



# Andrew Robson

## BRIDGE MAGAZINE

Summer 2014  
Issue 46

Sun, sea  
... and social bridge

Dramatic leads  
with Susan Hampshire

Plus:  
Wine • Quiz • News

Includes  
Lesson and Club  
programmes

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## Hello there...

I am thrilled that Susan Hampshire is telling us about her life in bridge. She is a simply wonderful, modest person and actress, and we all love it when she and her husband, Eddie Kulukundis, make one of their frequent visits to the club.

My Duplicate Pairs Tactics course in early January was so over-subscribed that we had to hold it in the (very nice) upstairs room in the White Horse pub. I will be repeating the course from Tuesday 6 – Friday 9 January 2015. I'd recommend early booking in case, like this year, it fills up quickly. The course is aimed at those with reasonable experience of duplicate bridge – not for those who are new to duplicate: there is a fair amount of assumed knowledge. I'd also welcome those who live too far away to be regulars at Parsons Green.

I am looking forward to teaching at the club next term. I start immediately after the Easter weekend, so I can finish in time for the European Bridge Championships in Croatia in late June (see page 5).

I am particularly looking forward to my new course, Andrew's Specials, on Tuesday evenings. Aimed at about Advanced level, it's based on my teaching at the two away-weekends: last year at Heythrop Park and recently at Hanbury Manor. I think you'll find these all-new deals very stimulating.

Jack, Annabel and Lorna H have a truly amazing and fabulous series of holidays in the UK and abroad – read more about them on pages 32 to 39.

I much look forward to seeing you soon.



### BRIDGE CLUB DIARY DATES

**2 or 15 April**

1830-1945

Free taster session  
for beginners

**14, 15, 16 April**

1030-1230 & 1330-1530

Children's Easter  
courses

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## NEED TO CONTACT US?

### General enquires:

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Editor Andrew Robson  
Consultant editor Nick Shave

## COMING TO CROATIA

*Andrew and David are to represent England in the European Championships*

Andrew, in partnership with Tony Forrester, and fellow ARBC teacher David Bakhshi, in partnership with David Gold, have been selected as part of the sextet who will represent England in the European Championships, taking place from 21 June to 1 July in Opatija, Croatia. The selection marks the reformation of the Forrester-Robson partnership,

part of the European championship-winning team in 1991. The lineup is completed by Jason and Justin Hackett.

**STOP PRESS:** Andrew, in partnership with Alexander Allfrey, and David are on the team that has led England to victory, winning the 2014 Home Internationals to retain the Camrose Trophy.

## IT'S IN THE BAG

*Member of ARBC is united with bag after airport discovers her course notes*

When Brenda Callan took an Improver course at ARBC, she had no idea that it would not only improve her bridge, but also her golfing holiday. Brenda had all but given up hope of being reunited with her belongings after her travel bag went missing on a homebound flight from Tampa, Florida, to Gatwick. When staff at Philadelphia airport opened the bag, however, they discovered her ARBC notes, and contacted the club, who then rang round members called Brenda.

"I had just been on an Improver course, and the bridge club was the only contact address in my bag," she said. "I had written only my first name on them, so I was so happy to receive a call from the club asking whether I had lost the bag."

## WARE ART THOU

*Hanbury Manor attracts bridge players to Hertfordshire from across the UK*



More than 100 bridge players gathered at Hanbury Manor, in Ware, in February, to attend Andrew's latest weekend of teaching sessions. Billed as "The Great Escape", the event attracted visitors from across the country. "We all enjoyed it so much, we're looking at returning next year," said Andrew. Watch this space!



## BEGINNER UP

### Play Modern Bridge DVD

Price: £20

Replicating his acclaimed Intermediate course, Andrew teaches a table of four willing stooges, including the one and only Caroline. Each of the eight lessons combines excellent graphics with Andrew's clear, if-you-only-remember-three-things summaries, making this a must-have DVD.

## ALL LEVELS

### A Pack of Dos and Don'ts

Price: £11

In this unique two-books-in-one format there are 52 tips – one for each card – on what you should do (the “Dos”) and 52 on what to avoid (the “Don'ts”). Assimilate these tips and your bridge is sure to improve in leaps and bounds. The perfect present for a bridge-playing friend of any level.

## BEGINNER UP

### Learn Bridge DVD

Price: £25

Starting from scratch, Andrew teaches in 32 short lessons all you need to know in order to play a competent social game. Hands are illustrated with graphics and by four helpful players: Caroline, Grazyna, Kooky Fallah and Nick S. Includes Andrew's bonus commentary on eight animated deals, as featured in the *Times*.



## INTERMEDIATE UP

### Andrew's Bridge Lesson Series

**Price:** £5 each

"Just about as perfect a layout of material as can be imagined," was the verdict from Robert Baker in *Bridge Magazine*. Every page of the books in this series includes a complete lesson and illustrative deal designed to help perfect your understanding of 17 topics, ranging from double, slam, overcall and finesse, to – the latest – *Declaring Trump Contracts*. See our order form on page 13 for a full list of titles.

**Special offer:** Buy 10 or more books for £4 each, plus p&p.

## INTERMEDIATE UP

### Declaring Trump Contracts

**Price:** £5

Andrew's newest book, *Declaring Trump Contracts* is a must buy – considering such pivotal issues as how to keep count of the trumps and when to delay drawing trumps. For connoisseurs, Andrew couldn't resist showing you some more exotic moves, including the 'backwash squeeze' and the 'devil's coup'.





New & Improved!



## BEGINNER

### Bridge Flippers

Price: £10 each

The newly updated and extended **Beginner Flipper** is the perfect stocking filler. It contains all the information to get you – or your grandchild – started: including 'double', scoring and pithy summaries of all basic areas of the game. Gain the confidence to reach the next level, with just a sneaky peek at your handy flipper.

## ALL LEVELS

### Bridge Flippers

**Essential** is all you need to play a decent game of bridge. All basic bidding rules and guidelines are included, as well as those core conventions such as 'stayman' and 'blackwood'. **Conventions** features Andrew's favourite conventions, complete with examples. Includes a section on Duplicate Pairs tactics – a must-buy for aspiring and expert duplicate players.

## ALL LEVELS

### Elegance™ Bidding Boxes

Price: £65 (set of four)

Remember the days of having to recall every bid as it was made at the table? No wonder bidding boxes are recognised as one of major advances in bridge over the past two decades. These are, quite simply, the most luxurious and best boxes on the market, made from attractive dark wood, with hard-wearing hinges.



## ALL LEVELS

### Standard bidding box

**Price:** £30 (set of four)

It's so easy to forget just how bad your memory can be, especially when trying to remember an auction. For smoother auctions, and helpful for the hard of hearing, the standard bidding box is a must for improving your home game. Available in green.

## ALL LEVELS

### Blue Chip Bridge CD-ROM

**Price:** £55

Enjoy hours of brainy entertainment playing unlimited, randomly-dealt hands. This PC-compatible CD-ROM features tutorials and tricky "double dummy problems". Plus, you can program it to play Andrew Robson-style bidding.

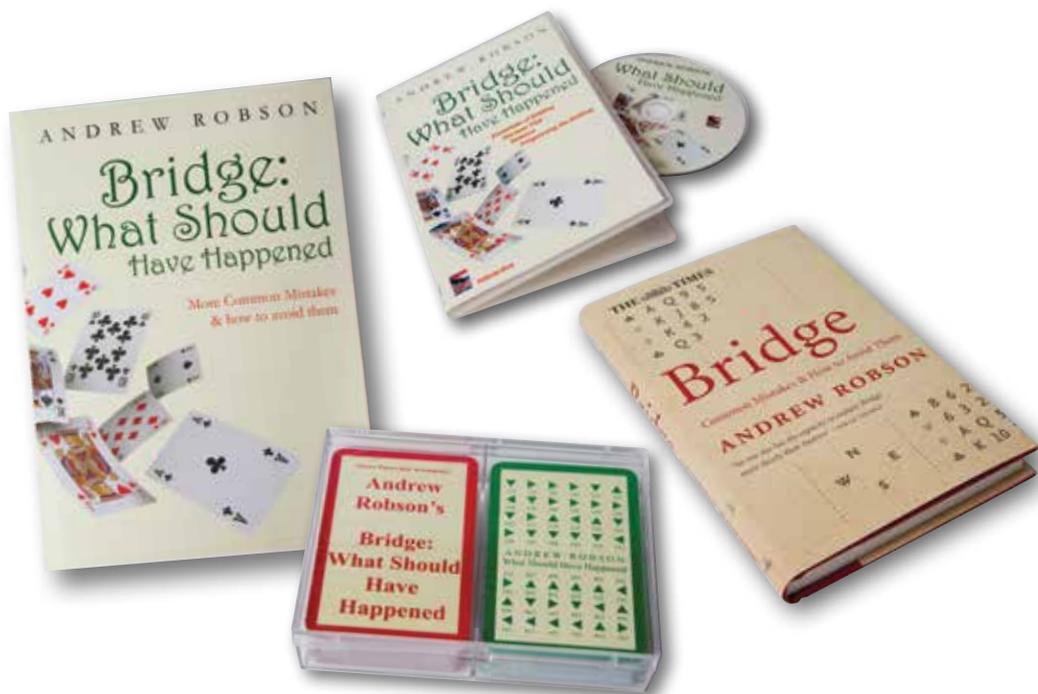
## ALL LEVELS

### Leather Card Box (cards included)

**Price:** £15 each

These leather boxes each carry two packs of cards, with soft suede inner-lining keeping them in tip-top condition. Currently available in black with tan trim, they come complete with two packs of ARBC high-quality cards.

**TO ORDER:** Fill out and send the order form on page 13; or order online and see our full range of available products at [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)



## INTERMEDIATE UP

### What Should Have Happened

Book: £13

Interactive CD: £30

Arrow packs: £10

If you buy just one bridge book, this must be it. Andrew covers all areas of the game in his clear logical way, using 251 carefully constructed deals. This will soon become your bridge bible. Andrew has elaborated on the themes in his CD: play all 251 (plus bonus) deals on your computer, and enjoy lots of extra quizzes. These arrow packs will enable you to play 48 selected deals from the book. Afterwards, refer to the deal: what should have happened?

## INTERMEDIATE UP

### Common Mistakes & How to Avoid Them

Price: £10

Andrew's acclaimed first book, now in its third reprint, begins with a brief resume of all the key elements of the game. It's followed by 170-odd specially constructed deals that illustrate those oh-so-common mistakes he sees played out at the table time and time again, with clear, easy-to-read explanations of how best to avoid them. If we really do learn best from our mistakes, then there is plenty to be gained from picking up this little gem.



## ALL LEVELS

### Bridge Lesson Interactive CDs

**Price:** £25 each

Includes more than 100 instructive deals on each CD, interactive quizzes and questions. Lots of fascinating insights that will help you master double, overcall, slam; finesse, opening lead, signal and discard. Also, improve your 'stayman' and 'transfer', 'weak two', endplay and squeeze. Play the deal and try to make the contract, with post-mortems after each deal.

**Special offer:** Buy three for £60.

## ALL LEVELS

### Arrow Pack Topics

**Price:** £10 each

Andrew's ingenious arrow packs enable you to distribute 20 special set deals with accompanying booklet to tell you what should have happened, plus a laminated summary of the topic. Master all those key conventions and need-to-know aspects of the game, ranging from 'stayman' to 'roman key card blackwood' to 'splinters' – all in the comfort of your home.

**TO ORDER:** Fill out and send the order form on page 13; or order online and see our full range of available products at [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)



## BEGINNER UP

### Practice Deals

Booklet: £5

Arrow Packs: £5

A booklet of 32 deals for beginners upwards with clear write-ups, plus accompanying arrow packs that enable you to play the deals at home. Includes James Bond's famous *Moonraker* deal.

**Special offer:** *Booklet plus arrow packs for only £9.*

## BEGINNER UP

### Need to know? Bridge

Price: £9

All Andrew's core teaching material in one accessible volume. Assuming no previous knowledge, he starts from scratch, guiding you clearly and methodically through the early stages. It's what the game has been crying out for: a bridge book that everyone can understand.

## BEGINNER UP

### Beginning Bridge

Price: £8

This is the definitive bridge book written for complete beginners, featuring one-deal-per-page format. Assuming no knowledge, yet covering the basics and slightly beyond – including 'blackwood' and 'stayman' – it's a must-buy for beginners and intermediates alike.

**TO ORDER:** Fill out and send the order form; or order online at [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)

# Order form

PRODUCT NAME	COST	QTY	TOTAL
<b>Books &amp; Arrow Packs</b>			
Pack of Dos & Don'ts	£11		
Beginning Bridge	£8		
Need to Know - Bridge	£9		
Practice Deals Book (Need to know Bridge)	£5		
Practice Deals Book + Two Arrow Packs	£9		
What Should Have Happened	£13		
What Should Have Happened Arrow Packs (48 selected deals)	£10		
<b>Bridge Lesson Books</b>			
Double	£5		
Finesse	£5		
Overcall	£5		
Slam	£5		
Weak Two	£5		
Opening Lead	£5		
Stayman & Transfer	£5		
Declaring Trump Contracts	£5		
Declaring Notrump Contracts	£5		
Duplicate Pairs Tactics	£5		
Endplay & Squeeze	£5		
Signal & Discard	£5		
Responder & Fourth Suit Forcing	£5		
Bidding as Opener	£5		
Hand Evaluation & the Losing Trick Count	£5		
Defence	£5		
Rules, Acronyms & Ditties	£5		
<b>ARBC Flippers</b>			
Beginner	£10		
Essential	£10		
Conventions	£10		
<b>Bridge DVD &amp; Computer Bridge</b>			
Bridge Lessons - Finesse, Opening Lead, Signal & Discard	£25		
Bridge Lessons - Stayman & Transfer, Weak Two, Endplay	£25		
Bridge Lessons - Double, Overcall, Slam	£25		
Bridge Lessons - All Three CDs	£60		
Play Modern Bridge - DVD	£20		
Learn Bridge with The Times - DVD	£25		
What Should Have Happened - CD	£30		
Blue Chip Bridge	£55		
ARBC Playing Cards - two packs in leather case (in black)	£15		
2014 Essential Diary (red, black or blue) HALF PRICE	£4		
2014 Calendar HALF PRICE	£5		
<b>TOTAL</b> (Please add £1 per item for postage)			

BEGINNER UP

INTERMEDIATE UP

ADVANCED





# Order form

## Please complete and send to:

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

Title: ..... First Name: .....

Surname: .....

Address: .....

.....  
Postcode: .....

Email: .....

Telephone: .....

## Payment method: (Please tick)

Credit Card

Card Number:

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Sort code: 

--	--	--	--

 Security code 

--	--	--

Issue Number 

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Start Date: ..... / ..... Expiry Date: ..... / .....

Cheque – Please make cheques payable to: The Andrew Robson Bridge Club



# Andrew's Quiz ...

Look at South's bidding on each of the following auctions. Three possible hands are given for South but only one is consistent with his bidding. Which one? What should the other hands have done differently?

1	N	E	S	W	A	B	C
			1 ♣		♠ J7 ♥ KJ63 ♦ KQ ♣ J7432	♠ K1098 ♥ 862 ♦ 4 ♣ AK1095	♠ 832 ♥ Q107 ♦ Q8 ♣ AKJ52

2	N	E	S	W	A	B	C
	1 ♣	P	1 ♥		♠ AK62 ♥ J732 ♦ J6 ♣ 962	♠ 832 ♥ AK72 ♦ J1084 ♣ 92	♠ QJ1032 ♥ A7432 ♦ K8 ♣ 4

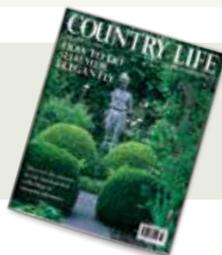
3	N	E	S	W	A	B	C
	1 ♠	P	2 ♣	P	♠ Q62 ♥ 86 ♦ J5 ♣ KJ9832	♠ Q9 ♥ A982 ♦ J6 ♣ Q10842	♠ J108 ♥ 932 ♦ KJ ♣ A10932

4	N	E	S	W	A	B	C
		INT	2 ♠		♠ AQ8432 ♥ A108 ♦ K7 ♣ K9	♠ AJ432 ♥ Q8 ♦ KJ7 ♣ Q83	♠ KQ1094 ♥ 4 ♦ QJ97 ♣ J107

5	N	E	S	W	A	B	C
		1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	♠ 8632 ♥ KQ10953 ♦ KQ ♣ 4	♠ QJ7 ♥ AK7432 ♦ Q10 ♣ J9	♠ KJ10 ♥ AJ7432 ♦ 4 ♣ AQ3

Turn to inside back cover for the answers

Read Andrew in *Country Life* magazine every week





## MISTAKES BY THE DEFENCE

In this extract from his bestselling book *What Should Have Happened*, Andrew highlights the importance of leading high when you don't want your suit returned

<p>♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ K Q J 8 ♦ K 6 ♣ Q 10 6</p>	<p>♠ Q ♥ 7 4 3 2 ♦ J 9 4 2 ♣ A 5 4 2</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W                  E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W                  E	S	<p>♠ 8 6 ♥ A 9 6 ♦ A Q 8 7 5 ♣ J 8 3</p>	<p>Dealer: North, Vulnerability: N-S</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th></tr> <tr><td colspan="4" style="border-top: 1px dotted black;"></td></tr> <tr><td>4 ♠</td><td>End</td><td>INT</td><td>Pass</td></tr> </table>	S	W	N	E					4 ♠	End	INT	Pass
N																			
W                  E																			
S																			
S	W	N	E																
4 ♠	End	INT	Pass																
<p>♠ A K 10 4 3 2 ♥ 10 5 ♦ 10 3 ♣ K 9 7</p>			<p>Contract 4♠      Opening lead 7 ♥</p>																

The opening lead and the first lead of each suit during the play have much in common. Say you (as East) have won the first trick and are switching suits (almost certainly choosing the weakest suit in dummy).

I) Lead top of a sequence of two+ cards, where the higher is the 10 or above.

II) Lead low if you want your suit to be returned. Note that once dummy is tabled, you can lead away from an ace, which is not something you would have done at Trick One

iii) Lead high if you don't want your suit returned. Note that if you do not want the suit led back you must lead high, even if your suit contains an honour.

### What happened

East won West's ♥ 7 (high for hate lead) with ♥ A and, correctly seeing the need to put West back on play for a diamond lead through dummy's ♦ K, switched to a club. But he carelessly chose ♣ 3.

Thinking that East wanted a club back, West won ♣ A and returned a second club, necessary if the layout was (see right):

Oh dear – declarer could win East's second club, draw trumps and run hearts, discarding both his diamonds. Eleven tricks and game made plus one.

### What should have happened

East reasoned correctly to return a club, hoping to put West on lead. But he should



♠ J 9 7 5  
 ♥ K Q J 8  
 ♦ K 6  
 ♣ Q 10 6

♠ Q  
 ♥ 7 4 3 2  
 ♦ J 9 4 2  
 ♣ A 5 4 2

N  
 W                  E  
 S

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

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

have selected ♣ 8 (key play), leading high for hate, because he did not want the suit led back. West would have won ♣ A and had no alternative but to switch to diamonds. East would have beaten ♦ K with ♦ A and cashed ♦ Q. Down one.

**If you remember one thing...**

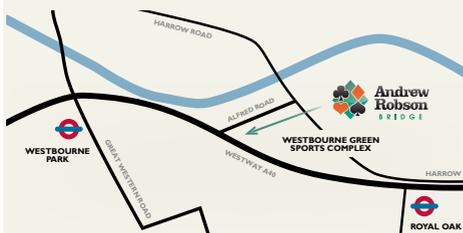
If, during the play, you do not want partner to return the suit you are leading, lead a high spot card. *What Should Have Happened is available from [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)*

## Harbour Club Wednesdays

Join Nick at the Harbour Club, ARBC's midweek venue in Notting Hill, north west London, to learn select conventions, plus supervised play for all standards.

**Where is the Harbour Club?**

1 Alfred Road, Notting Hill, W2 5EU (see below). For bookings, directions and enquires please contact Andrew Robson Bridge Club: tel: 020 7471 4626, or email: [nick@arobson.co.uk](mailto:nick@arobson.co.uk)



**What sessions are taking place and when?**

30 April - 2 July  
**Supervised Play 10.00 - 12.00**

Play with our expert team on hand. All sessions are suitable for beginners up.  
**Price: £10**

**Afternoon sessions 13.00 - 15.00**  
 30 April - 2 July

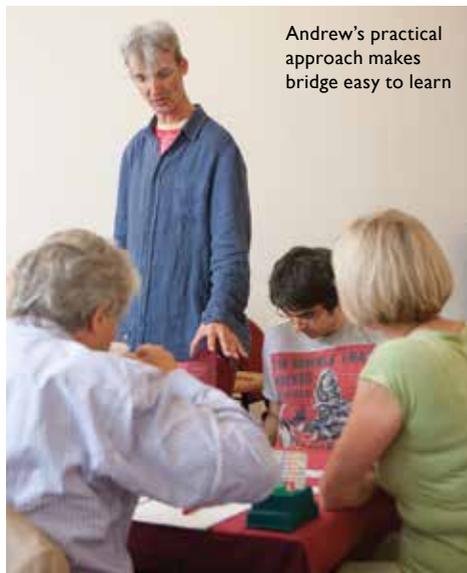
A selection of team, defence and declarer play, as well as conventions, designed to improve your game. **Price: £10**

- Teams: 30 April, 14 May, 11 June
- Defence: 21 May, 18 June
- Declarer Play: 28 May, 25 June
- Roman Keycard Blackwood: 7 May
- Transfers: 4 June
- Fourth Suit Forcing: 2 July



# EASY AS ARBC

Thinking of learning to play bridge? Then Andrew's club is the place to start



Andrew's practical approach makes bridge easy to learn

## Why Learn Bridge?

Whether you are aged eight or 88, bridge is a great way to keep your mind agile, while making new, like-minded friends. It's also hugely rewarding to learn.

## Why Learn at ARBC?

Recognised leaders in our field, we specialise in teaching from scratch. A world and European champion, and *Times* daily bridge correspondent, Andrew has also taught many thousands of beginners over the past 25 years. By taking a practical approach, he makes the game easy to learn, and, most importantly, he and his team make it fun.

## Free Taster Session

**Next on: 2 or 15 April, 18.30-19.45**

Our eight-class Beginner course represents fantastic value and includes free club membership. But if you have any doubts about whether you'll enjoy the game, then why not come along to one of our taster sessions? Taking place five times a year, they are aimed at those who have never played a card before.

## Expert Tuition

The depth and breadth of knowledge at ARBC is unrivalled, with teachers who are both excellent players and, most importantly, know how to teach the game. In addition to Andrew, the team includes David, one of the world's top-100 players, with many international successes under his belt, renowned for his crystal-clear thinking and exceptional communication skills. There's Caroline, whose enthusiasm knows no bounds: her class will put a smile on your face, and you'll learn tons of exciting new bridge. Richard will deepen your understanding of the game, and Natasha's gentle tuition will get you playing your best.

## Our courses

- All courses last for eight weeks (unless otherwise stated), taking place once a week.
- You must be a member of ARBC to take a course. Free membership is included in the price for Beginner and Next Step.
- All weekly courses cost £155.

- Courses are carefully constructed, fun, interactive and stimulating.
- Each course is designed to make the maximum impact on your game.
- If you cannot make a lesson, turn up and take it at another time – no need to let us know.
- Receive a bound booklet containing all your course notes and example deals.

To book a course, please call 020 7471 4626; or book online at [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)



## Membership

### How do I join?

ARBC is a members club, providing playing sessions and classes. To join, post a cheque or standing order form, available for download at [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)

### How much does membership cost?

- £52 paid annually by standing order (our preferred method).
- £65 by cheque for the current calendar year, reduced pro rata according to when in the year you make payment.
- Or it's free when you enroll on a Beginner or Next Step course. The January courses include membership until April; the April courses offer membership until September; and September course membership lasts until January.



### What if I'm not a member but would like to enroll on a course?

You will need to join the club to take a course of lessons. For example, those who are taking an Intermediate course will be required to pay membership in addition to the course fee of £155. However, if you wish to take part in a weekend course, then you can pay a visitor's surcharge of £25pp per weekend (the total cost of course and surcharge, then, is £180). However, this doesn't apply to Beginner and Next Step weekends, which include free membership.

### Can I play at the club as a non-member?

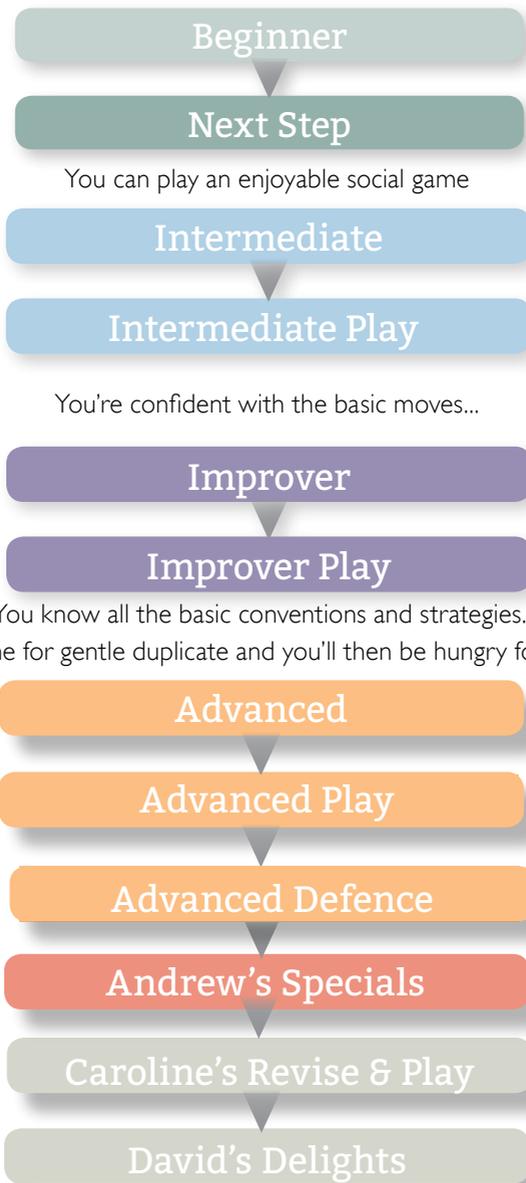
Basically, no. But naturally we encourage visitors to try out the Club once (paying normal table money), before becoming a member.



# Lessons at the club

## Learn step by step

Our courses are designed to take you step by step from your very first hands of bridge to the level that you want to play at. Courses cost £155 each and last for eight weeks. Mix and match the dates of each module at your convenience.



## Beginner Course

The perfect introduction to bridge, starting from absolute scratch and assuming you have no knowledge of the game. Learn over four weeks, eight weeks or in a weekend. Free Club membership until September is included.

BEGINNER	Wednesday 18.00 - 19.30 Andrew	Wednesday 11.30 - 13.00 Natasha	Tuesday 11.30 - 13.00 David
1. Getting Started	23 April	30 April	13 May
2. Playing Bridge	30 April	7 May	20 May
3. Introducing Notrumps	7 May	14 May	27 May
4. The Play - Making Tricks	14 May	21 May	3 June
5. Finding Fits & Bidding Game	21 May	4 June*	10 June
6. Notrump Bidding	4 June*	11 June	17 June
7. Trump Bidding	11 June	18 June	8 July**
8. Overcalling	18 June	25 June	15 July
<b>Beginner in a Weekend:</b> 10/11 May (David), 20/21 Sep (Natasha), 1/2 Nov (David)			
<b>Beginner in 4 Weeks: Mon 19.00 - 22.00 (David):</b> (includes buffet supper) 12 May, 19 May, 2 June*, 9 June			

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

Learn  
over  
4 weeks

## Next Step

This is an essential practical course, consolidating and extending the basic principles covered in Beginner. You'll look at how and when to open at the three level, build on your knowledge of defence and feel confident about bidding and finding a fit with your partner's suit. We'll also introduce 'double'. Includes free membership until September.

NEXT STEP	Tuesday 18.15 - 19.45 Andrew	Wednesday 09.45 - 11.15 Natasha	Wednesday 20.15 - 21.45 Richard	Tuesday 09.45 - 11.15 David
1. Bidding Balanced Hands and Notrumps	22 April	30 April	30 April	13 May
2. Bidding Unbalanced Hands and Trumps	29 April	7 May	7 May	20 May
3. Finding Fits and Bidding Game	6 May	14 May	14 May	27 May
4. Overcalling	13 May	21 May	21 May	3 June
5. Introducing Double	20 May	4 June*	4 June*	10 June
6. Opening at the Three-level	3 June*	11 June	11 June	17 June
7. Opening Lead	10 June	18 June	18 June	8 July**
8. Defence	17 June	25 June	25 June	15 July
<b>Next Step in a Weekend:</b> 17/18 May (David), 22/23 Nov (Natasha)				

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

**TO BOOK A COURSE:** Please call **020 7471 4626**; or book online at **www.andrewrobson.co.uk**



# Lessons at the club

## Intermediate

Intermediate is our most popular course, covering all basic aspects of the game. Many repeat it – and all say it was worthwhile. We would especially recommend Intermediate Play to follow.

INTERMEDIATE	Wednesday 19.45 - 21.15 Andrew	Friday 11.45 - 13.15 David	Monday 14.00 - 15.30 Richard
1. Bidding as Opener	23 April	9 May	12 May
2. Bidding as Responder	30 April	16 May	19 May
3. Making Tricks (1) With Trumps	7 May	23 May	2 June*
4. Making Tricks (2) Without Trumps	14 May	6 June*	9 June
5. One Notrump	21 May	13 June	16 June
6. Overcalling	4 June*	20 June	23 June
7. The Opening Lead	11 June	4 July*	30 June
8. The Defence	18 June	11 July	7 July

**Intermediate in a Weekend:** 26/27 Apr (Richard), 13/14 Sep (Richard), 29/30 Nov (Richard)

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

## Intermediate Play

This is the ideal follow-on from Intermediate, building on similar play themes, boosting your confidence and advancing your understanding of the game. After this consolidation course, you'll have the confidence to finesse, overcall and defend in style, impressing your partners with the number of contracts you make.

INTERMEDIATE PLAY	Wednesday 13.45 - 15.30 Andrew	Wednesday 18.15 - 20.00 Richard	Friday 09.45 - 11.30 David
1. Force	23 April	30 April	9 May
2. Length	30 April	7 May	16 May
3. Position - The Finesse	7 May	14 May	23 May
4. Using Trumps	14 May	21 May	6 June*
5. Overcalling and SQOT	21 May	4 June*	13 June
6. Defending Notrump Contracts	4 June*	11 June	20 June
7. Defending Trump Contracts	11 June	18 June	4 July*
8. Pot Pourri	18 June	25 June	11 July

**Intermediate Play in a Weekend:** 7/8 June (Richard), 27/28 Sep (Richard)

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

**TO BOOK A COURSE:** Please call **020 7471 4626**; or book online at **www.andrewrobson.co.uk**

## Improver

Featuring all the basic conventions to equip you for a decent game. There is a huge rise in the playing level of those who take the course, which includes six carefully constructed set deals each week. Gain confidence in bidding every type of hand. We hope by now you will have tried Supervised Duplicate. If not, you must!

IMPROVER	Wednesday 15.50 - 17.35 Andrew	Thursday 09.45 - 11.30 David
1. Bidding Review	23 April	8 May
2. Signalling in Defence	30 April	15 May
3. Stayman	7 May	22 May
4. Take-out Double	14 May	5 June*
5. Penalty Double	21 May	12 June
6. Blackwood	4 June*	19 June
7. Strong Twos	11 June	3 July*
8. Weak Threes	18 June	10 July
<b>Improver in a Weekend:</b> 24/25 May (Richard), 15/16 Nov (Richard)		

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

## Improver Play

A well-received course that practises the bidding themes of Improver, while introducing exciting and essential play techniques to improve your game. Once you have completed the Improver Play course, you are well equipped to face the big wide world of gentle duplicate and beyond. Repeating is much recommended.

IMPROVER PLAY	Tuesday 13.15 - 15.00 Caroline	Thursday 11.45 - 13.30 David
1. Signalling in Defence	29 April	8 May
2. Finesse or Drop	6 May	15 May
3. Retaining the finesse position	13 May	22 May
4. Throwing Losers	20 May	5 June*
5. Setting up a long suit	3 June*	12 June
6. Trumps - draw or delay?	10 June	19 June
7. TOP Defence	17 June	3 July*
8. Pot Pourri	24 June	10 July
<b>Improver Play in a Weekend:</b> 4/5 Oct (David)		

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

**TO BOOK A COURSE:** Please call **020 7471 4626**; or book online at **www.andrewrobson.co.uk**



# Lessons at the club

## Advanced

A pivotal course in your bridge journey. You already know all the key moves for a good social game, but you'll want to cover the topics here in order to up your game for duplicate. But don't be daunted: you'll begin by learning the wonderful 'losing trick count' before going on to learn perhaps the two most useful conventions of them all: 'fourth suit forcing' and the 'unassuming cue bid'. In short, you'll love it.

ADVANCED		Wednesday 10.15 - 12.00 Caroline
1. Losing Trick Count		30 April
2. Uncontested Bidding Review		7 May
3. Coping with Intervention		14 May
4. Fourth Suit Forcing		21 May
5. More ways to Signal		4 June*
6. Unassuming Cue Bid		11 June
7. More uses of Double		18 June
8. Notrumps		25 June
<b>Adv in a Weekend:</b> 14/15 Jun (Richard), 11/12 Oct (Richard)		

## Advanced Play

This course will absolutely fascinate you: the tricks you can manufacture from seemingly nothing. Never again will you await dummy with fear and trepidation. And who better than Caroline to inspire your confidence to move up that extra level.

ADVANCED PLAY		Monday 16.00 - 17.45 Richard
1. Principle of Restricted Choice		12 May
2. Suit Combinations		19 May
3. Communications		2 June*
4. Co-operative signals		9 June
5. Card Placement		16 June
6. Seven Card Fits		23 June
7. Fun with Trumps		30 June
8. Eliminations and Throw-in		7 July

## Advanced Defence

This course will fascinate you: learn how to defend contracts at an advanced level, from perfecting your use of signals to trump promotions. Andrew will inspire your confidence to move up that extra level, covering all the essential topics and offering insights that will help you to defend against trump and notrump contracts. An excellent way to raise your game.

ADVANCED DEFENCE		Tuesday 15.20 - 17.05 Caroline
1. Defending Notrumps		29 April
2. Defending Trumps		6 May
3. Second Hand Plays		13 May
4. Third Hand Plays		20 May
5. Attitude Signal		3 June*
6. Discarding		10 June
7. Scoring Ruffs		17 June
8. Trump Promotions		24 June
<b>Advanced Defence in a Weekend:</b> 29/30 Mar (Richard)		

**TO BOOK A COURSE:** Please call 020 7471 4626; or book online at [www.andrewrobson.co.uk](http://www.andrewrobson.co.uk)

## Andrew's Specials

Andrew has combined all the lessons in his away weekends at Heythrop Park and Hanbury Manor to form a course at ARBC central. Aimed at about Advanced level, these fabulous, original deals will take your bidding, play and defence to new levels.

<b>ANDREW'S SPECIALS</b>		<b>Tuesday 20.00 - 21.45 Andrew</b>
<b>1. Bidding Review</b>		<b>22 April</b>
<b>2. Overcalling &amp; the Unassuming Cue Bid</b>		<b>29 April</b>
<b>3. Fourth Suit Forcing</b>		<b>6 May</b>
<b>4. Leads &amp; Signals</b>		<b>13 May</b>
<b>5. Common Shapes</b>		<b>20 May</b>
<b>6. Double</b>		<b>3 June*</b>
<b>7. Elimination &amp; Throw-in</b>		<b>10 June</b>
<b>8. Tricky Leads</b>		<b>17 June</b>

## Caroline's Revise and Play

Caroline invites you to practice all those key areas of the game that will help improve your bridge, from 'stayman' and doubling to 'roman key card blackwood'. With such a charismatic teacher, how can you turn her down? To attend, simply turn up and pay on the door; no booking is required.

<b>£20 PER LESSON</b>		<b>CAROLINE'S REVISE &amp; PLAY</b>	<b>Thursday 14.00 - 16.00 Caroline</b>
<b>1. Losing Trick Count</b>			<b>1 May</b>
<b>2. Stayman</b>			<b>8 May</b>
<b>3. Double</b>			<b>22 May*</b>
<b>4. Preemptive Bidding</b>			<b>5 June*</b>
<b>5. Defence</b>			<b>12 June</b>
<b>6. Overcalling &amp; the UCB</b>			<b>19 June</b>
<b>7. 4th Suit Forcing</b>			<b>26 June</b>
<b>8. Roman Key Card Blackwood</b>			<b>3 July</b>

\* please note these weeks are not consecutive

For the more experienced player, DAVID'S DELIGHTS takes place on Monday mornings at 11am. See online for dates and further information.

**TO BOOK A COURSE:** Please call **020 7471 4626**; or book online at **www.andrewrobson.co.uk**



## LEARN IN A WEEKEND

Learn bridge is just one weekend at Andrew Robson Bridge Club

**T**ake a complete course in a weekend. Learn by playing hands at the table – practical experience is the best way to learn and improve your game, making inroads into the game, one step at a time. Don't be afraid to book on your own – you will soon find yourself in the same boat as your fellow class members, and the club is a great place to meet like-minded people. You'll receive a bound booklet of course notes and illustrated examples to take away with you. (See page 19 for club membership details.)

**Course hours:** 10.00-16.30 Sat & Sun

**Price:** £155

**Includes:** lunch both days, and membership for Beginner and Next Step

**Please book in advance**

### BEGINNER:

10/11 May (David), 20/21 September (Natasha), 1/2 November (David)

### NEXT STEP:

17/18 May (David), 22-23 November (Natasha)

### INTERMEDIATE:

26/27 April (Richard), 13-14 September (Richard), 29/30 November (Richard)

### INTERMEDIATE PLAY:

7/8 June (Richard), 27/28 September (Richard)

### IMPROVER:

24/25 May (Richard), 15/16 November (Richard)

### IMPROVER PLAY:

4/5 October (David)

### ADVANCED:

14/15 June (Richard), 11/12 October (Richard)

### ADVANCED DEFENCE:

29/30 March (Richard)



Helping hands:  
ARBC welcomes all  
standards of player

## TIME TO PLAY

With so many to choose from, which are the ARBC sessions for you?

### Turn up and play

You don't need a partner for any of our sessions – we will always find you a suitable partner, or provide a house player. Please book for dinner and bridge on Mondays and Wednesdays. For all other sessions, just turn up.

### Rubber play with supervision for beginners\* upwards

*\* We recommend you start attending near the end of your Beginner Course*

**Price: £10**

Never forget the three best ways to cross those first hurdles in bridge: practise, practise and practise! There are three mornings and three evening sessions for beginners upwards – see the sections highlighted in green on the pullout schedule at the back of the magazine.

There is also a weekend opportunity: a session from 14.00 - 16.30 on Saturdays (excluding bank holiday weekends) – the perfect way to spend your Saturday afternoon. Don't be daunted; Andrew Robson Bridge Club is gentleness itself. Also note the word "upwards" – we will naturally put all the less experienced players together so as to more easily provide a faster game for all those non-beginners.

### Rubber play with supervision

**Price: £10**

### Bridge & dinner

**Price: £20 with dinner; £15 without**

Imagine playing relaxed bridge with friends in your drawing room, while being able to ask friendly, expert supervisors for advice. This is the experience we aim to



provide at our dinner-bridge sessions. You'll be seated with players of a similar standard – all standards are welcome. On Monday and Wednesday, rubber play also includes a delicious dinner. Please book in advance.

## Supervised duplicate

**Tuesday & Wednesday mornings 10.30 - 12.30; Thursday afternoon 14.00 - 16.30 and Thursday evening 18.30 - 21.00**

**Price: £12**

Caroline's Tuesday morning has proved such a popular session, introducing all the challenges and excitement of duplicate bridge by replaying hands from the previous day's duplicates, that we now hold it four times each week. Help with every bid and play if required. All the staff love hosting this session – we see such improvements in those who attend. One reason why the session works so well is that we can manoeuvre to make sure all players declare their fair share of the deals.



Why not give it a try? If you want more individual attention, we recommend you come to one of the new sessions, rather than to the busy Tuesday morning.

## Gentle duplicate

**Monday evening 19.45 - 22.15**

**Thursday afternoon 14.00 - 16.30**

**Price: £10**

As with regular duplicate, you'll move round the room and there will be a winner (and a prize!). However, the tempo is much gentler and the play less competitive. We provide recommended bidding for each deal (on the travellers) and will be on hand to explain scoring and offer tactical pointers, though we'll refrain from actually telling you what to bid and play.

## Special hands with Caroline

**Friday morning 10.30 - 12.30**

**Price: £12**

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

## Social bridge with Paddy

**Price: £10**

**Friday Evening from 18.30 - 22.30  
(For the Susan Hampshire Salver)**

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, before moving on to the next. The ever-genial Paddy will be delighted to help you with play when asked. Chicago combines the excitement of playing dealt hands with the conviviality and friendly competition of playing different partnerships throughout the evening. Arrive from 18.30 onwards. Bar snacks and drinks will, of course, be available throughout. Unmissable!

## Duplicate

**Price: £10**

As with tournament bridge, duplicate is non-supervised. All our duplicates are played in a friendly atmosphere. Bridgemates are used and we provide hand records and immediate results. All ladders and trophies run three times each year: from 1 January to 30 April; 1 May to 31 August; and from 1 September to 31 December. Winner of our Top Ten trophy wins a prize and a game with Andrew (no more than one game with Andrew for repeat winners).

## Daytime duplicate

A popular daily daytime duplicate. Score ladder-points and win a generous voucher prize, donated by club member Luigi Molinaro (of Luigi's Delicatessen fame). Our four weekday-afternoon



duplicates play 24 boards: Monday to Wednesday start at 13.30; Friday at 13.00. Thursday morning (10.15) duplicate plays 20/21 boards.

## Evening: Two duplicates

**Tuesday 19.30 - 22.45 (20/21 boards)  
and Thursday 19.15 - 22.45 (24 Boards)**

Our evening ladder combines both Tuesday and Thursday evening's results. Win the Stocken Cup.

## Saturday duplicate with Nick

**Every Saturday 13.45 - 17.00**

**Price: £10**

A stimulating weekend-afternoon duplicate, with points counting towards our daytime ladder and Andrew's Top Ten trophy. Takes place every Saturday, except on bank holiday weekends.

## WINTER PRIZEWINNERS

Luigi's Daytime Duplicate Ladder	Nicky Cannon-Brookes
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Luigi's Voucher	Nicky Cannon-Brookes
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Andrew's Top 10	Nicky Cannon-Brookes
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Game with Andrew	Keith Clow
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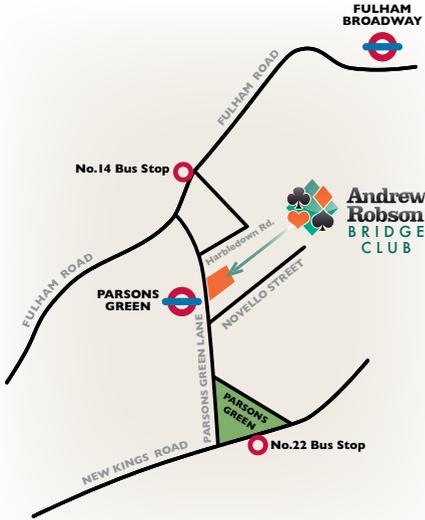
Stocken Cup	Konrad Mau
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Susan Hampshire Chicago Trophy	Jonathan Sayeed
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## FIVE WAYS TO FIND US

How easy is it to get to the bridge club in Parson's Green? Very. Here's how...



### 1 Walking or cycling

We encourage members to either walk or – like Andrew and many of his team – cycle to the club. There are parking spaces for bikes at the side of the club, as well as at Parsons Green underground station.

### 2 London Underground

Parsons Green station, on the Wimbledon branch of the District Line, is just across the road, less than a minute's walk from the club. Trains run every 10 minutes.

### 3 Bus

The nearest bus stop is only five minutes walk from the club, on the Fulham Road, near the top of Parsons Green Lane. Stopping

there are the No. 414, running to and from Edgware Road, and No. 14, which runs between Tottenham Court Road station and Putney Heath every eight minutes during the daytime, and every 12 minutes at night. No. 22 stops on New King's Road, near the bottom of Parsons Green Lane, linking Putney Common and Piccadilly Circus with a regular daily service.

### 4 Taxis & minicabs

The club loves members hiring local taxis rather than using their own cars. You'll find several numbers for local firms displayed on the notice board in reception; alternatively, please ask a member of staff.

### 5 Car

We would like to discourage you from driving to the club. Local residents are understandably very concerned about increasing the number of cars in an already congested area. In particular, please avoid parking in 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 club has 12 of its own (clearly marked) spaces in the yard next to the club. After 5pm, you can park free on yellow lines in the side streets and on resident bays. After 6.30 pm, on Parsons Green Lane park on the yellow line which runs from outside the chip shop opposite the club, to Fulham Road. All remaining yellow lines on Parsons Lane are off-limits until 8pm.



Time stops in the Chianti region of Tuscany



## WINE IDEAS

Chianti goes from strength to strength, says Master of Wine Stephen Skelton

Tuscany in general, and the Chianti region in particular, seem timeless. The rolling countryside, the winding roads that wander up hill and down dale, passing through sleepy villages and – of course – the vineyards, all talk of the region's long history. Many winedrinkers also hark back when they think of Chianti, the wine. They see it as a light, fruity, modest red wine, to be found in cheap trattorias and pizzerias and often in the classic, straw covered fiasco bottle. How timeless – how wrong!

Modern Chianti (the wine) has changed. Until the 1970s, up to 30% of white grapes were allowed in the blend, quality controls were all but meaningless and the wine suffered. It gained a reputation for being a thin, pale, sometimes acidic and definitely lightweight red-ish wine. Since then, there

have been massive changes in Chianti and today, the appellation has tightened up its rules regarding the areas of production, the methods and the grape varieties. White grapes are no longer allowed and while 70% must be the traditional varieties Sangiovese and 10% Canaiolo, the balance can be from Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot or Syrah.

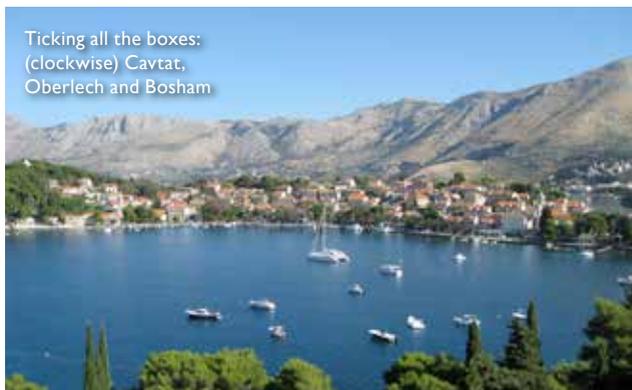
The ARBC's wine is a Chianti Classico DOCG – meaning it's from the core of the production region and is wine of superior quality – and lives up to its credentials. It's made of Sangiovese, Canaiolo and Cabernet Sauvignon, and has both the bright cherry flavours and fresh acidity of the traditional varieties, with the depth of flavour and 'class' of the Cabernet. Perhaps better with food than on its own, although 2009 was a softer vintage than many.

ARBC member Stephen Skelton is a Master of Wine who has spent almost 40 years growing grapes, making wine and working as viticultural consultant in the UK.

All listed wines are available from Majestic: [www.majestic.co.uk](http://www.majestic.co.uk) or call 0845 605 6767



Ticking all the boxes:  
(clockwise) Cavtat,  
Oberlech and Bosham



## Just the Ticket

Jack offers the latest news on Andrew Robson Bridge holidays to Dubrovnik, York and the ski slopes of Grindelwald – perfect for a social game of bridge

**W**e have just confirmed our 2015 midweek break to York where we will have exclusive use of the four-star Grange Hotel (14 – 17 April) – one of our favourite places to stay.

The Grange has two AA Rosettes for cuisine and is just a short walk from York Minster and the historical city of York, with its wonderful shops and cafés, including Bettys tea rooms. All this is less than two hours from London by train.

Lorna and I are very excited about our 7 – 14 January 2015 trip to the five-star Hotel Schweizerhof in Grindelwald, offering access to a large ski area including Wengen and Murren.

There are still some spaces left on our June 2014 European midweek break to Prague, and on our September holiday

to Dubrovnik, with its excursions to Cavtat, Konavle and the Elaphite islands.

Bridge weekends to the four-star Millstream Hotel in Bosham, Chichester, are very popular – bookings have now started for our three November 2014 weekends.

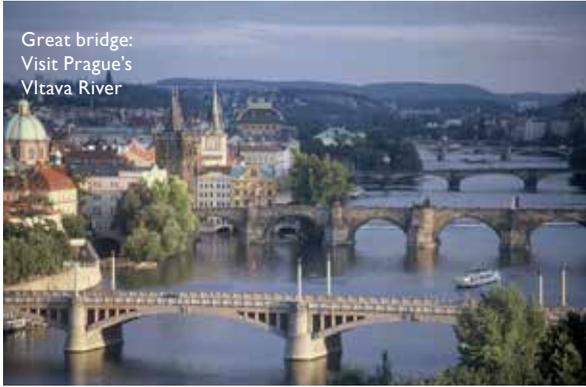
So a lot to look forward to. Remember that no bridge partner is necessary on any ARB Holiday and the Bridge standard is friendly Intermediate. Please book early to avoid disappointment as many of our holidays become fully booked six months in advance.

Lorna H and I look forward to seeing you on one of our friendly Bridge holidays soon.

*Jack, Annabel  
Sophie & Sebastian*



**Contact: Jack Stocken Email: [jack@yorkshirebridge.com](mailto:jack@yorkshirebridge.com)  
Mobile: 07775 892 720 Website: [www.yorkshirebridge.co.uk](http://www.yorkshirebridge.co.uk)**



Great bridge:  
Visit Prague's  
Vltava River



## Prague Midweek Break

Grand Hotel Bohemia ★★★★★  
Czechoslovakia

PRICES  
FROM  
£795

We are very excited to be offering the first ever Andrew Robson Bridge European midweek break. We will be visiting the historic city of Prague and staying in the magnificent five-star Grand Hotel Bohemia.

The hotel offers luxury contemporary accommodation in a historic building, idyllically located in the picturesque old-town quarter, in the city centre. We are fortunate to be playing bridge in the hotel's ornate Boccaccio ballroom; it's neo-Baroque architectural style is simply stunning.

One of Europe's most beautiful cities, Prague has a winning mix of vibrant culture and historic landmarks. Stroll through its medieval old town and you'll see the famous Charles Bridge, the gothic Tyn Church, the baroque St Christopher Church, and one of the world's most beautiful squares, the

11th-century Staromestske Namesti, with its renowned 15th-century astronomical clock.

There will be an optional half-day excursion to discover the delights of this beautiful city – and we are planning an excursion to Hradcany, Prague's spectacular castle and cathedral complex, once the centre of political power.

Flights with the group are from Heathrow to Prague with British Airways (to be included in the price).



### DATES & AVAILABILITY 2014

Tuesday 3 June – 6 June

**BOOK NOW**

**TO BOOK:** Please call Jack Stocken 07775 892 720 or email [jack@yorkshirebridge.com](mailto:jack@yorkshirebridge.com)



Ancient walls and azure waters surround Dubrovnik



## Dubrovnik Holiday

Grand Villa Argentina Hotel ★★★★★

Croatia

The golden walled city of Dubrovnik is one of the most celebrated beauty spots of the Mediterranean – a harmonious showcase of Venetian art and civil, religious and military architecture from the Renaissance and Baroque periods.

We are delighted to return to the five-star Grand Villa Argentina Hotel, which is ideally situated at the most exclusive address in Dubrovnik. It's just a short walk from the old town, a UNESCO world heritage site, constructed on a cliff and surrounded by ancient walls. The hotel has a prestigious seafront location offering spectacular sea views. It is set in lush terraced gardens leading down to a private beach. The Villa was built as a gilded private residence at the beginning of the 20th century and converted into a hotel complex in the 1950s, thus creating an exclusive enclave just minutes from the gates of Dubrovnik's

old town. The location offers guests the opportunity for quick trips into Dubrovnik, to witness its historical sites, or to shop in the boutiques of the walled city.

The hotel offers various facial, beauty and body treatments, massages and therapies, a fully equipped gym and an indoor swimming pool, sauna and whirlpool to help guests relax. Lorna and I do hope that you can join us for a week of entertaining bridge among the delights of this beautiful city. As ever, we will organise two interesting and cultural excursions:

### Dubrovnik sightseeing & Cavtat/Konavle

A professional guide will assist us in discovering the delights of Dubrovnik during a sightseeing tour, on foot, of the old town, with its ramparts and fortresses. We will visit the Franciscan monastery with one of the oldest pharmacies in Europe

**TO BOOK: Please call Jack Stocken 07775 892 720 or email [jack@yorkshirebridge.com](mailto:jack@yorkshirebridge.com)**



Memorable moments:  
Cavtat and the old  
water mill (right)

ARB holidays are great fun. They are not aimed at the type of player who likes a serious 24-board duplicate each night; the emphasis is on instruction, with a little gentle competition played in the friendly, social manner that so typifies the ethos of the Club. Bon voyage!

– Andrew and the team

## ... excursions

### Sightseeing & Cavtat/Konavle Elaphite islands

and then travel to the old town of Cavtat where we will visit the house of Vlaho Bukovac, one of the most famous Croatian Impressionist painters.

Lunch will be served at the Restaurant Leut in Cavtat, which has a beautiful location and terrace, off the promenade. After lunch we continue to Konavle, the southernmost region in Croatia. We arrive at Ljuta and visit an authentic water mill dating back to the times of the Dubrovnik Republic, where we will be welcomed by girls dressed in traditional costumes. Try the dried figs and local drinks before returning to Dubrovnik.

#### Elaphite islands

Embark on a traditional Dalmatian boat for a cruise along the majestic city walls, around the peninsula of Lapad and towards the Elaphite islands. On the island of

Sipan, we visit one of the best preserved summer residences in Dalmatia – the Skocibuha residence. Next stop will be the island of Lopud, the second largest and most developed of the Elaphite islands. With its mild Mediterranean climate, its subtropical vegetation as well as its interesting maritime history, Lopud is an exceptionally attractive destination.

Lunch will be served at the restaurant Obala, located just a stone's throw from the water and serving some of the best fish and seafood. After lunch, we slowly cruise back to the port of Gruz and make a last stop on the island of Kolocep. From the port of Gruz we will be transferred back to the hotel by bus.

#### DATES & AVAILABILITY 2014

12 – 19 September, 2014

**BOOK NOW**

**TO BOOK: Please call Jack Stocken 07775 892 720 or email [jack@yorkshirebridge.com](mailto:jack@yorkshirebridge.com)**



## York

The Grange Hotel, York ★★★★★

Due to popular demand, we are delighted to return to the four-star Grange Hotel, York, for our 2015 midweek break. This privately owned, award-winning Regency townhouse is well established as one of York's finest hotels and is ideally situated within a short walk of the magnificent York Minster and ancient city walls.

We shall be dining in the Ivy Brasserie restaurant, which has two AA Rosettes for excellent cuisine. The Grange's chef trained at Gleneagles and provides a regularly changing menu of modern classic dishes created from the best seasonal and locally produced ingredients. The Ivy Brasserie has an extensive wine list that perfectly compliments the depth of flavours the menus offer.

ARB Holidays has reserved all 36 of the hotel's bedrooms, which are non-smoking and furnished with special care and great

attention to detail to ensure you enjoy a comfortable stay.

An optional excursion will be arranged to Castle Howard, a magnificent 18th-century residence, set within 1,000 acres of breathtaking landscape, and home to the Howard family for more than 300 years. Castle Howard has been awarded the HHA/Christie's garden of the year 2011 and was the setting for the classic award winning television drama *Brideshead Revisited*.

York is just two hours from London on the main line train from London King's Cross. A weekend brochure and booking form is available on the ARBC website and from the club itself.

### DATES & AVAILABILITY 2015

14 – 17 April 2015

**BOOK NOW**

**TO BOOK: Please call Jack Stocken 07775 892 720 or email [jack@yorkshirebridge.com](mailto:jack@yorkshirebridge.com)**



Charm meets character at the Millstream Hotel



## Millstream Weekends

Millstream Hotel ★★★★★

*Bosham, Chichester*

Officially Andrew Robson Bridge Club's favourite hotel, Millstream is one of our most charming venues. No wonder we have been running bridge weekends here for more than 10 years. Due to high demand, we are hosting five weekends each year at the Millstream. If you have never visited this hotel, then do come and see what all the fuss is about.

This four-star hotel is situated in the heart of Old Bosham, a historic and picturesque sailing village on the shores of Chichester harbour. Located less than 90 minutes from Andrew Robson Bridge Club, the property combines all the elegance of a small, English country house with the charm of an 18th-century malthouse cottage.

The restaurant, which overlooks the gardens, has been awarded two AA rosettes for its excellent cuisine. It offers a varied selection of English and continental

dishes, prepared with the freshest of produce, and complimented by a list of fine wines from an established cellar. All bedrooms at the hotel are en suite and have been attractively styled, each with individual character. There is free Wi-Fi throughout the hotel.

The bridge is Intermediate standard, played in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere with like-minded people. It's not necessary to bring a partner. Andrew's set hands and excellent course material are taught by Jack. Please remember to book early to avoid disappointment, as these weekends can sell out up six months in advance.

### DATES & AVAILABILITY 2014

<b>7 – 9 November</b>	<b>BOOK NOW</b>
<b>14 – 16 November</b>	<b>BOOK NOW</b>
<b>28 – 30 November</b>	<b>BOOK NOW</b>

**TO BOOK:** Please call Jack Stocken 07775 892 720 or email [jack@yorkshirebridge.com](mailto:jack@yorkshirebridge.com)

# OKA



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## Grindelwald

Hotel Schweizerhof, Grindelwald



We are delighted to be offering a new ski venue: the charming five-star Hotel Schweizerhof in Grindelwald, Switzerland, nestled in the impressive landscape of the Jungfrau region, renowned for its outstanding natural beauty.

Hotel Schweizerhof is in a stunning location, with an imposing backdrop of the world famous Eiger and Lauberhorn. The hotel is only a two to three-minute walk from the village centre and offers vast ski options around Grindelwald, Wengen and Mürren. The food is excellent as are the facilities: an indoor swimming pool, fully equipped wellness centre and spa.

Grindelwald offers superb skiing at the foot of the Eiger Mönch and Jungfrau; it is also possible to ski in Wengen and Mürren. An extensive network of more than 44 mountain railways, aerial cableways and ski lifts take you up safely to over 200km of

perfectly prepared slopes with superb downhill runs that are 6 to 12km in length.

We will, as ever, have our personal team of wonderful ski leaders headed by Suzi McArthur and Paul Ubsz. They are all either current or ex-Ski Club of Great Britain representatives. Jack and Annabel Stocken, at Yorkshire Bridge, will be arranging all other aspects of the holiday.

Jack Stocken, co-hosted by Lorna Heaton, will be hosting an informative and entertaining bridge programme using Andrew's excellent teaching material and set hands. The bridge – and skiing! – standards are friendly Intermediate, and, as ever, you needn't bring a partner.

### DATES & AVAILABILITY 2015

7 – 14 January, 2015 **BOOK NOW**

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## Susan Hampshire

When *Susan Hampshire* planned for life after acting, she took up bridge with her husband Eddie Kulukundis

I've been playing bridge for more than 10 years and took it up during my acting days so that my husband, Eddie, and I would have something to do together when we were older. I don't think I have great card sense, so I found the lessons at the club were very helpful. (I must be the only person who has taken the Intermediate course three times!) But there's no doubt that the more you play the better a player you become, and so my game has improved by putting into action all the things that I've learned so far.

Eddie has short-term memory problems and one of the things he still really enjoys is playing bridge, so we visit the club three times a week. It's always a pleasure to play there: everybody at the club is lovely and all the supervisors are adorable and kind, and the atmosphere is warm and non-aggressive. There's a good mix of standards, too: the very good bridge players can play duplicate while the rest of us can do gentle duplicate or supervised rubber or Chicago. The lucky thing is I don't care if I lose: for me, bridge is not about winning, but I do hate it when I don't make a contract that I know I should have made. That really upsets me.

Since giving up work to care for Eddie, bridge has played an increasingly important role in our lives together –



Actress Susan Hampshire made her name on television in the hit BBC adaptation *The Forsyte Saga* (1967), which won her the first of three Emmy Awards. As well as appearing on screen alongside the likes of Tony Curtis, Albert Finny, Cliff Richard and Kirk Douglas, more recently she was Molly Macdonald in *Monarch of the Glen*. Susan has also appeared in many plays and musicals. She plays bridge at ARBC with her husband, Sir Eddie Kulukundis, whom she married in 1981.

though Eddie suffers from dementia, he still has the ability to remember bridge hands and has a real passion for the game. So playing bridge is good for us both on many levels: it's socially very pleasant indeed, it's wonderfully relaxing and it's also so good for the mind.



# ARBC Playing Schedule

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

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
£20 11.00 - 13.00 <b>DAVID'S DELIGHTS</b> <small>(12th May, 19th May, 2nd June*, 9th June, 16th June, 7th July**, 14th July)</small>	£10 10.30 - 12.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners upwards with Natasha and Grazyna	£12 10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED DUPLICATE</b> with Martin & Lorna	£10 10.15 - 13.30 <b>DUPLICATE</b>	£10 10.30 - 12.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners upwards with Natasha and Paddy	£10 13.45 - 17.00 <b>DUPLICATE</b> with Nick (Not Bank Holiday weekends)
£10 13.30 - 17.00 <b>DUPLICATE</b> 24 Boards	£12 10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED DUPLICATE</b> with Caroline	£10 10.30 - 12.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners upwards with Paddy & Heather	£10 10.30 - 12.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> with Caroline	£10 14.00 - 16.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for beginners up with Nick, Angus and Pip (Not Bank Holiday weekends)	£10 14.00 - 16.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for beginners up with Nick, Angus and Pip (Not Bank Holiday weekends)
£10 14.00 - 16.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> with Caroline	£10 13.30 - 17.00 <b>DUPLICATE</b> 24 Boards	£10 14.00 - 16.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> with Caroline	£12 14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED DUPLICATE</b> with Grazyna & Lorna	£12 10.30 - 12.30 <b>SPECIAL HANDS</b> with Caroline	<b>2013/2014 WEEKENDS</b>  (£15* including Lunch) *Plus Membership except Beginner and Next Step
£10 17.30 - 19.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> with Caroline	£10 13.30 - 17.00 <b>DUPLICATE</b> 24 Boards Free run-through the hands with Andrew afterwards	£10 14.00 - 16.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> with Caroline	£20 14.00 - 16.00 <b>CAROLINE'S CONVENTIONS</b> 23 January - 27 March (Missing 20 February)	£10 13.00 - 16.30 <b>DUPLICATE</b> 24 Boards	<b>BEGINNER</b> May 10/11 (David), Sept 20/21 (Natasha), Nov 1/2 (David) <b>NEXT STEP</b> May 17/18 (David) Nov 22/23 (Natasha) <b>INTERMEDIATE</b> April 26/27 (Richard), Sept 13/14 (Richard), Nov 29/30 (Richard) <b>INTERMEDIATE PLAY</b> June 7/8 (Richard) Sept 27/28 (Richard) <b>IMPROVER</b> May 24/25 (Richard) Nov 15/16 (Richard) <b>IMPROVER PLAY</b> Oct 4/5 (David) <b>ADVANCED</b> June 14/15 (Richard) Oct 11/12 (Richard) <b>ADVANCED DEFENCE</b> March 29/30 (Richard)
£20 19.30 - 22.45 <b>RUBBER PLAY &amp; DINNER</b> with Caroline Please book	£10 18.00 - 20.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners upwards with Lorna and Grazyna	£10 17.30 - 19.30 <b>RUBBER PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners upwards with Grazyna & Paddy	£12 18.30 - 21.00 <b>SUPERVISED DUPLICATE</b> with Grazyna, Richard & Nick	£10 18.30 - 22.45 <b>SOCIAL 'CHICAGO' BRIDGE</b> with Paddy	
£10 19.45 - 22.15 <b>GENTLE DUPLICATE</b> with Richard	£10 19.30 - 22.45 <b>DUPLICATE</b>	£20 19.30 - 22.45 <b>RUBBER PLAY &amp; DINNER</b> Suitable for Beginners upwards with Grazyna, Richard and Paddy	£10 19.15 - 22.45 <b>DUPLICATE</b> 24 Boards		



## Continued from page 15 ...

1. The Rule of 20 – open the bidding when your high-card point-count added to the number of cards in your two longest suits – is a good guideline. But the term “rule” is a misnomer. Hand (B) is far better than Hand (A): honours in your long suits, better shape, good intermediate cards in your long suits, easier rebid. **Hand (B) is correct** – in spite of failing the Rule of 20. Hand (A) should pass (in spite of satisfying the Rule of 20). Hand (C) is balanced: an opening bid of INT.

2. When choosing between four-card suits, responder should bid the cheaper suit, so as to ensure no fit is missed. When choosing between five-card suits, responder should bid the higher-ranking, planning to bid the lower one next time. **Hand (A) is correct** – the relative suit quality of the hearts and spades does not matter. Hand (B) should respond 1♦ – cheaper of fours. A heart fit will not be missed as partner can rebid 1♥ with clubs and hearts. Hand (C) should respond 1♠ – “high fives”, planning to bid 2♥ next time.

3. Going back to opener’s first suit should always be looked at as a preference bid, not as support, typically with a doubleton, not three-card support (although three cards may be held). Hand (A) is not strong enough to respond 2♣, failing the Rule of 14 (high-card points + no of cards in the long suit do not get to 14), but should prefer an immediate 2♠ rather than the “dustbin” INT (a last resort). Hand (C) is worth 2♣, but over 2♦ the hand improves markedly in value, with great cards facing partner’s long suits and no wasted picture cards facing his short suits. Although the point-count

would suggest bidding 2♣ then 2♠, the hand is really worth a jump to 3♠ on the second round, feigning 10-12 points; that way partner will know to expect three-card spade support not mere doubleton preference. **Hand (B) is the correct answer.** (B) is worth 2♣ and then, over 2♦, there is no other sensible choice apart from 2♠: 2NT would show a good 10-12, while 2♥ would be Fourth Suit Forcing showing a game-going hand and asking for information.

4. Any 16+ point hand should double a INT opener, such that any bid shows fewer than 16 points. Hand (A) should double INT – any 16+. Hand (B) is a defensive balanced hand with five poor spades that fail the Suit Quality Overcall Test (the number of spades plus the number of spade honours do not get to eight – the number of tricks bid for). **Hand (C) is correct.** Fewer high-card points than (B) but a nice playing hand with a robust suit and nice 5431 shape.

5. Going on to 5♥ shows a good offensive hand rather than defensive one. The spade holding is key. Hand (B) looks defensive – a slow trump trick in defence to 4♠ that is probably useless in 5♥. The honour doubletons in the minors also look better-suited to defence. You are not confident enough to double though, as declarer might have a void heart, and should just pass. Hand (C) looks so suited to defence – especially if declarer on your right holds ♠Q and you should double. That leaves **Hand (A) – a clear 5♥ bid.** The four small spades are interesting – partner is marked with a singleton or void so there is at most one spade loser. Both 4♠ and 5♥ will make.

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