

Garden Cities Final 2003
By Mike Newman.
1st Manchester Bridge Club.
Jeff Morris Leslie Klein
Alexander Morris Michael Byrne
Edward Levi Mike Goldsmith
Dave Debbage Michael Newman

♠AK106 N ♠QJ72
♥- W E ♥954
♦KQ53 S ♦A8
♣AKJ84 ♣Q1032

W - Dave Debbage and E - Mike Newman

W	N	E	S
1♣	No	1♠	X
6♠	End		

Dave bid 6♠ on the W hand. Even if playing Exclusion Key Card Blackwood and bidding 5♥ a response showing one key card outside ♥ would still leave the possibility of a ♣ loser so his choice seems very practical. 7♠ rolled in but the opposition stopped in 5♠.

♠542	N	♠AK
♥K763	W	♥AQ10852
♦Q854	E	♦AK9
♣75	S	♣A3

W	N	E	S
2♦	No	2♥	No
3♥	No	4♦*	No
4♥	No	4NT*	No
5♣*	No	6♦*	No
6♥	End		

4NT was Roman Key Card Blackwood and the response showed 1 key card. The 2♣ opener has, by making both his cue bids in ♦, invited partner to bid a grand slam if holding 3rd round ♦ control. Anyway Dave was cautious and signed off in 6♥. Admittedly this is poor odds for a grand slam requiring either a 3 - 3 ♦ break (excluding ♦J10x offside) or ♦J10 bare or ♦10x or ♦Jx offside - restricted choice applying if an honour appears on the right on the 2nd round of ♦. Total odds somewhere between 40-45%. Clearly Dave knows that I tend to view such hands with rose coloured spectacles and was quite correct not to accept. (The grand slam was making on this occasion).

World Championships - Menton 2003
by John Holland.

N- Furuta S- Teramoto Japan
E- Holland W- Sandqvist

Board 25 ♠Q65
Dealer N ♥10632
N-S Vul ♦Q652
♣75

♠1084	N	♠AKJ932
♥97	W	♥J54
♦983	E	♦K104
♣AJ964	S	♣K

W	N	E	S
2♠	No	1♠	X
	No	3♠	End

S gave me a hard time on this one. He led ♥AKQ – ruff ♠4 then ♦9 to ♦J. ♣3 back to ♣A. Ran ♠10 then ♦3 to ♦10 and ♦A. Just made.

This was against Uszynski & Renouard (France).

Board 8 ♠KQ1054
Dealer W ♥102
Love All ♦2
♣K8764

♠9	N	♠A862
♥AK96	W	♥J8743
♦109543	E	♦K6
♣Q102	S	♣A5

W	N	E	S
No	2♠*	No	No
X	No*	3♥	3♠
No	No	4♥	End

2♠ Lucas type ♠ + minor. Pass of the X showed 5 ♠. I should have either bid 4♥ first time or doubled 3♠. Anyway it's the play that counts, at trick 2 S nearly fell off his chair followed by W at trick 5.

1. Lead ♠3 to ♠A.
2. ♦6 ♦7D ♦10 ♦2
3. ♦3 ♥2 ♦K ♦8
4. ♥10 ♥J ♥5 ♥6
5. ♦4 ruffed

I miss-guessed clubs to make only 10 tricks I forgot to tell you, I was on the same side of the screen as N, who tried to lead the ♦2 before the flap was raised. We finished 9th.

Technician or Psychologist
by Jeff Smith.

♠AJxx	N	♠Kxxx
♥AJ9xx	W	♥Q10
♦KJx	E	♦A10xxx
♣x	S	♣AJ

You are in 3NT and get a low ♣ lead to the ♣Q on your right. This hand is from a recent Hubert Phillips match when you arrive in the wrong contract of 3NT after this sequence:

W	N	E	S
1♥	No	2♦	No
3♦	No	3NT	End

When dummy appears, you make a mental note to discuss that 3♦ bid of partner's later...but for the present you have to plan the best line for making 3NT. (Ed. What about the 3NT bid – surely 3♠ is right). Give it some thought before reading on...

Most players are technicians, looking for the best mathematical line, however, bridge is a practical game and often the psychological approach reaps more dividends. Having won the ♣A, the obvious line is to try ♦AK and if the ♦Q does not fall, then try the ♥K finesse hoping for it also dropping, with the ♠Q also in reserve. Some may also try the ♥Q at trick 2 and if it isn't covered, assume the ♥K is wrong and try to sniff out the ♦Q position.

I decided to go for a different chance. At trick 2, I crossed to the ♦K and ran ♦J – losing to ♦Q on my left. The point here is that LHO knows I have ♣J (from his partner's play of ♣Q at trick 1) but has no way of knowing that it is unguarded and may well work out that conceding another ♣ trick could be my 9th trick on the hand (along with 4♦, 2♠, ♥A and ♣A. After some though he switched to ♥8.

Is the ♥K likely to be right? Although, there is no certain indicator, I decided from his choice of a high ♥, the finesse was losing so won ♥A and cashed 3 more ♦. Although the selection of a high or low ♥ should have no relevance here, I think it is human nature for most players to still lead cards in the natural way. On the ♦ LHO threw a ♣ and ♠2. I now played ♠K and small ♠, LHO following with ♠8 and ♠10 to reach the critical moment – finesse or drop the ♠Q?

What would you do? Once again, you need to analyse your opponent's mind and work out how likely he was to throw the ♠2 from ♠1082 or ♠Q1082. Perhaps it was just luck or maybe that table presence again but I got it right – dropping ♠Q offside for a hard-earned 50 points loss on the hand when opponents were in 4♠+2 in the other room.

There is no doubt that the psychological approach on many hands has its place and is a skill that I think can be developed by all players.

Presidents Cup 2003 by Jeff Smith																																																																																												
<p>The Manchester team was represented by</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Jeff Smith</td><td>Mark Halliwell</td></tr> <tr><td>Alan Jones</td><td>David Barton</td></tr> <tr><td>Bernard Goldenfield</td><td>Rhona Goldenfield (Saturday)</td></tr> <tr><td>Peter Hismurgh</td><td>Joyce Hismurgh (Saturday)</td></tr> <tr><td>Malcolm Robinson</td><td>Pauline Lang (Sunday)</td></tr> <tr><td>Dave Debbage</td><td>Mike Newman (Sunday)</td></tr> </table> <p>Once again the team that played had little resemblance to the original selection due to the unavailability of most of the pairs. Howard Kay did an excellent job in getting the team together. The venue was Manchester Bridge Club. There were 8 teams participating – Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, North Wales, Cumbria and Mid-Wales. The format was an all-play-all with each team playing 14 boards against every other team with the total IMPs over each board finally converted to VPs using the 28 board scale.</p> <p>Result</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>1st</td><td>Yorkshire</td><td>91 VPs</td></tr> <tr><td>2nd</td><td>Manchester</td><td>80 VPs</td></tr> <tr><td>2nd</td><td>Lancashire</td><td>80 VPs</td></tr> <tr><td>2nd</td><td>N.Wales</td><td>80 VPs</td></tr> </table> <p>I was very unhappy with both the TD (Dave Stevenson's) running of the event and the facilities provided at the Manchester BC. It really is impractical to host 16 tables in the downstairs room, and there was confusion throughout in where to move to, which boards to play (especially with both blue and yellow sets in play), which opponents were next etc.</p>	Jeff Smith	Mark Halliwell	Alan Jones	David Barton	Bernard Goldenfield	Rhona Goldenfield (Saturday)	Peter Hismurgh	Joyce Hismurgh (Saturday)	Malcolm Robinson	Pauline Lang (Sunday)	Dave Debbage	Mike Newman (Sunday)	1 st	Yorkshire	91 VPs	2 nd	Manchester	80 VPs	2 nd	Lancashire	80 VPs	2 nd	N.Wales	80 VPs	<p>Stevenson's direction seemed haphazard, with little preparation there were no prepared movement cards and the running score was scribbled on illegible bits of paper – all in all very badly managed.</p> <p>As to the bridge, I had little time to monitor our progress. The team seemed to play well without luck. Alan Jones came late on Sunday and we were fined 2 boards (6 IMPs). In addition, I was involved in an adverse ruling which cost us 14 IMPs as follows. At Green, holding:</p> <p>♠Ax ♥Kxxx ♦Q ♣QJxxxx</p> <p>after three passes, you open 1♣ (perhaps unwisely). LHO bids 2♣ (showing ♠ + ♦) and partner doubles (showing values with possible willingness to double one of their suits). RHO bids 3♦ which is passed round to partner who doubles. What do you do? With such a poor hand, and given RHO's unforced jump bid, I bid 3♥ this floated one off. Unfortunately, Mark had made the second double after some thought and the result was ruled back to 3♦-X+1. I did not appeal the ruling.</p> <p>Dave Debbage & Mike Newman were somewhat unlucky bidding two slams both going down on an unlucky 4-1 trump break.</p> <p>(I will produce a variation on my Tollemache scoring program for next year to produce movement cards and efficient scoring for an 8 team – teams of 8 format – Editor)</p>	<p>On the summary below I have evaluated a comparison based on Butler scoring. It should however be noted that the pairs who only played one day have a more limited chance of building their scores within a successful team so the comparison is perhaps not totally fair.</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Summary</th> <th>Bds</th> <th>But ler</th> <th>But /Brd</th> <th>XIMP</th> <th>XIMP /Brd</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Malcolm Robinson</td><td>42</td><td>35</td><td>0.83</td><td>89</td><td>2.11</td></tr> <tr><td>Pauline Lang</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Alan Jones</td><td>98</td><td>87</td><td>0.89</td><td>197</td><td>2.01</td></tr> <tr><td>Dave Barton</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield</td><td>56</td><td>55</td><td>0.98</td><td>97</td><td>1.73</td></tr> <tr><td>Peter & Joyce Hismurgh</td><td>56</td><td>-9</td><td>-.16</td><td>15</td><td>0.26</td></tr> <tr><td>Jeff Smith</td><td>98</td><td>-23</td><td>-.23</td><td>2</td><td>0.02</td></tr> <tr><td>Mark Halliwell</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Dave Debbage</td><td>42</td><td>-34</td><td>-0.8</td><td>-24</td><td>-0.57</td></tr> <tr><td>Mike Newman</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Summary	Bds	But ler	But /Brd	XIMP	XIMP /Brd	Malcolm Robinson	42	35	0.83	89	2.11	Pauline Lang						Alan Jones	98	87	0.89	197	2.01	Dave Barton						Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield	56	55	0.98	97	1.73	Peter & Joyce Hismurgh	56	-9	-.16	15	0.26	Jeff Smith	98	-23	-.23	2	0.02	Mark Halliwell						Dave Debbage	42	-34	-0.8	-24	-0.57	Mike Newman					
Jeff Smith	Mark Halliwell																																																																																											
Alan Jones	David Barton																																																																																											
Bernard Goldenfield	Rhona Goldenfield (Saturday)																																																																																											
Peter Hismurgh	Joyce Hismurgh (Saturday)																																																																																											
Malcolm Robinson	Pauline Lang (Sunday)																																																																																											
Dave Debbage	Mike Newman (Sunday)																																																																																											
1 st	Yorkshire	91 VPs																																																																																										
2 nd	Manchester	80 VPs																																																																																										
2 nd	Lancashire	80 VPs																																																																																										
2 nd	N.Wales	80 VPs																																																																																										
Summary	Bds	But ler	But /Brd	XIMP	XIMP /Brd																																																																																							
Malcolm Robinson	42	35	0.83	89	2.11																																																																																							
Pauline Lang																																																																																												
Alan Jones	98	87	0.89	197	2.01																																																																																							
Dave Barton																																																																																												
Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield	56	55	0.98	97	1.73																																																																																							
Peter & Joyce Hismurgh	56	-9	-.16	15	0.26																																																																																							
Jeff Smith	98	-23	-.23	2	0.02																																																																																							
Mark Halliwell																																																																																												
Dave Debbage	42	-34	-0.8	-24	-0.57																																																																																							
Mike Newman																																																																																												

<p>Yorkshire Match 2003 by Jeff Smith</p> <p>The Manchester team was represented by</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>D.Barton</td><td>F.Bell</td><td>-2730</td></tr> <tr><td>D.Whyte</td><td>J.Roberts</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>J.Hassett</td><td>A.Kenworthy</td><td>2060</td></tr> <tr><td>B.Hirst</td><td>M.Goldsmith</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E.Lighthill</td><td>M.Robinson</td><td>1430</td></tr> <tr><td>R.Semp</td><td>P.Lang</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>I.Blakey</td><td>R.Goldenfield</td><td>4630</td></tr> <tr><td>J.Blakey</td><td>M.Brunner</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>M.Ardron</td><td>D.Debbage</td><td>100</td></tr> <tr><td>M.Halliwell</td><td>M.Newman</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>J.Smith</td><td>P.Hismurgh</td><td>-90</td></tr> <tr><td>M.Costagliola</td><td>J.Hismurgh</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>The Yorkshire team was represented by</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>B.Townsend</td><td>R.Jepson</td><td>-860</td></tr> <tr><td>N.Woolven</td><td>A.Brosgill</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>R.Winter</td><td>S.Tesholme</td><td>-3970</td></tr> <tr><td>G.Foster</td><td>S.Penfold</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>R.Pike</td><td>C.Kelly</td><td>3220</td></tr> <tr><td>D.Robinson</td><td>S.Davies</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>A.Martindale</td><td>L.Reese</td><td>-1680</td></tr> <tr><td>J.Kimpton</td><td>F.Dixon</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>J.Proctor</td><td>M.Ingham</td><td>-930</td></tr> <tr><td>D.Lewis</td><td>M.Jackson</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>R.Garthwaite</td><td>C.Cockcroft</td><td>-1180</td></tr> <tr><td>H.Hobson</td><td>D.Markham</td><td></td></tr> </table>	D.Barton	F.Bell	-2730	D.Whyte	J.Roberts		J.Hassett	A.Kenworthy	2060	B.Hirst	M.Goldsmith		E.Lighthill	M.Robinson	1430	R.Semp	P.Lang		I.Blakey	R.Goldenfield	4630	J.Blakey	M.Brunner		M.Ardron	D.Debbage	100	M.Halliwell	M.Newman		J.Smith	P.Hismurgh	-90	M.Costagliola	J.Hismurgh		B.Townsend	R.Jepson	-860	N.Woolven	A.Brosgill		R.Winter	S.Tesholme	-3970	G.Foster	S.Penfold		R.Pike	C.Kelly	3220	D.Robinson	S.Davies		A.Martindale	L.Reese	-1680	J.Kimpton	F.Dixon		J.Proctor	M.Ingham	-930	D.Lewis	M.Jackson		R.Garthwaite	C.Cockcroft	-1180	H.Hobson	D.Markham		<p>Manchester was behind by about 800 points at half time but won by 5400 aggregate points.</p> <p>The match was run in the usual format of twelve 3-board rounds with each pair playing every other pair. Manchester gained an early lead but then got pegged back however in the second half, Manchester led throughout emerging as comfortable winners. Particularly outstanding was Team 4 that along with Teams 2 and 3 accounted for most of the winning margin. Team 1 seem to have a hard time during the day and they tell me little went right for them.</p>	<p>The match was played at York BC which is a change from the normal Bradford venue and somewhat further for all the Manchester players in travelling distance. However, the club premises and facilities were excellent and the quality of meal was good. Also the kitchen/bar was easily accessible for people to get refreshments as and when needed. The match was run very efficiently by Phil Godfrey with a notepad and Excel spreadsheet scorer. Although, it is not essential it was good for giving an instant summarized printout of the teams performance at the end. I have done a cross-imp on the Manchester performances as attached. The leading pairs were:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>B.Hirst</td><td>J.Hassett</td><td>+79</td></tr> <tr><td>R.Goldenfield</td><td>M.Brunner</td><td>+66</td></tr> <tr><td>I.Blakey</td><td>J.Blakey</td><td>+36</td></tr> <tr><td>E.Lighthill</td><td></td><td>+32</td></tr> <tr><td>P.Hishmurgh</td><td>J.Hishmurgh</td><td>+31</td></tr> </table>	B.Hirst	J.Hassett	+79	R.Goldenfield	M.Brunner	+66	I.Blakey	J.Blakey	+36	E.Lighthill		+32	P.Hishmurgh	J.Hishmurgh	+31
D.Barton	F.Bell	-2730																																																																																							
D.Whyte	J.Roberts																																																																																								
J.Hassett	A.Kenworthy	2060																																																																																							
B.Hirst	M.Goldsmith																																																																																								
E.Lighthill	M.Robinson	1430																																																																																							
R.Semp	P.Lang																																																																																								
I.Blakey	R.Goldenfield	4630																																																																																							
J.Blakey	M.Brunner																																																																																								
M.Ardron	D.Debbage	100																																																																																							
M.Halliwell	M.Newman																																																																																								
J.Smith	P.Hismurgh	-90																																																																																							
M.Costagliola	J.Hismurgh																																																																																								
B.Townsend	R.Jepson	-860																																																																																							
N.Woolven	A.Brosgill																																																																																								
R.Winter	S.Tesholme	-3970																																																																																							
G.Foster	S.Penfold																																																																																								
R.Pike	C.Kelly	3220																																																																																							
D.Robinson	S.Davies																																																																																								
A.Martindale	L.Reese	-1680																																																																																							
J.Kimpton	F.Dixon																																																																																								
J.Proctor	M.Ingham	-930																																																																																							
D.Lewis	M.Jackson																																																																																								
R.Garthwaite	C.Cockcroft	-1180																																																																																							
H.Hobson	D.Markham																																																																																								
B.Hirst	J.Hassett	+79																																																																																							
R.Goldenfield	M.Brunner	+66																																																																																							
I.Blakey	J.Blakey	+36																																																																																							
E.Lighthill		+32																																																																																							
P.Hishmurgh	J.Hishmurgh	+31																																																																																							

**M.B.C. 25th ANNIVERSARY TEAMS
by Boris Ewart**

This was won by Young England.

Hand 16 ♠A4
Dealer W ♥9
E-W Vul ♦AK95
 ♣J87654

♠QJ10983	N	♠K52
♥K43	W	♥A86
♦J1084	E	♦Q732
♣-	S	♣Q92

 ♠76
 ♥QJ10752
 ♦6
 ♣AK103

W	N	E	S
2♦*	No	2♥	No!
2♠	2NT*	3♠	5♣
No	No	X	No
No	XX	End	

This was one of the larger contributions to their team's success. N was Alan Woodcock playing with S – Edward Levy. 2♦ was Multi. Perhaps S should have bid 3♥ earlier to avoid a problem if it goes 2♠ by W raised to 3♠ by E.

As it turned out N had enough shape to bid 2NT for the minors and the confidence to re-double. Ed won the ♠A and crossed to ♣A to discover the 0-3 split. He then cashed ♦AK to pitch the ♠7 and played the ♥9. I believe E rose with ♥A so the ruffing ♥ finesse could now be taken for 12 tricks and a score of 1000.

Hand 4 ♠J653
Dealer W ♥A32
Game-All ♦95
 ♣A742

♠Q2	N	♠97
♥J109864	W	♥K75
♦KJ10	E	♦Q8632
♣K9	S	♣J105

 ♠AK1084
 ♥Q
 ♦A74
 ♣Q863

W	N	E	S
2♥*	No	No	2♠
No	4♠	End	

My team had plenty of lively discussion on this hand. S was Brigitte Mavromichalis playing with N - Paul Hackett. Gary Hyett led ♥J ducked to my ♥K. I placed S with something like a 5.1.4.3 shape and switched to the ♦3 taken by ♦A. ♠AK then the ♦4 came next. I overtook the ♦10 with ♦Q to play ♣J covered ♣Q ♣K and ♠A. I then failed to play the ♣5 on the next ♣ trick. In defence I pointed out that the contract was cold if S discards ♣6 on the ♥A then ruffs the red suits out as W has to then give a ruff and discard. I should still duck the ♣10 as I can count the hand.

Alan Mould went off in 4♠ by playing the odds of a 1-3 ♠ split and also getting the ♣ wrong. Unlucky – I don't think so. If you play on ♣ first rather than ♠ then you can establish an inferential count of 2.6.3.2 for W and drop the ♠Q. The alternative play has some danger in that sometimes E can get in and play a ♦ through to promote the ♠Q.

**RAYMOND'S PLAY PROBLEM.
By Raymond Semp.**

		♠AK8	
		♥K743	
		♦852	
		♣AK7	
♠765	N	♠Q1092	
♥652	W	♥AQJ8	
♦Q10973	E	♦KJ6	
♣52	S	♣Q6	

 ♠J43
 ♥109
 ♦A4
 ♣1098643

W	N	E	S
		1NT	No
2♦	X	No	3♣
No	3♦	No	4♣

1NT was 15-17. After the ♥6 lead you can safely lose 2 ♥ tricks and 1 ♦ trick. After drawing trumps and cashing the ♣10 you come down to this ending:

		♠AK8	
		♥K7	
		♦-	
		♣	
♠765	N	♠Q109	
♥2	W	♥A8	
♦10	E	♦-	
♣-	S	♣-	

 ♠J43
 ♥-
 ♦-
 ♣98

Now the ♣9 discarding ♠8 catches E in a Trump Squeeze. If he throws ♠9 cash ♠AK and ruff ♥7 to cash ♠J. If he throws ♥8 ruff ♥7 then back to ♠AK and ♥K.

**WELSH FOURSOMES - PORTHCAWL
By Boris Ewart**

A small group of Manchester players took part in this event.

- 1st A.Kambites, R. Chamberlain
P. Denning & P. Shields
2nd P. Jourdain, T. Ratcliff,
T.Rees & F. Kurbalija
=3rd B. & R. Goldenfield, J.Luck &
M.Hirst

This was a missed opportunity:

Board 26 ♠976
Dealer E ♥98
Game All. ♦J1063
 ♣AKQ9

♠AKJ52	N	♠84
♥10	W	♥KJ732
♦9874	E	♦Q
♣863	S	♣J10752

 ♠Q103
 ♥AQ654
 ♦AK52
 ♣4

W	N	E	S
		No	1♥
1♠	X*	No	3♦
No	4♦	No	5♦

5♦ went 1 down on ♠AK and ♠ ruff. If N bids 3♠ then S bids 3NT. W will cash ♠K and switch to ♣6. S wins ♣A and plays ♦J to ♦Q and ♦K. The bad news comes on the ♦A but all is not lost. S now crosses to ♦10, cashes ♣KQ discarding ♥54 and takes ♥K finesse. He then takes ♥A and end-plays W with ♦2 to make the ♠Q.

This was a well bid grand-slam by the opposition:

Board 31 ♠KQJ643
Dealer S ♥-
N-S Vul. ♦8543
 ♣Q93

♠A92	N	♠-
♥KJ954	W	♥AQ10762
♦Q62	E	♦AKJ9
♣A4	S	♣J65

 ♠10875
 ♥83
 ♦107
 ♣K10872

W	N	E	S
			No
1♥	1♠	3♠*	No
4♥	No	5♦*	No
5♠*	No	6♦*	No
7♥			

W appreciated the value of the ♦Q. As S, I was trying to calculate if 7♠ was a good save at red vul, On good play you get away with 1100 and can go for 1400 – both better than –1510. Perhaps I should have bid 4♣ or 4♠ over the 3♠ splinter bid then N can make the decision.