

A stylized illustration of a man in a dark suit hanging from the hands of a large clock. The clock face is white with black playing card symbols (hearts, diamonds, clubs, spades) arranged around the perimeter. The background is a vibrant red with a subtle pattern. The text 'THE MOST EXCITING BRIDGE DEALS EVER PLAYED!' is written in red, curved letters across the clock face.

THE MOST EXCITING

BRIDGE DEALS EVER PLAYED!

The **HANDS OF TIME**

**MARK
HORTON**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	5
INTRODUCTION	7
1931 THE BATTLE OF THE CENTURY	13
1955 A MASTER AT WORK	18
1956 THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES	20
1956 THE COURT OF LAST RESORT	22
1959 PREMATURE EXULTATION	24
1960 SO NEAR, AND YET SO FAR	28
1964 THE SECOND OLYMPIAD	30
1970 A FINE ITALIAN HAND	32
1975 EVEN HOMER NODS	35
1976 FALL FROM GREECE	39
1979 NOT THIS TIME, GIORGIO	42
1980 A QUESTION OF ACES	47
1981 ALL OR NOTHING	49
1982 THE COMEBACK KIDS	53
1983 BLACK AND BLUE	56
1985 THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM	58
1987 A CLOSE-RUN THING	66
1990 MANIFEST DESTINY	70
1992 HAD I ONLY KNOWN...	73
1993 DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS ...	82
1995 GOLIATH 1 DAVID 0	85
1996 NEVER TRUST THE OFFICIAL SCORE	88
1997 WHAT'S IN A SIGH?	103
1997 SPOT POWER	105

1998	CLOSE DOESN'T COUNT	107
2000	OLYMPIC DREAMS	109
2000	SHOWDOWN IN MAASTRICHT	114
2000	PHOTO FINISH	117
2000	THE MISSING TROPHY	124
2001	THE PRINCE OF KNAVES	126
2001	TWO OUT OF THREE AIN'T BAD	128
2001	THE FIRST LADY	134
2003	THE FULL MONTE	146
2004	BACK FROM THE DEAD	155
2004	NO SURRENDER	163
2004	TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA	171
2004	LOSER TAKES NOTHING	179

GENERAL INTEREST

As the game of bridge enters its ninth decade of existence, it is fascinating to look back at the best and most exciting moments that have occurred at the bridge table. You'll find it all in this collection: the brilliance, the blunders, the amazing triumphs, and the inexplicable falls from grace. The great players of this last century can be found here too, from Culbertson to Kantar, from Reese to Rodwell, from Harrison-Gray to Hamman and Helgemo, as well as the legendary teams like the Dallas Aces and the Italian Blue Team.

Open this book anywhere, and we bet you can't put it down!



MARK HORTON is a distinguished international bridge player and journalist, who is currently editor of England's BRIDGE magazine. His previous books include *The Bridge Magicians* (with Radoslaw Kielbasinski) and *For Love or Money* (with Brian Senior).

