

The five of us who arrived very early for this match were kept waiting outside for a good 20 minutes before the front door was eventually opened by an apologetic Doncaster D Captain who had been delayed by a telephone call. The hot teas and coffees were certainly a welcoming sight on our eventual entry and must have fired us up to a resounding victory.

Round 1 included the biggest swing of the match when both our E-W pairs bid and made 3NT on Board 4 whilst 2NT went one off and two off on the other two tables, gaining us a whopping 17 imps! Board 2 gained us 4 imps as Kevin & Chris's gamble of doubling 4C-2 for +500 more than compensated for three small minus scores and we added 6 further imps on the next board when Christine & Les took 4S two off when it had been made by one opponent and 3NT had also been made once, by Chris & Pauline. Solitary game scores in 3NT and 4S by two different opponents on Boards 7 and 8 reduced the lead by 3 and 6 imps respectively to +13 imps.

Round 2 saw our lead increase by 18 imps for a 31-imp interval lead. This is despite our losing 18 imps on Boards 11 and 12 as Christine & Les were the only pair not to bid to 4S on the former (-6 imps) and four minus scores were recorded on the latter with 3NT and 3C+4 making by our opponents while our E-W pairs both went down in 4H. The 12 imps we lost here were immediately recouped, however, on the following board when Chris & Pauline were the only pair to defeat 4S, then a further 13 imps were garnered on Board 15 with the same pair being the only ones to bid game, making 4S+1 with ten tricks being made elsewhere except against Christine & Les who managed to get the contract one-off doubled. The success of the round was confirmed by Kevin & Chris being the only pair to bid game on the final board, all pairs making either eleven or twelve tricks.

After a pleasant tea of sandwiches, pork pie and delicious cakes our good form continued into round 3 despite another bad early board, no. 18, where 4S always went down with a 5-0 trump break, but our opponents were the only two pairs to double for 500 and 300 points v. 100 and 50 points. Kevin & Chris actually went to 5SX-3, but amazingly 4H was makeable the other way with just 15 HCP (-12 imps)! Board 20 starred Christine & Les with the only 3NT game bid, making 11 tricks each time in NT or Clubs, and the same pair profited from taking their opponents one off in 5D on Board 23 when 3NT always made elsewhere (+13 imps). Another 13 imps were gained on Board 21 when Kevin & Chris's opponents bid 6H with both red aces missing. +13 imps for the round to total +44 imps altogether.

The final round again included a bad early board when Christine & Les conceded 400 points trying for an over-ambitious 3NT on Board 25 (-7 imps), but included a huge gain of 16 imps on Board 31 with both our N-S pairs making 4S when our opponents went one off in either 4S or 3NT. Amazingly the second half of the match had mirrored the first half exactly with an 18-imp gain after an earlier 13-imp gain, totalling a 62-imp winning margin and easily our best ever result in this division, a 16-4 win.

Everyone contributed to this excellent result as we outclassed our opponents in both bidding and play, with top billing this time to Chris & Pauline and Christine & Les, the latter pair continuing their fine form after stepping up from the C Team.

BRIGHOUSE B PAIRS	1st ROUND	2nd ROUND	3rd ROUND	4th ROUND	TOTAL
Chris & Pauline (N-S)	+1690	-280	+1400	+1410	+4220
Kevin & Chris (E-W)	-1260	+1570	-1400	-380	-1470
Neil & George (N-S)	+1590	-1840	+1280	+1350	+2380
Christine & Les (E-W)	-700	+1600	-260	-900	-260
DONCASTER D PAIRS					
David & Julia	-1690	-1600	-1280	+380	-4190
Maureen & Linda	+1260	+280	+260	-1350	+450
Jane & Mary	-1590	-1570	-1400	+900	-3660
Mike & Shauna	+700	+1840	+1400	-1410	+2530

