Chairman’s Report 2018.

Firstly I must apologise for my unexpected absence from the 2018 AGM, there was a somewhat unforeseen clash between my two favourite pastimes Cycling and Bridge. On the morning of the AGM, having prepared notes for my speech, organised copies of the last AGM and committee meetings, I headed out in glorious sunshine for a bikeride that should have taken two hours. 4 hours later I made it home, between the three of us in our group we had 6 punctures, ran out of resource and had to call out wife rescue!

Unbelievably it is now 5 years since I was elected to the Chair of HIWCBA, time has flown by with this year being both the smoothest and quickest. Throughout the year we have seen a steady attendance at most of our county competitions, all the teaching seminars were very well supported and the directors refresher course a success. The main event of the year was our inaugural Hampshire Congress, which saw a full house of 72 pairs on the Saturday and 24 teams on the Sunday, everyone commenting on what a run well event it was. The charity simultaneous events saw a good uptake from local clubs, with a total of £1309 being raised for the local air ambulance. County leagues and knockouts continue with a steady number of teams participating.

The most disappointing aspect of this year had been our inability to identify any potential premises for our County bridge Centre, we could do with someone to take this on as a full time project.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on the committee for their efforts throughout the last 12 months. Also a special thanks to Christine Ray for all her hard work in organising the County Congress. Special mentions also for Ian Fearon for running all the County

Leagues and KO’s, Tim Smith our Webmaster, Dave Huggett for his seminars, Roger Johnson for auditing our accounts, our shareholders for representing us at EBU events and last but by no means least all the tea ladies at Romsey.

I hope to see you at a County Event soon.

Regards

Andy Hughes

Chairman HIWCBA