

Card Game Books

BRIDGE, EPHEMERA, OTHER CARD GAMES AND PLAYING CARDS

Gordon Bickley
208 Strines Road, Strines, Stockport,
Cheshire, SK6 7GA

Tel: 0161 427 4630 or 07530 553594 e-mail: gordonarf@aol.com

Website link: <https://sites.google.com/site/cardgamebooks/home> OR “Card Game Books”

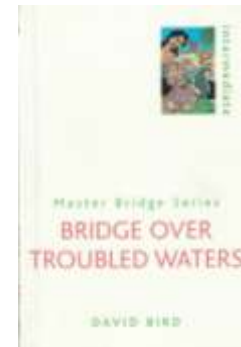
ELIST No. 8

I've included books across the spectrum of bidding, play and defence; some humorous books, some old, collectible books – a good mix.

If any of these items take your fancy, please contact me by email or phone. Payment can be by online banking, PayPal or cheque. Account details are: Card Game Books Sort code 40-25-23, account number 51564587. As my other catalogues say, I pride myself on accurate descriptions and most faults are described; minor flaws are, however, ignored. Books are in very good, or better, condition unless otherwise stated. Prices exclude postage which will be charged at £2.00 for the first item and £1.00 for each subsequent book up to a maximum of £7.00. I am happy to post worldwide, but overseas postage will be charged at cost. I post out within 2-3 days.

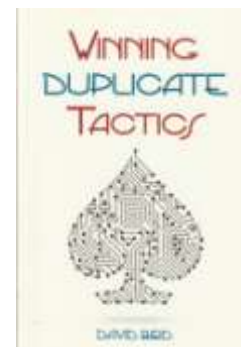
1. **BIRD, David:** BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS. **£7.00**
London 2002 1st edition. 8vo 128pp Dec card covers. As new

The second Bridge adventures of Rupert Knight – he of the high opinion of his own game – on a cruise, both on and off the ship. The latter are more interesting.



2. **BIRD, David:** WINNING DUPLICATE TACTICS. **£10.00**
Toronto 2014 1st edition. 8vo 238pp Dec card covers. As new

You can ‘get by’ by using the same bidding, play and defence style whatever you are playing, but to win at duplicate requires an adjustment to your bidding. And your play and defence requires a different mindset. This book will help you – so it says!



3. **CADE, Laurence H:** COMMON SENSE CONTRACT. **£20.00**
London 1933 1st edition. 12mo 240pp Red cloth dw

Mostly Direct British, but some misapplied American ideas; chapters on Duplicate and Plafond. Problems on bidding and play but the Play chapters include some awful mistakes. Worth reading, just to spot them. A book rarely seen with a dw.



4. **COHEN, Larry:** MY FAVORITE 52. **£10.00**
Toronto 2009 1st edition. 8vo 263pp Dec card covers. As new

This is an over-the-shoulder style book which makes entertaining reading, given Cohen's light style of writing. The deals have varying points of interest and difficulty.



5. **DALTON, William:** "SATURDAY" BRIDGE. **£15.00**
London 1908 5th impression of 1st edition (1st 1906). 12mo 231pp Dark green cloth with gilt dec to front cover

A collection of the author's articles from *Saturday Review*, revised for a book format. The chapters are fairly easy to read and elegantly written. The book is of interest to collectors, as it contains a chronological bibliography.



6. **DARWEN, Hugh:** BRIDGE MAGIC. **£12.00**
London 1973 1st edition. 8vo 213pp Red cloth dw, slight sunning to spine

A collection of mostly double dummy problems. The author compiled such problems for the *Bridge Magazine* for many years and the book is excellent on its subject matter, if not practical.



7. **EWEN, Robert B and Jeff Rubens: IT'S ALL IN THE GAME.** £8.00

Subtitled *The Fun Side of Winning Bridge*
New York 2012 1st edition. 8vo 235pp Dec card covers. As new

The subtitle is the key to this collection of stories which were originally published in the 1960s and 1970s in *The American Bridge Digest*, *The Bridge Journal* or *The Bridge World*.



8. **FARRELLY, Mrs Charles and Milton Coleman: CONTRACT BRIDGE.** £25.00

New York 1927 1st edition. 8vo 216pp Red cloth, gilt dec to front cover

A general introduction with pre-Blue Book bidding. Given the state of the game at the time of publication, quite reasonable.



9. **FOSTER, R F: FOSTER'S BRIDGE MANUAL.** £35.00

New York 1900 1st edition. 12mo 186pp Dark blue cloth, bright gilt dec to spine and cover; aeg

Subtitled *A Complete System of Instruction in the Game*.

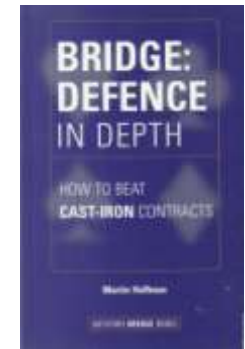
A first edition of one of the earliest books on the game, which, like many from this period, value verbosity over instruction. However, the Foreword contains an essay on the origins of the game.



10. **HOFFMAN, Martin: DEFENCE IN DEPTH.** £5.00

London 1998 (1st 1985). 8vo 144pp Dec card covers

An interesting collection of 65 practical defensive advance-level problems. A good collection, many with a twist in the tail.



11. **HUGHES, Roy:** BUILDING A BIDDING SYSTEM. £8.00
Toronto 2005 1st edition. 8vo 148pp Dec card covers

A well regarded book which does what the title says. The author is not prescriptive, but explores a wide range of choices in various situations. The final chapter is a pulling together of his thoughts to produce a 'system', but even this is not definitive.



12. **KANTAR, Edwin B:** TOPICS IN DECLARER PLAY AT BRIDGE. £12.00
Toronto 2002 1st edition. 8vo 220pp Dec card covers. As new

This is a brilliant look at six common themes – and the chapter headings would not provide you with sufficient insight – in declarer play. The book uses a similar approach and layout to his later books on defence. (Yes, I do have those in stock.)



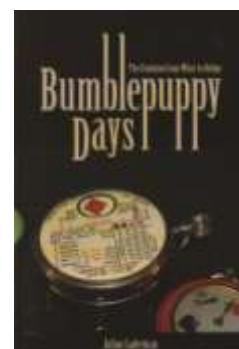
13. **KELSEY, H W:** KELSEY ON SQUEEZE PLAY. £12.00
London 2002 1st thus. 8vo 486pp Dec card covers. As new

This book contains all four of Kelsey's books on squeeze play: *Simple Squeezes*, *Strip Squeezes*, *Double Squeezes*, and *Triple Squeezes*. These were published in 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1990 respectively. The view is that there is too much jargon, but there are wonderful single dummy problems and the subject of each is admirably covered.



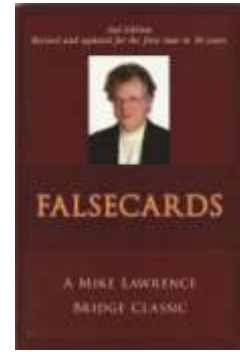
14. **LADERMAN, Julian:** BUMBLEPUPPY DAYS. £8.00
Subtitled *The Evolution from Whist to Bridge*
Toronto 2014 1st edition. 8vo 264pp Dec card covers. As new

I have an interest in the history and development of the game, so I have a copy of this. I found it thoroughly entertaining and it is well illustrated.



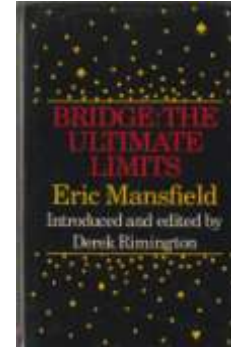
15. **LAWRENCE, Mike:** FALSECARDS. **£10.00**
Toronto 2014 2nd edition (1st 1986). 8vo 188pp Dec card covers. As new

A well written survey on a little explored area of the game, which includes the lovely injunction – ‘don’t bother with them’! I also like his initial thought – a falsecard is intended to fool declarer, not your partner. Wise words indeed!



16. **MANSFIELD, Eric and Derek Rimington:** BRIDGE: THE ULTIMATE LIMITS. **£10.00**
London 1986 1st edition. 8vo 208pp Black cloth dw

There are 45 problems exploring card inference, each based on a different theme.



17. **MARKUS, Rixi:** BID BOLDLY, PLAY SAFE. **£10.00**
London 1966 1st edition. 8vo 212pp Green cloth dw

This was Rixi’s first book and is more meaty than most which followed. Despite her gadgetless bidding, this is a satisfying read.



18. **MOLLO, Victor:** THE BRIDGE IMMORTALS. **£10.00**
London 1967 1st edition. 8vo 191pp Red cloth dw

An enjoyable collection of 35 short sketches of outstanding players with two or three hands by each; there are several Americans, Italians and British players plus others which few will recognize I confess to not being aware of Cornelius Slavenburg, a Dutch international of the period. There are 8 photo plates, too.



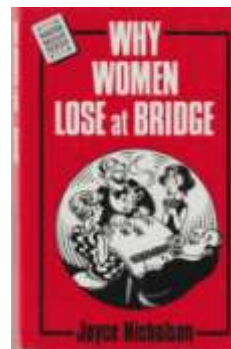
19. **MOLLO, Victor:** THE HOG TAKES TO PRECISION. **£10.00**
Toronto 2011 1st edition. 8vo 207pp Dec card covers. As new

Edited by Mark Horton, this is another collection of stories from the Griffins Club. A few did appear in obscure publications, but many have never been printed before. Up to the usual standard with the Hog and his chums.



20. **NICHOLSON, Joyce:** WHY WOMEN LOSE AT BRIDGE. **£8.00**
London 1985 1st edition. 8vo 95pp Black cloth dw

The *Bibliography* describes it as ‘a book of mostly stale feminist claptrap that could have been more interesting’. There are no Bridge hands, thus the book is a study, based on the results of questionnaires returned by both male and female recipients.



21. **POTTAGE, Julian:** CLUES FROM THE BIDDING. **£8.00**
London 1990 1st edition. 8vo 128pp Grey cloth dw

This is another fine collection of 60 advanced single dummy quizzes that feature many examples of the author’s strength as a problem composer.



22. **REESE, Terence:** THE GAME OF BRIDGE. **£8.00**
London 2002 1st edition thus (1st 1962). 8vo 164pp Dec card covers. As new

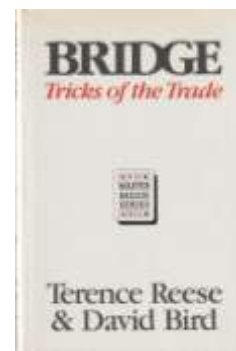
Supposedly an introductory text, it would be beyond most beginners but might be ideal for an aspiring player. This 2002 edition tries to make the book more relevant.



23. **REESE, Terence and David Bird:** BRIDGE – TRICKS OF THE TRADE. **£10.00**

London 1989 1st edition. 8vo 144pp Grey cloth dw, as new

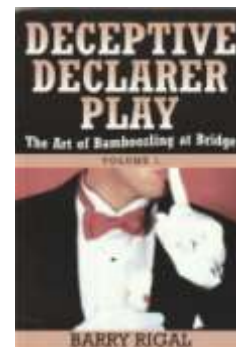
This book is similar in level to *The Expert Game* or *Reese on Play*. It is a very readable, under-appreciated book. The first half of the book is devoted to declarer play, the second to defence.



24. **RIGAL, Barry:** DECEPTIVE DECLARER PLAY. **£8.00**

Subtitled *The Art of Bamboozling at Bridge Volume 1*
Poughkeepsie, New York 2009 new edition (1st UK 1996). 8vo 158pp
Dec card covers. As new

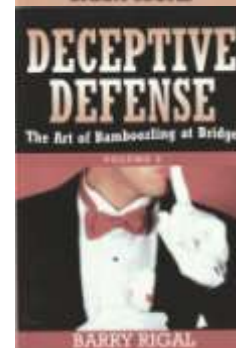
This is a good introduction to deceptive techniques. Of interest is the way that themes are organised, trick one or later. It is easy reading and worth a look. This 2009 edition has extra deals.



25. **RIGAL, Barry:** DECEPTIVE DEFENCE. **£8.00**

Subtitled *The Art of Bamboozling at Bridge Volume 2*
Poughkeepsie, New York 2009 new edition (1stUK 1997). 8vo 210pp
Dec card covers. As new

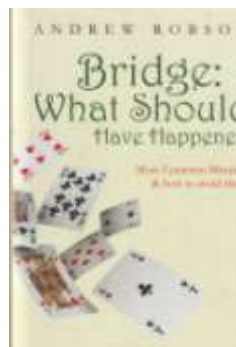
A fine book that covers the essentials of the subject, using four categories. Again, this 2009 edition has extra deals.



26. **ROBSON, Andrew:** BRIDGE: WHAT SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED. **£10.00**

Subtitled *More Common Mistakes & How to Avoid Them*
London 2009 1st edition. 8vo 251pp Dark green cloth dw

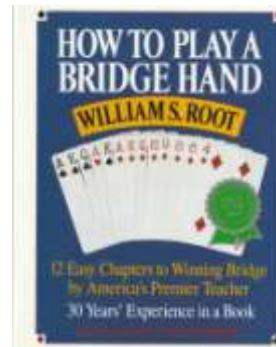
There are 251 deals spread over 16 chapters grouped into broad headings.



27. **ROOT, William S:** HOW TO PLAY A BRIDGE HAND. **£7.00**

New York 1990 1st edition. 8vo 309pp Dec card covers
Published as *The Play of the Hand* in the UK in 1991.

A book aimed at neither experts nor beginners, but 90% of we players in between. The author is one of the USA's best teachers and the material is clearly presented.



28. **SENIOR, Brian:** BREAD AND BUTTER BIDDING. **£7.00**

Oxford 1991 1st edition. 8vo 214pp Dec card covers

A fantastic exposition of basic bidding principles in an Acol context. Indeed, *The Bridge World* review in 1992 asked why American books at the intermediate level couldn't be this good.



29. **SMITH, Marc:** ENTERPRISING TALES. **£4.00**

New Jersey 1990 1st edition. 8vo 274pp Dec card covers, missing fep and with slight damage to the covers. Ex-Bristol BC copy; a reading copy only.

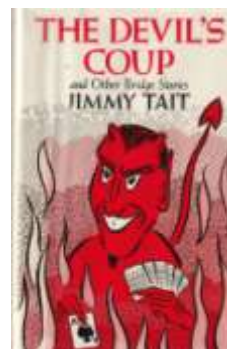
An entertaining combination of Bridge and science fiction with parodies of *Star Trek* characters intermingled with characters from planet Oxbridge. It is set at the 2936 Summer Universal Tournament.



30. **TAIT, Jimmy:** THE DEVIL'S COUP and OTHER BRIDGE STORIES. **£8.00**

London 1990 1st edition. 8vo 157pp Black cloth dw. As new, but slight fading to spine

More humorous stories involving the club expert, a crusty but lovable character. The style is friendly and relaxed.



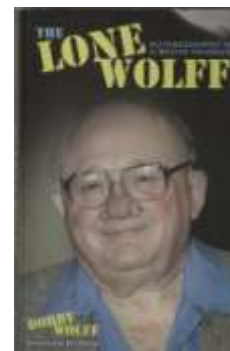
31. **WOLFF, Bobby:** THE LONE WOLFF.

£10.00

Subtitled *Autobiography of a Bridge Maverick*

Toronto 2008 1st edition. 8vo 287pp Dec card covers, slight creasing and staining

The book gives some details of Wolff's early life but mainly covers his career as one of the most successful Bridge players and politicians of all time. He is at his most contentious in this latter role; others have different memories of some of the events.



I am indebted to Tim Bourke and John Sugden for letting me use some descriptions of the content of books. Some others come from earlier works by Leslie Parris and Bill Sachen.