



BRIGHTON FOCUS

Bulletin No. 3

Monday 9 August 2010

Editor: Matt Betts

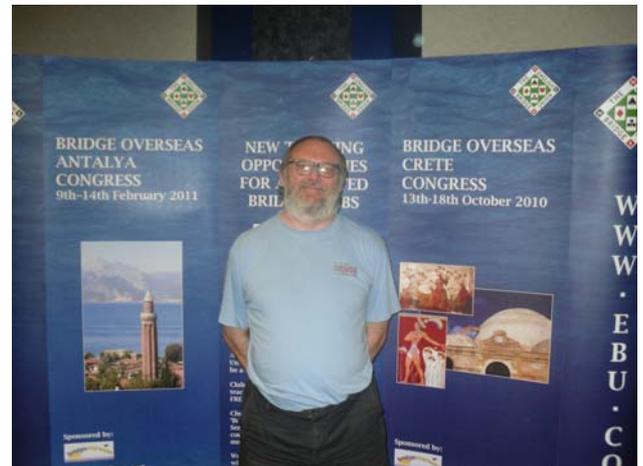
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RESULTS

Swiss Pairs for the Harold Poster Cup Final Results

Rank		VPs
1	Tim Rees & Filip Kurbalija	211
2	Neil Rosen & Derek Patterson	207
3	Matthew Hoskins & Andrew Southwell	202
4	Ian Pagan & Chris Jagger	201
5	David Gold & David Bakhshi	197
6=	Simon Gillis & Odin Svendsen	194
6=	Alex Hydes & Ben Handley-Pritchard	194
8	Duncan Happer & Ben Paske	191
9	Cameron Small & Martin Nygren	188
10	Jeffrey Allerton & Frances Hinden	186
11	Alan Shillitoe & Stuart Haring	184
12=	Martin Garvey & Jon Cooke	183
12=	Tom Hanlon & Hugh McGann	183
14=	Tom Dessain & Tugrul Kaban	182
14=	David Ewart & Andrew McIntosh	182
16	Andy Bowles & John Howard	179
17=	Alexander Allfrey & Andrew Robson	178
17=	Celia Oram & Derek Oram	178
19=	Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield	177
19=	Frazer Morgan & Tom Slater	177
19=	Julian Mitchell & Peter Clinch	177
22=	Jack Mizel & David Burn	176
22=	John Holland & Michelle Brunner	176
24	Sandy Davies & Tom Gisborne	175
25=	Philip Town & Frances Liew	174
25=	Tom Townsend & Nanette Gillespie	174
25=	Nick Irens & Espen Erichsen	174
28=	Richard Lingham & Ann Slee	173
28=	Chris Cooper & Daniel McIntosh	173
28=	Andrew Macnair & Alan Kay	173
28=	Anna Onishuk & Karel de Raeymaker	173
32=	David Dickson & Artur Malinowski	172
32=	Aidan Schofield & Robert Covill	172
32=	Brian Senior & Denis Bennett	172
32=	Waseem Naqvi & William Whittaker	172

32=	Catherine Jagger & Jonathan Mestel	172
32=	Chris Dixon & Victor Silverstone	172
32=	Sally Chandler & Malcolm Rosenblatt	172
39=	Jill Feldman & Simon Cope	171
39=	Derek Rue & Bill Hirst	171
39=	Gary Jones & Jerry Harouni	171



Tim Rees, one half of the partnership who won last weekend's Swiss Pairs. Tim played with Filip Kurbalija.

CONTENTS

Results	1
Welcome	2
Today's Horoscope	2
Caption Competition	2
Directors' Pairs Pivot Teams	3
Bridge Convention Anagram	3
Junior Teach-In	3
Swiss Pairs, Session 3 & 4	4 - 5
Brighton Bridgword	6
Today's Schedule	6
Next Issue	6

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WELCOME

Welcome to the third issue of Brighton Focus - your forum for news and views at the Brighton Congress.

Today heralds the start of the midweek events, and we would like to say hello to the many new faces for the Seniors Congress, the Really Easy Congresses and the TD training. Please pick up our Welcome edition, too, and feel free to pick up Issue 1 and 2!

The seventh Really Easy Congress opens today, and for the first time will be split into two Congresses: Novices & Students on 9 - 11 August and Next Step on 10 - 12 August. Their staff this year include Gill and John Pain who have been working over the last weekend. They are helped by various people, including Titch Glenday from Exeter, Ian Mitchell, Richard & Mel Czapski, and Trevor Livesey. Their Tuesday morning guest lecturer is Andrew Kambites, player, TD and teacher, who has also written this issue's bridge article.

Contributions to Brighton Focus are always welcome, and we have a contribution form available in the Durham Room for any interesting hands. We also welcome any letters or comments to the team. Simply put them in the colourful contribution box in the Durham Room.

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Welcome to the third of our daily horoscopes personally created for bridge players:

Aries: Today 3-3 splits offer better chances than finesses. Trust in the stars.

Taurus: Destiny comes to you as a woman in red — but don't get your hopes up, it's just the Queen of Diamonds.

Gemini: Resist the urge to stay in bed today. The sun will shine and you won't miscount anything.

Cancer: As Venus passes through your sign this month, you will feel a most unusual urge not to criticise partner.

Leo: Resist change. Be wary of your associates. After nightfall things may not be what they seem. Lucky colour, blue. Lucky flower, Gardenia.

Virgo: The stars predict that your lucky number this month is twelve. Try the Rule of Twelve for a change.

Libra: Today your partner's fidgeting is not indecision, but the awakenings of a unique madness. Time to play very, very carefully.

Scorpio: The friendly dog that is often seen in the club car park hasn't been seen for quite some time. Your pondering what might have happened to it results in your misplaying a cold game contract. You feel that the dog may not be as friendly as you once thought.

Sagittarius: Only in the bar, after the last board has been played, will you realise that partner was wrong. A spade lead would *not* defeat the four heart contract on board 17, as he suggested. The post mortem is not over yet!

Capricorn: Old Mrs. Jennings is not the player she used to be, so in the name of charity it would be a nice idea to go easy on her and not pre-empt against her. Sadly, your stars indicate that you will not be in a particularly charitable mood this week, so fire away!

Aquarius: According to the stars, God isn't very impressed with you. Why you had to hear from the stars rather than the man himself is beyond me. I guess it's just a sign of the times.

Pisces: The stars are aligning in such a way as to ensure success! But is it for you, or your opponent?

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CAPTION COMPETITION



The winner of yesterday's competition is Joseph JW Griffiths whose caption: "When he told her he was looking for a partner, she didn't realise he meant it was for bridge." Joseph can collect his prize from the EBU reception.

We have another cartoon by our artist Celia Weber. If you have any good bridge captions for the picture below (multiple entries are accepted), please place them in the contributions box in the Durham Room.



DIRECTORS' PAIRS PIVOT TEAMS

by June Booty

On Thursday evening, after the directors had finished slaving away erecting tables, moving chairs, checking boards, and generally getting the rooms laid out ready for bridge, eight of them settled down for a game of friendly (?) teams. They played three stanzas of eight boards, keeping the same partners but swapping teammates so they could have one pair of winners. Hand number 20 demonstrates some rather colourful auctions.

In one room the auction went:

West	North	East	South
1♥ ¹	1NT ²	2♥ ³	3NT ⁴

All pass

West - Kathy Williams
 North - Mike Amos
 East - Eddie Williams
 South - Sarah Amos

¹ Perhaps a little frisky

² Psyche

³ Also a little frisky, although partner has promised 5♥

⁴ Fielding the psyche. Sarah definitely knows that someone has psyched. She assumed it was partner and didn't look for a slam. 3NT made.

The lead was a dubious queen of hearts and, although Declarer immediately ran five clubs squeezing the opponents, Declarer was held to nine tricks.

In the other room the auction went:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♥ ¹	1NT ²
3♥ ³	Db1 ⁴	Pass	Pass
Pass ⁵			

West - Gordon Rainsford
 North - Barrie Partridge
 East - Martin Lee
 South - June Booty

¹ Psyche

² A little strong

³ Reasonable

⁴ Dangerous at teams

⁵ Was thinking of redoubling! Partner said he would have

pulled to 3♠ if he had, which North would have doubled, and this should go only one down.

Although 3♥x should be three down, it was only two off, so the eventual winners, Kathy and Eddie Williams, gained 3 IMPS on the board.

BRIDGE CONVENTION ANAGRAM

Each day we are including an anagram of a fairly well known bridge convention for you to puzzle over. The answer will be given in the next day's edition of *Brighton Focus*. No hyphens or apostrophes are used.

The solution to yesterday's anagram of **futuristic fog-horn** is **Fourth Suit Forcing**. Today's anagram is: **convenient ninja mob**.

We'll have the answer in tomorrow's *Focus*!

JUNIOR TEACH-IN

Every year the EBU runs a residential weekend for young players. Some are new or relatively new to the game, but we also have some who have attended for several years. This year's event is at Loughborough University over the Bank Holiday weekend Friday 27 to Sunday 29 August.

Ages range from 8 to 21, but many young people bring their parents and grandparents who join in the fun as much or as little as they wish, so we've had people up to 80 attending.

There are six sessions of bridge instruction, and the players are divided into six groups according to bridge ability – from the Raw Rookies who are learning Minibridge for the first time, the Fearless Fledglings moving on to bridge proper (opening 1NT) right up to Ace Experts who are competent players and the Top Guns who have aspirations to join the English junior squad.

There is also time to play bridge on Friday evening, Saturday evening and a late-night speedball for the really keen.

There is full board accommodation from Friday evening dinner through to Sunday lunch, mostly in ensuite single study bedrooms. Family groups are arranged in the same house. The cost this year is £120 for young people and £135 for accompanying adults.

Leaflets are at the EBU stand.

SWISS PAIRS - SESSIONS 3 & 4

by Andrew Kambites

Board 8. Love all. Dealer West.

<p>♠ A Q 10 6 ♥ K Q 9 ♦ A K 7 6 ♣ 9 4</p> <p>♠ 8 7 3 2 ♥ 10 7 3 ♦ 5 ♣ K Q J 10 8</p>		<p>♠ J 5 ♥ A J 4 ♦ 10 9 ♣ A 7 6 5 3 2</p>	<p>♠ K 9 4 ♥ 8 6 5 2 ♦ Q J 8 4 3 2 ♣ -</p>
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A lot of matchpoints can be scored at pairs playing in Moysian (4-3) major suit fits, but when there is a very strong side suit (diamonds) and a weakness (clubs), the play can be difficult. 6♦ is a reasonable contract: it will make if West has the ace of hearts. However, at pairs I would want to play in 4♠ by North, despite the far superior diamond fit.

The play is interesting. Suppose East leads the ace of clubs. This is ruffed in dummy (always preferable to ruff in the hand with three trumps rather than the hand with four.) What now? Seeing all four hands it is obvious that declarer can just draw trumps and cash six diamonds: 11 easy tricks. However, this will lead to great danger if declarer cashes ♠K A Q and finds the jack of spades is still at large. Declarer cannot drive it out because of the club weakness. However, if he abandons trumps and plays diamonds, the jack of spades will ruff the fourth round, cutting declarer off from the fifth and sixth diamonds.

Pairs or not, I would go for a safety play in trumps: at trick two I would run the nine of spades. It loses to the jack, but now my contract is safe: nothing can prevent me from taking three spades, the club ruff in dummy and six diamonds and I would expect +420 to score well.

So how can North/South bid to 4♠? North opens 1♠. Whether or not East bids 2♣, South has a raise to 2♠. After 1♠ (2♣) 2♠ (5♣) North can do no more than double, and East/West should escape for -300 and a good score. If East passes 1♠, the following auction is possible:

South	North
	1♠
2♠	2NT (17-18 balanced)
3♦	3♥ (heart values)
3♠	4♠

4♠ + 1 (N/S +450) by North scored 94% for N/S
4♠ = (N/S +420) by North scored 88% for N/S
5♦ = (N/S +400) by North/South scored 68% for N/S
5♣ doubled - 2 (N/S +300) by East scored 45% for N/S

The next hand came in the last match on Saturday night when most of the field will have been happily dozing off, or working themselves into a frenzy at the prospect of the midnight speedball pairs.

Board 22. E-W Game. Dealer East.

<p>♠ 10 8 5 ♥ 10 9 8 ♦ K 10 5 4 ♣ 9 5 2</p> <p>♠ A K Q 9 7 6 4 ♥ 3 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ 3</p>		<p>♠ J ♥ A K Q J 7 ♦ 6 3 ♣ K J 8 6 4</p>	<p>♠ 3 2 ♥ 6 5 4 2 ♦ J 8 2 ♣ A Q 10 7</p>
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East opens 1♥, and I expect many West players to leap immediately to 4NT, settling for 6♣ when an ace is missing. One of my pet hates is players who take charge with Blackwood while partner's hand is unlimited: I would ask such West players what they intended to do if East showed two aces. The ♦K is a vital card whereas the ♣K and ♥K might be less so: could they find out? If they play 5NT after 4NT as asking for specific kings, then maybe they can.

I would jump to 2♠ with the West hand. Theoretically it is wrong for responder to jump shift with a two-suited hand unless one of the suits is prime support for partner. However, it does make bidding easier here if West regards the hand as one-suited and insists spades will be trumps. East will rebid 3♣, and West continues with 3♠. A jump shift by responder followed by a rebid in the same suit sets the suit, so East should cue bid his

SWISS PAIRS - SESSIONS 3 & 4

cheapest ace with 4♥. Knowing the ace of clubs is missing, West settles for 6♠.

So what is so interesting about this hand? The problem is that 6♠ can be defeated by a heart lead or a club to South and a heart switch. Declarer needs to draw trumps before being committed to cashing hearts. Suppose North leads a MUD five of clubs to dummy's jack and South's queen. What should South do next?

A diamond switch at trick two is not sensible: Declarer must have the ace of diamonds, otherwise he would not have bid a slam knowing both minor aces were missing.

Could Declarer have a second club? The club spots played at trick one are consistent with North leading a doubleton. I suspect most Souths would try to cash the ace of clubs, particularly seeing the running heart suit in dummy. However, a good South will give serious consideration to switching to a heart, playing Declarer for a singleton. Well done to anybody who found this difficult defence, particularly late on a Saturday night.

Did anybody find a route to the laydown 6NT by East? I certainly cannot see a sensible way there after West has (quite reasonably) hijacked the auction!

6NT + 1 (E/W +1470) by East scored 96% for E/W
 6♠ + 1 (E/W +1460) by West scored 83% for E/W
 6NT = (E/W +1440) by East scored 71% for E/W
 6♠ = (E/W + 1430) by West scored 62% for E/W
 6♠ - 1 (E/W -100) by West scored 6% for E/W

Finally, into Sunday, this will have challenged you:

Board 13. Game all. Dealer North.

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

Looking only at the North/South hands what contract would you choose? 6♦ is doomed on repeated heart leads. How good is 6♣? Either defender holding ♣J x x x will beat it. Equally most 4-1 diamond breaks will leave you with two diamond losers, as will East having the king and queen of diamonds. 6♣ is below 50%, but makes as the cards lie with both minors breaking kindly and the diamond honours split. However, at pairs I would not want to be in 6♣ with these cards even if the combined chances of success were over 50%. The point is that 6♣ going down will score very badly indeed. On the other hand cashing your 10 top tricks at 3NT is bound to score well, and on a spade lead you might even survive a 4-1 club break.

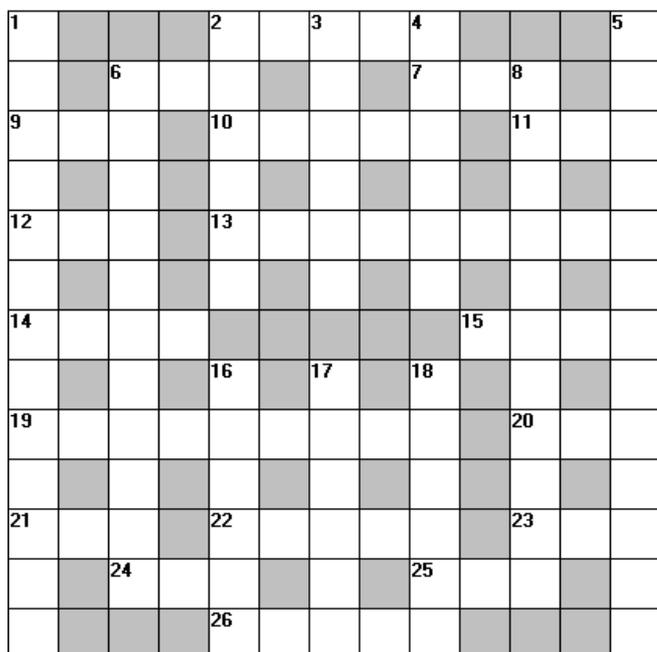
Some Norths will open a Benji 2♣. The TD won't mind: it satisfies the rule of 25 (add your 14 high-card points to your 11 cards in the minors). However the likely continuation 2♣ 2♦ 3♣ is very space-consuming so I would choose to open it 1♣. South will respond 1♥, and North then reverses into 2♦ (forcing for one round). South has three choices:

- i) He could raise to 3♦. A raise of reverser's second suit is normally played as forcing, because sometimes opener can only describe his hand by reversing into a 3-card suit.
- ii) He could bid 2NT. This is normally played as non-forcing and shows a minimum. A slight underbid.
- iii) He could jump to 3NT. A slight overbid.

My choice would be 2NT. What does North do now? Yes! 3NT. He has 8 tricks: South has bid hearts and shown at least one stopper in spades. Of course 3NT could be horrible if South has four small hearts, but even then the 1♥ response may discourage West from leading a heart. The point is that North has no safety in settling in 5♣. Give South the two major suit kings and nothing else, a holding perfectly consistent with his bidding, and 5♣ has very little chance.

6♣ = (N/S +1370) by North scored 93% for N/S
 3NT + 1 (N/S +630) by North scored 63% for N/S
 5♣ + 1 (N/S +620) by North scored 38% for N/S
 3♣ + 3 (N/S +170) by North scored 15% for N/S

BRIGHTON BRIDGWORD NO. 3



ACROSS

- 2 Positive feature appearing when down (5)
- 6 Crazy nut makes two-suited overcall (3)
- 7 Something global, or British (3)
- 9 Possess topless gown (3)
- 10 Have a fling? East drops out of the argument (5)
- 11 & 14 Come across it taken away from poor nutrition (3, 4)
- 12 Two opponents after a zero make half a pair (3)
- 13 Current university champions get Big Mac with red pickle (9)
- 14 See 11 across
- 15 South and East go on a motorway, getting halfway (4)
- 19 Eat lime in mixed strip (9)
- 20 Leading player gets tops from American card experts (3)
- 21 Agreed about a tree (3)
- 22 Within rerouted train (5)
- 23 Personality takes the top off toy bricks (3)
- 24 The Daily Star? No, another paper (3)
- 25 Emergency call when ship has nothing on board (3)
- 26 Get stuffed egg or salad (5)

DOWN

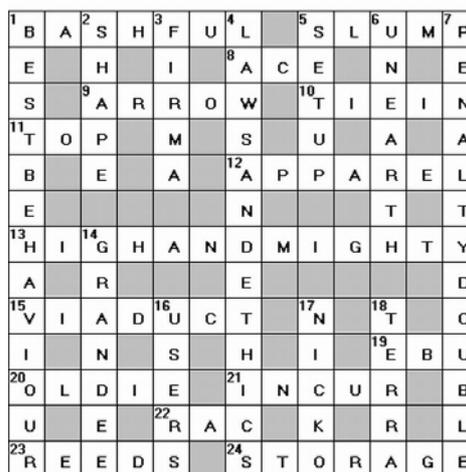
- 1 Reptile sitting on cup with nothing in makes a defensive smother play (9,4)
- 2 Lay into a nail around a kind of square (6)
- 3 Midget could be caught in a net (6)
- 4 Tall buildings and hills surround partners (6)

- 5 Confused beginner took a brief guide to permitted conventions (9,4)
- 6 By these, one is set below cheats (9)
- 8 Friends at the table help with scoring (9)
- 16 At last I'm in game, keeping schedule (6)
- 17 Expert runs after mixed teams (6)
- 18 Lower value by degrees in river (6)

If you have completed our Bridgword, please place the solution in the Brighton Focus box. We will pick the winner out of the hat each afternoon, and they'll win a nice bridge book. Please make sure you add your name to the entry! The solution will appear in tomorrow's Brighton Focus. Good luck!

Congratulations to yesterday's winner: Susan Ingham who receives a bridge book from the EBU Shop. Well done!

Solution to yesterday's Bridgword by Miselda



TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- 10.30am Tournament Director training course
- 2:00pm Afternoon Knock-out Teams, round 1
- 2:00pm Open Pairs
- 2:00pm Really Easy Congress Starts
- 8.00pm Seniors Pairs Qualifier
- 8.00pm Play with the Experts Pairs

NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be published for tomorrow morning and will be available in the Durham Room.

Contributions to Brighton Focus are always very welcome, and we have a contribution form in the Durham Room, so you can add any interesting hands to our box.