

Spring 2010 / Issue 33

# THE ANDREW ROBSON BRIDGE CLUB MAGAZINE

**Andrew Robson Bridge begins  
at Notting Hill Harbour Club**

**Andrew's New Book - "his best yet"**

*What Should have Happened - Long-awaited follow-up to Common Mistakes*

**When to bid a slam**

**Includes  
Spring 2010  
Lesson  
and Playing  
Schedules**

**Fabulous Malta Holiday - September 2010**

t: 020 7471 4626

[www.arobson.co.uk](http://www.arobson.co.uk)





# Andrew's Editorial

Those of you who live in North or North West London - and particularly your friends who do not come regularly to Parsons Green for geographical reasons - may be interested to hear that we are starting Bridge at the Notting Hill Harbour Club (just North of the A40). I am very excited by this - the allocated room is very nice, plus there is free valet parking. For more details see page 6.

I have been thrilled with the response to my new book. "What Should Have Happened" was in danger of being renamed "What Should Have Happened Months ago" as it came out at least three months after it was originally supposed to. Thank you to those who have been so complimentary, and to those who have not. I should mention that there are special Arrow Packs that go with it, generating 48 carefully selected deals. Also there is a CD version that expands on the themes, allowing you to play through the - 253 - deals yourself on the computer.

Whilst on the theme of nice Bridgey things to purchase - with Christmas coming up - I have extended the Essential Flipper to cover the Improver Course - as well as the Intermediate Course, so now, for the same price of £10, you have themes such as Double, Stayman and Signalling included. A perfect stocking filler?

You may have noticed that I am not personally teaching any classes next term. This is not because I am tired of teaching - far from it - I still love it. No - the surgeon is going to attend to my damaged feet (post hill-walking fall in 2001) which will render me out of action for a while. I'm hoping to be teaching again after Easter - likely on crutches. However I have devised a full teaching program in the extremely capable hands of David, Caroline, Richard and Natasha, which you can see on page 20.

Before I go under the knife, though, I am looking forward to teaching the Children's Courses on December 21st - 23rd. Just bring your children (aged seven-and-a-half to seventeen-and-a-half) to whichever sessions suit you and we will do the rest (they do enjoy it -

doubtless helped by the mid-session chocolate biscuits - and certainly benefit). See page 7 for specific details.

There are some wonderful holiday opportunities, as outlined in the Holiday Section on pages 26 - 31. Whether it's ski slopes, the peace of Malta, or the timelessness of the Yorkshire Dales, Jack - with Lorna - provide the answer. Our holidays are growing and growing in popularity - with their uniquely relaxed, unthreatening, yet instructive Bridge - that I'd encourage you not to dally with your booking.

We have held the table money of our Duplicates for many years - indeed postponed the planned rise of 18 months ago due to imminent recession. I am afraid, however, that rising costs have forced us to increase the price to £10 as from January 1st. I hope you will agree that this still represents terrific value. Rest assured we always endeavour to give you the smoothest and best-run Duplicate - and we are investing in new state-of-the-art Bridgemates for the New Year. We are holding the price of all other sessions.

I would like to congratulate Patti Gamble and Denis Bennett for winning the prestigious Lederer Satellite Pairs. Also, a word for the Duplicate players on the Multicoloured Two Diamond opener: it is hard enough to play properly, let alone to defend against, so I have taken the decision to disallow it with immediate effect (I am hardly alone on this: it has been outlawed in the USA too). Apologies if it's your favourite tool, but it simply causes too much confusion and deters the less experienced player.

Our annual (free) Christmas Party is as usual on the last Friday before Christmas, December 18th. I look forward very much to seeing you then, if not before, for some fun Chicago Bridge.

The Club will be closed from Thursday 24th December to Sunday 3rd January (inclusive) and will reopen on Monday the 4th January.

Happy Christmas to you all and thank you for your wonderful support for the Club. You make it very, very special,

Andrew

# When to Bid a Suit Slam - "FAST"

Small slams occur about one deal in 15: surprisingly common. Only if you're worried about the number of Aces should you use Blackwood 4NT, or its modern version Roman Key Card Blackwood (RKCB). Think of Blackwood as a way of avoiding slam, not reaching slam. Mostly you can bid a slam **FAST**, without Ace-asking...

## F for Fit

Look for nine - even ten - trumps and you can make slam with many fewer than the 33 points for 6NT.

## A for Aces

The partnership need all the aces or all but one. If you might be missing two, use Blackwood (or RKCB).

## S for Shortages

Voids (especially) and singletons are hugely powerful when you have a big fit.

## T for Two-loser suits

Be cautious when you have a suit with two (or more) quick losers. Even if you have all the other aces and kings, your slam will fail if the opponents can cash an ace-king.

### Examples:

You open 1♠ and partner bids 3♣. With which of these hands should you go for slam?

(A)	(B)	(C)
♠ A Q 8 6 2	♠ A Q 8 6 2	♠ A Q 8 6 2
♥ J 8	♥ K J 4	♥ A Q 10 7
♦ K Q J 7	♦ A J 7	♦ 7
♣ K Q	♣ Q J	♣ A Q 4

- (A). No. Just one ace, a two-loser heart suit, and no shortage. Settle for 4♠.
- (B). No. Poor shape (5332), and a two-loser club suit. Bid 4♠.
- (C). Yes. Excellent shape (5431), no two-loser suit, and a singleton. Bid 6♠.



The White Horse on Parsons Green



# The White Horse

## Take the stress out of Christmas Day.

Join us here for our fantastic 4 course lunch **£55** per person

Tel: 020 7736 2115 Fax: 020 7610 6091  
1-3 Parson's Green, Fulham, London, SW6 4UL  
[www.whitehorsesw6.com](http://www.whitehorsesw6.com), [info@whitehorsesw6.com](mailto:info@whitehorsesw6.com)

# ARBC at Notting Hill Harbour Club

Every Wednesday from January 13th onwards

09.30 - 11.30 **Supervised Play** with our expert team on hand to answer your questions and improve your confidence. Suitable for beginners upwards. Price £10\*

11.45 - 15.00 **Duplicate** played in our uniquely friendly way. Give it a go, even if you've never played duplicate before. You will soon be hooked! Play to end in time for School Run. Price £10\*

And on Thursdays starting January 14th

09.30 - 11.15 **Beginner Class** Natasha will start from absolute scratch. By the end of our eight week course you will be a Bridge player. Price for a course £145\*

11.30 - 13.15 **Intermediate Class** Our real read-and butter course. Not played for a while? Want to sharpen up? Learn the modern way? Natasha will help guide you through this famous course, with four set deals each week to illustrate and stimulate. Price for a course £145\*

Free Valet Parking for all

\*Five pound entry fee to Harbour Club for non-Harbour Club members.

You can enrol by ringing the Bridge Club (020 7471 4626) or online.

Harbour Club, 1 Alfred Road, London W2 5EU

## How well do you know your 1NT By Edward Sunley

*The following quiz was sent to me by Edward Sunley who as well as spending too many afternoons playing duplicate at the Club (his words not mine – is it possible to spent too many afternoons playing duplicate at ARBC?) also teaches (extremely well!!) for me and organises Bridge elsewhere in London. If you have done the Improver course you should be able to get most of these right - if not, take it again!*

Your first bid is 1NT - how many points are you showing. Surely easy, 12-14 if you are Opener, and 6-9 'Dustbin bid' if you are Responder. Well yes, but 6-9 is not always true as Responder, and how about if you are on the Overcalling side?

Try and match your bid of 1NT in fourth seat in each auction 1)-8) to a point count shown in a) to h)

Answers at foot of page – don't look yet!

1) P-P-P-1NT	a) 6-9 and no four + card major
2) P-1H-P-1NT	b) 6-10 and a stopper in Hearts and not four + Spades
3) P-1C-P-1NT	c) 7-10 and a stopper in Spades and not four + Hearts
4) P-P-1S-1NT	d) 8-10 and no four + card major
5) 1S-P-P-1NT	e) 10-12 and not three or more Spades
6) P-1H-1S-1NT	f) 12-14
7) 1H-X-P-1NT	g) 11-16
8) 1H-1S-P-1NT	h) 15-19 and a stopper in Spades

Bonus Question from Editor: Which one of those is not an ARBC 1NT bid?

## Children's Courses

**Christmas dates: 21st - 23rd December**  
(times: 10.30-12.30 & 13.30\* -15.30)  
\*note slightly earlier time

- Taught 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

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

**Cost: £20 per Session**  
Please book in with Lorna

## Fulham Roofing

**All aspects of roofing work undertaken.**

**Free Quotation**

**Call Michael  
on 020 7371 0478**

**101A Harwood Road, SW6 4QL**

## The Italian Lakes By Jack

In September we stayed in the imperial Hotel Regina Palace which overlooks Lake Maggiore, which, along with Lake Como and Lake Garda, is one of the most beautiful lakes in Italy. For the most part we enjoyed warmth and glorious sunshine, which is typical for that time of year.

The highlights of the week were the two fantastic excursions led by Manuela, our very eloquent and charming guide. She needed to have both these qualities to keep our spirits up as on the second excursion the heavens opened and our party was drenched. Sadly I was unable to go on the second excursion as I had "hotel admin" to attend to, but would like to reassure the group that this decision was made a long time before I witnessed the deluge on the day.....

We visited gardens and palaces belonging to the famous Borromean family on the two nearby islands. Lorna was so taken by the

history that she even devised her own quiz to test on the party to make sure they had all been paying attention.

The Bridge went very well and in particular the supervised Chicago session that we had in the garden, under the cover of parasols (this time to protect us from sun, not the rain). The lessons focussed on defence and, by the end of the week, eagle eyes were on the look out for significant signals or third hand plays (the play of the Queen denying the Jack etc). A good defender is a popular partner, although not so popular with declarer.

Those who played golf enjoyed the hill-top course with its stunning views of the lake. However, I think the host's handicap will have to be reduced next time!

Thank you everyone for making the trip so enjoyable. Lorna and I look forward to seeing you in Malta next September.



# Will Smith learns Bridge at ARBC



*A few months ago comedian, actor and writer Will Smith came to the Club and attended a few of my Beginner Classes in order to get the hang of the game. Here is the resulting article he wrote in Intelligent Life...*



*After months of lessons, Will Smith is delighted to learn that he is a "natural" at bridge. "It is a milestone in my life to be declared a natural at a sport. Any sport", he gloats. Here are ten of his discoveries ...*

**I Am, Apparently, a Natural Player** I was told this by Andrew Robson, bridge correspondent and former world champion. It is a milestone in my life to be declared a natural at a sport. Any sport. Which bridge is, having been recognised as such in 1997 by the International Olympic Committee.

**It's More Complicated Than It Seems** Like cricket, the basic rules are easy to grasp. Bridge: win tricks with suit's highest card. Cricket: stop ball hitting sticks. Also like cricket, bridge has myriad rules and obfuscating terms. Such as "undertricking", which sounds like a magician cutting short his act at a children's party.

**Don't Try to Explain the Rules to Your Wife When You've Had Only One Lesson** There is nothing more humiliating for an apparently natural player than having your statements questioned, and being forced to check the facts on Wikipedia. Actually, there is. Discovering she was right.

**Telepaths Only Need Apply** The element of mind-reading involved in silently agreeing a trump during the bidding stage makes picking

your partner a delicate process. In one beginners' game I played, it might have helped if mine had known the difference between clubs and spades. They also suggested it would be easier if more colours were introduced to the pack. This is the sort of person you should follow to see how they manage to open doors.

**At Some Point Someone Will Make a Very Bad British Film About Bridge** I predict it will tell the tale of a working-class British player who shakes up the bridge establishment with his uncouth, rock'n'roll ways. The story will climax at the World Championships, where some crusty old traditionalist will try to sabotage our hero's chance of winning because he doesn't want to see the game popularised and full of riff-raff. But our hero wins the game, the audience and the heart of a random girl. There'll be an excruciating cameo from David Beckham and an unfunny scene with the Queen and Prince Philip watching the TV in bed.

**Bill Gates Plays Bridge** Online, of course. He may play it in person as well, but he definitely part-owns bridgebase.com and regularly uses it. I tried to join in, but, typically, Bill required me to run Windows on my Mac, something I am not prepared to do. If I wanted my Mac to run like a PC I would leave it out in the rain and whack it with a hammer before turning it on.

**Don't Play With Your Mum and Dad** When my parents retired, they did exactly as the rest of their peer group did: they tried to learn home computing, and took up bridge. If the former caused untold stress (I've lost count of the times I've tried to explain to my dad the difference between a file and a folder), the latter has thrown us back into the traditional parent-child relationship, where I know absolutely nothing, and they have god-like powers. I may have to install Windows on my Mac after all, as the only way I'll regain the upper hand with my dad is to introduce an element of computing--Kryptonite to his Superman.

**There Were Italian Foot-Tapping Cheats in the 1970s** I love this; it's like something from a Le Carré short story. During the 1975 World Team Championships, the Italian entrants were spotted touching toes under the table, apparently as a way of relaying information about what cards they held. I so wish this ended

# Cont..



with a defection and a speedboat chase; in reality, the Italians stayed in the competition, although blocks were put under their table to prevent any more footsie.

**Etiquette is Important** When your partner puts down their hand, you have to say "Thank you, partner" and then they wish you good luck. This slipped my mind once, when I was more concerned with seeing what cards my partner had. The other players were family friends--yet I still felt as if I had broken wind while kneeling to receive a knighthood.

## Being a Good Partner

By Andrew



*"I have always believed that your attitude toward your partner is as important as your technical skill at the game."*

*Rixi Markus, English Lady International*

Although the late Rixi Markus was never known for her gentleness at the Bridge table, she is quite right. One of the great joys of Bridge is the partnership element. Be a good partner and your diary will soon fill up! Plus you will get the best out of your partner, both in terms of their enjoyment and their performance.

Here are eight of the most important guidelines for being a good partner, with the last being the most important of all.

1. **Always thank partner for their dummy**, even if it is a disappointment and/or you do not agree with their bidding.
2. **Never criticise partner** – remember they are trying their hardest.
3. **Always encourage**. Congratulate them on a well played hand; commiserate them on a failed enterprise ("Hard Luck" will make them feel better, even if luck didn't really come into it!).

**You Will Think About It When You're Trying to Sleep** I am a past master at reliving events and fantasising about different outcomes. But it's normally with things that matter, like whose black-gloved hand picks up the ring at the end of "Flash Gordon". Not whether I'd have won the rubber if I hadn't bid hearts with a king, when it was glaringly obvious that my opponent had the ace. After hours of sleepless deliberation, I can say with some certainty that the respective answers are: "Dale Arden", and "Probably not".

4. **Keep a straight face**. Apart from being unethical to convey information facially, it is also undermining.

5. **Try to picture things from partner's side of the table** – anticipate their problems and seek to make things clearer.

6. **Never side with an opponent against your partner**. If you do not agree with partner, say nothing.

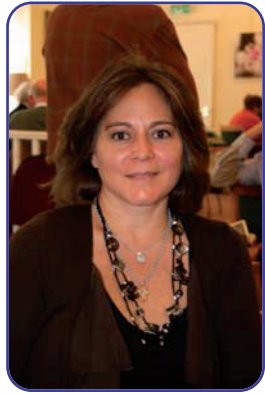
7. **Always thank partner at the end of the game** (even if things didn't go well).

And finally...

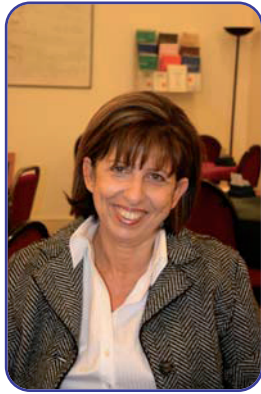
8. **Have a good time, and make sure that your partner does also**. "Bridge is for fun. You should play the game for no other reason. You should not play Bridge to make money, to show how smart you are, or show how stupid your partner is...or to prove any of the several hundred other things Bridge players are so often trying to prove." US Bridge legend Charles Goren.

*Bridge is by far the greatest game man has devised. If you derive a tenth of the pleasure from it that I have, it will be – if not a life-changing experience – then a hugely life-enhancing one.*

## Club Photos



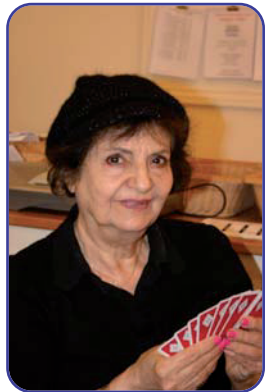
Nada Akrass



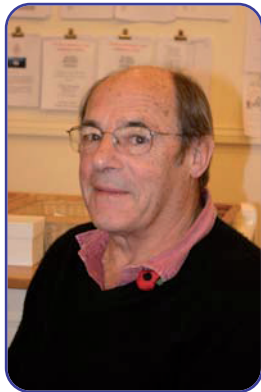
Nafisa Saab



Nancy Kooyman



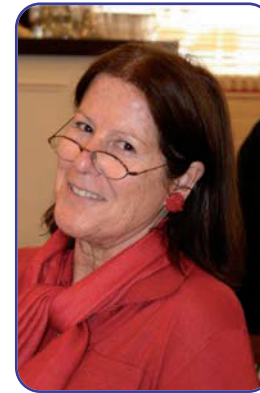
Ojik Brose



Patrick Nash



Peter Ravenhill



Ann Holding-Parsons



Ann Paterson



Geraldine Plowden



Ian MacGillivray



James Arney



Jane Bellard



From left: Zia Mahmood, David, Nick Irens and a drenched Andrew - on their way to winning the Kent Congress.



Andrew presents the Teltscher Cup to Patti Gamble and Denis Bennett



Janie Tate



Juanita Taliadouros



Martin Birnhak

# 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 20th January**

£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 April 2010 included. The next course is Next Step.

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

BEGINNER	Tuesday 11.45 - 13.15 David	Tuesday 18.40 - 20.10 David	Wednesday 20.30 - 22.00 David	Wednesday 9.45 - 11.15 Natasha	Wednesday 18.40 - 20.10 Richard
1. Getting Started	26th Jan	26th Jan	27th Jan	3rd Feb	3rd Feb
2. Playing Bridge	2nd Feb	2nd Feb	3rd Feb	10th Feb	10th Feb
3. Introducing Notrumps	16th Feb*	16th Feb*	17th Feb*	17th Feb	17th Feb
4.The Play - Making Tricks	23rd Feb	23rd Feb	24th Feb	24th Feb	24th Feb
5. Finding Fits & Bidding Game	2nd March	2nd March	3rd March	3rd March	3rd March
6. Notrump Bidding	9th March	9th March	10th March	17th March*	10th March
7. Trump Bidding	23rd March*	23rd March*	24th March*	24th March	17th March
8. Overcalling	30th March	30th March	31st March	31st March	24th March
Beginner in a Weekend -	Spring 23rd - 24th Jan 10.00 - 16.30 (David), Summer 24th - 25th April 10.00 - 16.30 (David)				

*\* 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.

# Lesson Flow Guide



You can play an enjoyable social game



You’re confident with the basic moves



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





# Lesson Information



## 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 Easter 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 April 2010 included.

NEXT STEP	Wednesday 18.45 - 20.15 David	Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 David	Tuesday 20.30 - 22.00 Richard	Wednesday 14.45 - 16.15 Richard
1. Notrump Play	27th Jan	28th Jan	2nd Feb	3rd Feb
2. Trump Play	3rd Feb	4th Feb	9th Feb	10th Feb
3. Bidding Unbalanced Hands	17th Feb*	11th Feb	16th Feb	17th Feb
4. Finding Fits	24th Feb	18th Feb	23rd Feb	24th Feb
5. Overcalling	3rd March	25th Feb	2nd March	3rd March
6. Opening Bids at the 3 Level	10th March	4th March	9th March	10th March
7. The Opening Lead	24th March*	11th March	16th March	17th March
8. The Defence	31st March	1st April**	23rd March	24th March
<b>Next Step in a Weekend</b> - Spring 27th - 28th Feb (David) Summer 8th - 9th May (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	Monday 20.30 - 22.00 David	Tuesday 10.00 - 11.30 David	Tuesday 18.45 - 20.15 Richard	Wednesday 13.00 - 14.30 Richard
1. Bidding as Opener	25th Jan	26th Jan	2nd Feb	3rd Feb
2. Bidding as Responder	1st Feb	2nd Feb	9th Feb	10th Feb
3. Making Tricks (1) with trumps	8th Feb	16th Feb*	16th Feb	17th Feb
4. Making Tricks (2) without trumps	15th Feb	23rd Feb	23rd Feb	24th Feb
5. One Notrump	22nd Feb	2nd March	2nd March	3rd March
6. Overcalling	1st March	9th March	9th March	10th March
7. The Opening Lead	8th March	23rd March*	16th March	17th March
8. The Defence	29th March**	30th March	23rd March	24th March
<b>Intermediate in a Weekend</b> - Spring 6th - 7th Feb (Richard) Summer 15th - 16th May (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 18.35 - 20.20 David	Tuesday 11.45 - 13.30 Richard	Wednesday 11.30 - 13.15 Natasha
1. Force	25th Jan	2nd Feb	3rd Feb
2. Length	1st Feb	9th Feb	10th Feb
3. Position - The Finesse	8th Feb	16th Feb	17th Feb
4. Using Trumps	15th Feb	23rd Feb	24th Feb
5. Overcalling SQOT	22nd Feb	2nd March	3rd March
6. Defending Notrumps	1st March	9th March	17th March*
7. Defending Trumps	8th March	16th March	24th March
8. Pot Pourri	29th March**	23rd March	31st March

**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	Thursday 11.45 - 13.30 David	Monday 14.00 - 15.45 Richard	Wednesday 20.25 - 22.10 Richard
1. Uncontested Bidding Review	28th Jan	1st Feb	3rd Feb
2. Signalling in Defence	4th Feb	8th Feb	10th Feb
3. Stayman	11th Feb	15th Feb	17th Feb
4. Take-out Double	18th Feb	22nd Feb	24th Feb
5. Penalty Double	25th Feb	1st March	3rd March
6. Blackwood	4th March	8th March	10th March
7. Strong Twos	11th March	15th March	17th March
8. Weak Threes	1st April**	22nd March	24th March
<b>Improver in a Weekend</b> - Spring 20th - 21st March (Richard) Summer 22nd - 23rd May (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	Tuesday 13.35 - 15.20 Caroline	Tuesday 20.25 - 22.10 David	Monday 16.00 - 17.45 Richard
1. Signalling in Defence	26th Jan	26th Jan	1st Feb
2. Finesse or Drop	2nd Feb	2nd Feb	8th Feb
3. Retaining the finesse position	9th Feb	16th Feb*	15th Feb
4. Throwing Losers	23rd Feb*	23rd Feb	22nd Feb
5. Setting up a long suit	2nd March	2nd March	1st March
6. Trumps - draw or delay?	9th March	9th March	8th March
7. TOP Defence	16th March	23rd March*	15th March
8. Pot Pourri	23rd March	30th March	22nd March

\* 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 10.15 - 12.00 Caroline
1. Losing Trick Count 2. Uncontested Bidding Review 3. Coping with Intervention 4. Fourth Suit Forcing 5. More ways to Signal 6. Unassuming Cue Bid 7. More uses of Double 8. Notrumps	26th Jan 3rd Feb 10th Feb 17th Feb 24th Feb 3rd March 10th March 24th March*
Advanced in a Weekend -	Spring 6th - 7th March (Richard) Summer 12th - 13th June (Richard)

**Advanced Play** 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 PLAY	Tuesday 15.30 - 17.15 Caroline
1. Principle of Restricted Choice 2. Suit Combinations 3. Communication 4. Cooperative Signalling 5. Card-placing 6. Seven-card fits 7. Fun with trumps 8. Elimination and Throw-in	26th Jan 2nd Feb 9th Feb 23rd Feb* 2nd March 9th March 16th March 23rd March

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

CAROLINE'S CONVENTIONS	Thursday 14.00 - 16.00 Caroline
1. Roman Keycard Blackwood 2. Splinters 3. Trial Bidding 4. Ace-Showing Cue Bids 5. Jacoby 6. Weak Twos 7. Transfers 8. Negative Doubles	28th Jan 4th Feb 11th Feb 25th* Feb 4th March 11th March 18th March 25th March

**David's Delights**  
[Pay by Session - £20]  
Some wonderful, instructive deals from our Bridge whiz, perfect for Duplicate players. What a worthwhile way to spend a Friday morning. (From 22nd January - 26th March - See Lesson Schedule on page 21)

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](http://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		Cheque / Cash Payment	
Month Joined:	Cost:	Month Joined:	Cost:
January-March	£52	January-March	£65
April-August	£36	April-August	£45
September-November	£20	September-November	£25
December	FREE	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: .....

# 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.

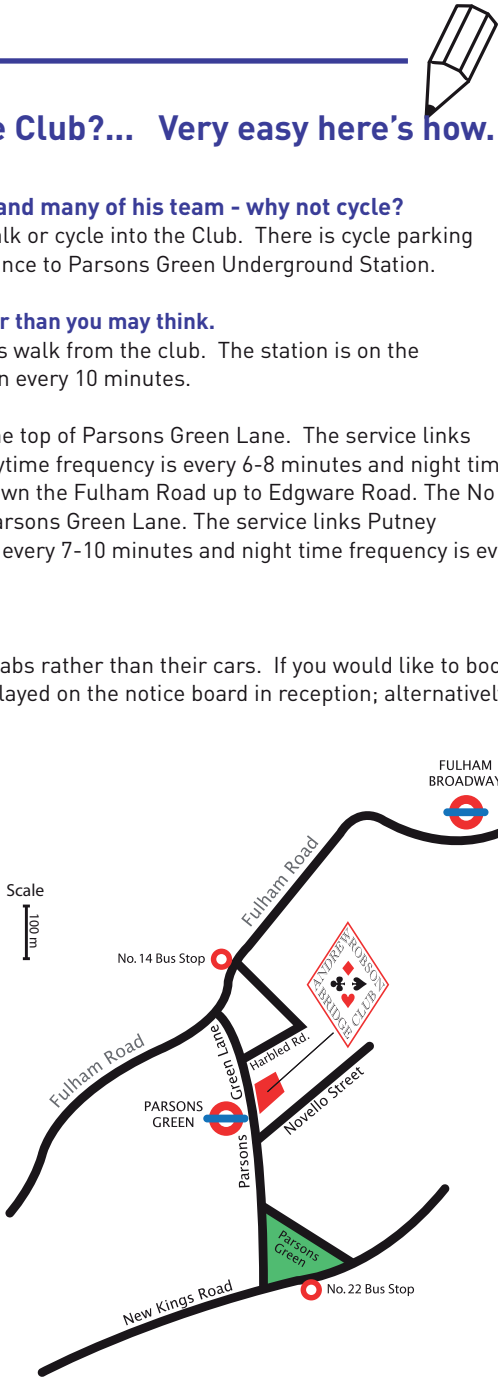
**2. Public Transport – another fine option and easier than you may think.**  
Tube – Parsons Green Station is less than a minute's walk from the club. The station is on the Wimbledon branch of the District Line and trains run every 10 minutes.

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.

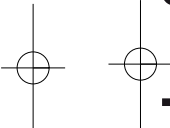
**4. Private Cars**  
We would like to discourage you from driving to the Club. The local residents are understandably very concerned about increasing the number of cars in an already congested area. In particular, please avoid parking on the Residents Bays that double up as Pay and Display in the streets 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.



<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b> 13.45 - 17.00 <b>Duplicate</b> with Nick (Not Bank Holiday weekends) £10	<b>SUPERVISED PLAY &amp; DINNER</b> with Caroline £20	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DAVID'S DELIGHTS</b> From 18th Sept - 13th Nov £20	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
	19.30 - 22.45 <b>RUBBER/SUPERVISED PLAY &amp; DINNER</b> with Caroline £20	19.15 - 22.45 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10	Doors open one hour before the start of play. A session requires a partner. See Lesson Schedule for details of lessons. All sessions are suitable for players of <u>all</u> standards, except those in shaded boxes which are for more experienced players.	19.15 - 21.45 <b>GENTLE DUPLICATE</b> £10	19.15 - 22.45 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10
	19.30 - 22.45 <b>Duplicate</b> £10	19.15 - 22.45 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10		14.00 - 16.00 <b>CAROLINE'S CONVENTIONS</b> From 28th Jan - 28th Mar £20	14.00 - 16.30 <b>GENTLE DUPLICATE</b> with Richard £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SPECIAL HANDS</b> with Caroline £10
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> with Nick £10	<b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	14.00 - 16.30 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>GENTLE DUPLICATE</b> with Richard £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
	18.00 - 20.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	18.00 - 20.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10		13.30 - 17.00 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards FREE run-through the hands with Andrew afterwards £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>GENTLE DUPLICATE</b> with Richard £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
	19.30 - 22.45 <b>Duplicate</b> £10	19.30 - 22.45 <b>RUBBER/SUPERVISED PLAY &amp; DINNER</b> Suitable for Beginners £20	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.15 - 13.30 <b>Duplicate</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10.00 - 11.30 <b>Next Step (D)</b> 28th Jan	10.00 - 11.30 <b>Beginner (N)</b> 3rd Feb	<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10
	11.45 - 13.30 <b>Improver (D)</b> 28th Jan	10.15 - 12.00 <b>Advanced (C)</b> 27th Jan		10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10
	14.00 - 16.00 <b>CAROLINE'S CONVENTIONS</b> 27th Jan - 25th March (missing 18th Feb)	14.00 - 16.15 <b>Next Step (R)</b> 3rd Feb	<b>THURSDAY</b>	14.00 - 17.30 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
<b>THURSDAY</b>	14.00 - 16.00 <b>CAROLINE'S CONVENTIONS</b> 27th Jan - 25th March (missing 18th Feb)	14.45 - 16.15 <b>Next Step (R)</b> 3rd Feb	<b>FRIDAY</b>	14.00 - 17.30 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
	18.40 - 20.10 <b>Beginner (R)</b> 3rd Feb	18.45 - 20.15 <b>Next Step (D)</b> 27th Jan		13.30 - 17.00 <b>Duplicate</b> 24 Boards £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	14.00 - 16.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
	18.40 - 20.10 <b>Beginner (D)</b> 26th Jan	18.45 - 20.15 <b>Intermediate (R)</b> 2nd Feb	<b>FRIDAY</b>	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10
<b>FRIDAY</b>	10.30 - 12.30 <b>DAVID'S DELIGHTS</b> David creates stimulating deals for Duplicate players Dates: 2nd Jan, 29th Jan, 5th Feb, 19th Feb, 26th Feb, 5th March, 26th March* £20 a SESSION <b>NO BOOKING REQUIRED</b>	10.30 - 12.30 <b>Beginner (D)</b> Jan 23/24 <b>Next Step (D)</b> Feb 27/28 <b>Intermediate (R)</b> Feb 6/7 <b>Improver (R)</b> Mar 20/21 <b>Advanced (R)</b> Mar 6/7	<b>WEEKENDS (£145 inc lunch)</b> 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	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> Suitable for Beginners with Natasha £10
	10.30 - 12.30 <b>Next Step (D)</b> 28th Jan	10.30 - 12.30 <b>Beginner (D)</b> 3rd Feb		10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10
	10.30 - 12.30 <b>Next Step (D)</b> 28th Jan	10.30 - 12.30 <b>Beginner (D)</b> 3rd Feb	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10	10.30 - 12.30 <b>SUPERVISED PLAY</b> £10

# Playing Schedule - Spring 2010



## PLAYING SCHEDULE

**TEACHERS**

D = David    C = Caroline  
 R = Richard    N = Natasha

Andrew apologises that he is unable to teach this term due to foot surgery.

**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.

**MONDAY**

14.00 - 15.45  
**Improver (R)**  
 1st Feb

16.00 - 17.45  
**Improver Play (R)**  
 1st Feb

18.35 - 20.20  
**Intermediate Play (D)**  
 25th Jan

20.30 - 22.00  
**Intermediate (D)**  
 25th Jan

**TUESDAY**

10.00 - 11.30  
**Intermediate (D)**  
 26th Jan

11.45 - 13.30  
**Intermediate Play (R)**  
 2nd Feb

11.45 - 13.15  
**Beginner (D)**  
 26th Jan

13.35 - 15.20  
**Improver Play (C)**  
 26th Jan

15.30 - 17.15  
**Advanced Play (C)**  
 26th Jan

18.40 - 20.10  
**Beginner (D)**  
 26th Jan

18.45 - 20.15  
**Intermediate (R)**  
 2nd Feb

20.25 - 22.10  
**Improver Play (D)**  
 26th Jan

20.30 - 22.00  
**Next Step (R)**  
 2nd Feb

**WEDNESDAY**

9.45 - 11.15  
**Beginner (N)**  
 3rd Feb

10.15 - 12.00  
**Advanced (C)**  
 27th Jan

11.30 - 13.15  
**Intermediate Play (N)**  
 3rd Feb

13.00 - 14.30  
**Intermediate (R)**  
 3rd Feb

14.45 - 16.15  
**Next Step (R)**  
 3rd Feb

18.40 - 20.10  
**Beginner (R)**  
 3rd Feb

18.45 - 20.15  
**Next Step (D)**  
 27th Jan

20.25 - 22.10  
**Improver (R)**  
 3rd Feb

20.30 - 22.00  
**Beginner (D)**  
 27th Jan

**THURSDAY**

10.00 - 11.30  
**Next Step (D)**  
 28th Jan

11.45 - 13.30  
**Improver (D)**  
 28th Jan

**FRIDAY**

10.30 - 12.30  
**DAVID'S DELIGHTS**  
 David creates stimulating deals for Duplicate players  
 Dates: 2nd Jan, 29th Jan, 5th Feb, 19th Feb, 26th Feb, 5th March, 26th March\*  
 £20 a SESSION  
**NO BOOKING REQUIRED**

**Spring WEEKENDS (£145 inc lunch)**

Beginner (D) Jan 23/24  
 Next Step (D) Feb 27/28  
 Intermediate (R) Feb 6/7  
 Improver (R) Mar 20/21  
 Advanced (R) Mar 6/7

Weekends run from 10.00 to 16.30 on Saturday and Sunday

**Planning ahead to Summer 2010?**

**WEEKENDS (£145 inc lunch)**

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

**OPEN EVENING (FREE)**

Wednesday 20th Jan 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

# 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.

### Beginner Supervised Rubber Play with Natasha and others £10

Never forget the three best ways to overcome the first hurdles in Bridge: practice, practice and practice! We run two morning sessions for Beginners and Next Steppers (Tuesday and Friday 10.30-12.30). Our Wednesday dinner evening is suitable for Beginner upwards, Monday's dinner being suitable for Next Step upwards. Our new look Tuesday evening session (18.00 - 20.30) is suitable for all levels (see below).

### 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). In our new look Tuesday Evening Supervised Play with Lorna and Grazyna, suitable for all levels, we are (from January 1st) slightly altering the finish time - new time is 18.00 - 20.30; sometimes less is more. Of course you are welcome to stay on and play - unsupervised.

### 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.

# 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!

## 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.

## Duplicate £10 (from Jan 1st)

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. Winner of our thrice-annual 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 Delicatessan fame].

**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.

## Saturday Duplicate with Nick £10 (from Jan 1st)

13.45 - 17.00

Come for a stimulating afternoon duplicate, with points counting towards our Daytime Ladder. Not run on Bank Holiday Weekends or during August.

# Winners!

Luigi's Daytime Duplicate Ladder: Denis Bennett

Evening Duplicate Ladder: David Rainer

Andrew's Top 10 Duplicate Trophy: Winner: Patti Gamble, Game with Andrew: Patti Gamble

Susan Hampshire Chicago Trophy: Howard Leigh



# 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: £52 now

**Due date & Frequency:** Thereafter **£52** on 1<sup>st</sup> 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: .....

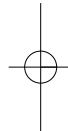
Date: .....

Note: The Bank will not undertake to:

- make any reference to Value Added Tax or other indeterminate element
- advise payers address to beneficiary
- advise beneficiary of inability to pay
- 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



**BY APPOINTMENT TO**



**THE ANDREW ROBSON  
BRIDGE CLUB**

**YOUR LOCAL BUILDING  
AND MAINTENANCE CO.**

**PLUMBING REPAIRS  
ELECTRICAL WORK  
PROFESSIONAL DECORATING  
HOUSEHOLD REPAIRS  
JOINERY, SHELVES & PAINTING  
EXTERNAL DECORATION  
ROOFING REPAIRS**

**LARGE WORKS INCLUDE:**

**LOFTS  
EXTENSIONS  
BASEMENTS**

**RED BOX LTD  
FIRST FLOOR, 15 YOUNG STREET  
LONDON W8 5EH**

**CALL MARK RAILING OR  
RUPERT ROBERTSON ON  
020 7381 1539**

**W: WWW.REDBOXLONDON.COM  
E: MARK@REDBOXLONDON.COM  
OR: INFO@REDBOXLONDON.COM**





Dear ARBC Members,

Bridge teaching has been very busy in Harrogate with a record take up for this term and I have even called on the skills of my mother, Dinah, to teach a class of 16 beginners! I also teach three private groups of eight people in various isolated parts of Yorkshire.



We had a lovely time in the Italian Lakes and you can read more on page 7. For 2010 we will visit Malta and have negotiated an excellent rate with the 5\* hotel, which will enable you to have a fantastic, good value holiday in this economic climate. Bookings are well under way so please be in touch to book or register your interest.

The Harrogate Midweek Break next April has had an amazing response with over 25 bookings so far. We are really looking forward to seeing you on "home territory" and with it the delights that Harrogate and Yorkshire have to offer. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

We had a full house at the recent November Millstream weekend and will return for our February weekend and March midweek break. Find out for yourselves why they now have two AA Rosettes for cuisine.

Our ski trip to Zermatt has a waiting list as we have equalled last year's record attendance with a lot of new faces. Lorna and I will work hard to make it better than ever!

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

Best wishes

Jack, Annabel and Sophie.



Bosham, Chichester

The Millstream Hotel

Friday 5th – Sunday 7th February 2010  
and  
Tuesday 23rd – Friday 26th March 2010

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.

Do join us for the February weekend or our midweek break in March, which has proved very popular over the last two years. We will organise a half day excursion on the Wednesday of the midweek break.

Weekend from £359, Midweek Break from £430

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.

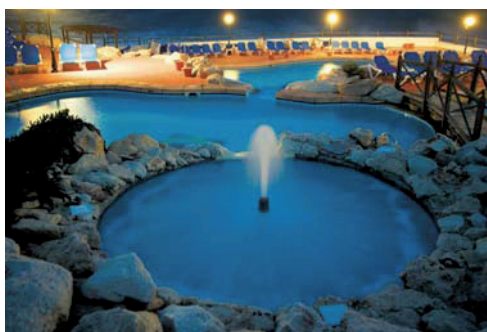
All 252 excellent rooms and suites come with a balcony or terrace with wonderful sea views. The hotel has indoor and outdoor pools, a fabulous sports and leisure centre, beauty salon, sauna and massage services to tantalize, refresh and relax guests. Dining will be in Le Pellitant Restaurant which serves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

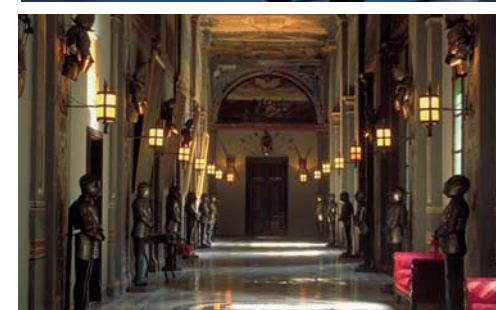
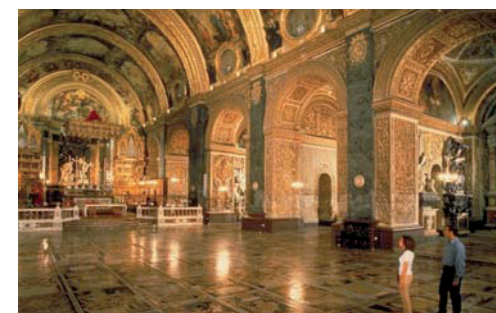
The Three Cities tour commences with a cruise around one of the world's deepest natural harbours and a backdrop to the two Great Sieges of 1565 and 1942. A detailed commentary will unfold the gallant history of Valletta and the Three Cities connected with these Great Sieges, as well as all the other 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, Mdina, 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.







## Mediterranean Bridge Cruise

**Monday 24th – Sunday 30th May 2010**

Following our successful 2009 ARBC Cruise to Norway, we are delighted to introduce something new for 2010: we have changed our chosen cruise partner to the intimate and luxurious 312 passenger Wind Surf.

Wind Surf carries just over 300 passengers in beautifully designed cabins, each of which has its own sea view. There are no single cabins as such on Wind Surf but we have negotiated a special fare for Bridge Club members for sole use of twin rooms. Dining on Wind Surf is a very special experience and on some evenings you can eat al fresco out on deck.

The Nautilus Room has been reserved for the exclusive use of the Andrew Robson Bridge Club and your host, Jack Stocken, will as always supervise the play and enhance your enjoyment of the trip.

### The Itinerary

**24th May** Fly from Heathrow to Nice on BA

**25th May** A full day in Monte Carlo

**26th May** A second day in Monte Carlo gives additional sightseeing opportunities

**27th May** Anchored in the bay at magical Portofino, you will enjoy exploring the pretty cobbled streets of this tiny fishing village.

**28th May** From the port at Livorno, you might choose to travel to Florence for the day, or to explore the Tuscan hill cities.

**29th May** The beautiful island of Elba with its rocky profile and hidden bays can be explored from Portoferraio, Napoleon's exile home.

**30th May** The cruise finishes in Civitavecchia, where we fly home



NB Your flights depart from Heathrow and return to Gatwick. Flights back to Heathrow are available at additional cost, as are business class flights.

### Your fare includes:

- Economy class flights from London to Nice and from Rome to London with BA
- Air departure taxes
- Transfers from the airport to the ship in Nice, and from the ship to the airport in Rome
- Six nights on board Wind Surf including all meals
- Port and harbour taxes
- A welcome cocktail party
- A shipboard credit of \$250 per person towards your on board expenses (bar bills, shore excursions etc)
- All bridge play and tuition

### Fares per person:

	Twin	Single
<b>B category cabin</b>	£2295	£2995
<b>A category cabin</b>	£2495	£3395
<b>Suite</b>	£3435	£6140

Call Sharon Trigg at Mundy Cruising

020 7734 4404

or email [sharon@mundycruising.co.uk](mailto:sharon@mundycruising.co.uk)

Further details are on the Club website

[www.arobson.co.uk](http://www.arobson.co.uk) or in the Club foyer.



## Harrogate Midweek Break The Old Swan Hotel

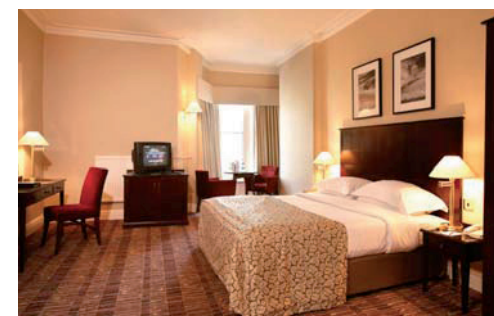
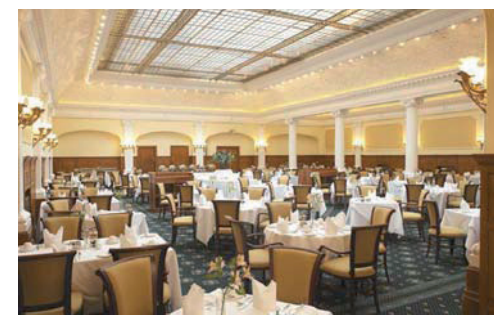
**Tuesday 13th – Friday 16th April 2010**

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.

The ivy-clad Old Swan Hotel is steeped in mystery and romance, from the revolving wooden doors to the magnificent glass-ceilinged restaurant. This historic Harrogate hotel was once the secret retreat of world-famous Mistress of Mystery, Agatha Christie, when she disappeared for 10 days in 1926. Modern comforts complement a host of original features and the hotel's private gardens provide a peaceful retreat in the heart of Harrogate. Experience traditional English hospitality under the magnificent glass ceiling of the Wedgwood restaurant, sip a drink by the open fire in the Swan Lounge or simply enjoy the attractions of picturesque Harrogate before retiring to an individually styled luxurious bedroom. The hotel has recently had a full £8 million pound refurbishment.

Yorkshire is only two hours on the main line train and less than an hour by plane. Further details can be found on the full information sheets in the club foyer or on the website above.

**Prices from £420**





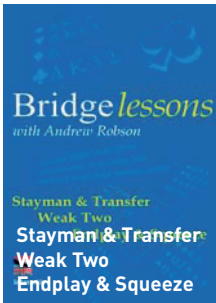
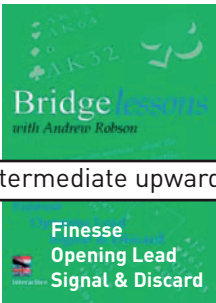
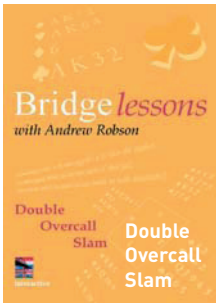
# Andrew's Bridge Lesson Booklets and Interactive CDs

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



£5

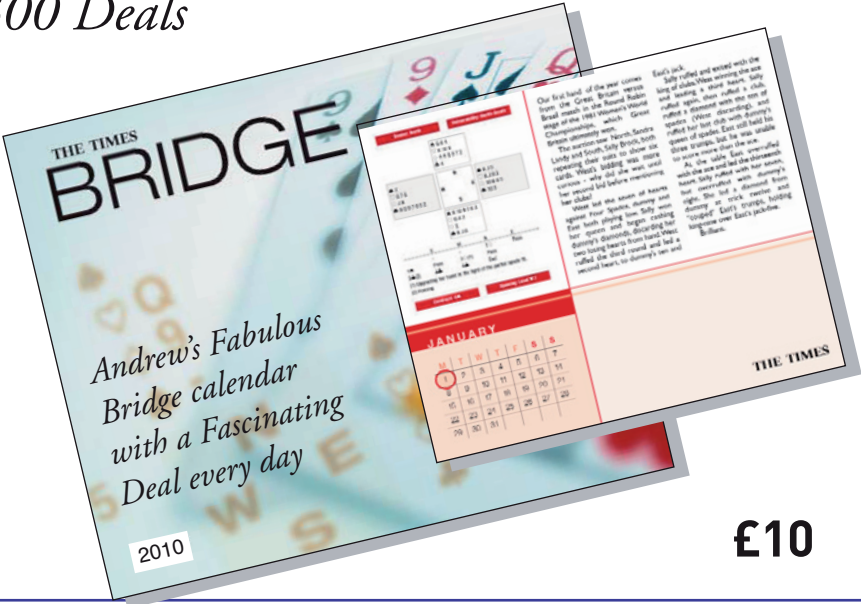


- Over 100 instructive deals per CD
- Interactive quizzes and questions
- Lots of fascinating insights to help you master these vital topics & the game in general
- Play the deal afterwards and see if you can make the contract
- Thought-provoking Post Mortems after each deal

£25 each or buy all three for £60

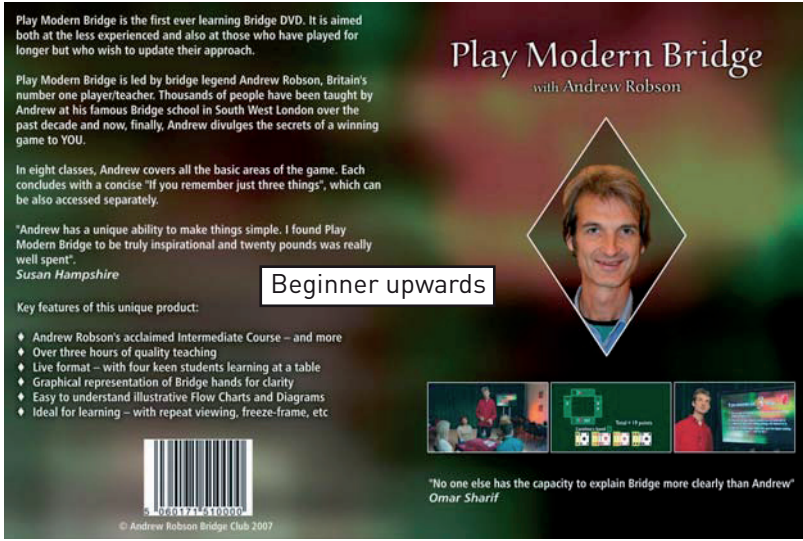
Available in the Club, by post using the order form or from our online shop  
where you can order and pay : [www.arobson.co.uk](http://www.arobson.co.uk)

# Bridge Calendar 2010 Over 300 Deals

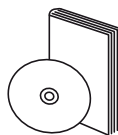


£10

## Play Modern Bridge - DVD



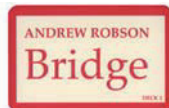
£20



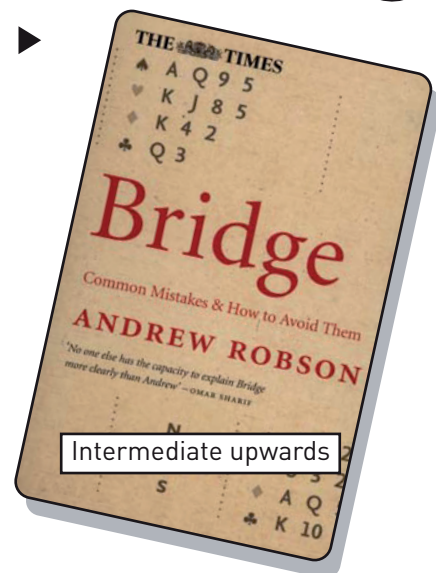
**Common Mistakes** - and how to avoid them. Andrew's acclaimed first book, now in its third reprint.

£10

**Common Mistakes Arrow Packs**



£10



Intermediate upwards

◀ **Bridge Secrets** Includes: Andrew's life in Bridge told through his best and worst deals at the table



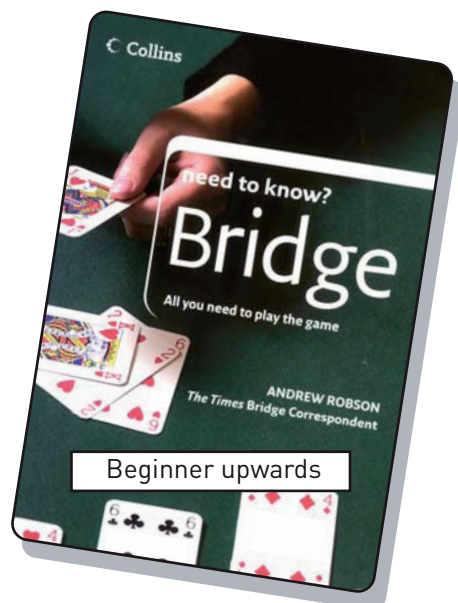
Advanced upwards

£13

**Need to know? Bridge** ▶

All Andrew's core teaching material under one cover. Perfect for beginners and upwards.

£9



Beginner upwards



## Bridge Flippers

**Beginner**

All the information to get you properly started

£10



**Essential**

All the information you need to play a decent game of bridge. Now updated to include Improver themes such as Double, Stayman, Signaling and Slamming.

£10



**Advanced**

Key themes to lift your bridge to a higher level

£10



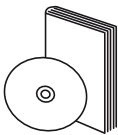
**Conventions**

All Andrew's favourite conventions - and how to play them

£10







Andrew's new book  
'What Should have Happened'

ANDREW ROBSON

# Bridge: What Should Have Happened

More Common Mistakes & how to avoid them

Intermediate upwards

£13

Deal 6

Opening INT with a 5332 shape and a five-card minor (two lost deals in one thing, but how many strongly bid now - having played and taught this for many years - it will be open your open INT

Exercise: With which of these hands should you open INT?

(a) ♠A1074 ♥Q82 ♦A763 ♣273  
(b) ♠A1074 ♥Q82 ♦A763 ♣273  
(c) ♠A1074 ♥Q82 ♦A763 ♣273  
(d) ♠A1074 ♥Q82 ♦A763 ♣273

How the Deal was Bid

Contract: 4♠ by South  
Opening Lead: ♠A

What happened

What should have happened

£10

ANDREW ROBSON

What Should Have Happened

£10

Arrow Packs

These magic Arrow Packs will enable you to play 48 carefully selected deals from the book. Afterwards, refer to the deal. What should have happened?

Interactive CD (see demo on the website)

Play all 251 (+ two bonus) deals on the computer. Without the restriction of the page of a book Andrew - in collaboration with Lex de Groot - has elaborated on the themes. Lots of extra quizzes - endless hours of instructive fascination.

ARBC Order Form

Please cut out and send to the Andrew Robson Bridge Club

Product Name	Cost	Qty	Total
<b>Books &amp; Arrow Packs</b>			
Bridge- Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them	£10		
Bridge- Common Mistakes Arrow Packs (40 selected deals)	£10		
Bridge Secrets	£13		
Need to Know - Bridge	£9		
What Should Have Happened	£13		
What Should Have Happened Arrow Packs (48 selected deals)	£10		
<b>Bridge Lesson Booklets</b>			
Double	£5		
Finesse	£5		
Overcall	£5		
Slam	£5		
Weak Two	£5		
Opening Lead	£5		
Stayman & Transfer	£5		
Endplay & Squeeze	£5		
Signal & Discard	£5		
Responder & Fourth Suit Forcing	£5		
Bidding as Opener	£5		
<b>ARBC Flippers</b>			
Beginners	£10		
Essential	£10		
Advanced	£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 & Squeeze	£25		
Bridge Lessons - Double, Overcall, Slam	£25		
Bridge Lessons - All Three CDs	£60		
Play Modern Bridge - DVD	£20		
What Should Have Happened - CD	£40		
<b>Arrow Packs</b>			
Stayman	£10		
Losing Trick Count	£10		
Roman Key-Card Blackwood	£10		
Ace-Showing Cue Bids	£10		
Trial Bidding	£10		
Splinters	£10		
	Sub		
Please add £1 per item for postage			
	Del		
	Total		

# ARBC Order Form

Please cut out and send to  
the Andrew Robson Bridge Club

TITLE: (Mr/Mrs/Dr etc.) .....  
FIRST NAME: .....SURNAME:.....  
ADDRESS: (inc. postcode) .....  
.....  
.....  
EMAIL: .....TELEPHONE:.....

PAYMENT METHOD: (please tick)

☐ Credit Card

Card No: .....

Sort Code ..... Security Code: ..... Issue No: .....

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

☐ Cheque - Please make cheques payable to: The Andrew Robson Bridge Club Ltd

Notes & other info.



**The temple of great Indian food.**

The rich setting, interesting art, romantic candle lighting and the conservatory are secondary details in London's temple of great Indian food. Chutney Mary is among the very best restaurants in London regardless of cuisine.

**Open for lunch on Christmas Day.**

Part of the Masala World Group incorporating Amaya, Veeraswamy and Masala Zone

535 Kings Road  
Chelsea  
London SW10 0SZ  
T: 020 7351 3113  
F: 020 7351 7694  
chutneymary.com

## On Kibitzing

By Club Member John Clay

Extract from John's *(wonderful – AR) book*  
“Tales from the Bridge Table” (p83)

Many years ago, John Crawford, a top American player in the pre-war era, was declared in the seven spades on the deal across:

Crawford always a lively, charismatic figure was surrounded, as often happened, by an array of spectators. West had led the club queen and Crawford won in dummy. He was about to lay down his trumps and claim his contract, when he noticed that the kibitzers were not moving and were sitting on the edge of their chairs.

Surely, Crawford reasoned, if trumps were able to divide normally there could be no problem. So why, he went on to ask himself, had the spectators not all moved away? Why were they staying? Crawford thought about it, and the only conclusion was that he would have to finesse the top of spades, a line that gains only if

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

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

Contract: 6♠  
Opening Lead:

East holds all the outstanding trumps. Crawford used his judgement, table presence and instinct to take just that line. The kibitzers had helped him. He finessed the ten. East indeed held four outstanding spades and was predictably amused to find the contract being made that way.

John has a collection of rare old Bridge books for sale. You can email him on [johnclay@msn.com](mailto:johnclay@msn.com)



# Winkworth

*winkworth.co.uk*  
for thousands of properties  
to buy and rent



Linver Road, SW6 £1,300,000 - Sold for over asking price



Doneraile Street, SW6 £1500 per week - Let with no void period between tenants

***Trust Winkworth to come up trumps with buyers  
and tenants for your property.***

**Winkworth Fulham & Parsons Green 020 7731 3388**

Email: [fulham@winkworth.co.uk](mailto:fulham@winkworth.co.uk)  
40 New Kings Road, London, SW6 4ST

