



The SBU Monthly News

December 2021

We are introducing this Online Newsletter as a means of keeping in touch with our members.

We hope that you will find it informative, instructive and entertaining.

Above all, we hope that you will provide some of the content.

Did something happen that made you laugh, cry or pause for thought?

Please share!

Do you have a question about bidding, play, or etiquette?

We shall try to provide an answer.

Do you have a complaint or criticism?

We shall take it seriously.

Do you have suggestions for content?

We would love to hear them.

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What's on in January 2022

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We wish you a Happy Festive Season and a Prosperous New Year

What's on Offer in January

International Events

The **Camrose Trophy** is the British Isles Home International, featuring teams from England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It is played annually over 2 weekends.

The first weekend is on **7-9 January**. To avoid sitouts the participants take it in turn to field a second team; in 2022 it is Scotland's turn.

Our teams are:

Scotland:	Alex Adamson & Derek Sanders;	Paul Barton & Jun Nakamaru-Pinder
	Barnet Shenkin & Steve Levinson.	NPC Anne Perkins
SBU:	Cathy Ferguson & Bob McKinnon;	Archie Bouverie & Finlay Marshall
	Abi & Jake Milne.	NPC Angus Macdonald

You can follow the play on the BBO VuGraph, from 7 pm on Friday; and 10 am - 7.30 on Saturday and Sunday
Go to www.bridgebase.com and click on [VuGraph](#), then join the table of your choice.

National Events

If you are after Red (National) Master Points, the prestigious **Winter 4s** will be played over two weekends: **22-23** and **29-30 January**.

This is a Knockout Teams with the unusual feature that you are eliminated only after losing **two** matches. And even then you are offered a Consolation event.

But if two weekends seem like too much bridge, you can enter the one-day **Swiss Teams** on **Sunday 30 January**.

To enter visit the SBU website: <https://www.sbu.org.uk>. Click on **Events** and select **Upcoming Events (enter online)** from the menu. Scroll down till you reach the event you wish to enter.
(You should have your team-mates' membership numbers and BBO nicknames to hand.)

Weekly Events

The SBU runs these events **on BBO** for your enjoyment in the dark winter days:

Tuesdays at 7pm:	Match Pointed Pairs
Saturdays at 7pm:	Swiss Pairs
Saturdays at 11.45 am:	Bronze Brunch
Sundays at 3 pm:	Teatime Individual

To enter go to www.bridgebase.com. Click on [Play or Watch Bridge](#); then select [Competitive](#) from the menu.
Under [Tournaments](#) click on [All Tournaments](#). Enter **sbu** in the search box (top right).
Select your tournament and when your partner is online invite them to play, using their BBO nickname.
Payment is made in BBO\$, you can purchase those by clicking on the shopping cart next to your name.

Other Events

Your Club and District also run tournaments. For details consult their websites.

Go to <https://www.sbu.org.uk>

Click on **Districts** to find the one that applies to you.

You will find your **local club website** there also.

Face-to-Face Warning!

Alice Cowieson



No, nothing to do with Covid - that's all been taken care of by someone else

No this is about remembering what to do when playing with real cards, real bidding boxes and real people. A small group who used to play socially once a month - no names to protect their reputations - decided to play a few hands the other week. The afternoon usually involves some bridge, some tea and coffee and lots of chat. New cards were brought and bidding boxes for everyone. There being five of us (oops - there goes my reputation!), someone would sit out each time but help their neighbour to play their hand. The cards were dealt and the first hand was bid. There was a pause as we waited for the lead.



'Ah sorry is it my lead?'

'No you're putting your hand down.'

'Sorry forgetting who I'm playing with.'

'So it must be my lead?'

The lead was made and play progressed, except bidding cards were cluttering up dummy's side of the table and all around the table.

'We have to put those away.'

'Ah, yes, of course.'

Hastily everyone put their bidding cards back in their box, struggling a bit to get them in the right order.

Dummy took quite a bit of time to lay her hand down with contrasting advice from around the table as to the correct order.

Play then continued fairly well with declarer looking to make the contract plus one. Having played her last card, declarer suddenly realised that dummy had a card left! So did everyone else, apart from one player who had two! First principle in real bridge - count your cards! How could we have forgotten such a basic? Luckily, we're all good friends and we just laughed as the mistakes continued.

By the time the tea and coffee arrived we had just about got the hang of it again. Stop Cards were finally remembered along with Alerts, bidding cards were replaced the right way round and everyone remembered to count their cards.

We are all regular players on BBO and hadn't realised how online play had altered our behaviour. Fifteen months of automated play had wiped out years of F2F habits. So be warned, we will all have to be patient as we re-learn these habits and unlearn online ones.

Some online habits need to be kept though...

Informing opponents of your system was always a requirement but not one followed by all in the clubs.

In some cases, one was made to feel that you were showing off, if you said more than your NT strength.

Greeting your opponents and thanking them at the end was more polite than the occasional grunt or sometimes only silence that you met at some tables.

Good habits to lose are the counting out loud and the muttering (or worse!) about your partner's play.

Face-to-face is hopefully coming back but it won't be as it was in Dundee BC or any other club. There will also be 'hybrid' bridge' - using F2F and online - just to complicate things. However I see it as a challenge and a hopeful sign that, maybe, sometime, life might just be normal again. Please?

Alice is a stalwart member of Dundee Bridge Club who currently edits the DBC Newsletter The Grand Slam. She has decided to pass the baton after her 100th edition in March – a hard act to follow.

The Fun They Had

“I just wanted to thank you very much for my birthday presents”

Ellie smiled at her Granny, “though I was a bit puzzled by part of it!”

She produced a small rectangular packet from beside her chair and removed a set of cards within. She fanned them out, showing them to her grandmother.

“They’re just like the cards we click on when we play bridge, but they’re...”

“Real?” Granny smiled at Ellie. “Yes, darling, that’s what we used to play back in the day when we met at the bridge club – just round the corner and very handy for me!”

“But how could you make sure that people played the same hands?”

“Oh, we had boards or packets that used to have four compartments for North, South, East and West. They circulated round all the tables, so everybody played the same hands over the course of the evening. Then you’d put the hand back in the right space and pass it to the next table for the next round. We had to be very careful – if one person had 14 cards and another had 12 when they counted their cards at the start of the round, the tournament director could get quite cross with the folk who’d played that hand the round before! And you could even revoke, which isn’t something we can do online.”

“Revoke? What’s that?”

Granny explained and gradually as she talked, Ellie had the impression she was standing outside a house, peering from the dark into a brightly lit room, tables arranged round in a numbered pattern.

People were moving to the next table, smiling, greeting one another, some with cups or glasses in their hand. Explaining the system they played, chatting about holidays, family and catching up with the news. Then silence as the cards were lifted out of the boards and shuffled into suits. Bidding from boxes that contained all available bids. Then the hand played, some cards snapped down, others played smoothly, or delicately or hesitantly, all in silence.

Then a murmur of voices as the hands were returned to the boards, ready to be passed to the next table; the scores entered into the electronic devices on each table; sometimes the silence broken by partners discussing how they should have bid or played the hands. Occasionally the voices grew heated, then quietened when they were shooshed by the director or other players. The director called the move and on it was to the next table and the next. The process repeated along the way.

They even had a break for refreshments – and Granny mentioned cakes and biscuits too! Then the final boards were played, the result was printed out and the director pinned it to the noticeboard; the boards were taken away to be re-dealt for the next tournament and the players gathered their coats and hats. Off into the darkness and a trip home with a final thank you to the director and farewell to partner.

Granny was about to end the holo-phone call but with her finger hovering she asked,

“You look terribly pensive, darling. Are you all right?”

Ellie snapped out of her reverie and smiled at her.

“Oh, yes, Granny. I was just thinking about the fun they had.”



Helen Taylor

(Based on a short story of the same name by Isaac Asimov)

Danny's Page

Danny Hamilton is a member of the Buchanan Club in Glasgow and plays mostly with his wife Anna. He teaches bridge to an enthusiastic group of youngsters, who formed the Scottish Peggy Bayer (Under 21) team in 2021.



The Benefits of Overbidding

My Junior team have been competing in the *SBU Bronze League*, which has all been online.

If I'm the home captain I set up the match on BBO and can watch the action.

I've taught my Juniors to "*pre-empt to the max*" and "*bid all games*" which, combined with their natural attacking instincts. makes for some exciting boards. I would say on the whole their aggressive style gains more than it loses, although I do wish they would stop bidding bad slams.

Here's an example from a match against *Razputin*.

You are vulnerable against not, and your right-hand opponent opens 1♦.

♠KJT95432
♥Q7
♦9
♣J7

Your bid?

I'm pleased to say our South went all-out with 4♠. Jumping to game-level is very effective, as the opponents can't tell if you are pre-empting with a weak hand or bidding with a good hand that expects to make. So there's a good chance you won't get doubled, especially if the opponents play a lot of takeout doubles.

Here though, 4♠ did get doubled. and was heading for three off, vulnerable.

Is this an argument against such bold overbidding? Maybe not, as it's hard to defend bad contracts accurately.

Board 2	♠86	NS Vul
	♥J9652	Dealer E
	♦JT42	
	♣T9	
♠A7		♠Q
♥AK8		♥T43
♦753		♦AKQ86
♣AQ632		♣K854
	♠KJT95432	
	♥Q7	
	♦9	
	♣J7	

There appear to be six losers (declarer accurately lead the ♠K, holding his trump losers to one). But when the defence took only one Club then played Diamonds declarer was able to set up a Heart in dummy and cross there with the 8 of Spades and get away one Club.

That still meant two off and -500, more than letting East-West make a game. But perhaps they can make a slam? If both the minors split there are 13 top tricks, and even with Diamonds 4-1 there are 12. It's hard to bid though. Our other pair made 5♦+1 (after South overcalled only 2♠), so overall a small loss on the board.

Quick Quiz

Mike Gallacher



1) Counting high card points

Imagine you are defending the following contracts.
From the bidding, what is declarer's point range?

	NORTH	SOUTH		NORTH	SOUTH		NORTH	SOUTH
a)	2♣	2♦	b)	2♥ (weak)	4♥	c)	1♦	2NT
	2NT	3NT		Pass			3NT	Pass
	Pass							

2) Counting distribution.

From the bidding how many cards does declarer have in the suits they have bid?

	OPENER	RESPONDER		OPENER	RESPONDER		OPENER	RESPONDER
a)	1♠	1NT	b)	1♠	2♣	c)	1♠	2♣
	2♦	3♦		2♥	2NT		2♠	2NT
	Pass			3♥	Pass		3♥	3♠
							Pass	

3) Counting Tricks

West	East
♠KT6	♠AJ32
♥AT3	♥Q82
♦KJT7	♦AQ4
♣932	♣QJT

You are East, declarer in 3NT.
The ♣4 is led (opposition play 4th highest).
How many tricks can you see?
How will you make your contract?

Answers: at the end of the Newsletter

Mike's home club is Kirkcaldy but he is also a member of the New Melville club in Edinburgh. Pre-Covid he taught beginners on Wednesday evenings, and improvers on Tuesday afternoons.

Puzzle Corner

This puzzle is provided by Gordon Lessels, a Scot who lives in Ireland but is a regular visitor to Edinburgh, most recently as supervisor of the European Qualification in August

Normal People in Scotland

In this puzzle 6 male and 6 female Scottish Bridge players have been paired. They have had their surnames swapped and an anagram has been made of the new names. The aim of the puzzle is to discover the 12 Normal People who started out.

As an example:

if we took ZIA MAHMOOD and RIXI MARKUS we get ZIA MARKUS and RIXI MAHMOOD. Make anagrams of these and we get SUZI KAMAR and MAX HIRODIMO.

To solve you turn each name into a different First Name and Surname. Then try to find a matching pair.

1. Gus Ley
2. Rod Greute
3. Caroline Veste
4. Candy I Gunn
5. Goneril Samfu
6. Pete De Hanna
7. David Ryles
8. Henry Kaar
9. Denis Parpy
10. Rick Chowder
11. Hector Y Bain
12. Seth H Milne

Warning: after transformation some pairs may change gender.

Solution at the end of the Newsletter

Bridge Teaching: Online Platforms

Ann Wickens



Pre-lockdown most bridge teaching in Scotland was done face to face with a great deal of camaraderie between tutors, mentors and students.

During lockdown some tutors quickly adapted to keep our students playing. Initially it was all on BBO either on practice tables or short team matches.

Some groups used the BBO sound on the practice tables, but it was not reliable frequently getting the annoying message “no microphones available”. Some tutors started using WhatsApp to allow students and mentors to talk to one another and some used Zoom or 8x8 or other comparable platforms.

By autumn 2020, five months after the start of lockdown a few groups were using a sophisticated combination of BBO practice tables and Zoom with breakout rooms. Around the same time RealBridge became available in Britain and teaching groups in Fife and Ayrshire became adept at teaching on the new platform. One year later Shark is being trialled.

In Highland in 20-21 for adults we have used BBO plus zoom and breakout rooms for adults and RealBridge for children. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/0nhuk97pclufb0l/VID00022.MP4?dl=0>

In 21-22 we are using Real Bridge and Shark for adults and intend to try Shark for children in January.

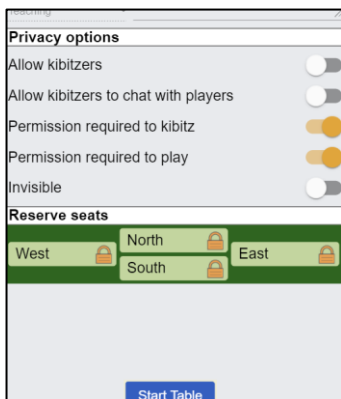
What are the differences between the platforms and the pros and cons of each system?

All systems allow teaching hands to be uploaded. Both RealBridge and Shark permit sound and visual contact with participants, BBO does not.

BBO sign in <https://www.bridgebase.com/>.

You need to have a BBO nickname and a password ready to register.

Click on *Practice*, start a teaching table and set as shown, and enter BBO nicknames in each seat.



Click **start table**

You can do this to practise with friends

Once at the table, clicking on the three white bars on blue background will give various teaching options including deal source where you can upload deal files.

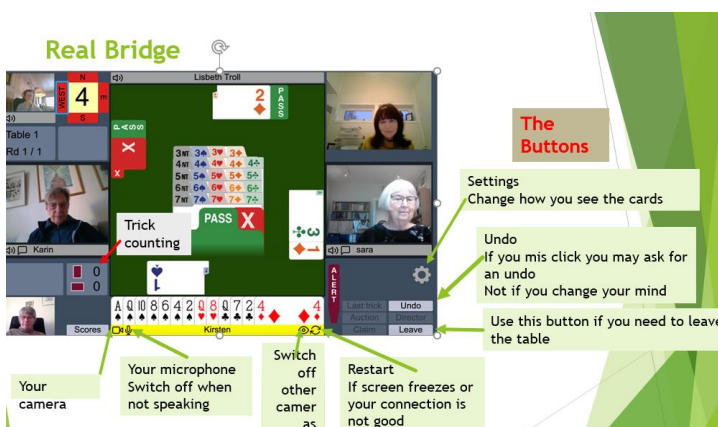
You can also practise bidding by starting a bidding table but beware of using robots as they will bid using a different system from the one that we teach in Scotland.

Bridge Master on BBO is an excellent way to improve your card play. Problems are set from beginner level to world class, and solutions are provided if you get stuck.

Both **BBO practice tables** with Zoom or a comparable app and **RealBridge** permit / require the students to have close contact with a mentor. This has the additional benefit of providing mentors with teaching experience and generating the teachers of the future.

BBO practice tables are free to use so there is no need to collect money from students. Zoom permits 40 minutes free so hands can be played over 2 Zoom sessions without cost.

RealBridge requires less technology skills to run, though students with older iPads often struggle to use it.



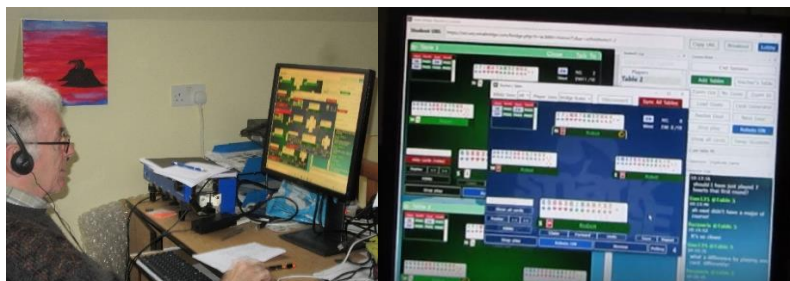
For Teachers **RealBridge** is an excellent platform for hosting supervised play sessions and introductory duplicates for novice players . It now has a Minibrige area which is useful for very early stages of learning and for children. It is also great for teaching but does require mentors. Real Bridge also offer free short tournaments for young players, Real Bridge run regular short training sessions for tutors. <https://realbridge.online/club-owner-director-teacher-training.html>

Tutors or clubs need to have an account with Real Bridge and will be charged monthly, though costs are very reasonable, 40p per student per session.

Shark

Newcomer on the block **Shark** won the American Association of Bridge Teachers award for 2020 as the best teaching platform.

Shark uses robots which can be set to play any system and at any level. It permits all students to play as declarer or all students to play as defenders or to play in a social group of four. Like RealBridge it has audio and visual contact with players at the table enabling social contact. The teacher can go in after bidding and discuss bidding, correct the contract, and similarly, go in after the play of each hand and demonstrate the best play on the teacher's console. The robots play a little faster than most students, so more hands get played. In short students do get much more intensive experience. Shark also has the facility to display dummy when required, so teaching minibridge is no problem.



View as the teacher: https://www.dropbox.com/s/kfhm7w6naiz5es6/MVI_5224.MP4?dl=0

One teacher can teach many tables and there is little need for mentors unless you have a very large class.

It is much less of a teacher training platform, but it is an excellent teaching platform, and the students like it. Initially Shark seems complicated to run but those who have tried quickly find it easy. For teachers, information can be found at <https://thesharkbridgecompany.com/> and there is a video <https://www.thesharkbridgecompany.com/blogs/teachers-manuals/sb-teacher-console-demo>

Once more, the teacher needs to set up an account, purchase BBO dollars upfront,

Shark costs 1\$/hour/student is paid in advance by the teacher or club. Cheaper rates may be available for youth teaching going down to 0.75\$/hour/student.

Teaching online has many additional benefits.

We can reach students in a much wider area. There is no need to spend time travelling so the time commitment for both student and teacher is less and for those not teaching in clubs there is no need to transport and set up all the paraphernalia bridge requires. Whilst many look forward to teaching face to face, teaching online is also here to stay.

This year in Highland we have made recordings of lessons, which has enabled us to reach more people and in more remote areas, without the need for so many tutors. Experienced mentors are still very much key to our success, and we encourage club members to mentor students in their areas.

All platforms can be used for tournaments and aside from teaching, RealBridge is a super platform for small clubs as it is easy to direct, directors can play and direct and it is sociable.

Teaching online has reduced social isolation, provided many people with a new absorbing interest, and kept them stimulated. Age has proved no barrier with learners in 80s and 90s coping well given a little support

If you would like help to get started to teach online contact education@sbu.org.uk

Ann was for many years the enthusiastic SBU Education Convener. With husband Tim she is largely responsible for increased popularity of Bridge throughout the Highland district and beyond. A go-to person for help and advice.

Student Profile

Janet Witheridge



Online bridge has been a godsend to many during the pandemic. We hope others will share their experiences....

I first played bridge as a student in the 1970's but with no tuition and following no rules or conventions. Once the four of us qualified we went our separate ways and I did not play again until this year, 2021. My sister learned later in life and thoroughly enjoyed the mental stimulation and the social side but I showed no interest even when she moved to live nearby. Having made an introduction to someone who I knew played bridge my job was done and she played in several groups for a number of years.

Then came COVID 19 and suddenly there was no face-to-face bridge.

As online playing started in the clubs and informal groups in 2020 I was called in to help my sister with the technical side of setting up the software and linking with Whatsapp etc. Since I had to be on hand to help if there were problems I spent many afternoons watching her play and became interested in the rules and conventions.

I started to play solitaire on BBO and then, when my sister's club mailed details of a new online beginners course starting in January 2021, I signed up and have not looked back.

The SBU classes were excellent. We started with a zoom lecture and then went into breakout groups to play the hands associated with each topic. I was assigned to a fantastic mentor who was patient with my mistakes and gave useful advice and tips. She even gave up extra time to give a few of us additional practice with the hands. After the first 10 or so classes there was the option to continue or take a break for the summer. Several of us carried on and our mentor kindly continued the extra sessions.

A group of us from all over the Highlands continued to practice the hands from the classes twice a week throughout the summer. This has helped consolidate the course and has given us a good grounding. From this group I now have a regular partner and we are learning to read each other's signals. The thing we find most difficult still is getting into the right contract.

At the end of the course various options were open to us.

The SBU Summer Academy offered Play and Learn sessions on Real Bridge once a week. These gave valuable practice in game play as well as allowing us to talk through the options with each other and seek expert guidance when we could not work it out for ourselves. It was also helpful to look at what contracts others had been in afterwards and the variations were very interesting.

The Summer Academy also offered free sessions on Real Bridge at any time a foursome was available but the problems of finding a time when four people were free meant I did not use this as much as I should have.

We were also offered a weekly tournament for beginners which I enjoyed and discovered my competitive streak. Sadly, there were not always sufficient people available for these sessions so my partner and I were recommended to join some club online tournaments. These we found very stressful and it was definitely too big a step for us until we have had more practice. While we were not the slowest people playing, we were asked on several occasions to speed up, which we both found really off-putting. The new SBU Gentle Bridge sessions look as though they will provide a good stepping-stone and give us more confidence to play against better players in the future. Currently we are joining this session each week, we are trying the U3A Play and Learn sessions and continue to practice the lesson hands as a small group until the Course starts again at the end of October.

I was hoping that the course would continue with a further 20 lessons and am sad that this is not the case. I will probably take the refresher course and will hope to find some more advanced tuition in the future.

When our introductory free SBU membership came to an end I joined a local club in the hope that it would offer more online sessions. I have visited the website and see there are options but am now wary of joining any tournaments open to any players. I will have to seek advice on where to go next.

Having learned online I have never played face to face and I know from the hints we were given in class, about bidding boxes and alerting and how to place the cards on the table, I would find this very daunting. Add to this my dislike of going out in the evenings and my growing dislike of driving at night, together with the fact that my partner commutes between Stornoway and Manchester and I live on the Black Isle, this means that playing face to face is not high on my wish list. I hope therefore that clubs can continue to offer on-line bridge and that someone can help steer this generation of bridge players to find the right opportunities that will allow them to progress and enjoy competitive bridge over time.

It's a Funny Old Game

A hand from a team match:

Bd	Contract	Score	Contract	Score	Imps
9	1NTE-2	200	2NTE+3	210	9

Just the 6 trick difference!

This is what happened at table 1

♠AT5 ♥4 ♦T95 ♣T87643	N W E S	♠K764 ♥AK ♦KQ32 ♣K92
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WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
Pass	1♥	1NT	End

East found himself declaring 1NT (everybody's favourite contract?) after a delayed intervention from North.

South led the ♥J.

Declarer counted 4 Sure Tricks in the Majors and saw that he could establish at least one more in diamonds.

He crossed to the ♠A and led a diamond to the King, hoping that would win.

If it did, and spades broke nicely he would have 6 tricks and could hope to squeak a 7th from his minor honours.

It was not his lucky day. South won the ♦A and led another heart. East ducked a spade, but an avalanche of hearts squeezed him down to ♠K, ♦K, ♣Kx. In the endgame he had to lead away from the ♣K and so made the 5 tricks he started with.

This was the complete deal.

Board 9	♠J32 ♥Q87632 ♦73 ♣AJ	EW Vul Dealer N
♠AT5 ♥4 ♦T95 ♣T87643	N W E S	♠K764 ♥AK ♦KQ32 ♣K92
	♠Q98 ♥JT95 ♦AJ96 ♣Q5	

Events at the other table were different.

They say that it is OK to have two flaws in a weak 2 opener, three flaws are too many.

North at table 1 saw several flaws: weak suit, playable in the other major, defensive orientation... so she passed.

North at table 2 was not bothered by flaws; he just opened 2♥.

East naturally overcalled 2NT, and so found herself a level higher, looking at minus several hundred at this vulnerability.

Was there any hope?

North's hearts were none too stuffy, so maybe he had a minor suit Ace...

East went all in. She crossed to the ♠A to lead a club to the Jack and King.

A second club crashed the Queen and Ace, and suddenly declarer had nine tricks.

The ♥J lead looked like a doubleton to North, so he switched to a diamond to the Queen and Ace.

South bemusedly returned a diamond to dummy's ten, and declarer claimed the rest.

An unusual way to gain 9 imps.

Results Page

Some results from events run in October and November

Diamond Trophy

The SBU **Senior National Pairs**, open to all players aged over 62 on 1 January.
(The qualification age creeps up every two years!)

57 Pairs took part in 3 separate heats, the results were combined.

1	Bill Ross & Ray Gallagher	60.80%
2	Cameron McLatchie & David Shenkin	57.09%
3	Duncan Rodger & Bill Durning	56.34%
4	Roland Bradbury & Ann Murdoch	56.18%
5	Cathy Ferguson & Bob McKinnon	55.82%
6	Roy Bennett & Harry Smith	55.58%

A complete list of results can be found on the SBU website

[Scottish Bridge Union, Scotland \(bridgewebs.com\)](http://bridgewebs.com)

Thea Teale Trophy

A **Pairs** event for all **Bronze Category** players, from Novices thru Senior Masters. This event is run simultaneously in different Districts.

92 Pairs took part in 3 separate heats

1	Helen Noble & Stewart Green	63.20%
2	Elizabeth & Jim Morris	62.35%
3	Norma Fingland & Alan Morrison	61.95%
4	Joyce & Malcolm Shannon	60.32%
5	Jane & Andrew Carnegie	60.18%
6	Barbara Robertson & Bill Hamilton	60.09%
7	Brian Willox & Loraine Findlay	60.06%
8	Anne Paugam & Paul Kerr	59.96%
9	Sheila & Joe Fell	59.21%
10	Gillian Simpson & Kate Sharp	58.84%

A complete list of results can be found on the Ecats website:

[ECatsBridge - SBU Thea Teale Bronze Pairs \(simpairs.com\)](http://simpairs.com)

Rayne Cup

The SBU **Multiple Teams Championship**.

Normally there are heats in the Districts, but entries were insufficient. All 21 teams went straight to the Final.

1	Roy Bennett & Harry Smith; Liam O'Brien & Ronan Valentine	241
2	Alex Adamson & Glen Falconer; Gints Freimanis & Derek Sanders	237
3	Ann & Graham Anderson; Sylvia Peterson & Mairi Shields	236
4	Tim McKay & Derrick Peden; Jim Hay & Bob McPaul	232

A complete list of results can be found on the SBU website

[Scottish Bridge Union, Scotland \(bridgewebs.com\)](http://bridgewebs.com)

Ranked Masters Pairs

Arthur Trophy: (Grandmasters Pairs)

The Arthur is run as a Cross-imped Pairs. 15 Pairs took part

1	Cathy Ferguson & Bob McKinnon	+39
2	Grant Harrower & Andy Philip	+38
3	Steve Male & Peter Moss	+28.83
4	Mike Ash and Bob Ferrari	+26.83

Bowman Trophy: (Life and Senior Life Masters Pairs)

The other events are all run as Match-pointed Pairs

13 Pairs played in this one

1	Martin Diamond & Troy Van de L'Isle	64.79%
2	Nicol Taylor & Stuart Thomson	57.71%
3	Gordon Lessells & Ying piper	56.04%
4	Alistair Crawford & Duncan Rodger	55.83%

Fairlie Trophy: (Regional, Scottish and National Masters Pairs)

This was more popular, with 27 pairs

1	Tom Bagnall & Andrew Harborow	64.47%
2	Marc Shearer & Peter Thommeny	63.12%
3	David Hamilton & Eilidh Rennie	57.00%
4	David Nisbet & Ian Thomson	54.25%
5	David Houston & Rose Simpson	53.02%
6	Alison Carmichael & Pat Duncan	52.38%

Jesner Trophy (Masters, Star Masters and Senior Masters Pairs)

The most popular of all, with 36 pairs

1	Robert Hickling & Shaun Ni	63.58%
2=	David Land & Stewart Morris	61.68%
	Norma Kerr & Jackie Molesworth	61.68%
4	Iain Bannatyne & Lesley Cadenhead	57.87%
5	Fiona Martin & Robert Waugh	57.18%
6	Rhona Goff & Liz Young	55.97%
7	Ishbel & Keith Clark	55.36%
8	Chris & Shelagh Smith	55.28%

Johnson Trophy (Local and District Masters Pairs)

A good turnout with 26 pairs.

1	Barbara Humphries & Gerald Smith	62.50%
2	Jill Connor & Perry Vassie	59.31%
3	Alyson Raworth & Barry Ross	58.75%
4	Norma Fingland & Alan Morrison	58.33%
5	Patricia Gilmore & Fiona Mackie	58.19%
6	Elizabeth & Jim Morris	56.67%

Kennedy Trophy (Novice and Club Masters Pairs)

This one had 23 pairs.

1	Jacky Lindsay & Karen Slatter	63.41%
2	Alistair Stewart & Jane Stuart	59.38%
3	Kay Black & Vicky Rennie	58.13%
4	Deborah Bland & Fiona McCourt	57.50%
5	Rufus Behr & Lydia Foale	56.04%
6	Dawn & Peter Beckett	55.45%

Congratulations to Mike Baron who successfully ran and scored all 6 events!

Master Point Promotions

1 October-30 November 2021

Senior Life Master

Ying Piper I

Life Master

Scott Dundas N
Abi Milne E
Isla Thom H

National Master

Pat Duncan C
Denise King E
Mark Lincoln C

Scottish Master

Martin Bateman W
Michele Grainger C
Jane Harper E
Maureen McIntosh W
David Nisbet E
Gillian Roberts C

Regional Master

Harry Archibald W
Iain Bannatyne A
Ken Blake W
Fiona Braid A
Lesley Cadenhead A
Andrew Carnegie E
Jane Carnegie E
Gordon Cunningham A
Robert Hickling E
Malcolm Hill W
Wan Ying Hill W
David Land E
Iain Maxwell W
Barbara McCubbin W
Gordon Milne E
Stewart Morris E
Alistair Rae E
Hazel Rutherford A
Janet Unsworth E
Brian Willox N

5 Star Master

Dave France W

3 Star Master

Christina MacPherson W

2 Star Master

Lesley Kydd W
Catherine Mutch N
Jim Sharp E

1 Star Master

Rhona Goff E
Norma Kerr E
Iain McLaren E
Kay Robertson E
Norman Stewart E
Liz Young E

Master

Jean Allan W
Nanna Cartwright E
Joyce Clemie E
Jill Connor E
Linda Conway C
Willie Davidson E
Campbell Dunn W
Tony Hasler E
Liz Hill C
Graeme Johnston W
Colin McArthur W
Helen McCormac E
Elizabeth Morris A
Jim Morris A
Shaun Ni E
Neil Patrick E
Sandra Pugh E
Malcolm Shannon W
Richard Simcox N
Gillian Simpson C
Juliet Vivers C

District Master

Christine Anthony E
Ian Barber H
Ian Caithness H
June Chambers W
Paul Chambers W
Dave Chapman W
Jane Chapman W
Jan Dick W
Pete Duff N
Joan Ellam E
Jane Frier E
Bill Hamilton C
John Hammond E
Jeanette Hunter C
Lorna Hunter N
Susan Johns E
Elizabeth Kennedy W
Paul Kerr A
Stephen Leveinson I
Sheenagh McCutcheon W
Andy McKinnell E
Alan Morrison W
Jean Ogilvie W
Alastair Rae W
Alyson Raworth W
Graham Vincent E
John Wilson W

Local Master

Gordon Adams W
Carolyn Anderson W
Tom Anderson W
Allan Boyne H
Gordon Fraser W
Yves Haik I
Peter Hayward I
Evelyn Hogg E
Barbara Humphries W
Lifang Lamb C
Bogdan Marina I
Sandy Mathieson W
Duncan McIlwraith W

John McManus A
Brian Mountjoy H
Mark Palmer H
Anne Paugam I
Barry Ross W
Alistair Stewart W
Harry Stuart I
Jane Stuart W
Charles Woods W

Club Master

Helen Abram W
Karen Andrews A
Rufus Behr I
Alison Bilsland A
Kay Black W
Deborah Bland W
Andrew Dickson A
Elaine Henderson C
Fiona Henderson A
Fiona Henderson N
Peter Henderson C
Angela Hutchinson E
Zillah Jamieson H
Jacky Lindsay E
Jim Mathieson C
Fiona McCourt W
James Murphy W
Pam Newsam E
Sarah Pottinger H
Vicky Rennie W
Prunella Seels E
Carolyn Skidmore N
Marion Stewart W
Adam Stokka I
Wan-Hew Tran I
David Warren N
Ian Whillans E

For information about your master points, visit ... <https://www.mempad.co.uk>

Answers to the Quick Quiz

1) Counting high card points

a) 2♣ followed by 2NT shows 23+balanced.

(Can also show 21+points with game/near game values in an unbalanced hand)

b) a weak 2♥ shows 5-10 HCP

c) with partner showing 11/12, declarer should have 13-15

2) Counting distribution

a) assume 5♠ and 4♦

b) 5-5 in the majors

c) 6♠ -4♥

3) Counting tricks

You can see 7 tricks off the top, 4 diamonds, 2 spades and 1 heart

You know the opening lead shows 4 and apply the rule of 11. You have a ♣ trick.

The contract should be made by finessing for the ♠Q. If the gods are with you, you will make your contract +1.

Solution to Normal People in Scotland

1. Gus Ley = **Les Guy**
2. Rod Greute = **Reg Outred**
3. Caroline Veste = **Veronica Steel**
4. Candy I Gunn = **Ying Duncan**
5. Goneril Samfu = **Liam Ferguson**
6. Pete De Hanna = **Athena Peden**
7. David Ryles = **Vi Drysdale**
8. Henry Kaar = **Harry Kane**
9. Denis Parpy = **Sandy Piper**
10. Rick Chowder = **Derrick Chow**
11. Hector Y Bain = **Cathy O'Brien**
12. Seth H Milne = **Helen Smith**