

## Dates for your Diary

### June 2007

- 16 EBU One day Events Various
- 17 EBU One day Events Various
- 22 EBU Northern Seniors Congress Harrogate 22nd - 24th

- 23 EBU Garden Cities Final Kettering
- 24 SCCBA Swiss Pairs Ardingly 1.00
- 29 EBU English Riviera Congress Torquay

### July 2007

- 1 Venture Pairs Henfield Hall
- 5 Invitation Pairs Round 4 Eastbourne 1940
- 6 EBU Summer Seniors & Veterans Congress Eastbourne 6th - 8th
- 15 Basic Bridge Pairs Hastings St Leonards 11.00

- 21 EBU One Day Events Various
- 22 EBU/SCCBA Swiss Teams Hove 1.00
- 26 EBU Northern Summer Congress Scarborough 26th - 29th

### August 2007

- 2 Invitation Pairs Round 5 Avenue 1940
- 10 EBU Brighton Summer Congress Brighton 10th - 19th

### September 2007

- 7 Invitation Pairs Round 6 West Sussex 1940
- 21 SCCBA Autumn Congress Steyning
- 22 SCCBA Autumn Congress Steyning
- 23 SCCBA Autumn Congress Steyning
- 25- 27 Ken Latty Memorial Sims Clubs
- 29 EBU One Day Events Various
- 30 EBU One Day Events Various

### October 2007

- 2 Mixed Pairs Heat West Sussex 19.30
- 3 Sussex Pairs Heat Eastbourne 19.30
- 5 Invitation Pairs Worthing 19.40
- Individual Heat Worthing 19.30
- 9 David Pavey Heat Keymer 19.15
- 10 Sussex Pairs Heat West Sussex 19.30
- 11 David Pavey Heat West Sussex 19.30
- 14 BUPA Swiss Teams Bexhill
- 15 Sussex Pairs Heat Avenue 19.30
- 16 Individual Heat Lewes 19.30
- 18 Elizabeth North Heat Worthing 19.30
- 19 Sussex Pairs Heat Crowborough 1930
- Mixed Pairs Heat Worthing 19.30

### October 2007

- 21 Ladies Pairs Patcham 13.00
- 26 Sussex Pairs Heat Horsham 19.30
- 29 David Pavey Heat Avenue 19.30
- 31 Elizabeth North Heat Horsham 19.30

### November 2007

- 1 Invitation Pairs Round 8 Avenue 19.40
- 2 EBU Autumn Congress 2nd - 4th
- Sussex Pairs Heat Worthing 19.30
- 8 Sussex Pairs Heat Henfield Hall 14.00
- Individual West Sussex 19.30
- 9 EBU Seniors Congress Daventry 9th - 11th
- 18 Chairman's Cup West Sussex 13.00
- 19 Elizabeth North Heat Avenue 19.30
- 22 Elizabeth North Heat West Sussex 19.30
- 23 Individual Heat Horsham 19.30
- 24 Tollemache Qualifier venue tba 24th - 25th
- 25 Mixed Pairs Bexhill 18.50
- 26 Elizabeth North Crowborough 19.15
- 29 Devonshire Cup Heat Eastbourne 19.30
- Individual Heat Henfield Hall 14.00
- Devonshire Cup Heat Horsham 19.30

### December 2007

- 2 Chichester Basic Bridge Pairs Chichester time tba
- 5 Mixed Pairs Heat Eastbourne 19.30
- 7 National Pairs Heat Worthing 19.30
- 10 National Pairs Heat West Sussex 19.30
- 18 Mixed Pairs Heat Avenue 19.30

### January 2008

- 8 National Pairs Avenue 19.30
- 10 National Pairs Heat Eastbourne 19.30
- 13 New Year Swiss Teams Henfield 13.00
- 14 Charity Simultaneous Pairs Clubs 14th - 18th
- 20 East Grinstead Basic Bridge Pairs East Grinstead 11.00
- 25 Mixed Pairs Heat Horsham 19.30
- 27 Lansdowne Swiss Teams Eastbourne

**If you would like to contribute to or comment about the newsletter please contact Sally Bugden on 01273 890285 or email [sbugden@redacres.demon.co.uk](mailto:sbugden@redacres.demon.co.uk).**



### From our new Chairman...

It gives me much pleasure to introduce myself as your new Chairman I think I know many of you but look forward to getting to know many more members. I shall try my very best to serve you well. I am very fortunate to have so many people to help & advise me. I want everyone to enjoy their Bridge and if you have a problem I am here to help.

I believe Sussex Bridge has a great future - please help me to prove this & support your County Association. The latest competitions have been very well supported. The Green point at Ardingly saw 54 tables in play using Bridgemates. Players were able to watch the results appear on screen. I am looking forward to the SCCBA Swiss pairs at Ardingly on 24<sup>th</sup> June & Swiss teams at Hove Town Hall on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Most important of all ENJOY YOUR BRIDGE.

### ...and a new President...

Martin Pool is the new President of the SCCBA. Born in 1943, Martin grew up in Derbyshire and started playing bridge when he was at college learning to become an airline pilot. His first serious partner was his wife, Pauline, whom he met when they both worked for British Airways. "We started from the same point in terms of knowledge and experience and we learned together by analysing everything we did at the bridge table." Martin and Pauline went on to become Grand Masters. Pauline sadly died in 1998 after losing her fight with cancer. Martin, who retired from British Airways in 1993, became more and more involved with the administration of bridge. He is currently the Chairman of the EBU's Laws and Ethics Committee and continues as the SCCBA's web master. He also directs many of our county tournaments.



Martin made a great deal of positive changes in the way that the county was run. He was always available 24 hours a day for any members of the Management Committee who needed his advice, guidance or help.

Happiness came again to Martin in his personal life when he met and married Pauline Comber in 2000. Another Pauline in his life, who many of us have had the pleasure of meeting and also enjoying her fantastic culinary skills when she has been persuaded to cater for in bridge events in Sussex.

On behalf of the SCCBA we thank Martin for the enormous contribution he has made to bridge in Sussex and wish him well in his role as President.

### ... and a new Vice President

Congratulations go to May Langmaid who was elected to the post of Vice President of the SCCBA.

## Richard Fredrick's Play of the Cards

This year Sussex qualified for the finals of the Tollemache, the premier inter-County event, for the first time in a decade. We were never in contention in the finals (won convincingly by Gloucestershire), but to win through from a tough qualifying group was encouraging and the team performed creditably.

Out of many interesting hands, here are two that caught my eye with points of interest both in bidding and play.

On the first, you pick up **KJ98 A97 Q5 AKJ8**, second in hand at love all. What is your choice over a **3H** opening on your right?

3NT can easily be very, very wrong (it could have no play when game is easy in a never-uncovered nine card spade fit, for example) but it is a much better choice than Double. If 3NT is the right contract, it almost certainly has to be bid now – it is rather optimistic to expect partner to have a solid heart stop. But most importantly, bidding 3NT over pre-empts just seems to work: even if there is an eight card major fit, it often founders on bad breaks while 3NT comes home. This deal was a case in point.

<b>Q10432</b>	<b>A765</b>
---	<b>K432</b>
<b>A984</b>	<b>J732</b>
<b>Q964</b>	3
	---
	<b>QJ10865</b>
	<b>K106</b>
	<b>10752</b>
	<b>KJ98</b>
	<b>A97</b>
	<b>Q5</b>
	<b>AKJ8</b>

Contract: **3NT** by S, on lead of the **S3**

Even after a low spade lead, there are only seven tricks; on the assumption that the ninth could somehow be wheedled out of the black suits in the end-game, the problem was to extract the eighth from that diamond position. Declarer led the **DQ** at trick two; LHO won the Ace and helpfully switched to a low club. It's not clear that declarer should necessarily get diamonds right (playing specifically for **Kxx** on the right and ducking two rounds, rather than the straightforward line of playing towards the Jack), but happily for Sussex he did, and South emerged with +400. [Note that West's club lead from **Qxxx** didn't actually cost; he can always be strip-squeezed to concede the ninth trick, and the line is pretty much automatic].

The deal was an unlucky one for another Sussex pair. At their table, East started with a solid **2H** opener, over which South had an obvious **2NT** overcall. With plenty of room to explore, the 4-4 spade fit was located and the game duly reached... which is a fine contract on a single-dummy basis, but had no chance against the 5-0 break. Chalk it up either as another winning board for heavy pre-empts, or as random luck, as you see fit.

## St Barnabas Charity Pairs Sunday 14th October 2007: a new venue, a new day!

Henfield are hosting their 5th Charity Pairs event for the Worthing cancer hospice. This year, the event has moved to a larger venue, The Henfield Hall and to a Sunday when parking will be easier. The 11.30 – 3.30 time-slot remains the same as does the excellent ploughman's lunch prepared by the Henfield Friends of St Barnabas. Entry is a minimum of £9.50 per player. Donations may be sent by post to the organiser or made on the day of the event. Please make a date to join us. **An entry form is included with this newsletter.** For further details, contact Bob Whiting on 01403 711707 or email [b.wv@btpopenworld.com](mailto:b.wv@btpopenworld.com).

## Results Round Up Season 2007

Congratulations to all the winners listed below. We organise many competitions in Sussex and we have a very high standard of play, these players really have achieved greatness.

### Sussex Pairs:

Brenda Tolhurst and Janet Rumsey, pictured right, receiving their prize from David Galpin, have the honour of representing Sussex at the Reg Corwen Trophy to be held in Kettering on 2nd and 3rd of June - Good Luck Girls.



### Championship Teams:

Duncan Curtis, Andy Morris, Liz Hoskins and Terry Prodger.

### League Winners:

- Div 1 Andrew Southwell, Matthew Hoskins, Gerry Stanford, Terry Wills
- Div 2 Ron & Margaret Buddery, Diana Stevens, Richard Newton
- Div 3 Piers Pennant, Jeanne Boydell, Ann Goss, David Howard-Houston, David Benjamin, David Sedlickas

- Div 4 Irene & Peter Gannon, Di Johnstone, Janet Cattermole

- Div 5 Beryl Pitman, Rita Lyford, Keith & Maureen Norman, Roger Stevens

- Div 6 Suzy & Chris Gray, Ian Wright, Maureen Shillaker

- Div 7 Bill Hensby, Judy Isaacs, David Harris, Sue Ebsworth, Mary Guy-Jones

- Div 8 Gary Inkpen, Jude Gill, Mike Burke, Heidi Morgan

**Mixed Pairs Winners:** Richard Burnett and Fran Thornton

### Uckfield Spring Congress Winners 20th –22nd April

Mixed Pairs: Eddie Lucioni and Jean Smallwood. Fitch Winners Joy and Colin Graham-Hyde. Multiple Teams: Dave Clifton, Chris Jepson, Liz and Matthew Hoskins. Swiss Pairs: Ian Lancaster and Gerry Stanford. Swiss Teams: Jill Skinner, Jeremy Willans, Martin Pool and Mike Kingsland. Welcome Pairs: Ian and Pippa Greenwood. BB Pairs Friday afternoon Roger Stevens and Rita Lyford. BB Pairs Friday Evening Jean Hardy and Sara Scougal.



**Kremer Derschi:** Lewes Club Team Richard Burnett, Mike Keeping, Diana Johnstone and Janet Cattermole.

**SCCBA/EBU Swiss Pairs 15 May:** John Austin and Dennis Witcomb, pictured right.



### Ken Latty Memorial Fundraising for St Michaels Hospice

It is with great sadness that we report the death of one of the stalwarts of club bridge in Sussex. Ken Latty ran the very successful East Sussex Bridge Club with Barbara Herold, his life and bridge partner. I had the great pleasure of meeting Ken in January and playing at his club. It was the first time we had met in person although he had been a constant support when I was re-writing the zero tolerance policy which is now known as Best Behaviour at Bridge. He was incredibly forthright at implementing this code of conduct and the East Sussex Bridge Club is all the better for it. No doubt then that the idea to run a simultaneous pairs event to raise money for St Michaels Hospice- where Ken spent much of his time during his illness - came from one of his club members.

St Michael's Hospice - which is now approaching its 21st anniversary - is dedicated to providing excellence of care and quality of life to patients facing incurable illness, and also to their families. The Hospice at Home services are available seven days a week, while the Day Care Centre gives much needed support and respite to patients and their families

All bridge clubs in Sussex should have received a letter about the Sims event, but here is a reminder:

Dates: Tuesday/ Wednesday and Thursday, September 25- 27 2007

Scoring will be done by ECATS with the issue of appropriate Master Points

Hands will be identical on all three dates so no individual can play more than once

Hands can be made up remotely if required.

Don't forget that if your club isn't running the event you are welcome to take part at another club. Full details of the clubs taking part will be published on the website. If you can't wait till then or require any further information please contact John Hunt, the Sims organiser, on 01580 830399 or via his email address [jwhunt@talktalk.net](mailto:jwhunt@talktalk.net).

### Gladys Haaki Award

The Gladys Haaki Award is given to an individual who has contributed to bridge in Sussex over and beyond the call of duty.

This year's deserving winner is Brian Gould, pictured right, who has worked tirelessly for bridge in Sussex, not only in his capacity as a tournament director and a past member of the management committee but also as chairman of Bexhill Bridge Club. Thank you Brian.



### Take your partners ...

Don't forget the **Venture Pairs** to be held at Henfield Town Hall this 1 July 2007. The event is ideally suited to the less experienced player partnered by a mentor of bridge teacher, but it is equally suitable for pairs of less experienced players. Give it a go! Contact the organiser Bob Whiting on 01403 711707 or by email on [b.ww@btopenworld.com](mailto:b.ww@btopenworld.com).

The time is upon us to book our partners and teams for the **SCCBA Autumn Congress**. A wonderful festival of bridge running from 21st to 23rd September 2007. A very pretty venue for a great weekend of competitions. Information from Neil Watts on 01273 772324 or email at [neil.watts1@tesco.net](mailto:neil.watts1@tesco.net).

My second deal is from the last match of the weekend. As West, you pick up, vulnerable against not in third seat, **A75 KQ5 K7 J8752**. Partner opens **1NT (12-14)**, RHO shows Hearts and another, and you bid the obvious **3NT**. [If you are a strong notrumper, you bid **1C-(2NT)-3NT**]. At other vulnerabilities it might make sense to look for a penalty, but at these colours this action seems normal.

However the auction is not over. What is your choice on the next round after

**1NT-(2C)-3NT-(P)**

**(P) - 4D - ?**

(or the equivalent after a **1C** start).

At a number of tables, West looked at his red-suit honours sitting offside for declarer, satisfied himself that his partnership had two-thirds of the deck, and doubled happily. He wasn't happy for long, as this was the full deal:

<b>A75</b>	<b>K9864</b>	<b>QJ103</b>
<b>KQ5</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>982</b>
<b>K7</b>	<b>J10</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>J8752</b>	<b>10964</b>	<b>AKQ3</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>AKQ3</b>
	<b>AJ1043</b>	
	<b>AQ98542</b>	
	<b>---</b>	

Contract: **4D** doubled, by S

West can't lead trumps without sacrificing a trick, and **4Dx** was cold.

Unlucky? Not at all! The second round double was the worst kind of partnership mas-termining. The **3NT** bid already showed both the values held and the red-suit stoppers; within the context of that description, West could hardly have held a worse hand for defending. The correct action is to PASS (100% forcing after the voluntary **3NT** bid), expressing uncertainty and leaving the decision up to partner.

At my table, West correctly passed and East had an easy decision - with all his values in the black suits, and partner expressing misgivings about defending, he had no hesitation in bidding **4S**, converted by West to **5C**. This is a perfectly respectable contract that happens to go one off when the Spade finesse fails; but even so -50 looked good compared to the many -510s that were being conceded.

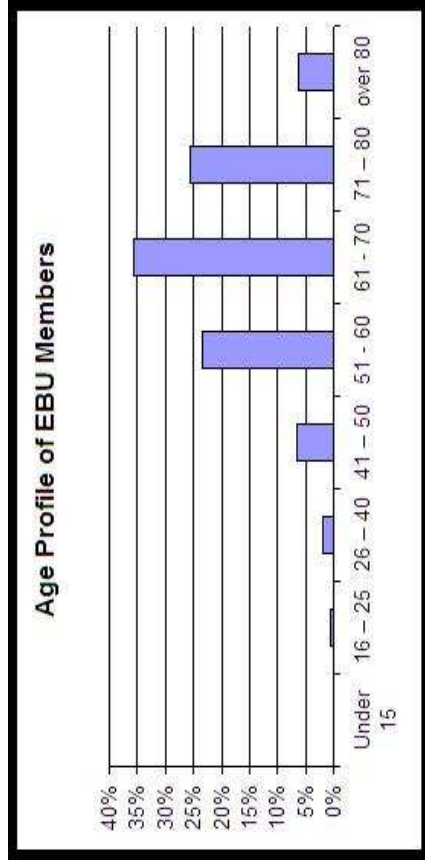
### Congratulations to Metropolitan Cup Winners...

Adam Lea, Alex Harding, Malcolm Wright & Andrea Galpin, Norman Hardy, Timothy Greenhill, Peter Brown & Joy Mayall who won division C in this competition beating Berks and Bucks, Kent, Surrey and Essex. They now go on to represent Sussex in the new National County League Final event taking place at Derby on 15th July 2007.

### Am I Bovvered? Andrew Pettit reflects...

Sad to say the answer to this is "Yes!"

You see I'm 63 and, whilst certainly far from being the youngest, I am among the younger members of my Bridge Club. Please note that the Bridge Club to which I belong has a membership that is as young as most! To illustrate this point take a look at the age profile of the EBU members who gave their age when responding to the recent membership survey (shown below).



I am bovvered that, in 10 years time, the majority of Bridge players will still be older than me and that there will be a rapidly falling number of players.

Iris, (my wife) & I took two of my grandchildren (then aged 9 & 10) to the EBU's Junior Teach-in and they thought it was brilliant. They received wonderful tuition ~ but there were only four students there to learn MiniBridge out of a total of about 100 players aged up to 20 (ish).

I am bovvered because there is so little likelihood of children being introduced to Bridge.

The media keep telling us what a poor education our children are receiving. The teachers keep telling us how pressurised they are to meet the demands of the National Curriculum. Bridge offers a terrific opportunity to improve concentration, and mental agility and to develop the player's strategic skills as well as their mental arithmetic. I am bovvered that these educational opportunities are being overlooked!

Well, it's little use just getting hot and bovvered; Iris and I felt we had to do something about it.

With the approval, indeed encouragement, of the West Sussex Bridge Club (WSBC) Committee we decided that we would run a Kool MiniBridge Skool on Saturday afternoons from 2.30-4.30 p.m. commencing 27th January. Our target audience was children aged 8-13. We set about recruiting from grandparents at the Club, by notifying the County Committee and by means of a newspaper article in the Mid-Sussex Times.

Friends at WSBC were particularly encouraging but, despite all the effort, the press articles generated no enquiries. For our first Lesson we had 26 students that included three of my grandchildren (who live about 50 miles away and three of their friends who live locally). There were a further four students whose (grand)parents were from outside WSBC.

The format of the afternoon was to give a lesson for 45 minutes or so followed by a break where the kids could kick a ball around or throw a Frisbee ~ as well as have a drink and a biscuit. All lessons were free. A condition was that each youngster should be accompanied by a (grand)parent and the hope was that they would be clamouring to play MiniBridge (to the standard they had then reached) with their (grand)parents at home.



Photo of our future bridge club members courtesy of Mid Sussex Times

Nobody was too disappointed when numbers dropped to 16 for the second week. There was a one-week break for half term but, as time progressed, numbers stabilised at four or five by Easter when the Skool closed its doors.

Of course I'm bovvered that the experiment wasn't a runaway success! But then I look back and think, "We tried something new to re-invigorate the game that means so much to so many people in this area." I also reflect, "We taught as many Sussex students MiniBridge as the EBU at their Junior Teach-in." But the more I reflect on that thought the more concerned I become about the future for Bridge!

What was my biggest disappointment?

That I didn't make it sufficiently clear to (grand)parents and the kids that I truly wanted them to play MiniBridge outside the Kool Skool. Would I have another go? Emphatically "Yes". But the reality is that I'd prefer help a more inspirational teacher if there's a volunteer. I know that I identify more easily with slightly older students.

What would I like you, the reader to do?

Think how you can help to get more kids to play Bridge. Perhaps by encouraging your (grand)children to go to the EBU Junior Teach in at Loughborough on August 31st-2nd September.

Iris and I will be there with the two grandchildren we took last year and their seven-year-old brother!

So there you have it. I've reached the end of this reflection. Are you bovvered? Do you want to run your own Kool Skool? If so, do get in touch! I'm sure that a few more heads are better than one ~ especially mine!!!!

For further information on the Kool Skool or Loughborough you can contact either Andrew Pettit on 01444 453111 email : andrew@lucastes.co.uk or Dave Armstrong on 01273 566101 or email dave.bridgebug@ntlworld.com.