



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- ❖ **Badminton** on Wednesdays. Call 020 8349 0170
- ❖ **Body Control Pilates** classes. Call Deanna Wisbey 020 8883 7029
- ❖ **Counselling and psychotherapy service** at the Green Man Centre. For details phone 8346 0194
- ❖ **London Cycling Campaign** (Barnet), has monthly meetings & rides. Call 020 8440 9080.
- ❖ **Ramblers Association** (Finchley & Hornsey) Contact Vivien Malindine on 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm
- ❖ **Tennis Club** off Southern Road. Call 020 8440 6953
- ❖ **Yoga & Meditation** classes at Holy Trinity Church, 020 8444 7217

Dance, Drama, Art & Music

- ❖ **Adult Line Dancing.** Call Footloose 020 8440 8530/ 8216 5633.
- ❖ **Art Classes.** For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Barnet Schools Music Centre** call 020 8359 3111 for details.
- ❖ **Broadway & West end Musical Singing Workshop** call Idit Gold 020 8449 0011.
- ❖ **Chipping Barnet Folk Dance Club,** Vivien Malindine, 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call Vicky 020 8883 1554
- ❖ **Country & Barn Dancing,** at Oakleigh Park, 020 8349 0754
- ❖ **Columbian party dancing** classes, Call Nelsy 020 8444 2012
- ❖ **Incognito Theatre workshops,** Colney Hatch Lane, 020 8883 0911
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club,** alternate Mondays at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 020 8346 8736
- ❖ **Private drum tuition,** beginners welcome. Contact Eddie 8444 8376.
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 020 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church 020 8455 2403
- ❖ **Private singing lessons,** all levels Contact Anouschka 020 8444 82 05
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra of North London,** Contact Stephen Kelsey, 020 8883 3365

Clubs & Social

- ❖ **All Saints Beer and Wine Circle** Call Richard Baldwin 020 8883 7081
- ❖ **Bingo,** Green Man Community Centre, 020 8883 4916
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book a place. Every Thursday, 12.30-2pm
- ❖ **East Finchley National Child-birth Trust,** Contact Ann Sullivan, 020 8442 1941
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at the Old White Lion. Contact Lillian on 020 8444 1793.
- ❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people, Rene & Reuby Hyams, 020 8883 0448 or Sylvia Lee 8958 7878
- ❖ **Finchley Philatelic Society,** Contact Brian Merryweather 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn, 020 8349 4613
- ❖ **Hampstead Social Group,** membership late 30's-late 40's Call David Morris, 020 8348 3495
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club,** Muswell Hill, 020 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Association** call Gerry Saunders 020 8883 7274
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Synagogue,** Tetherdown, 020 8883 5925
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge,** 020 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club,** 020 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group,** Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professional and business people, Details Eric Dalton 8340 0822
- ❖ **Single Solution** over 30s night. call 020 8802 2326/ 8363 2328

World Wide Woods

A new web site has been set up by local Mark Kobayashi-Hillary to promote the conservation of Coldfall Wood in Muswell Hill.

The site also gives information on the history of the woods, and promotes the campaign by The Friends of Coldfall Wood to clean up the wood and prevent pollution running into the brook on the site. There is also a discussion area where residents can air their views, and information about the local area.

The site can be found at www.coldfallwood.info



Coldfall brook in spate Photo by Tony Roberts

GARDENING

The first cut

In mild dry spells it will be tempting to get out with the lawn mower and give that first haircut. STOP! Has it been dry for long enough for you to do no damage to the soil by dragging over it? Have you had your mower serviced so the blades are nice and sharp and will cut rather than rip? Have you got spring bulbs in the lawn just poking through? Certainly, if you still have fallen leaves on the lawn you should go out and clear them up.

Tree pruning should be finished by now, but only on deciduous trees; cutting into conifers and evergreens comes later on. If you are the proud owner of any coloured-stemmed dogwoods or shrubby willows, cut the stems back to just above last year's cut and you'll get the new growth through the season that gives you the best coloured stems. I wouldn't start hacking into things like *Buddleias* just yet but check them to make sure that nothing has been damaged in winds that might let disease come in or that might break off leaving an exposed tear.

The good seed

Those of you with greenhouses will be thinking about starting to sow your summer annuals. I hope you have had a good look through the catalogues and, of course, it's not too late to order some seeds. Try something new that you don't see in the garden centres. If you haven't dabbled in growing from seed before, have a go this year. Use clean containers and fresh compost and follow the instructions on the packet. Don't sow too closely and mix really fine seeds with some dry silver sand so you can see what you are doing. Don't forget, if you are pricking out once that first pair of true leaves come through, to avoid holding the seedling by the stem - always hold by the top leaf and tease out using a dibber or, if improvising, a kitchen fork! Watering with something like Cheshunt Compound helps to cut down the chances of the fungal disease known as *damping off* but over watering and overcrowded seedlings will encourage it. If you have no greenhouse then hang on for a while until the sun is higher in the sky and you can make use of your windowsills.

What's On

Finchley Jazz Club, Monday 10 & 24 Feb at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.

Work off the Christmas over-indulgence by joining step/aerobics classes free at bar XL East Finchley. Classes start Sunday 23 February 1pm to 2pm - must have your own step mat and some experience. Contact 0789 0033 968.

Archer Bridge



By Mike Graham

My brother and I are both keen skiers as well as bridge players, and earlier this year we spent a week in the French resort of La Plagne with Alpine Bridge, a company that specialises in ski and bridge holidays. Their Internet address is www.alpinebridge.co.uk.

The following hand occurred during a pairs competition, with my brother Andy sitting South:

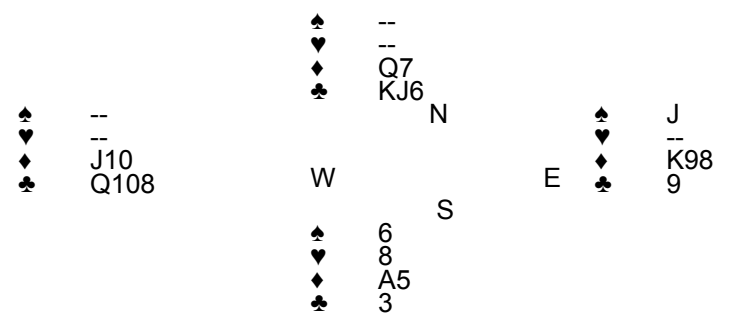
	Dealer South	♠	95	N				♠	KJ843
	Game All	♥	KQ9					♥	632
		♦	Q742					♦	K98
		♣	KJ62					♣	95
♠	Q10								
♥	74								
♦	J1063	W		S	E				
♣	Q10874								
			♠						
			♥						
			♦						
			♣						
			♠						
			♥						
			♦						
			♣						

The bidding, later described by West as the Kangaroo Heart system, was:

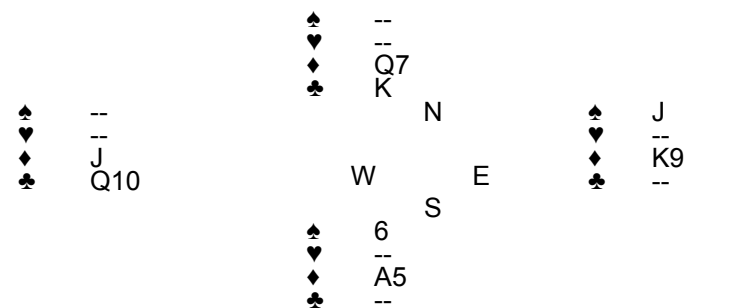
W	N	E	S
			1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

A diamond lead would have led to a swift demise, but West, not unreasonably, led a trump. Andy won in dummy with the king and played a spade to the ace, followed by another spade; East overtook her partner's queen with the king in order to play a second trump. Andy won with the ten in hand, ruffed a spade with the queen of trumps in dummy, and returned to hand with the ace of clubs to run the trump suit.

With one trump still to go, this was the position:



When Andy led the eight of hearts West had to throw a diamond, otherwise all dummy's clubs would become good. Dummy discarded the club six, and East could safely throw a diamond. Now Andy led his club and finessed the jack, leaving:



Andy led the king of clubs from dummy, and poor East was caught. If she discarded her spade, Andy would throw the five of diamonds and make the last two tricks – but she knew Andy still had a spade, as West had showed out; the suit was known to be 5422. She therefore threw a diamond, but Andy discarded his spade and made the last two tricks with the ace and five of diamonds.

This is an example of a non-simultaneous double squeeze (because both opponents are squeezed, but not on the same trick), a rare bird indeed. It won the Best Declarer Play prize, and was named *The Ancolie Squeeze*, after the hotel where we were staying. And Andy had to buy a round of drinks.