

## TONY LUNN ..... Obituary

Tony died suddenly in November 2003, leaving a wife and young son. He was just 56, and had been one of Surrey's most successful players for the previous 20 years.

He was introduced to bridge in his gap year before going up to Oxford and continued to play at university, although the game had to compete with snooker and, less often, mathematics. His subsequent career in IT took him abroad at first, and while based in Stockholm in the 1970s he played regularly with Sweden's top players.

Returning to England and to Surrey, Tony started playing with Ian Swanson, and together they soon won the first of their seven County Pairs titles, a feat unlikely to be surpassed. In the mid 1980s Tony also formed a long and successful partnership with Sean O'Neill, who had also read mathematics at Oxford. They played in the winning Lady Rose Cup team three times, and were also successful in several other county events.

Tony regularly represented Surrey in the Tollemache and Metropolitan Cups, with three appearances in the Tollemache Final during the course of ten years, and in 1984 he and Ian won the EBU's Corwen Trophy for Surrey.

Tony was a loyal member of the Mayfield Club throughout his time in Surrey, and also a regular member at the Selsdon Club. Partnering Sean O'Neill or Peter Lee, he represented Mayfield in many county and national events, most notably playing in all three of its winning NICKO teams in 1992, 1997 and 2002. Tony was also in the team of 8 which represented Mayfield in four Garden Cities Finals in the 1990s, winning it in 1995.

In national events, Tony's finest achievement was winning the Crockfords Cup in 1998 in a very strong final, playing with Sean O'Neill and team-mates Bill Hodgkiss, Robin Clarke, Ian Swanson and captain Ken Ford. Ken's team reached the finals four times in the six years from 1996-2001. Playing in Peter Lee's Gold Cup team, Tony and Sean twice reached the semi-finals in 1999 and 2001.

At the table, Tony was a skilful and highly competitive player, always alert and focussed, and a very thoughtful card-player too. Away from the table, he was much more relaxed than one might have expected and was always excellent company. He will be sadly missed.