



## **THE PENYLAN CLUB**

Penylan Bowling & Cardiff Bridge Club  
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### **Chairman's Report for the Cardiff Bridge Club 51st Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 27th January 2026**

Welcome to you all and thank you for attending this years' AGM.

2025 started with the Club's Xmas party and one for Monday afternoon's social game. These were quickly followed by the third highly enjoyable and successful Hirst Kurbalija Swiss Teams. The year, however, finished tragically with the untimely deaths of both Diane Kurbalija and Ann Hirst's husband Fitz.

Last year we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Edith Wade. Sadly, she passed away too.

We send our sincerest condolences to all their families and friends.

We were able to hold all our Annual Special Events in 2025 and you will find details of all the Winners later in this Report

We have also been able to hold all our regular Sessions both in the Club and online. In order that we could do so, we were extremely grateful to our overworked TD's, Sarah Amos, Ian Evans, Angela Gilbert, and Brian Quinlan. We could not have managed without them and especially Angela. We still need more Directors. Peter Knowles is ready to go but I would urge as many of you as possible to attend Sarah's Club TD Training in the Club on the weekend of the 28<sup>th</sup> February and the 1<sup>st</sup> March

Total attendances were very slightly up on the 2024 figures. Monday afternoons again top the charts, followed by both Wednesday evening sessions combined. Tuesday is still the most popular evening but even so numbers are down for some reason. Wednesday afternoon Supported Play has proven to be popular. Thank you, Simon and Sonia.

The Committee are exploring the possibility of playing more daytime bridge. I hope that when this has been agreed it will be well supported.

As I said last year, we can be very proud of our varied Teaching programme. In fact, a new Begin Bridge Course is due to start this week. We owe a great deal to Simon Gotschalk, Stephen Lindsay, Sonia Griffiths, Jon Jones and their band of helpers.

I would like to thank James Brindle, Sarah King and James Williams and their band of helpers for all the work they do with the Juniors, which started with the Cardiff University's Freshers Fair. They also run the Bridge Society.

I am very grateful to the Social Committee comprising Veronica Burrows, Jane Buttrick, Bronwen Evans and Teresa Goss. They worked very hard to ensure that the Xmas Party, Chairman's Charity and the Geoff Evans Quiz were successful. Thanks too to David Buttrick and Simon Lee for their help.

The Quiz was again enjoyed by all with the Hall full to capacity. We are so grateful to Anna, Kevin and all who helped. I am pleased to confirm that they have agreed to run it again this year on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2026.

Thanks, are also due to the many of you have been called upon to provide food and raffle prizes for various events. You have not let us down.

I was delighted to hold my first Chairman's Charity. This was also very enjoyable and raised just over £500 for the Marie Curie Home in Penarth. I've yet to decide on this year's Charity.

Simon Gottschalk has worked tirelessly in setting up Club Tickets, resolving issues from time to time, mainly arising from the WBU Server and regularly upgrading it. I don't know how he does it. Club Tickets is very easy to use and hopefully everyone will do so soon. It will make it so much easier for all sorts of reasons.

There are also a number of other people who have gone above and beyond for the Club. I do not like singling people out but I must make specific mention of Liz Atkinson. Aside from being our Club Captain, she deals and delivers our pre-dealt hands every week, makes sure our Office requirements are up to date and there is sufficient coffee, organises the Winter League and is one of our Reps on the EWBA Committee. I would like to thank Gwynn Davis and Sue Ingham for dealing the boards in Liz's absence.

I am also extremely grateful to David Buttrick for maintaining an excellent website, preparing our Posters and handouts, and generally helping when necessary and together with Jane ensuring on a weekly basis that we do not run out of refreshments.

I must also thank Brian Quinlan for the work he did last year as Acting Membership Secretary in collecting Subscriptions, which is not easy with so many different rates and people to deal with, and maintaining membership records. I am delighted to say that Sonia Liggett has taken on this difficult role, despite knowing what it involves. She has also joined the Bridge Committee.

Bronwen Evans also joined the Committee during the year and has helped me considerably by taking the Minutes.

This leaves my final thanks, which goes to all the Committee members. They meet monthly and as necessary and take on other tasks and duties. I am pleased that they have all agreed to stand again this year.

You will be aware from David Brown's Report that the Penylan Club faces some difficulties. Although the PMC are endeavouring to find solutions I would urge you all to attend the Penylan Club AGM on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> February, before Bridge and offer your ideas and support. Although we are more than pulling our weight, it is beholden on all Sections to help. We have great facilities here.

At this point, I would like to offer congratulations to Members, who have won a broad array of competitions or who represented Wales in International Competitions

### **Cardiff Bridge Club – Roll of Honour 2024- External competitions**

#### **WELSH REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS (Selection)**

#### **Lady Milne Trophy (Ladies Home International)**

Gilly Clench, Mia Deschepper, Diane Kurbalija and Ceri Pierce and Maggie Pierce (NPC)

**Teltscher Trophy** (Seniors Home International)

Diane Kurbalija

**Junior Camrose** (Junior Home International)

Sophie Akers, Joseph Bentley, James Brindle, Emilia Cadden, Sarah Hing and James Williams with Sooz Nesom (NPC)

**Mixed British Isles Online Teams**

Sophie Cunningham, Fu Cheung, Mia Deschepper, Diane Kurbalija, Ceri Pierce and Viking Yuen

**EAST WALES CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS – WINNERS**

**East Wales Congress – Teams**

Mike Best, Gwynn Davis and Susan Ingham

**Arthur James Pairs**

Gwynn Davis and Susan Ingham

**Stan Berger Pairs**

Mike Best

**Patrick Jourdain Teams**

James Brindle, Gwynn Davis and Susan Ingham

**Mixed Pairs**

Mike Best

**Cardiff Bridge Club- Roll of Honour 2024 –Internal Competitions**

**Hirst Kurbalija Swiss Teams**

Diane Kurbalija

**Sadie Valdemar Pro-Am Teams**

Carol Kellaway, Peter Holmans, David Teague and Sarah Wilcox

**Club Championship Pairs**

Gwynn Davis and Susan Ingham

**Club Championship Teams**

David Birt, Gilly Clench, Simon Richards and Viking Yuen

**Club Championship Mixed Pairs**

Gwynn Davis and Susan Ingham

## **Handicap Pairs**

Joseph Bentley and James Williams

## **Individual**

Bob Drinkall

## **Italo Basiletti Men's Pairs**

Peter Holmans and David Teague

## **Italo Basiletti Ladies' Pairs**

Charlotte and Susan Ingham

## **Chairman's Charity Pairs**

Anna- Marie O'Brien and Margaret Harrop

## **Winter League**

Mia Deschepper

Forgive me if I have omitted anyone.

In addition to those people I have already mentioned, I think it is important for you to know which of our Members are doing what. Here goes:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Club captain                           | Liz Atkinson   |
| Finance Officer                        | Ray Kemp   |
| Membership Secretary                   | Sonia Liggett (In 2025 Brian Quinlan)  |
| Club Tickets                           | Simon Gottschalk   |
| Chief Tournament Director              | Sarah Amos   |
| Tournament directors                   | Sarah Amos, Ian Evans, Angela Gilbert and Simon Gottschalk<br>With Peter Knowles and online Brian Quinlan. |
| Teachers                               | Simon Gottschalk, Stephen Lindsay, Sonia Griffiths and Jon Jones   |
| Masterpoints Secretary                 | Arthur Matheson  |
| Handicaps Secretary                    | Angela Gilbert   |
| Webmaster                              | David Buttrick   |
| Pre-dealt hands Dealer                 | Liz Atkinson   |
| Purchasing Officers (Refreshments)     | David & Jane Buttrick  |
| Purchasing Officer (other Consumables) | Liz Atkinson   |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Special Events Officer                | Angela Gilbert   |
| Winter League                         | Liz Atkinson   |
| Social Committee                      | Veronica Burrows, Jane Buttrick, Bronwen Evans and Teresa Goss |
| Get well and Condolence Cards Officer | Teresa Goss  |
| Appeals Panel                         | Sarah Amos   |
| ECATS Contacts                        | Sarah Amos and Brian Quinlan                                   |
| Email contact through website         | Sonia Liggett  |
| Technical Support                     | Simon Gottschalk   |

We are a Members' Club, so just like the Co-op we own the place! This does not oblige you to do anything other than play but you can still play a small part by arriving early, putting up tables, putting out bidding boxes, helping set up the kitchen, returning your cups, and tidying up afterwards etc. Aside from these, I would finish by repeating the plea every year for more TDs.

Thanks again for your ongoing support. Here's to a successful 2026 for us all.

Martin Joseph  
25.01.26

AFFILIATIONS

Welsh Bowling Association • County of South Glamorgan Bowling Association • Welsh Private Greens Bowling Association (Eastern Section)  
Welsh Women's Bowling Association • Glamorgan County Women's Bowling Association  
Welsh Bridge Union • East Wales Bridge Association