

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. 16

The usual mix of old and new, with things in between; all modestly priced.

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. **Items marked with an * are post free.** I am happy to post worldwide, but overseas postage will be charged at cost. I am still managing to post out within 2-3 days.

1. **BERTHE, Robert and Norbert Lébely: STEP BY STEP CARD PLAY – NO TRUMPS. £6.00**

London 1981 1st edition. 8vo 167pp Dark blue cloth dw
Translation is by Barry Seabrook; the book was published in France in 1980 with the title *Perfectionnez votre Jeu de la Carte Pas a Pas: Le Sans-Atout.*

This is a fine book which uses a Bridge Movie format to step the reader through 48 deals of increasing difficulty. The reader is then faced with 26 single dummy quizzes, which could be looked on as an examination on the preceding section. There is some very neat underlining in red ink in some of the 'Guiding Principle' boxes; this does not detract from the book.



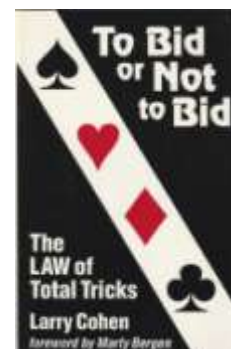
2. **BIRD, David: HAVING NUN, PARTNER?** £5.00
London 2000 1st edition. 8vo 160pp Dec card covers

A collection of humorous stories which star the nuns of St Hilda's Convent who have appeared in bit-parts in the books featuring the monks of St Titus. Here the roles are reversed. The hands are wonderfully chosen.



3. **COHEN, Larry: TO BID OR NOT TO BID – The Law of Total Tricks.** £9.00
New Jersey 1995 8th printing (1st 1992) 8vo 286pp Dec card covers

A thorough presentation of the Law of Total Tricks in competitive auctions. It is a classic which had sold over 30,000 copies before this 8th printing. One of the ACBL Top Twenty Books from 1994 (see 20 and 23 also).



4. **CULBERTSON, Ely: CONTRACT BRIDGE BLUE BOOK.** £8.00
London 5th impression September 1931 (1st December 1930). 12mo 344pp Blue cloth dw

In comparison to the Cohen book, this sold hundreds of thousands and was the most influential book of its era. A seminal book which established Culbertson as the 'Contract Bridge Authority'. I see very few copies of this in a dustwrapper.



5. **“CUT CAVENDISH”: THE COMPLETE BRIDGE PLAYER.** £10.00
London 1919 4th printing (1st 1905). 12mo 280pp Damp damaged red cloth, not published with dw, and a slight internal split. Regard this as a reading copy only.

“Cut Cavendish” was Edwin (or Edwyn) Anthony Cavendish.

An entertaining introduction to the game with the emphasis on “battling through”, rather than a scientific approach. The chapter on Auction is worth a look.



6. **DIXEY, Marmaduke:** THE BEAUTIES OF BRIDGE. **£10.00***
London 1938 1st edition. 8vo 64pp Maroon cloth neatly repaired dw

This is a book of bridge poetry and you either like them or not. The author's real name was Geoffrey Howard. Good to see a copy in a dustwrapper – which has a startling resemblance to the Culbertson item above.



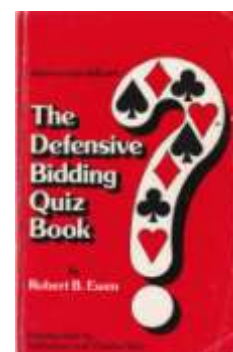
7. **ENGLAND, Frank and Hope Reford:** THE PLAY OF THE CARDS. **£18.00**
London ND [1930] 1st edition. 12mo 164pp + 48pp rules Dark blue cloth no dw

There are 53 deals in this intermediate level book which are quite good on the play. Pre-Culbertson bidding and the use of AB-YZ, not NS-EW give it less appeal to modern readers.



8. **EWEN, Robert B:** THE DEFENSIVE BIDDING QUIZ BOOK. **£5.00***
New York 1980 1st edition. 8vo 105pp Dec card covers

A collection of quizzes on what to do after the opponents open the bidding. Generally good.



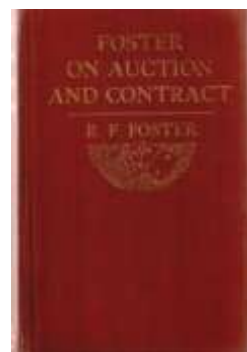
9. **FOSTER, R F:** FOSTER ON AUCTION. **£32.00**
Subtitled *A Complete Exposition of the Latest Developments of Modern Auction*

London 1929 6th UK edition (1st 1918). 12mo 279+47 (Laws)+xi (adverts)pp Brown cloth with gilt dec to front cover.

The cover and spine have the title *Foster on Auction and Contract* whilst the title page has *Foster's Auction Bridge*.

From its first printing in June 1918 the book went through 15 USA printings up to 1926 and 6 UK printings from 1919 to 1929.

There are 103 illustrative deals, with the suits arranged HCDS, a hang-up from whist.



10. **FOX-SHEINWOLD, Patricia:** HUSBANDS AND OTHER MEN I'VE PLAYED WITH. **£12.00**

London 1979 1st UK edition (1st 1976 USA). 8vo 196pp Red cloth dw

This is an entertaining look at some of the author's Bridge experiences. I've read a couple of chapters – the hands are interesting and informative and the writing style is light.



11. **GOREN, Charles H:** BETTER BRIDGE FOR BETTER PLAYERS. **£6.00**

London [1950] (1st USA 1942; 1st UK 1949). 8vo 526pp Blue cloth dw

The original subtitle was *The Play of the Cards* and that is the focus of the book. It remains a useful source of material for intermediate players, albeit that some of the material appears more advanced. Seen many copies, but few with a dustwrapper.



12. **IRWIN, Florence:** THE DEVELOPMENT OF AUCTION BRIDGE UNDER THE NEW COUNT. **£7.00**

New York 1913 4th printing (1st 1912). 16mo 249pp Blue boards, gilt title etc to front cover and spine

The revised edition is 'with a discussion on conventional and pre-emptive bids'. The main part is a readable exposition of "common sense" bidding, with 20 test hands. Another book with the HCDS layout of the hands.



13. **KARPIN, Fred L:** THE DRAWING OF TRUMPS AND ITS POSTPONEMENT. **£9.00**

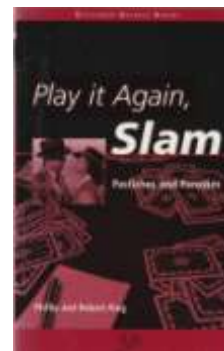
Hawthorne, California 1981 1st edition. 8vo 178pp Dec card covers

The title is explicit – the book contains sound advice about managing the trump suit.



14. **KING, Phillip and Robert:** PLAY IT AGAIN, SLAM. **£8.00**
London 1999 1st edition. 8vo 128pp Dec card covers As new

This is another in a series of entertaining pastiches of famous works by the King brothers, including – not surprisingly - the film *Casablanca*.



15. **KLINGER, Ron:** PLAYING DOUBLED CONTRACTS. **£5.00***
London 2015 1st edition. 8vo 96pp Dec card covers As new

There are 58 hands from major national and international events, all of which involve the approaches to adopt when playing doubled contracts. There is a sister volume – *Defending Doubled Contracts*.



16. **LAWRENCE, Mike:** FALSECARDS. **£10.00**
Louisville, Kentucky 1986 1st edition. 8vo 215pp Dec card covers, minor sunning to spine

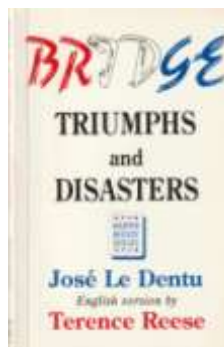
A well written survey of the basics of the subject, including the lovely injunction *don't bother with them*.



17. **LE DENTU, José:** BRIDGE TRIUMPHS AND DISASTERS. **£6.00**

London 1990 1st edition. 8vo 143pp Dec card covers
Translated by Terence Reese from *Donnes Extraordinaires*, published in France in 1989.

There are 64 deals, in five sections, to both entertain and instruct.



18. **MANNING FOSTER, A E:** AUCTION BRIDGE PLAY AND PROBLEMS. **£8.00**

London 1925 1st edition. 12mo 152pp Red cloth no dw, spine faded and marks to front cover

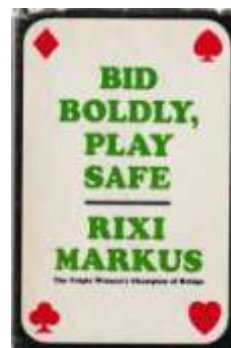
After the Laws and a review of the game there are 79 bidding problems and 21 on play, with the answers following.



19. **MARKUS, Rixi:** BID BOLDLY, PLAY SAFE. **£10.00**

New York 1968 1st USA edition (1st 1966). 8vo 212pp Green cloth dw

This was Rixi's first book and is more meaty than some which followed. It is a satisfying read for her intended experienced audience. This is a copy of the only edition published in the USA.



20. **MILES, Marshall:** CARD READING AT CONTRACT. **£10.00**

London 1964 1st edition. 8vo 128pp Dark blue cloth dw

This was one of the books on the ACBL's Survey of the 20 Best Bridge Books of All Time produced in 1994 (as are nos. 3 and 23). It was later reissued as *All 52 Cards*. The book aims to develop counting, inference and assumptions about the unseen hands.



21. **MILNES, Eric and Paul Lukacs:** BRIDGE HANDS FOR THE CONNOISSEUR. **£12.00**

London 1974 1st edition. 12mo 127pp Red cloth dw

A fine, testing collection of 60 problems, with the problem on one side and the solution overleaf. None are easy and even the most experienced player will be challenged by them.



22. **MOLLO, Victor:** THE FINER ARTS OF BRIDGE. £6.00
London 1978 1st reprint (1st 1978). 8vo 201pp Light blue cloth dw

The book tackles the psychological and deductive elements of Bridge which are illustrated with material taken mainly from top-class competitions. It is by far and away the best of Mollo's books on these aspects of the game.



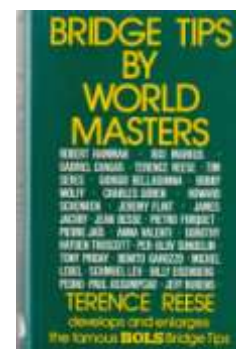
23. **MOLLO, Victor and Nico Gardener:** CARD PLAY TECHNIQUE. £10.00
London 1972 2nd edition reprint (1st 1955). 8vo 381pp Red cloth dw, very minor sunning to spine

Another of the ACBL's 'top twenty' which continues to be one of the most sought after Bridge titles. Recognised as a classic, it deals with not only with declarer play, but also defence. Each of the 21 chapters has exercises followed by the answers.



24. **REESE, Terence:** BRIDGE TIPS BY WORLD MASTERS. £10.00
London 1980 1st edition. 8vo 174pp Dark green cloth dw

This collection of tips from world class players is made all the better by being edited and arranged by Reese.



25. **REESE, Terence and David Bird:** ACOL IN THE 90s. £10.00
London 1990 1st edition. 8vo 153pp Black cloth dw

I know that the 90s are now 30 years ago and bidding systems change and evolve, but has that much really changed to Acol in this period? Is it us who have added bits on, introduced our favourite conventions, or decided that Benji suits us better? David Bird ensured that some modern ideas were included in this well written book.



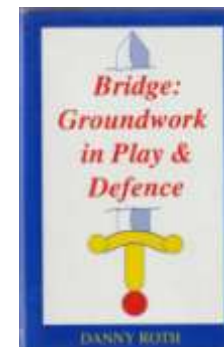
26. **ROSENKRANZ, George:** MORE TIPS FOR TOPS. **£6.00**
Louisville, Kentucky 1991 1st edition. 8vo 224pp Dec card covers

The author provides a further 40 tips covering all aspects of the game and there are multiple deals to illustrate the tips.



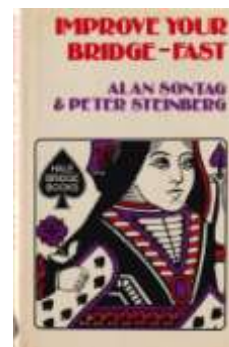
27. **ROTH, Danny:** GROUNDWORK IN PLAY AND DEFENCE. **£6.00**
London 1992 1st edition. 8vo 157pp Blue cloth dw

The book contains 60 advanced level quizzes on play, defence and the opening lead.



28. **SONTAG, Alan and Peter Steiberg:** IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE – FAST. **£8.00**
London 1982 1st edition. 8vo 159pp Black cloth dw

The book is aimed at intermediate players and provides partial deals as double dummy problems. It strives to improve players' at-the-table skills.



29. **TAIT, J. W:** MASTER PAIRS TECHNIQUE. **£7.00**
London 1982 1st edition. 8vo 123pp Black cloth dw

The reader is invited to imagine that he/she has qualified for the final of a pairs event and is playing with a good partner in a 7 table Howell against 13 pairs. There is some early pairs advice, then the 26 hands are given, for which the reader is asked to resolve the problem. How you do is shown by the match points attained.

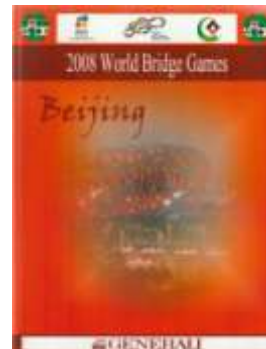


30. **WORLD BRIDGE GAMES 2008. (Editor: Brian Senior) £14.00**

Beijing 3 -18 October. Published 2008 by the WBF. 8vo 384pp

Dec card covers

This provides the coverage that one expects from Brian of the 1st World Bridge Games which comprised a major part of the 1st International Mind Sports Games. This was, though, a continuation of the championships which started in 1960.



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 Sachse.