

BRIDGING THE GAP

Wednesday 4th January, 1978

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EDITORIAL

Allow me to introduce myself. I am the well - intentioned (blank) who's landed the hot potato! Since I know very little of the workings of the K.D.B.C. and indeed of the Bridge world in general; not to mention the fact that I've only been a member myself for a few weeks, I ask you to bear with me and my blunderings in the dark.

And so my fellow members, (especially those who have a couple of hours to spare on a Sunday and who know the ropes a trifle better than I, and who could no doubt make for more competent Editors than I) your full co-operation in providing items of news and/or letters to the Editor is essential to enable me to provide an interesting magazine for our readers.

My word but Celly and Gary are in good form these days, continuing from their success in the Swiss Pairs with 72% last week. No prizes for guessing who wins the \$10.prize! Whilst on the subject of last Wednesday it was indeed a pleasant surprise to have twelve tables once again. I hope this enthusiastic attendance continues, for the way I see it, it can only make for better bridge.

No entries have as yet been received for "A quiz for Christmas". Come on you've had long enough to digest your turkey and plum pud! Let's have some answers.

Lastly, I should like to wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

My Dear Editor,

I was interested in your report on the Christmas Party. The President and others deserve congratulations. Without detracting in any way from our appreciation of their splendid efforts I would like to add my thanks to Mike and Peter who not only worked all the evening but appeared to enjoy their work. So they are either good hosts or good actors - maybe both.

Last, but not least, my thanks to "The Charmer at the Bar".

Dorothy Wilson

The Lady in question was Brian Kirby's eminently better half, Carol.

Ed.

Highest ever score for the winners - and their first Top since Oct 76 - a memorable Xmas week for them... Addison/Wilson have 2nd excellent week... the newcomers: Burgess J./Preece (5 wks) getting on well together; Haggard/Stephens (2 wks) can be pleased; Rinton/Rinton (3 wks) 52.0%, taste a good score; Bechelli/Duncan must slough despondency and compete, and compete... enormous gap of 44% between Top & Bottom. Gartner/Hardman win \$10. with net 69.6%.  
Gartner/Hardman 69.0; Addison/Wilson 65.9%; Goddard R/Tully 63.1%; McCullough/Weston 58.8%; Hopper/Kirby 58.8%; Burgess J/Preece 56.3%; Haggard/Stephens 53.1%.

#### On Movements and Things

Now that I have got those Howell Movement Table Cards sorted out (about bl--dy time, too), we can really set about establishing a routine for setting up the weekly sessions. This article is intended to outline the pattern for the benefit of TDs AND the few good people who do lift a finger to help; the club drones will probably ignore this, just as they ignore every other intelligence.

The one enormous advantage of the table cards is that, for every movement from 4 Tables x 21 Boards through to 12 Tables x 26 Boards, the initial board sequence is always Set 1 at Table 1, Set 2 at Table 2, Set 3 at Table 3 etc. This means that TDs, or whoever sets out the boards before everybody has arrived can always set them out in that constant pattern without knowing, or caring, how many tables there will be finally.

So: Table 1 will always be the table nearest the NW corner (where the coffee machine is); so the boards can be laid out starting with Set 1 (usually bds 1 & 2) at that table, then along the northern row (nearest the car park) and back along the southern row, in pairs of boards up to Bds 23 & 24. As players arrive, the early comers can sit at any table and prepare a set of boards, (shuffle, deal, complete the pertinent details in the top left hand corner of the Traveller).

They can then do the same at as many tables as they feel inclined to, helped by fresh arrivers. In this way, the load of preparing boards will be spread, time will be saved and those members polite enough to arrive on time will be able to start promptly and leave the boors to fight their fight with the TD.

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On Movements and Things (Cont'd)

The virtue of the constant pattern of boards for Rd 1 is that the TD can more easily accommodate the boors (as I did last Wed. Change 1 by simply exchanging table cards and having to oblige those already playing to change their pair numbers - even if they have played a board. The disturbance to the co-operative members is regrettable, but in this way it is reduced to a minimum.

The Howell system will only work, for practical purposes, up to 12 Tables x 26 Boards; this doesn't matter. If our movement grows to 12 or more tables, the change from Howell to Mitchell movement can be managed (as I did last Wed, Change 2) and still the boards don't have to be moved, only pair numbers change.

That, Then, is the routine which we will use at the Club. If you are a worker, please set out the boards in the way described; if you have any doubts, ask me or Mike. If you are an early comer, please prepare as many sets of boards as you will. If you are one of our congenital latecomers, please follow the instructions of the TD with alacrity and the occasional "Sorry I'm late" would not be amiss. And all of you, not forgetting our boors who never lift a finger to help or oblige or even grudgingly cooperate, please bear with the TD when he rushes around whisking away table cards and replacing them with others or table numbers: he's not doing it in response to the 'Life. Be in it' ads on telly, nor is he doing it to demonstrate his prowess. Do not grumble at the TD, show your displeasure to those drifting in late; they are the culprits.

Peter Hart

P.S. If you know you are going to be late, don't be a boor; try very hard to contact somebody who can let the TD know you will be coming later. Then the TD can plan for your late arrival, and he will be the happiest man in the club.

PH

Club Results - 28 Dec '77

Last session of 77 - Welcome Back, 12 Tables, first since Aug 77.... our first over - 70% score this year - returned by an unlikely couple, 16% ahead of next pair. - congratulations.... Turley/Turley, Chisholm/L'Herpiniere save face and sagging form... look at those names in winners lists - some 'old' faces return... Whizz Kids worst score since Aug... Charters/Charters, Hubbard/Pratt languish at 47% level. Eldred/Shieff win \$10 with net 70.0%.

	N/S		E/W
Turley/Turley	63.3	Eldred/Shieff	72.4
Chisholm/L'Herpiniere	58.3	ClarkA/Goddard J	55.7
Haggard/Stephens	54.4	Hopper/Kirby	53.4
Ramsay/Teague	53.0	Price/Prince R	53.2

With little happening on the Bridge scene around the Metropolis at the present time, a few comments on the 1978 programme may be of use. The official programmes were printed and should have been ready for distribution last week but.... unfortunately, the printer forgot what year it was and printed them, bound them all up with 1977 on the cover! They may be ready for tonight but more likely, next week.

FIRSTLY, the closing date for the League Teams is 29th January. Enter as Pairs or as Teams on the Club proforma. There will be a maximum of 10 teams in each division so no more than 9 matches, one per month from March to November.

SECONDLY, the State Mixed Teams is the first State Championship of the year starting on Monday 6th February and entries close 2nd February. A reminder that ALL State and other major Teams events for 1978 will be held at the C.T.A. Club, giving us a few less miles to travel.

THIRDLY, the Champions of Champions event has been extended to include, in addition to a Club Champions (ours are Bob Prince and Hans Rosendorff for those who did not know), all State Representatives and State Title Holders for the year. Those who are eligible and wish to compete in this event should give their pairs to Peter.

FINALLY, the first Congress for the year will be held over the long week-end of Australia Day, Jan 28, 29 & 30th at the C.T.A. Club. Entry forms will be available next week.

A.N. Other.

#### Aggregate Championship Commentary - December 77

26 weeks gone out of 51 and the only question appears to be : Who will be second? The leaders, Hopper/Kirby, could only average 58.9% for the month but this was enough to sustain their progressive average unchanged at 58.7%.

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How many of us would like to average 'only' 58.9%? In second place, nearly 3% behind, are Turley/Turley, down 2 pts to 55.9%: Charters/Charters only competed once, the 47\$ did them no good at all and they are down to 55.1%: Chisholm/L'Herpiniere, fractionally down, are linked at 54.3% with Addison/Wilson who had a 62% month, rose 21 points and recovered the ground lost since October. Clark A/Goddard J made their 3rd visit for the year - at last - and enter the Lists with 52.8%. Their form last year was 55.5%; they will be hard pressed to recover that form, let alone mount a challenge for the title.

Amongst the other potential challengers there is little sign of life, let alone competition: Hart/Helliwell (57.3%) are in limbo, not having played for 5 weeks; Clark D/Goddard R (56.1%) are in the dithers about playing together; Price/Prince R (who? with whom?) have fronted up twice only to start with 53.8%; Hubbard/Pratt are playing consistently but consistently 4% under their form of old. And Hopper/Kirby have now achieved the minimum number of matches needed to qualify for the championship proper: their future action will be of interest to me, and Bob Prince, and Roy Goddard.

Here is a shortened recap of the situation at the top:

	<u>Pld.</u>	<u>%</u>	
1. Hopper/Kirby	21	58.7	
2. Hart/Helliwell	10	57.3	
3. Clark D/Goddard R	8	56.1	
4. Turley/Turley	17	55.9	There are 25 playing weeks left.
5. Charters/Charters	15	55.1	
6. Chisholm/L'Herpiniere	19	54.3	
7. Addison/Wilson	14	54.3	
8. Eldred/Shieff	11	54.2	
9. Price/Prince R	.2	53.8	
10. Clark A/Goddard J	3	52.8	
11. Hubbard/Pratt	16	52.4	

Elsewhere on the table, it is pleasing to mention Burgess J/Preece in at over 55%; Gartner/Hardman 50.5%, and McCullough/Weston 49.2% are recovering some lost ground and Graham/Sales, who are still getting used to each other, are up 11 pts. to 44.3%. There are 8 new listings this month and 5 of these pairs consist of brand new names. It is heartening at this particular time to see some new blood coming into the competition.

On the other hand, this influx of beginners, most of them new to Duplicate bridge, has meant that wild scores appear more often on the Travellers, the result of inexperience. Tops this month were : 69.3%; 67.9%; 69.0%; 63.3%; 72.4%! The average top for the month is a massive 68.4%, only bettered by the 68.7% in Mar 73 in that wild woolly competition of 72/73 when the average Top for the year was 65.8% and March 73 was the month of that record winning Top, the subject of two questions in the previous issue.

Kibitzer.