

Summer 2010 / Issue 34

THE ANDREW ROBSON BRIDGE CLUB MAGAZINE

Includes
Summer 2010
Lesson
and Playing
Schedules

Fabulous Malta Holiday - still a few places left
ARBC Bridge at the Notting Hill Harbour Club
Gold Cup Victory
How (not) to be Dummy



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Dates For Your Diary

20th - 21st March 2010	Improver Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
23rd - 26th March 2010	Millstream Midweek Break	
12th - 14th April 2010	Childrens Courses	10.30 - 12.30 / 13.30 - 15.30
13th - 16th April 2010	Harrogate Midweek Break	
14th April 2010	Open Evening	18.00 - 19.15
24th - 25th April 2010	Beginner Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
8th May 2010	Annual Teams Championship	11.00 - 16.00
8th - 9th May 2010	Next Step Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
15th - 16th May 2010	Intermediate Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
22nd - 23rd May 2010	Improver Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
4th June 2010	World Simultaneous Pairs	13.00 - 16.15
12th - 13th June 2010	Advanced Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
2nd - 3rd October 2010	Intermediate Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
16th - 17th October 2010	Improver Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
11th - 18th September 2010	Trip to Malta	
18th - 19th September 2010	Beginner Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
19th - 21st November 2010	Millsteam Weekend	
20th - 21st November 2010	Next Step Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
4th - 5th December 2010	Beginner Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
11th - 12th December 2010	Advanced Weekend	10.00 - 16.30
15th - 22nd January 2011	Hotel Alpina, Klosters	
4th - 6th February 2011	Millstream Midweek Break	

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Andrew's Editorial

It has been a great start to the year at ARBC, a lovely atmosphere with lots of exciting stimulating Bridge. I am sorry I have not been around to witness it; I have been recuperating from my foot



operation. Things are going well – bit of a long haul having my foot elevated the whole time – but we're getting there. Thank you so much to all of you wishing me well.

There are lots of exciting new developments at the Club I'd like to mention. For starters we have begun a Monday morning duplicate 10.00 – 13.00, under the leadership of the wonderful Martin Jones. What better way to start the week! We now have seven daytime duplicates, the four weekday afternoon ones all playing 24 boards. For the Tuesday and Thursday evening players, I am newly renaming the Trophy, previously known unimaginatively as the Tuesday-Thursday Cup, as the Stocken Cup – in honour of Peter and his three sons Jack, Simon and Zebedee all of whom have contributed so much to the success of the Club since its beginning back in 1995. We will be celebrating Peter's 1000th Hand Analyses on Thursday evening April 29th – do come and play that night. Also, by popular demand, we have reinstated the Annual Teams Day, to be held on Saturday 8th May 11.00 – 16.00. Make early plans and recruit your dream team of four.

I have devised another full package of courses for you this summer (we count April as summer here, perhaps a tad optimistically). I am personally looking forward to a return to teaching (with the

possibility that I will have an assistant to help on the early weeks, as I will be hobbling or possibly still on crutches). Particularly of note are David's Delights which run on Friday mornings until the end of June and Wednesday evenings through July and August; Caroline's Revise and Play on Thursday afternoons; and the Big Four (Conventions) with Richard on Monday evenings in July. Full details are on page 20.

Summer classes do tend to be smaller, travelling to the club is easier and so I would really recommend doing a course of lessons next term. Bear in mind (if you have to be away for a week or two) that almost all courses have a second (or third) time slot, typically running a week before/after. So, by coming to that alternate lesson and doing two lessons one week, you don't miss a week by being away. Worst case scenario – come to the lesson you've missed on a following term (no need to let us know). So no excuse to procrastinate! Sign up now – you can do it online as well as by phone/post.

My latest Bridge Lesson Booklet "Hand Evaluation and the Losing Trick Count" is shortly out. This really gets to the nitty-gritty of the game (for £5). Alternatively why not buy (for £10) the updated Essential Flipper, now covering all the themes of the Improver Course as well as Intermediate. For details of all the flipper, books, CDs etc see the shop (pages 32-38).

Shortly after Easter, towards the end of the school holidays, we are having our Easter Children's Bridge. I know my children Hannah and Mimi are looking forward to them. My experience of teaching Bridge to a more mature audience is that if someone has learnt to

cont..

play when young, they can stop for forty or fifty years yet have a huge head start when they take it up again later in life. For more details of Children's Bridge see page 9.

Our Bridge at the Notting Hill Harbour Club is going very well, buoyed by the kindness of the Harbour Club who have waived the £5 visitors fee. Nick, Natasha, Lucy and Helen are really enjoying starting this new venture and we thank all of you who have supported it. Natasha is to teach three classes each Thursday – Beginner, Next Step and Improver – starting on April 29th. For more details see page 6.

Jack, our holiday guru and Lorna have recently run perhaps our best ever ski trip – read more on page 7. They are about to take a sizeable group to Jack's

home territory, the lovely Yorkshire Dales, so, together with more away-breaks to the charming Millstream in Bosham, you can see that our holidays are going from strength to strength. People love the combination of activity combined with structured, instructive and entertaining Bridge. There are still a few places left on our summer trip to Malta (see Front Cover picture) so don't hesitate. For more details see the six-page Holiday Section on pages 26 – 31.

In the meantime I've missed you all and look forward to seeing you again at our special Bridge haven. Thank you so much to all of you – our Club – your Club – is truly unique in the world,



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"Expert tuition for all levels - and questions always welcomed! I'm hooked."
Claire O'Connor – one of my Intermediate students

Since January this year, I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching a couple of Andrew's courses at the Harbour Club in Notting Hill.

Living and working in Parson's Green has been very easy, so it was a bit of a shock to commute to North London. It gave me the push I needed to buy a decent bicycle; now I enjoy cycling through Hyde Park, Queensway and up to the Harrow Road in rain and snow! The club is easy to find just off the Harrow Road under the A40 and you can always park as cars can be stacked three high in their car park (Free!).

We use a large, light, airy room with big windows and a great selection of coffees as well as an extensive menu of delicious food, which I am slowly making my way through.

Every Wednesday Nick and his highly experienced, charming team run a Supervised session and Duplicate.

On Thursdays, from the end of April, I will be teaching Beginner, Next Step and Improver courses, so please tell all your bridge-playing friends as well as your non-bridge-playing friends, who live in north London.

Weekly Schedule - Every Wednesday

Supervised Play 9.30 - 11.30
Duplicate 11.45 - 15.00

Summer Term Lesson Schedule

Thursdays beginning 29th April
Next Step 9.15-10.45
Beginner 11.00-12.30
Improver 13.00-14.45
With the eight lessons on the following Thursdays:

- 29th April
- 6th May
- 13th May
- 20th May
- 27th May
- 10th June*
- 24th June*
- 1st July

No class on 3rd June, being half term, or 17th June, being my sister's wedding!

* Note missing week





Lorna...

How lucky we were to have such fabulous weather and snow for our annual ski trip which this year was in Zermatt staying at the brilliant Hotel Alex. We were very spoilt to have three wonderful ski guides to look after us all namely William, Gerry and Suzi who alternated between our three groups: the "long lunch group", the "medium-sized lunch group" and the Ascetes (naturally where I belonged). One of my highlights in Zermatt has to be the wonderful Gornergrat train which winds its way from the centre of the village to the top of the mountain. On a beautiful day (which we had many) it has to be one of the most picturesque train journeys.



The culinary delights at the Alex were endless – we ate like kings and I for one thoroughly enjoyed the pool etc – a great way to end the ski day. We had a fun non-skier group who were extremely happy going for wonderful walks which culminated in delicious lunches in various locations.

Our Bridge programme was busy as usual. Wonderful lessons compiled by Andrew and delivered skilfully by Jack – plus great fun duplicates after dinner. Our stars of the bridge tables were Sam and Bim Wilson and Caryl and Sadie - the unbeatable duo.....

Bim...

I have known Jack for a long time but not well as I was a very absent godmother to his brother Simon. And although keen readers of the Andrew Robson column in the Times, we had never been to the bridge club, so it was with trepidation we joined the group at the Hotel Alex. It turned out to be an unqualified delight-if exhausting.

There were six beautiful clear days of skiing with encouraging guides not showing the least condescension to us in the slow group with lunches in those charming mountain restaurants. Then we returned to the comfortable Hotel Alex for lessons before dinner. Jack and Lorna were unfailingly tactful when I fell into yet another heffalump trap on the prepared hands. "Well, Bim, that would be my second choice....". After the delicious dinner we returned to the tables for duplicate always played with courtesy and encouragement due in great part to the ethos generated by Jack, but also the niceness of our fellow guests.

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David, Alexander and Andrew win the Gold Cup for the third time in six years

As I parked my bike to look at pelicans and seals in San Diego’s Pacific Ocean, I reflected that in the space of the next seven days I had to play the Final of the US Reisinger, take the dreaded red-eye back, hop off the plane to teach my last week of classes at ARBC, then rush up to Scotland to play the semi-final and (hopefully) final of the Gold Cup, Britain’s big annual knock-out tournament. All that plus a trip to hospital (X Rays, Cat scans etc ahead of foot op.) plus spending time with my family (we had seen precious little of each other lately).

Hardly ideal preparation (isn’t travelling West to East so much harder than East to West – something to do with our circadian rhythms). All went smoothly – made the Reisinger Final and finished 4th (best British finish and an above expectation achievement amidst all the world’s best); easy flight back – a row of three seats and some kip; delightful classes at No. 31 – of course; and I was soon in Peebles ready for action.

The semifinal pitted us against five wily campaigners, including regular ARBC player Victor Silverstone. None of us could claim to be on our “A game”, my big “chuck” being to let the opponents make Two Clubs redoubled (ooh dear I shudder even now to think what a defensive absurdity I perpetrated). However we prevailed by a small margin, my favourite deal being one where partner Alex (who runs our Wiltshire offshoot with Suzy Lewis) and I bid and made Four Hearts plus one whilst in the other room the contract was – well there was no contract. The deal was passed out.

On to the final – after a sleepless night trying vainly to adjust to UK time – which saw us opposing three of my teammates in the World Junior Championship-winning side exactly 20 years previously. 64 deals were played in both rooms – but Deal Two was perhaps the most crucial of the lot. Here it is:

♠ 10 7 3
♥ K 6 2
♦ K J 9 8
♣ J 6 3

♠ 9 5
♥ 10 9 8 3
♦ 6 3
♣ 10 9 8 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A K Q 8 6 4
♥ A 4
♦ A 5
♣ A K 5

♠ J 2
♥ Q J 7 5
♦ Q 10 7 4 2
♣ Q 7

Dealer: South

The Bidding

South	West	North	East
(Andrew)		(Alex)	
2♣(1)	pass	2♦(2)	pass
2♠(3)	pass	3♠(4)	pass
4♣(5)	pass	4♦(6)	pass
4NT(7)	pass	5♣(8)	pass
5NT(9)	pass	6♣(10)	pass
7♠(11)	end		

- (1) 23+ points, any hand.
- (2) Negative or, as here, waiting.
- (3) Game force with five+ spades.
- (4) Better than 4♠.
- (5) Naturalish bid, looking for a spade slam.
- (6) Control-showing bid – ace or king of diamonds.
- (7) Roman Key Card Blackwood agreeing spades. I had a shrewd suspicion my partner would have no key cards (8), but needed to ask about aces so I could enquire about kings (9).
- (10) In our sophisticated methods, this reply to the king-ask showed either ♣K or both ♦K plus ♥K. I knew it was the latter.
- (11) I could count 12 tricks – six spades and three ace-kings. I followed the motto “where there’s 12 (tricks) there’s 13”, hoping partner held a queen or a doubleton club.



West led a passive trump vs Seven Spades, normal against a grand slam on the grounds that it gives little away. After winning and drawing trumps, your leader faced a choice between cashing ♣AK on the off-chance the queen would drop (as it would here), then (if not) playing ♦A and a diamond to dummy's jack (the best chance for three diamond tricks). Or, alternatively, running lots of trumps and forcing the opponents to discard: perhaps a squeeze-ending would develop, perhaps I would get a read on the opposing hands to tell me to play diamonds differently, or perhaps the opponents would simply discard erroneously.

I took the latter option, the downside being that I would have to discard clubs from dummy, removing the option of dropping a short ♣Q. When I threw a club from dummy on the fourth trump, I had theoretically gone down in a grand slam with 13 tricks easily available (if I just played clubs from the top, dummy's ♣J would be a third-round winner). I threw another club on the fifth trump, then played ♦AK and ruffed a diamond. Nothing good happened there, but mercifully West had by this point discarded three clubs, so when (after ♥AK) I led ♣AK and tabled ♣5 at Trick 13, it was the only club left. Phew – 13 tricks and grand slam made.

The opposing North-South pair at the other

table – the Tredinnick twins – settled safely in Six Spades so we gained a large swing – and also unsettled East-West who had let the grand slam make after I had selected the wrong line (arguably right in theory, though, I think).

62 deals later and we were holding the Gold Cup aloft (it was never easy and our final margin of 22 imps reflected a tight battle). That was about the only time you get to hold the cup though – insured for forty thousand pounds, it really is a gold cup.

It was the fourth time in eight years that David and I (either as partners or teammates) have won the Cup and the third for Alex. Our fourth and fifth members were Tony Forrester, Bridge maestro and Daily Telegraph columnist plus Peter Crouch, with whom I shared a house back in the Eighties (and who used to pass me at 7 am as I was returning from all-night bridge games and he was setting off to his more conventional accountancy job – but that's another story...).

Children's Bridge



Easter dates: 12th - 14th April
(times: 10.30-12.30 & 13.30-15.30)

Cost: £20 per Session

Please book in with Lorna

- Led by Andrew & Natasha
- Bring your children to whichever sessions you want.
- Should you wish to leave your children for both sessions, we will look after your children over lunch (and feed them).
- Free squash and biscuits mid-session.
- Everyone welcome, from complete beginners to more experienced players



Alison Thwaites, Angie Birts, Alice Coptcoat



Andi Wellman, Edward Sunley, Tania Bader



Gisela Bloom, Carla Meibergen, Jill Gerber



Jean Butler, Brigid Battiscombe, Luigi Molinaro



Patti Gamble, Linda Pethick and Julie Bostock



Richard Bayley and Michel Glen



Kathy Koch and Ruth Glazebrook



Peta and Vera Jankovic

Club Photos



Sarah Laidlaw



Catherine Armitage



Claudia Coulson



Lynne Miller



Gilly Cardiff



Valerie Dalton



Winners of Championship Pairs
Ivor Cooper and Luigi Molinaro
with Caroline and Andrew



Kooky Fallah



Winners of Championship Pairs
Louise Anderson and Richard
Kossow with Caroline and Andrew

Beginning Bridge at ARBC



Why Learn Bridge?

Whether aged 8 or 88, Bridge is the best way to keep your brain agile, whilst making new like-minded friends. It is an endlessly stimulating game and great to learn. Seize the moment – start now!

Why Learn at ARBC?

Recognised leaders in our field, we specialise in teaching from absolute scratch, taking things slowly enough for everyone to get the hang of it, but keeping things moving, as you will be dying to get to the next stage. Andrew may be a World and European Champion, but he has taught many thousands of Beginners over the past twenty years. By making things practical, he knows exactly how to make the game as easy as possible to learn, and, most importantly, he and his team make it fun!

FREE Taster Sessions

Next date: 18.30-19.45 on Wednesday 14th April

£145 for our eight-class Beginner Course represents fantastic value – especially as it includes Free Club Membership, plus a folder and clear handouts with each class. But if you have any doubts, come to one of our optional three-times yearly Taster sessions. These sessions will give you a flavour - and we are sure you will not look back.

Beginner Course

Starting from absolute scratch and assuming no knowledge, Beginner gives the perfect introduction to Bridge. After this course you will say a confident “Yes” when asked if you can play the game! Free Club membership until September 2010 included. The next course is Next Step.

[Beginner Courses coming up...](#)

BEGINNER	Wednesday 18.35 - 20.05 Andrew	Tuesday 20.25 - 21.55 Richard	Wednesday 11.30 - 13.00 Natasha	Tuesday 12.00 - 13.30 Richard
1. Getting Started	21st April	4th May	5th May	11th May
2. Playing Bridge	28th April	11th May	12th May	18th May
3. Introducing Notrumps	5th May	18th May	19th May	25th May
4. The Play - Making Tricks	12th May	25th May	26th May	8th June*
5. Finding Fits & Bidding Game	19th May	1st June	9th June*	15th June
6. Notrump Bidding	26th May	8th June	23rd June*	22nd June
7. Trump Bidding	9th June*	15th June	30th June	29th June
8. Overcalling	16th June	22nd June	7th July	6th July

Beginner in a Weekend - Summer 23rd - 24th April 10.00 - 16.30 (David),
Autumn 18th - 19th September, 10.00 - 16.30 (David)
Autumn 4th - 5th December 10.00 - 16.30 (Richard)

** please note these weeks are not consecutive*

Andrew’s team of teachers – the best in the land

ARBC has an unrivalled strength in depth of teachers, both in their excellence as players and, most importantly, as teachers of the game. Apart from Andrew himself, Daily Bridge Correspondent of The Times and teacher extraordinaire, there’s David, who possesses a rare talent: one of the World’s Top 100 players with many international successes under his belt, his clarity and communication skills are exceptional, as his large and devoted following will testify. There’s Caroline, whose enthusiasm knows no bounds; a class with her will put a smile on your face for a week, plus you’ll learn tons of exciting new Bridge. As indeed you will from Richard, Nick, both with national successes, and Natasha. All have never-ending keenness to impart their wisdom.



Beginner

Next Step

You can play an enjoyable social game

Intermediate

Intermediate Play

You're confident with the basic moves

Improver

Improver Play

You know all the basic conventions and strategies.
Time for Gentle Duplicate and on... you'll then be hungry for ...

Advanced

Caroline's Revise & Play

Advanced Play

Advanced Defence

The Big Four

David's Delights



Our Courses

- All courses last for eight weeks (unless stated), once a week.
- You must be a Club member to take a course. Free membership is included in the price for Beginner and Next Step.
- All eight week courses and weekends cost £145.
- All courses are carefully constructed, fun, interactive and stimulating.
- Whichever course you choose will make a huge difference to your Bridge, especially if it is backed up by practice in our many Supervised Rubber Bridge sessions.

Special Features

- If you cannot make a lesson, come to that same lesson at another time (without letting us know).
- You will receive clear handouts each week.
- You will each receive a special ARBC folder, in which to put your notes.

Weekends

- For those who prefer the intensive course, rather than the once-a-week approach, we teach the Beginner, Next Step, Intermediate, Improver and Advanced Courses in a weekend. Includes lunch both days, 10.00 - 16.30. Dates of all weekend courses now fixed until the end of 2010.

Next Step is an essential practical course, consolidating and extending the basic principles covered in Beginner. It is also suitable for those who have played some Bridge outside. Free Club membership until September 2010 included.

NEXT STEP	Wednesday 20.30 - 22.00 David	Tuesday 18.45 - 20.15 Richard	Wednesday 09.45 - 11.15 Natasha	Tuesday 11.45 - 13.15 David
1. Notrump Play	28th April	4th May	5th May	11th May
2. Trump Play	5th May	11th May	12th May	18th May
3. Bidding Unbalanced Hands	12th May	18th May	19th May	25th May
4. Finding Fits	19th May	25th May	26th May	1st June
5. Overcalling	26th May	1st June	9th June*	8th June
6. Opening Bids at the 3 Level	2nd June	8th June	23rd June*	15th June
7. The Opening Lead	9th June	15th June	30th June	22nd June
8. The Defence	16th June	22nd June	7th July	29th June
Next Step in a Weekend - Summer 8th - 9th May (David) Autumn 20th - 21st November (David)				

Intermediate is our most popular course, Intermediate covers all basic aspects of the game. Many repeat it – and all say it was most worthwhile!

INTERMEDIATE	Tuesday 20.30 - 22.00 Andrew	Wednesday 13.00 - 14.30 Andrew	Wednesday 18.45 - 20.15 David	Thursday 09.45 - 11.15 David
1. Bidding as Opener	20th April	21st April	28th April	29th April
2. Bidding as Responder	27th April	28th April	5th May	6th May
3. Making Tricks (1) with trumps	4th May	5th May	12th May	13th May
4. Making Tricks (2) without trumps	11th May	12th May	19th May	20th May
5. One Notrump	18th May	19th May	26th May	27th May
6. Overcalling	25th May	26th May	2nd June	10th June*
7. The Opening Lead	8th June*	9th June*	9th June	17th June
8. The Defence	15th June	16th June	16th June	24th June
Intermediate in a Weekend - Summer 15th - 16th May (Richard) Autumn 2nd - 3rd October (Richard)				

Lesson Information



Intermediate Play is the ideal follow-on from Intermediate. The play themes will link in with Intermediate, giving you the confidence to move forward. I'm sure this consolidation course will make a big difference to your game.

INTERMEDIATE PLAY	Monday 20.30 - 22.15 David	Wednesday 14.45 - 16.30 Andrew	Tuesday 09.45 - 11.30 David
1. Force	19th April	21st April	11th May
2. Length	26th April	28th April	18th May
3. Position - The Finesse	10th May*	5th May	25th May
4. Using Trumps	17th May	12th May	1st June
5. Overcalling SQOT	24th May	19th May	8th June
6. Defending Notrumps	7th June*	26th May	15th June
7. Defending Trumps	14th June	9th June*	22nd June
8. Pot Pourri	21st June	16th June	29th June

Improver features all the basic conventions to equip you for a decent game. I have noticed a huge rise in the level of those who have taken the course. There are six carefully constructed set deals per week.

IMPROVER	Tuesday 18.35 - 20.20 Andrew	Monday 14.00 - 15.45 Richard	Wednesday 10.15 - 12.00 Caroline
1. Uncontested Bidding Review	20th April	10th May	28th April
2. Signalling in Defence	27th April	17th May	5th May
3. Stayman	4th May	24th May	12th May
4. Take-out Double	11th May	7th June*	19th May
5. Penalty Double	18th May	14th June	26th May
6. Blackwood	25th May	21st June	9th June*
7. Strong Twos	8th June*	28th June	16th June
8. Weak Threes	15th June	5th July	23rd June

Improver in a Weekend - Summer 22nd - 23rd May (Richard)
Autumn 16th - 17th October (Richard)

Improver Play is a universally well-received course and practises the bidding themes of Improver, whilst introducing exciting and essential play themes to improve your game. Once you have completed the Improver Play course, you are well equipped to face the big wide world of ARBC Gentle Duplicate and beyond. Repeat viewing highly recommended, especially for course-junkies.

IMPROVER PLAY	Monday 18.35 - 20.20 David	Thursday 11.30 - 13.15 David	Tuesday 13.30 - 15.15 Caroline
1. Signalling in Defence	19th April	29th April	4th May
2. Finesse or Drop	26th April	6th May	11th May
3. Retaining the finesse position	10th May*	13th May	18th May
4. Throwing Losers	17th May	20th May	25th May
5. Setting up a long suit	24th May	27th May	8th June*
6. Trumps - draw or delay?	7th June*	10th June*	15th June
7. TOP Defence	14th June	17th June	22nd June
8. Pot Pourri	21st June	24th June	29th June

** please note these weeks are not consecutive*

Lesson Information



Advanced is suitable for duplicate players, or experienced social players, I have thought very carefully about the themes. They will surely illuminate and fascinate.

ADVANCED	Wednesday 20.15 - 22.00 Andrew	Monday 16.00 - 17.45 Richard
1. Losing Trick Count	21st April	10th May
2. Uncontested Bidding Review	28th April	17th May
3. Coping with Intervention	5th May	24th May
4. Fourth Suit Forcing	12th May	7th June*
5. More ways to Signal	19th May	14th June
6. Unassuming Cue Bid	26th May	21st June
7. More uses of Double	9th June*	28th June
8. Notrumps	16th June	5th July
Advanced in a Weekend - Summer 12th - 13th June (Richard) Autumn 11th - 12th December (Richard)		

Advanced Defence has been recently rewritten, with new themes, new deals and new handouts. I am sure you will find it really quite eye-opening and lots and fun.

ADVANCED DEFENCE	Tuesday 15.30 - 17.15 Caroline
1. Principle of Restricted Choice	4th May
2. Suit Combinations	11th May
3. Communication	18th May
4. Cooperative Signalling	25th May
5. Card-placing	8th June*
6. Seven-card fits	15th June
7. Fun with trumps	22nd June
8. Elimination and Throw-in	29th June

Caroline's Revise & Play
[Pay by Session - £20]
Caroline invites you to practice some key tools that will improve your Bridge no end. With such a charismatic teacher, how can you turn her down?

CAROLINE'S REVISE & PLAY	Thursday 14.00 - 16.00 Caroline
1. Losing Trick Count	29th April
2. Stayman	6th May
3. Double	13th May
4. Preemptive Bidding	20th May
5. Defence	27th May
6. Overcalling & the UCB	10th June*
7. 4th Suit Forcing	17th June
8. Roman Key Card Blackwood	24th June

Big Four Conventions
[Pay by Session - £20]
Your chance to learn and practice four of the most crucial bidding tools under the captivating tutorlage of Richard.

BIG FOUR CONVENTIONS	Monday 19.45 - 21.45 Richard
1. Roman Keycard Blackwood	5th July
2. Splinters	12th July
3. Weak Twos	19th July
4. Transfers	26th July

David's Delights
[Pay by Session - £20]
Some wonderful, instructive deals from our Bridge whiz, perfect for Duplicate players.

DAVIDS DELIGHTS	Friday 10.30 - 12.30 David	Wednesday 19.45 - 21.45 David
Every week David presents eight new challenging conundrums	16th April	23rd June
	23rd April	30th June
	7th May*	14th July*
	14th May	21st July
	21st May	4th Aug*
	28th May	18th Aug
	4th June	25th Aug
	11th June	1st Sept
	18th June	

COURSE APPLICATION 2010

Andrew Robson Bridge Club, 31 Parsons Green Lane, London, SW6 4HH

Tel: 020 7471 4626

Website: www.arobson.co.uk

OFFICE USE ONLY	ENTERED	COURSE	M.O.P	TOTAL
-----------------	---------	--------	-------	-------

Are you an existing member?

Yes ☐

No ☐

The Andrew Robson Bridge Club is a members only club. Please see overleaf for membership details

Cost of Courses

Most courses and weekends cost £145 - PLUS membership (except for Beginner and Next Step).
SEE OVER FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please fill in this course application form, and send it to the club with payment.
Credit/Debit card payments will accepted over the phone.
Cheques received by post will be acknowledged.

Please make cheques payable to: **The Andrew Robson Bridge Club Ltd**

Course Required

Date & Time

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

TITLE: (Mr/Mrs/Dr etc.)

FIRST NAME:SURNAME:.....

ADDRESS: (inc. Postcode).....

.....

.....

EMAIL:TELEPHONE:.....

The management reserves the right to refuse/revoke membership at any time without giving reason

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2010

Andrew Robson Bridge Club, 31 Parsons Green Lane, London, SW6 4HH

Tel: 020 7471 4626

Website: www.arobson.co.uk

OFFICE USE ONLY

ENTERED

M.O.P

TOTAL

*The Andrew Robson Bridge Club is a members, only Club.
You must be a member to play in the Club or take a course.*

N.B. If you are taking our Beginner or Next Step courses, Club membership is included in the price of the course and lasts until the start of the following term.

We offer two payment options, either by standing order or by cheque/cash. Membership is renewable on the 1st of January each year. If you join the Club mid-year, the cost of membership is proportionally reduced.

You will notice that membership is cheaper for those paying by standing order. This is because it reduces our administrative costs.

Standing Order Payment

Month Joined: Cost:

January-March £52

April-August £36

September-November £20

December FREE

Cheque / Cash Payment

Month Joined: Cost:

January-March £65

April-August £45

September-November £25

December FREE

If paying by **STANDING ORDER**, please complete the separate Standing Order Mandate.

If paying by **CHEQUE**, please make this payable to: **THE ANDREW ROBSON BRIDGE CLUB LTD**

If you are paying for both course and membership, please write only one cheque.

If you are applying solely for membership, and have not completed the form overleaf, please provide your contact details below

TITLE: (Mr/Mrs/Dr etc.)

FIRST NAME:SURNAME:

ADDRESS: (inc. Postcode).....

.....

.....

EMAIL:TELEPHONE:.....

The management reserves the right to refuse/revoke membership at any time without giving reason

Getting to ARBC



How easy is it to get to the Bridge Club?... Very easy here's how.

1. Our favourite way - walking - or like Andrew and many of his team - why not cycle?

We actively encourage all our members to either walk or cycle into the Club. There is cycle parking located to the side of the Club, and also by the entrance to Parsons Green Underground Station.

2. Public Transport – another fine option and easier than you may think.

Tube – Parsons Green Station is less than a minute's walk from the club. The station is on the Wimbledon branch of the District Line and trains run every 10 minutes.

Bus – The No 14 stops on the Fulham Road, near the top of Parsons Green Lane. The service links Putney Heath to Tottenham Court Road Station. Daytime frequency is every 6-8 minutes and night time frequency is every 12 minutes. The 414 also goes down the Fulham Road up to Edgware Road. The No 22 stops on the New Kings Road, near the bottom of Parsons Green Lane. The service links Putney Common to Piccadilly Circus. Daytime frequency is every 7-10 minutes and night time frequency is every 12 minutes.

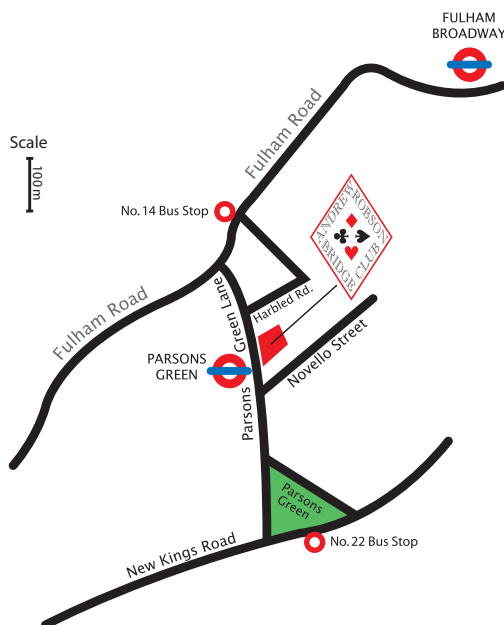
3. Taxis/mini-cabs

The Club loves members using local taxi and mini-cabs rather than their cars. If you would like to book a cab, there are several numbers of local firms displayed on the notice board in reception; alternatively ask a member of staff.

4. Private Cars

We would like to discourage you from driving to the Club. The local residents are understandably very concerned about increasing the number of cars in an already congested area. In particular, please avoid parking on the Residents Bays that double up as Pay and Display in the streets between the Club and the Fulham Road. If you must drive, please try car-sharing. The Bridge Club has 12 of its own spaces in the yard just next to the Club (clearly marked).

- After 5pm you can park free on yellow lines in the side streets and on Resident Bays.
- After 6.30 pm you can park on the yellow line, on the far side of the Parsons Green Lane, from the chip shop opposite the club up to the Fulham Road.
- The remaining yellow lines on Parsons Green Lane are off-limit until 8pm.



OPEN EVENING (FREE)
Wednesday 14th April 18.00 - 19.15
All visitors welcome to the free session
Special 'have-a-go' taster session
for absolute beginners:
18.30 to 19.45

COURSES (£145)

Courses last for 8 weeks, each you can change from one slot to another. See Course Planner over the page for all topics and dates.

TEACHERS

A = Andrew D = David
C = Caroline R = Richard
M = Metasha

MONDAY

14.00 - 15.45
Improver (R)
10th May

16.00 - 17.45
Advanced (R)
10th May

18.35 - 20.20
Improver Play (D)
19th April

20.30 - 22.15
Intermediate Play (D)
19th April

BIG FOUR CONVENTIONS (R)
1. Roman Keyboard Blackwood
2. Splinters
3. Weak Twos
4. Transfers
5th July
12th July
19th July
26th July
£20 per session
NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Lesson Schedule - Summer 2010

TUESDAY

09.45 - 11.30
Intermediate Play (D)
11th May

12.00 - 13.30
Beginner (R)
11th May

11.45 - 13.15
Next Step (D)
11th May

13.30 - 15.15
Improver Play (C)
4th May

15.30 - 17.15
Advanced Defence (C)
4th May

18.35 - 20.20
Improver (A)
20th April

18.45 - 20.15
Next Step (R)
4th May

20.30 - 22.00
Intermediate (A)
20th April

20.25 - 21.55
Beginner (R)
4th May

WEDNESDAY

09.45 - 11.15
Next Step (N)
5th May

10.15 - 12.00
Improver (C)
28th April

11.30 - 13.00
Beginner (N)
5th May

13.00 - 14.30
Intermediate (A)
21st April

14.45 - 16.30
Intermediate Play (A)
21st April

18.35 - 20.05
Beginner (A)
21st April

18.45 - 20.15
Intermediate (D)
28th April

20.15 - 22.00
Advanced (A)
21st April

20.30 - 22.00
Next Step (D)
28th April

THURSDAY

09.45 - 11.15
Intermediate (D)
29th April

11.30 - 13.15
Improver Play (D)
28th April

14.00 - 16.00

CAROLINE'S REVISE & PLAY
29th April to 24th June (missing 3rd June)
1. Losing Trick Count 29th April
2. Stayman 30th May
3. Double 13th May
4. Preemptive Bidding 20th May
5. Defence 27th May
6. Overcalling & the UCB 10th June*
7. 4th Suit Forcing 17th June
8. Roman Key Card Blackwood 24th June
£20 A SESSION
NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Summer WEEKENDS

Beginner (D) April 24/25
Next Step (D) May 8/9
Intermediate (R) May 15/16
Improver (R) May 22/23
Advanced (R) June 12/13

Weekends run from 10.00 to 16.30 on Saturday and Sunday

Planning ahead to Autumn 2010?

WEEKENDS

Beginner (D) Sept 18/19
Beginner (R) Dec 4/5
Next Step (D) Nov 20/21
Intermediate (R) Oct 2/3
Improver (R) Oct 16/17
Advanced (R) Dec 11/12
Weekends run from 10.00 to 16.30 on Saturday and Sunday

DAVID'S DELIGHTS

David creates stimulating hands for Duplicate players

WEDNESDAY
19.45 - 21.45

June 23rd Aug 4th
June 30th Aug 18th
July 14th Aug 25th
July 21st Sep 1st

FRIDAY

10.30 - 12.30

April 16th May 21st
April 23rd May 28th
May 7th June 4th
May 14th June 11th
June 18th

£20 a Session

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Playing Schedule - Summer 2010

Green shaded sessions are suitable for beginners upwards.
Blue shaded sessions are for ALL (not complete beginners)
Red shaded sessions are for more experienced players.

Doors open half an hour before the start of play. No session requires a partner. See Lesson Schedule for details of lessons.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10.00 - 13.00 DUPLICATE £10	10.30 - 12.30 SUPERVISED DUPLICATE with Caroline £12	10.30 - 12.30 SUPERVISED PLAY £10	10.15 - 13.30 DUPLICATE £10	10.30 - 12.30 SPECIAL HANDS with Caroline £12
13.30 - 17.00 DUPLICATE 24 Boards £10	10.30 - 12.30 SUPERVISED PLAY Beginners upwards with Natasha £10	13.30 - 17.00 DUPLICATE 24 Boards FREE run-through the hands with Andrew afterwards £10	14.00 - 16.30 GENTLE DUPLICATE with Richard £10	10.30 - 12.30 SUPERVISED PLAY Beginners upwards with Natasha £10
14.00 - 16.30 SUPERVISED PLAY with Caroline £10	14.00 - 17.30 DUPLICATE 24 Boards £10	14.00 - 16.30 SUPERVISED PLAY £10	14.00 - 16.30 GENTLE DUPLICATE with Richard £10	10.30 - 12.30 DAVID'S DELIGHTS From 16th April - 18th June £20
17.30 - 19.30 SUPERVISED PLAY with Caroline £10	18.00 - 20.30 SUPERVISED PLAY Suitable for Beginners upwards with Lorna and Grazyna £10	17.15 - 19.15 SUPERVISED PLAY with Nick £10	14.00 - 16.00 CAROLINE'S REVISE & PLAY From 20th April - 24th June £20	13.00 - 16.30 DUPLICATE 24 Boards £10
19.45 - 22.15 GENTLE DUPLICATE £10	19.30 - 22.45 DUPLICATE £10	19.45 - 21.45 DAVID'S DELIGHTS From 23rd June - Sept 1st £20	19.15 - 21.45 GENTLE DUPLICATE £10	From 18.30 - 22.45 SOCIAL 'CHICAGO' BRIDGE with Paddy £10
19.30 - 22.45 RUBBER/SUPERVISED PLAY & DINNER with Caroline £20 Please Book		19.30 - 22.45 RUBBER/ SUPERVISED PLAY & DINNER Suitable for Beginners upwards £20 Please Book		SATURDAY
				13.45 - 17.00 DUPLICATE with Nick (Not Bank Holiday weekends) £10

Which Session? _____



Which session should I come to?

Andrew talks you through your options...

- You do not need to have a partner for any session that we run. Many players arrive without partners.
- We will always find you a suitable partner, and there are house players.
- Please book for Monday or Wednesday Dinner & Bridge. For all other sessions, just turn up.

Supervised Rubber Play for Beginners upwards with Natasha and others £10

Never forget the three best ways to overcome the first hurdles in Bridge: practice, practice and practice! As you see from the green shading on the Playing Schedule, there are two mornings and two evening sessions for beginners upwards. Don't be daunted - ARBC is gentleness itself.

Supervised Rubber Play £10

Bridge & dinner - £20 with dinner or £15 without

Imagine playing relaxed Bridge with your friends in your living room, able to ask advice from friendly, expert supervisors. This is exactly what we aim to provide. Suitable for all levels, you will be seated with those of a similar level. On Monday and Wednesday evenings the supervised Bridge includes a delicious dinner, and booking is requested (though for no other session).

Supervised Duplicate with Caroline £12

Tuesday Morning 10.30 - 12.30

This session introduces the challenge and excitement of Duplicate by replaying hands from the previous week's Duplicates. Led by Caroline, we give on hand help with every bid and play. You will not move from table to table so the next step up is the Gentle Duplicate.

Gentle Duplicate £10

Monday Evening 19.45 - 22.15

Thursday Afternoon 14.00 - 16.30

Thursday Evening 19.15 - 21.45

This session perfectly bridges the gap between Supervised and Duplicate Bridge. You will move around the room like regular Duplicates and there will be a winner (and a prize!). However the tempo will be much gentler and less competitive. We have written recommended bidding for each deal (on the Travellers) and will be on hand to explain the scoring and give some tactical pointers, although we will refrain from actually telling you what to bid/play.

Supervised Special Hands with Caroline £12

Friday Morning 10.30 - 12.30

We have a large base of instructive and challenging hands. Caroline and the team will enthuse and explain the key plays. Highly recommended.

Which Session?



Social Chicago Bridge with Paddy £10

(for the Susan Hampshire Salver)

Friday Evening from 18.30 - 22.30

Held every Friday night, Chicago is the perfect relaxing way to start the weekend. Four hands, dealt at the table, are played against a couple. Then you move to another table and do the same thing again. The ever-genial Paddy will be delighted to give his friendly pearls of wisdom when asked. Chicago combines the excitement of playing dealt hands with the conviviality and friendly competition of playing different partnerships throughout the evening. Arrive any time from 6.30pm onwards. Bar snacks and drinks will, of course, be available throughout. Unmissable!

Duplicate £10

Duplicate Bridge is non-supervised and is the way Tournament Bridge is played. All our Duplicates are played in a friendly atmosphere. Bridge Mates are used and we provide hand records and immediate results. All Ladders and Trophies run three times a year: from January 1st - April 30th: from May 1st - August 31st: from September 1st - December 31st. Winner of our Top 10 Trophy wins a prize and a game with Andrew (no repeat games).

Daytime: We offer a hugely popular daily daytime Duplicate. Score Ladder Points - with a delicious hamper prize for the winner donated by club member Luigi Molinaro [of Luigi's Delicatessen fame]. We have recently begun a Monday morning Duplicate - proving very popular. Our four weekday afternoon Duplicates always play 24 Boards; the two morning Duplicates play 20/21.

Evening: Two Duplicates: Tuesday 19.30 - 22.45 and Thursday 19.15 - 22.45. Our Evening Ladder will combine both Tuesday and Thursday evening's results. Enjoy Peter Stocken's 'special deal' and take home his wonderful hand analyses. Winner of the Ladder will be the holder of the newly named "Stocken Cup".

Saturday Duplicate with Nick £10

13.45 - 17.00

Come for a stimulating weekend afternoon Duplicate, with points counting towards our Daytime Ladder and Andrew's Top Ten Trophy. Not run on Bank Holiday Weekends or during August.

Winners!

Luigi's Daytime Duplicate Ladder: **Patti Gamble**

Evening Duplicate Ladder: **Paul Meadows**

Andrew's Top 10 Duplicate Trophy: **Winner: Denis Bennett**

Susan Hampshire Chicago Trophy: **Elizabeth Bishop**

Standing Order Form



STANDING ORDER MANDATE - complete in *BLOCK* capitals

TO: Name of Member's bank
Member's Branch & Address
Sort Code

Please Pay: National Westminster Bank
PO Box 12258
1 Princes Street
LONDON EC2R 8PA

Sort Code: 60-00-01

For the credit of: **ANDREW ROBSON BRIDGE CLUB LTD**

Account No.: 97698881

The sum of: £36 now

Due date & Frequency: **Thereafter £52 on 1st January annually.**
Please quote Holder's name when processing payment.

Member's Name

Account to be debited:
(account name & initials)

Account number:

Account Holder's Signature:

Date:

Note: The Bank will not undertake to:
i) make any reference to Value Added Tax or other indeterminate element
ii) advise payers address to beneficiary
iii) advise beneficiary of inability to pay
iv) request beneficiary's banker to advise beneficiary or receipt

Please return this form to the Bridge Club, not the Bank.
If you have any queries with this form please ring the Bridge Club on 020 7471 4626



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Dear ARBC Members,

We will be very glad when Spring arrives as this winter has been bitterly cold with snow on our lawn for an entire month, either side of Christmas. Thankfully it was a quiet time for Bridge teaching so I didn't have to venture out too much on icy and untreated roads!

Our Harrogate midweek break in April is almost fully booked with 48 bookings and we are very excited about the exodus from South to North. One of the highlights of the holiday will be the excursion to the ruins of Fountains Abbey.

Our summer holiday to Malta is gathering pace as September becomes ever closer. There has been a lot of interest in this fantastic 5* holiday and I would encourage you to make a firm booking soon to avoid disappointment. You will also be pleased to hear that I have arranged for us to eat "a la carte" every night, thus avoiding the vagaries of a European buffet! There will be two excellent excursions that you can read more about on page 29.

I could write all day about how good our January ski trip to Zermatt was, but I don't want to make non participants too jealous. I will just say a big thank you to the ski party and superb ski guides for making it so jolly and friendly. Please put 15th – 22nd January 2011 in your diary for our return to the Hotel Alpina in Klosters.

We had another full house (Bridge not Poker!) at the recent February Millstream weekend and will return for our November 2010 and February 2011 weekends. Find out for yourselves why they now have two AA Rosettes for cuisine. Please book early as we are always fully booked.

Over the last three years I have seen a large increase in numbers in ARBC Holidays as people appreciate friendly Bridge with like minded people, staying in quality hotels. Thank you for your continued support.

I do hope to see you on an ARBC Holiday soon.

Best wishes

Jack, Annabel and Sophie.





Bosham, Chichester

The Millstream Hotel

Friday 19th – Sunday 21st November 2010
and Friday 4th – Sunday 6th February 2011

Officially ARBC's favourite Hotel, we have been running Bridge weekends here for over seven years and it's easy to see why:

- Delicious food from their restaurant which has two AA Rosettes
- Friendly and relaxed Bridge with like minded people
- Andrew's excellent course material and set hands, taught by Jack
- Lorna's good humour and legendary bonhomie
- Bosham is a charming sailing village, less than 90 minutes from ARBC
- No tournament director within 100 miles!

The standard of Bridge is friendly Intermediate and please book early as we are often full. No partner necessary.



Prices from £369

ARBC holidays are great fun, and it is important to stress that they are not aimed at the type of player who likes a serious 24-board duplicate each night; instead the emphasis is on instruction, with a little gentle competition played in the friendly, social manner that so typifies the ethos of the Club. Details of how to contact Jack are above - we look forward to hearing from you.

Andrew and the team



St. Julian's, Malta

Radisson Blu Resort Hotel

Saturday 11th – 18th September 2010

Overlooking the clear blue water of the Mediterranean Sea, the five-star, deluxe, Radisson Blu Resort, St. Julian's, Malta, offers views stretching from the historic Grand Harbour in the east to the island of Gozo in the west. The hotel is located in St. George's Bay, a peaceful haven that is just a kilometre away from St. Julian's.

All 252 excellent rooms and suites come with a balcony or terrace with wonderful sea views. The hotel has indoor and outdoor pools, a fabulous sports and leisure centre, beauty salon, sauna and massage services to tantalize, refresh and relax guests. Dining will be in Le Pellitant Restaurant which serves exquisite cuisine from the a la carte menu.

Valletta, Malta's capital, is built on top of Mount Sceberras, surrounded by harbours and sea on three sides. There are magnificent views from strategic points of its formidable fortifications, possibly the best medieval fortifications in the world, and still almost entirely intact.

There will be an informative Bridge programme led by Jack who will teach Andrew's lessons and supervise the set hands. We have exclusive use of the Bridge room which overlooks the Mediterranean.

A couple of interesting excursions will be planned and flights are direct from Heathrow. Lorna and I would be delighted if you could join us on ARBC's first trip to Malta.

Prices from £ 1195





Excursion – The Three Cities

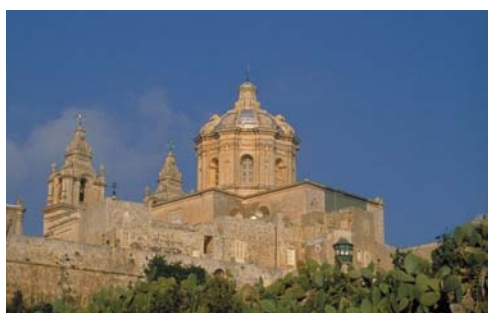
The Three Cities tour commences with a cruise around one of the world's deepest natural harbours and a backdrop to the two Great Sieges of 1565 and 1942. A detailed commentary will unfold the gallant history of Valletta and the Three Cities connected with these Great Sieges, as well as all the other places of interest including the historical fortifications, battlements and creeks which can only be admired from the sea.

Following this, a drive through Senglea, Cospicua and finally up to Vittoriosa - the historic fortified towns on the other side of the Grand Harbour from Valletta and then a stroll along the restored waterfront and the Maritime Museum, before lunch. After lunch, a brief tour around the Collachio (an area that used to be reserved for the Knights) will show you the many old Auberges of the Knights, and the Inquisitor's Palace.

Excursion – Valletta and the Silent City

A full day guided tour of the Capital city of Valletta and Malta's old capital city, Medina, also known as The Silent City. The entire city of Valletta, Malta's capital, is inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will visit the Upper Barracca Gardens which command breathtaking views of the Grand Harbour and the Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights of Malta.

After lunch the group will set off to Mdina, Malta's old capital city. The tour includes a visit of Bastion Square and the bastions where one can admire the spectacular views, Palazzo Falson Historic House Museum and a walking tour of the Silent City with its winding medieval streets and impressive architecture.





Harrogate Midweek Break

The Old Swan Hotel

Tuesday 13th – Friday 16th April 2010

Due to popular demand, I am delighted to host a midweek break to my home town, Harrogate, which has a glamorous heritage as a European spa town. Explore the beautiful Valley Gardens opposite the Swan Hotel or have afternoon tea in the world famous Betty's tea room. There will be an excursion to Fountains Abbey, the largest abbey ruins in the country and one of England's most spectacular Georgian water gardens.

Further details can be found on the full information sheets in the club foyer or on the website above.



Prices from £420



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www.whitehorsesw6.com, info@whitehorsesw6.com



Klosters Ski Holiday

Hotel Alpina

Saturday 15th - 22nd January 2011

We are delighted to be returning to Klosters for our annual ski trip, which proved an extremely popular destination three years ago. Jack Stocken and Lorna Heaton will be hosting an informative and entertaining Bridge programme. The Bridge (and skiing!) standard is friendly Intermediate and no partner necessary.



By popular demand, we have booked William, Gerry and Suzi, once again, to be our personal ski guides for the week; they are all former or current Ski Club of Great Britain reps. Jack and Annabel will be arranging all other aspects of the holiday.

We return to the Hotel Alpina (www.alpina-klosters.ch) which is a beautiful, family run four star hotel in the heart of Klosters. The restaurant has been awarded 16 Gault Milau points for culinary excellence. Facilities include an excellent beauty centre, swimming pool, sauna etc and the bedrooms are all stylish and modern.

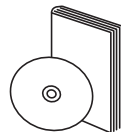


Klosters (www.klosters.ch) is a captivating and welcoming mountain village, well linked to Davos, and with extensive skiing right on the doorstep and just 3 minutes from our hotel. The well-preserved village, the refined ambience and the hearty welcome extended by the locals all combine to make visitors feel at home. Winter sports enthusiasts will find a broad range of activities, while those looking for more relaxing recreation can enjoy the scenic landscape during leisurely walks.

In the past few years we have been very lucky with the January weather with sun and blue skies. Please book early as last year the hotel was full by early November.



Prices TBC



Andrew's Bridge Lesson Booklets

A lesson and an illustrative deal
per page, to perfect your
understanding of ...



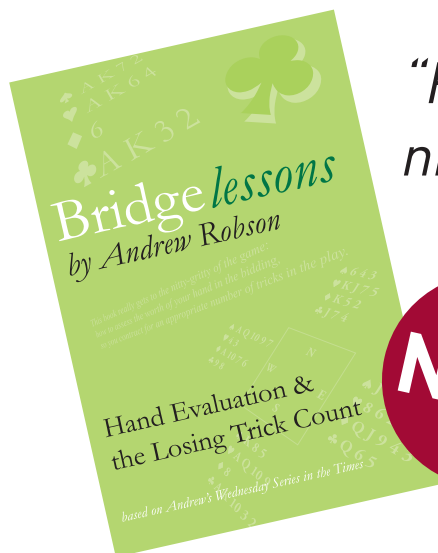
Double • Slam • Overcall

Finesse • Stayman & Transfer

Weak Two • Opening Lead • Signal & Discard

Endplay & Squeeze • Responder & Fourth Suit Forcing • Bidding as Opener

Introducing Andrew's NEW Lesson Booklet Hand Evaluation and the Losing Trick Count

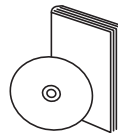


*“Really gets to the
nitty-gritty of the game”*

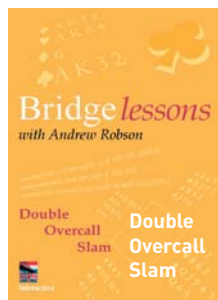
NEW

£5 each

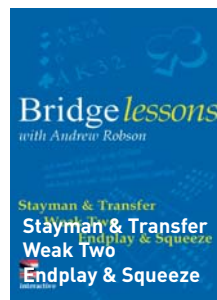
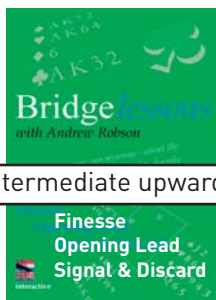
Available in the Club, by post using the order form or from our online shop
where you can order and pay : **www.arobson.co.uk**



Bridge Lesson Interactive CDs



Intermediate upwards



- Over 100 instructive deals per CD
- Interactive quizzes and questions
- Lots of fascinating insights to help you master these vital topics & the game in general
- Play the deal afterwards and see if you can make the contract
- Thought-provoking Post Mortems after each deal

£25 each or buy all three for £60

Play Modern Bridge - DVD

Play Modern Bridge is the first ever learning Bridge DVD. It is aimed both at the less experienced and also at those who have played for longer but who wish to update their approach.

Play Modern Bridge is led by bridge legend Andrew Robson, Britain's number one player/teacher. Thousands of people have been taught by Andrew at his famous Bridge school in South West London over the past decade and now, finally, Andrew divulges the secrets of a winning game to YOU.

In eight classes, Andrew covers all the basic areas of the game. Each concludes with a concise "If you remember just three things", which can be also accessed separately.

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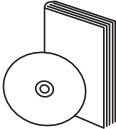
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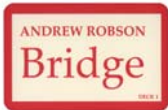
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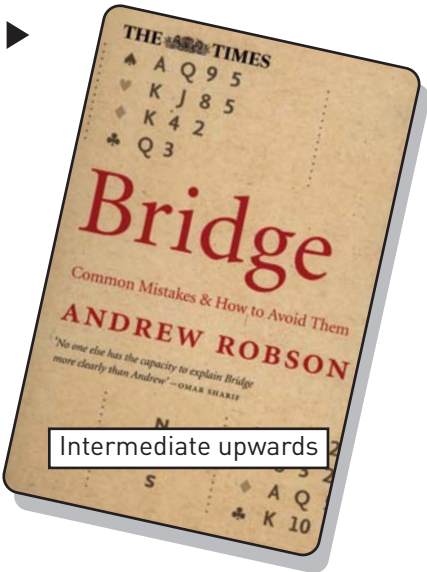
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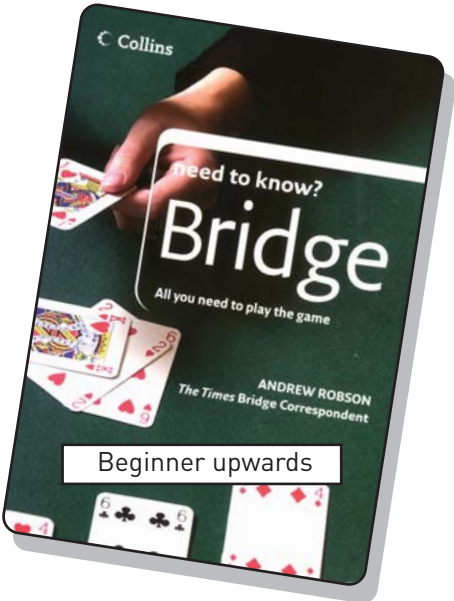


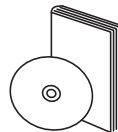
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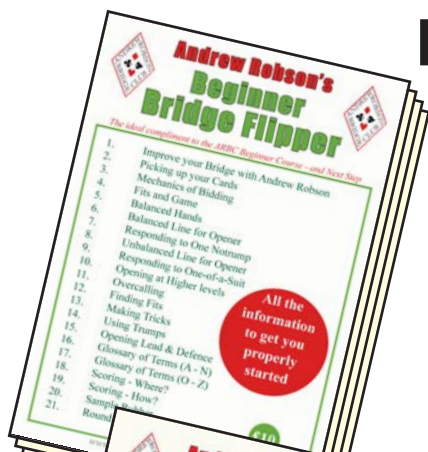




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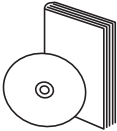


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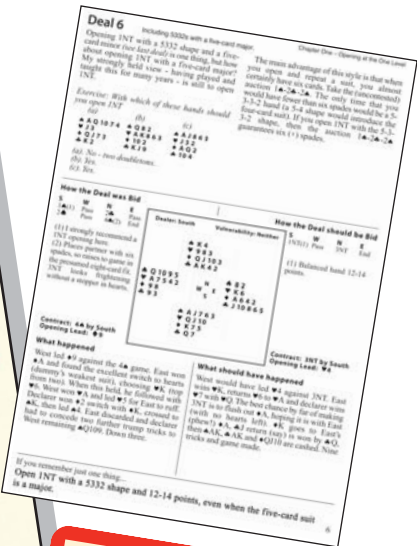
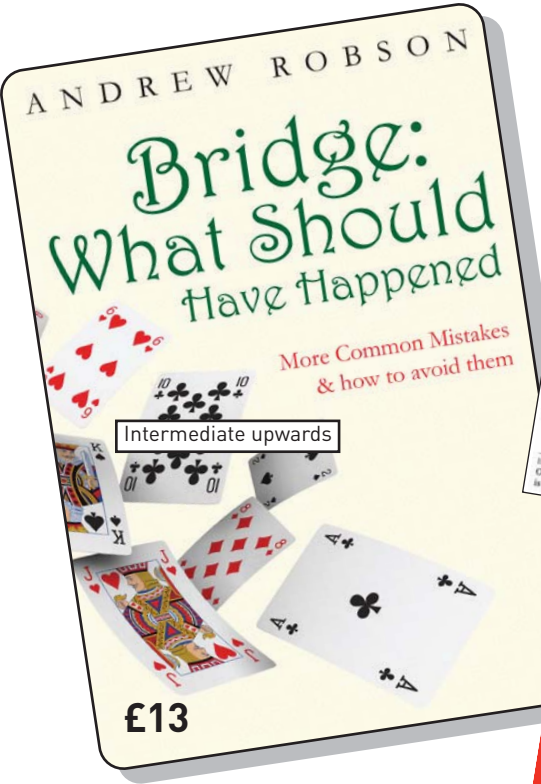


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How (not) to be Dummy

By Andrew



One quarter of the time at Bridge you are dummy. Phew - a chance for a breather! In France, the dummy is often called "Le Mort" and that is a good summary. You can disappear to the bar/kitchen and make tea / gin + tonic. Much of the time you will remain at the table to lend moral support, but it is important that your support is of the morale variety and not more...

What Dummy should do...

- After the opening lead is played, the dummy lays their hand face up on the table in four columns, one for each suit, with the column of the trump suit (if there is one) on the right as they look at the table. It is the declarer who is responsible for deciding which cards to play from their hand (as well as from their own hand).
- Dummy is allowed to prevent declarer from infringing the rules but otherwise must not interfere with the play. For example, they may attempt to prevent declarer from leading

from the wrong hand (by stating, e.g., "you won the last trick in dummy") but must not comment on opponents' actions or make suggestions as to play.

- In casual bridge games dummy will often do nothing, but in duplicate bridge dummy must play cards from their hand at declarer's instruction e.g., after declarer says "jack of hearts please, partner".

In short you do not do much. Enjoy the break.

What Dummy should NOT do...

- Tap the table to remind declarer they are in dummy (unless declarer is clearly about to play from hand).
- Play a card before one has been called.
- Play a different card to the one called.
- Question the card called .
- Offer to 'run the clubs'.
- Point to a suit on the table.

These things may not affect the outcome but they lead to confusion about who is playing the hand, and create ill feeling at the table.

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