in his approach which can be just as challenging as playing against his peers.

Despite all that, the top players still generally win such tournaments and they can play with the reassurance (if they care about it anyway) that their world ranking won't be unduly affected because of the account taken of the standard of their partners and opponents.

And the same may now be said of bridge with the introduction of the NGS system.

So how about a return to popularity of the Individual Duplicate which seems to have fallen out of favour.

I can see the drawback in terms of agreeing systems and conventions, which, as described above, is admittedly less of a problem at tiddlywinks.

But we play this game for fun, don't we?

So, this rigmarole amounts to a plea for the return of the Individual Duplicate.

Richard Granville Ackland

The next two articles are following up Tim's introduction in the Autumn newsletter. Ed

Decline in numbers at face-to-face

Traditionally county and EBU green pointed Swiss events have been well attended by players with a wide range of playing ability and NGS. The size and depth of field along with stratification allowed a decent chance of at least occasionally getting a reasonably high placing even for relatively inexperienced players. There were also fewer alternative opportunities to get high placings, and thus to earn black and blue masterpoints, in other competitions. Looking at the entries and results from recent green pointed events it's becoming increasingly hard for anyone but top players to earn significant rewards. Even before Covid events where only the top half of the field could earn anything were beginning to struggle. For 'inexperienced' players there are Jack high events which remove many non expert pairs from the main field. These 'inexperienced' players include seasoned tournament players, including internationals, whose NGS falls to below Queen at any time while entries are open, i.e. 90%+ of Surrey players. As an illustration, 56th place in the recent 305 pair 24 board National Handicap pairs earnt 4.55 blue points whereas 2nd place in last year's Surrey Swiss Teams earnt 1.5 green points for twice as many boards.

It's becoming evident to the vast majority of players that face to face green pointed events are, literally, (master)pointless. To some extent a similar issue with relative size of fields is discouraging people from playing in face to face club games. The culprit, other than obvious competition from online games, is the masterpointing formula whereby a fall in table numbers of 1/3 results in a fall in masterpoints of roughly 55% and with 1/2 table numbers of 75%.

Advancement up masterpoint ranks beyond about National master for players who started relatively recently, i.e. after about 2010, is now virtually impossible below the level of professional/international standard players without playing extensively online.

I've suggested to Gordon Rainsford that the masterpointing formula should favour face to face games, perhaps by awarding masterpoints to the top half of the field. He suggested that no-one was really bothered by this.

I'm just off to WBC for a game where I hope for a dozen tables. Back in 2015 when I first played there were usually 20+.

Roger Pratt

Falling numbers at green-pointed events

I'm afraid the EBU shot itself in the foot when it started up the NGS. Before that happened, green points were the only way to climb any sort of EBU ladder. People would travel all over (well, half over) the country to get green points. Now these points mean nothing. The EBU is encouraging players to aim for AC/AD/AH/AS, ranks only attainable to those who have a collection of equally good partners.

Although it helped, Covid can't be blamed for this decline in numbers. The rot started well before Covid.

I don't honestly think there is much that SCBA can do now. Returning to somewhere central like Oxshott might help, because this year everything has been at Wimbledon, Richmond and even further east than that. The western side of the county has been completely ignored. So if SCBA had held the GP Swiss Pairs at Farnham or Guildford, would I have gone? The answer is yes. However, nothing will persuade me to go to Richmond for that. It would seem a lot of members share my view. Looking at the results sheet, I could only see 3 pairs who came from this side of the county.

It has always been my belief, and still is, that the teaching of bridge should be aimed towards those coming up to retirement. They are the ones who are going to have the time to keep the clubs going. Many years ago, the Adult Education authorities ran bridge classes for a nominal sum. I feel that beginners classes are too expensive nowadays and this may be putting people off.

Jill Cook

Bridge It's a Big Deal! Festival of Bridge 2024

The EBU have joined forces with Cancer Research UK for a special week commencing 9th September 2024.

Counties will be encouraging as much local participation as possible to achieve the objectives of having fun, promoting the game and raising £60,000 for Cancer Research UK. This participation can take the form of a party or other special event, or just donating the table money from one session during that week.

This is a Festival of Bridge for all and all bridge communities whether affiliated or not will be invited to participate.

The event will be launched officially at the end of January 2024. It will be supported by resources available through the EBU Festival pages and these will be available from the day of the launch.

Cancer Research UK will put together stories about members who have made the cancer journey so if you know any people who would be happy to help with this please let me know.



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

Supported by



Shirley Pritchard

competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com

Now that's what I call bidding!

Alan Brown

Love all, Dealer East.
Bidding

E	S	W	N
2S Old fashioned strong Acol 2	P Softlee softlee catchee monkey	4S Purely pre-emptive	P Considered 5D but felt might have enough defense to beat it
P	4N Minors (brilliant)	5S No defensive values and raising the ante	6D Hope it's not too expensive
6S If partner can bid 5 freely then surely 6S must be on, especially if he has 2 aces	7D If partner can bid 6D freely then I can bid 7D, especially with no defensive values	X I don't want partner to bid 7 so I had better double to stop him	

And, of course 7D is a laydown on any lead.

The full hand.

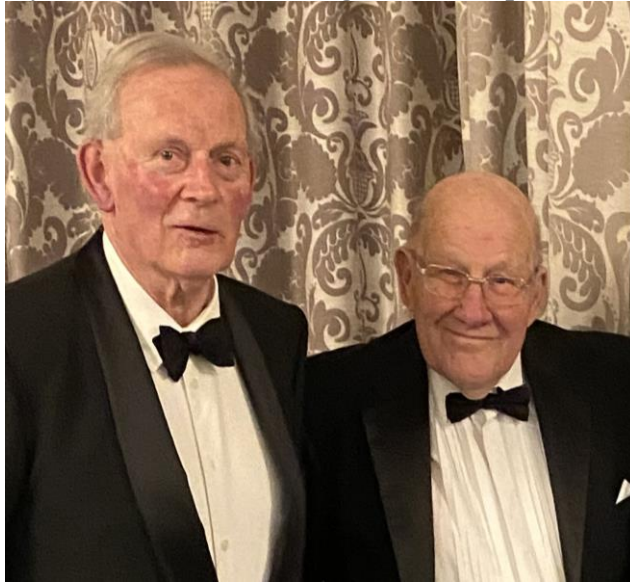
	♠Q97	
	♥AJ107	
	♦AQ1082	
	♣8	
♠8653		♠AKJ1042
♥654		♥KQ983
♦6		♦K
♣Q10973		♣K
	♠-	
	♥2	
	♦J97543	
	♣AJ6542	

Congratulations

Surrey

Dorin Salver

Monday Michael Cartwright and Philip Richardson, RAC BC



Dorin Salver

Tuesday Dolly Ahmed and Peter King, Wimbledon BC

Dorin Salver

Wednesday Steve Bourton and Julia Brough, Tudor & Guildford BC



Dorin Salver

Thursday & Overall
Rosemarie Thompson and Richard Hazell, Selsdon BC



Mixed Pairs

Neil & Christine Tomkin



Green Pointed Swiss Pairs

Joint Winners -

Desikan & Bhuma Rangarajan, and
David Arundel & Andrew Bannock



Green Pointed Swiss Teams

Peter Lee & Sally Brock, Barry Myers & Mike Scoltock

Victor Ludorum

Elisabeth Bingham

Surrey League

Division 1 Frances Hinden, Peter Lee, Graham Osborne, Mike Scoltock

Division 2 Fionn O'Leary, Pat Bohan, Janet Cahm, Luiz Ronaldo de Oliveira Lima, Huaiyu Fan, Dan O'Farrell

Division 3 **Joint Winners:** Chris Thorn, Jennifer Boud, Valerie Jackson, Martin Lister, Maria Martin, Robert Twin

Joint Winners: Lawrence Penney, Sally Bradbury, Hiroko Canning, Sandra Cape, Neil Higgins, Steve Leach, Christopher Pullan, Penny Webster-Smith

Division 4 Nigel Biggs, Allyson Biggs, Kevin Byrne, Kate Cottrell, Nashat Saridar

Lady Rose Cup

Ian Swanson, Charles Chisnall, Bob James and Bill Hodgkiss (Team Swanson)

Lady Rose Plate

Paul Chapman, Adrian Ring, Graham Pollack and Andrew Whittome (Team Chapman)

Wanborough Cup Mayfield – Mike Scoltock & Peter Lee, Andrew Southwell & Richard Fedrick



Mary Edwards Selsdon – Tony Cherrett & Steve Irwin

County Pairs Cup William Clennell & Dominic Cooke

County Pairs Plate Hal Hazine & June Middleton

Mixed Pairs Janet Cahm & Pat Bohan

Schools Cup Henry Huang & Gijs Van Angeren, Adavya Goyal & Anango Prabhat of St Paul's

Schools Minibridge Finley Collins & Reuben Kirubakaran of Tiffin

National

Peter Lee and Dave Norman for winning the National Pairs

This was Dave's first success in the National Pairs, but Peter's fifth, the previous four being with Bob Rowlands. We understand that five wins, which Bob also achieved, is the most anyone has achieved.

Christine Dyer and David Dawson for coming second in the Corwen Trophy

Christine and David were amongst the pairs selected to represent SCBA from the County Pairs.

Tim Chanter & Helen Wildsmith for coming second at Eastbourne in the Mixed Pairs

Tollemache

Surrey have comfortably qualified for what should be a strong final at Coventry Bridge Club on Feb 17th and 18th next year

Congratulations to the Surrey Team:

Richard Fedrick & Peter Lee, William Clennell & Dominic Cooke, David Dawson & David Norman, Frances Hinden & Graham Osborne, Graham Sadie & Richard Granville, Bob James & Charles Chisnall

Special Congratulations to Frances and Graham for coming top by a long way on the X-IMPs

I thought this was quite hard. It is a hand you have to follow right the way through to see it unfold.

It ends up as a 3-suit squeeze, given the exotic name of a “backwash squeeze” – unusual in this case because one of the three suits involved is the trump suit so that it is sometimes referred to as a Seres squeeze (or Sidney squeeze) from the hand played in 1965 by Tim Seres whom many consider the greatest Australian bridge player of all time.

	♠ Q 7 6 4 2	
	♥ 8 6	
	♦ K Q	
♠ 8 5 3	♣ K Q J 10	♠ K J 10 9
♥ J 10 7 3		♥ K 5 4
♦ A J 8		♦ 9 7 6 5 3
♣ 5 4 3	♠ A	♣ 2
	♥ A Q 9 2	
	♦ 10 4 2	
	♣ A 9 8 7 6	
South to make 6♣		
Lead = ♣5		

South wins the trump lead in dummy, takes the heart finesse followed by ♠A, ♥A, heart ruff, spade ruff.

South then leads ♦2 to establish a further entry to dummy. When West takes his ♦A he needs to lead another trump or South can prevail on a high cross ruff. West’s trump lead is won in dummy, ♠6 ruffed in hand and a heart ruff (T10) puts the lead in dummy with the following 3 cards remaining:

	♠ Q 7	
	♥	
	♦	
♠	♣ K	♠
♥ J		♥
♦ J		♦ 9 7 6
♣ 3	♠	♣
	♥ 9	
	♦ 10	
	♣ A	

♠7 is ruffed with ♣A and West finds himself in an impossible position, forced to under-ruff (when dummy is high) or discard a red suit winner, enabling South to play red suit winners until ♣3 is over-ruffed by North's ♣K.

Winner of Prize Puzzle No 19

Congratulations go to Steve, who wins free entry to one of our county competitions for himself and partner of choice.

Club News

Allingham

During October one of our members, Jack Feld, celebrated his 100th birthday. Jack is a regular player at Allingham and was presented with a card and bottle of wine. He was excited to have received a message from the King. Congratulations Jack!



Allingham also held a Charity Evening on Monday 6 November playing for Children in Need. All table money was donated plus money collected for a glass of wine, which was donated by a member, and a slice of delicious cake, which were all made by the membership – a fantastic amount of £620 was collected and donated.

Allingham is a very social club and plans are already underway for a Christmas Social on Monday 18 Dec and also a Bridge Weekend and Bridge Holiday in 2024.

Please see our website for further news www.allinghambridgeclub.org.uk

Camberley

Camberley Bridge Club started running improvers classes in October. The club was keen to attract new members and, separately, it was recognised that, although the local U3A have been running beginners classes for many years, there was little opportunity to receive further tuition locally for those who wanted to advance their knowledge beyond the beginners stage. The improvers classes provided the opportunity to combine the two needs.

Contact was made with recent learners with the U3A and with members of other local bridge playing groups. The original intention was to have 20 in the class and 26 applicants enlisted to join.

The club sponsored two of its members to attend an EBU two-day bridge teacher training course and the first Camberley class was held shortly after that. In addition to the benefits of the training guidance the EBU course provided some very good teaching material. The EBU also provide set hands related to the subjects being taught which have been used in the improvers classes.

The group have a 45 minute (approx) interactive tuition which has so far included such subjects as planning the play, defence, red suit transfers and the losing trick count. There is also each week a point on bridge etiquette – things like making the opening lead face down and the use of the stop card. So far the tuition has been shared by the two club members who attended the EBU course and a further member has indicated her willingness to give some lessons in the new year.

The lessons are followed by set hands where the improvers can put into practice the lesson they have just learnt. A rota of club members also attend each week to mentor the tables during the play.

There has been positive feedback on the classes and nearly all the students have indicated their desire to continue attending them in the new year. 11 of the group have now played in a full club session.

Val Foster, Chairman, Camberley Bridge Club

Leatherhead

Leatherhead Bridge Club held its annual Christmas party in the Leatherhead Institute. It was a very friendly gathering. We had a buffet, which was very popular, followed by Chicago Bridge - changing partners every four hands. That format is a relaxing way of playing with different people, rather than a serious competition - though we had a prize giving at the end !



Selsdon

When three's company and not a crowd!

It seems that at Selsdon Bridge Club we sometimes like to do things a little differently. This is especially true for our "Teams of Three" Championship. It's an annual event and has become something of a favourite with Club members: particularly as it involves a unique movement that was invented by one of our own members, Roger Fellows.

How does it work? Over the course of the evening, not only does each player partner the other two members of their team, they also play a third of the hands accompanying other players. It's a great way to get back to basics, see how quickly you can build an understanding and experience playing with different partners. The flurry of chatter at each table as pairs try and establish the basics of a system in a two minute panicky conversation ("Acol? 5 card majors? Defence to opponents 1NT? Aaagh what else?!) always raises a smile.

If you think that sounds like an interesting evening's bridge, then you'd be right. Feel free to join us for our next Teams of Three event on **Thursday 21st March**. Maybe the best things in life are three, after all!

Charity events

Farnham and Bourne



Farnham and the Bourne Farnham bridge clubs will be jointly hosting a face-to-face blue-pointed charity Swiss Pairs on Sunday 11th February in the Methodist Hall, South Street, Farnham

The event is in aid of our local Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, and in memory of two very special members of the Farnham Bridge community: Erica Currie and her son Richard Currie.



The event starts at 1:45 pm, will finish at approximately 7:15 pm and will consist of 6x 6 board matches. Entry is £40 per pair, which includes an excellent plated tea.

Registrations open in mid-December. Register online on www.bridgewebs.com/farnham or contact Mike O'Donnell (Mike@lizandmike.co.uk).

Café bridge

6th February 2024 (Tue)	<u>Teddington Café Bridge</u> in aid of The Trussell Trust and <u>Princess Alice Hospice</u> <i>Now accepting bookings</i>
19th February 2024 (Mon)	<u>Wimbledon Village Spring Café Bridge</u> in aid of BRIGHT Cancer Care <i>Pre-registration open, email michael@picturehouse.org</i>

16th April 2024
(Tue)

Molesey Spring Café Bridge in aid of Momentum
Pre-registration open, email michael@picturehouse.org

8th May 2024
(Weds)

Guildford Spring Café Bridge in aid of The Halow Project
Now accepting bookings

You can't do that!

Mark Davies

Farnham BC used to run the popular winter Sylvia Rose league of 24-board matches every other Wednesday with 16-20 teams. It is now played on RealBridge. This gem was from a Sylvia Rose in F2F days a few years ago.

East-West played a hybrid 5-cd major system where 1♦ shows 4+ but 1♣ is 3+, with a strong NT. East opened 1♣, South bid 1♥ and West doubled. When East rebid 1NT (12-14) they were quickly in 3NT.

The Lady with Hearts (LwH) led ♥5 to the 4, J and A. Declarer led a thoughtful ♠10 to the, umm, king with North playing the ♠5 and continued with the expected ♣Q, LwH winning.

What do we know? Partner has ♥QJ or ♥QJx and might have ♠Q. But hang on, partner can't have more than four points – five if East has only 11. So declarer very likely to have ♠Q. If the ♥s are blocked, a ♦ return will still provide five tricks. Better to lead the ♥2 back to suggest a ♦ return even if the ♥s are not blocked.

LwH did that analysis in a microsecond and the ♥2 was on the table going round to the 6, 7 and 10. Declarer cashed ♠Q, went to dummy with a club, pitched red cards on the top ♠s and claimed 4 ♣s, 4 ♠s and 2 ♥s for 10 tricks.

While Dummy delivered his semi-automatic "well played partner", there was another conversation cutting across. LwH asking partner why she hadn't played the queen. Which queen? I didn't have any queens. Well, the ♥Q of course.

Declarer now confessed that he had held the ♥Q. You can't do that! Said the indignant LwH.

It's a difficult problem for LwH. Even if declarer had won the ♥Q, she has an awkward decision which can only really be solved by North making his first ♠ play as a lead-direction signal – not many play that round 'ere.

Equally, declarer has two options at trick 1. Does he go for the technical route and win ♥Q and try to befuddle LwH into leading another ♠ when in with CK – hoping for a red suit endplay in the finish? Does he let LwH win the first ♣ (which could be single)? Does he cash ♣A and another, risking an Italian discard from North (these are popular round 'ere)?

Or does he play on the greed of a fallible human who is delighted that her bold lead from a rubbish suit (when partner clearly has very little) has pulled out a plum and will surely continue ♥s fully expecting to defeat the contract?

Dir: E	
Vul: All	
♠ AKJ6	N
♥ 64	W E
♦ J53	S
♣ QJ76	
	♠ 832
	♥ K9852
	♦ AQ2
	♣ K8

Dir: E	♠ 9754	
Vul: All	♥ J7	
	♦ K10974	
	♣ 43	
♠ AKJ6		♠ Q10
♥ 64		♥ AQ103
♦ J53		♦ 86
♣ QJ76		♣ A10952
	♠ 832	
	♥ K9852	
	♦ AQ2	
	♣ K8	

And finally.....

The next newsletter will come out towards the end of March. So, please send me any club news, personal stories and photographs for the next edition. Is your club having a charity event you would like to tell people about? Let me know. Are you planning any club celebrations? Send me pictures.

[Julia Brough](#)

Editor

