

## Dates for your Diary

Changes highlighted in red

### October 2007

- 3 Sussex Pairs Heat Eastbourne 19.30
- 5 Invitation Pairs Heat 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
- 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
- 22 Mixed Pairs Bexhill 19.30**
- 23 Individual Heat Horsham 19.30
- 24 Tollemache Qualifier venue tba 24th - 25th
- 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
- 3 Mixed Pairs Heat West Sussex 19.30**
- 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- 18 Charity Simultaneous Pairs Clubs
- 20 East Grinstead Basic Bridge Pairs East Grinstead 11.00
- 25 Mixed Pairs Heat Horsham 19.30
- 27 Lansdowne Swiss Teams Eastbourne

### February 2008

- 3 Individual Final Worthing 13.00
- 10 Devonshire Club Cup Eastbourne 13.00
- 13 Seniors Simultaneous Pairs Clubs
- 16 David Pavey Trophy Final Worthing 13.00
- 24 Sussex Pairs Semi Final Avenue 13.00
- 24 Open Swiss Teams Eastbourne
- 28 Mixed Pairs Heat Patcham 19.15

### March 2008

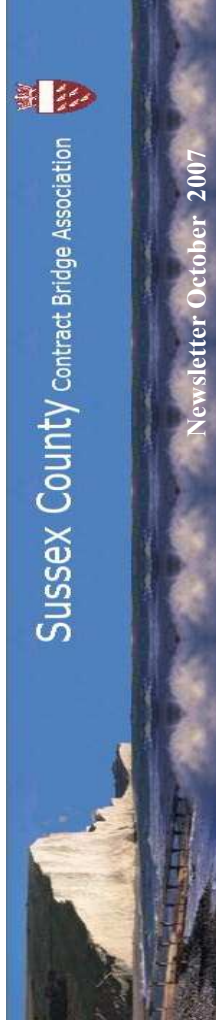
- 2 Club Teams of Eight Eastbourne 13.00
- 9 Sussex Pairs Semi Finals Eastbourne & Worthing 13.00
- 15 Elizabeth North Trophy Final Worthing 13.00
- 16 Open Swiss Teams Eastbourne 13.45

### April 2008

- 6 Sussex Pairs Final West Sussex 13.00
- 13 Mixed Pairs Final West Sussex 13.00
- 18 - 20th Spring Congress Uckfield
- 20 Sussex AGM Uckfield 12.00
- 20 Open Swiss Teams Eastbourne 13.45
- 27 Kremer Dersch Trophy Eastbourne time tba

We will only mail one copy of the newsletter to each household unless otherwise requested. Please contact the editor as listed below if you require more than one copy.

If you would like to contribute to or comment about the newsletter please contact the editor Sally Bugden on 01273 890285 or email sbugden@redacres.demon.co.uk.



### From our Chairman...

Hello everyone.

It's Jackie Clinton as pointed out to me in the last newsletter I said everything except my NAME !!

Since I last wrote I have had a very busy time getting to know the ropes as Chairman I still have a long way to go!

I have been to a very constructive meeting together with Mervyn Wotton with the EBU to discuss Sussex opinions of the proposed new strategy - more news of that very soon.. SCCBA are very keen to encourage Youth Bridge& with our help 12 children went to Loughborough to the EBU's Junior Bridge weekend –they featured in The Argus Newspaper a proud moment for us & thanks to the Organisers Jill & Dave Armstrong.

### Prestigious award for Kay Batting

Kay Batting's enormous contribution to Sussex County Bridge Association has been recognised by the EBU. Kay has been honoured with the highly prestigious Dimmie Fleming Award, conferred on those EBU members who have contributed extensively to the bridge community in England. Kay has been an active member of the county committee from 1987 until this year when she retired. She organised many competitions and very much enjoyed co-ordinating the Ladies Pairs. Kay was a long serving delegate to the EBU Council, and Sussex valued her representation highly. She was chairman of the Wilton Bridge Club for 9 years as well as serving in other positions on the Wilton committee. Kay has also run a number of teaching weekends as well as always ready to help less experienced players improve their game. She also directed in different clubs locally. Kay has always found time to support local bridge clubs.



**We'll done Kay and thank you from all of us at the SCCBA**

Don't forget to look at the Calendar on the back page and book up all of the competitions listed there with your partner and team mates. For up to the minute information look at our website [www.sccba.co.uk](http://www.sccba.co.uk).

The EBU has published its revised strategy proposals on its website. There will be a further consultation with all its affiliated clubs between now and January. For further information look at [www.ebu.co.uk](http://www.ebu.co.uk) or write for further information to EBU, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP19 8AZ.

Richard Fedrick's Play of the Cards

One of the most interesting developments in bridge over the last decade has been the emergence of computers that can really play. Note I say 'play' deliberately – even the very best programs bid appallingly badly, and none have any concept of the psychological side of the game. However in declarer play and defence, they are now essentially perfect.



These days the undisputed champion of the double-dummy card playing programs is Deep Finesse, developed about seven years ago by the American Bill Bailey. It is Deep Finesse that is behind the 'optimal results' box that appears on the hand records that you receive at the end of tournament sessions. It's important to appreciate that Deep Finesse knows nothing about bridge; its calculations are simply the result of brute-force simulation of every possible outcome. It is also shamelessly double-dummy: it always plays as if it can see all 52 cards.

Claiming to have found a Deep Finesse mistake is a bit like the Loch Ness monster; there are plenty of people who are convinced they have seen one, but no sighting has ever been verified. Here are two hands that briefly gave hope to the bridge Nessies.

		AKx		
		AJ10xx		
		Qxxx		
10xx	x		Jxxx	
x			KQ9x	
Jxx			xx	
QJxxxx		Qxx		K10x
		xxx		
		AK10x		
		Axx		

Although both 6♥ and 6♦ are decent contracts, the ugly heart position appears to wreck any slam and in practice everyone was happy to have played in 4♥, making 10 tricks. But to general astonishment, when the hand-records were distributed at the end of the evening DF was observed to claim that 12 tricks were available in diamonds after all.

How can this be? The double finesse is wrong, and no elimination seems to be possible (once trumps are drawn and clubs ruffed out, North has no trumps left so East can just exit in spades). Needless to say, Deep Finesse was right (though some diehard UFO spotters took a little convincing). Suppose a club is led against 6♦ (as good as anything); South draws trumps while taking two club ruffs and a couple of spade tricks to leave this position, with East still to discard:

	A			
	AJ10			
	-		Jx	
	-		KQ9	
		-		
			-	
	x			
	xxx			
	-			
	-			
[irrelevant]				

Results Roundup — Congratulations to all

Henfield Candles 3 June First, Norman Hardy, Sally Bugden, Peter Baxter and James Bugden. With Norma & Bill Macmillan, Les Roffey & Margaret Horan in 2nd place and Mary Lawrenson & David Park Shirley Saunter & Peter Buttery third.

SCCBA Novice Swiss Teams 10 June First, Brian Spears & Jack Vidler Tim Kent & Jane Alderman with Chris & Christina Harvey Adam & Martin Harvey in second place and Derek & Jennifer Atchison Hedy Friend & Sheena Wood third.

SCCBA Swiss Pairs 24 June First, Peter and Marit Langston, with Karen and Malcolm Pryor second and Duncan Curtis and Andy Morris third.

Venture Pairs 1 July First Sheila Wright and Joan Smith, with Mike Greenfield and Beryl Pitman second and Sandra Dennison and Sandy Grinham third.



Basic Bridge Pairs Hastings 15 July First Claire Weston and Molly Freeman pictured right, with John Bushell and Ken Robinson second and Maureen Dufficy and Sue Baker third.

SCCBA Swiss Teams 22 July First Pyers Pennant & Jeanne Boydell, Roger Poulter & David Sedlickas with Jeremy Willans & Jill Skinner, Eddie Lucioni & Martin Pool second and Malcolm & Karen Pryor, Michael Prior & Keith Ashcroft third.



SCCBA Autumn Congress 21 to 23 September

Swiss Pairs Winners Cecily and Harold Linfield accept their cup from SCCBA Chief Tournament Director Norman Hardy, pictured left. Yves LeBrec and Philip Hunt came second and Eddie and Kathy Williams third. The Secondary final was won by Marie Gritt & Matthew Kime with Gerry Stanford & Dave Franklin second and Tilly Hennings & Jack Woodard third. The Consolation Pairs was won by Amanda Burton and Mike Dancy with James and Sally Bugden second and

Jonathan and Jackie Hinden third.

Swiss Teams was won by Mike Keeping, Richard Burnett, Richard Newton, Matt Read with Jeremy Williams, Ian Draper, Jill Skinner, Jean Paxton second and Chris Jepson, Dave Clifton, Liz & Ian Lancaster third.

Ladies Pairs was won by Joan Hootman and Andrea Galpin with Tilly Hennings and Fran Thornton second and Ann Bennell and Sue Summerhayes third.

Mens Pairs was won by Mick Carrington and Dave Franklin, with Neil Watts and John Taylor second and Stephen Ash and Martin Causley third.

Basic Bridge Pairs was won by Sue Baker & Roland Heathfield with Frank Howard & Avril Strong second and Elizabeth Hornsey & David Wilkes third.

Pivot Teams was won by Karen Pryor, John Griffiths, Keith Ashcroft, Phil Jones with Liz Hoskins, Richard Fedrick, Matthew Hoskins and Andrew Southwell second and Jackie Clinton, Carol Watson, May Langmaid and Margaret Collins third.

## Chairman Jackie Clinton talks about life and bridge...

Before I learnt to play Bridge I trained as a State Registered Nurse at the Royal London Hospital & then a State certified Midwife. I came to Sussex in 1971 the year I married Bill Clinton - little did I know how famous that name was to become.

I worked as a District Midwife & Nurse for several years until having my children. During this period 3 friends & I tried to learn how to play Bridge. We would meet for lunch every week & with food & wine try to work out our very complex game! Eventually we attended Adult Education Classes for formal lessons, our teacher was Sue Summerhayes {daughter of Dennis & Renee Crouch} so began my journey with BRIDGE.

I joined West Sussex Bridge Club & every Wednesday would go along for my night of torture, all these clever people able to understand Stayman, Reserving you rights etc I was only to happy when my hand contained so few points I was not expected to make decisions -that way nobody could see how nervous I felt .I am so pleased to see today newcomers to the Bridge World get a friendly happy welcome to a great game.

I have been a committee member at West Sussex for 15 years & served as their Chairman for two terms of office. I have been on the management committee of SCCBA for 8 years during this time I have run Ladies & Men's Pairs & Ardingly Swiss pairs.

Bridge has given me so much enjoyment & so many friends I hope now I can give something back , I shall try my very best to serve the County well & should any member feel I could be of any help to them just say the word.

Enjoy your Bridge

## Bridge club updates for the 2007/2008 Calendar

Bailey Bridge Club

Secretary: Mrs J Ballard 12 Long Mead Walberton Arundel BN18 0QC Tel: 01243 545884  
email: jeballard@tiscali.co.uk

Bognor Bridge Club

New events Thursday (gentle bridge) 7pm Saturday (with standby partner) 7pm

Cross-in Hand Bridge Club

Secretary Tel No: 01580861283 email simumpya5@talktalk.net

Eastbourne Bridge Club

Secretary email: baker529@btinternet.com

St Leonards Bridge Club

Secretary email: onyst@talktalk.netSeaford Bridge Club

Seaford Bridge Club

Secretary email: rog@at238.wanadoo.co.uk

Southdown Bridge Club

Secretary email: mildred@milrob.wanadoo.co.uk

Weald Bridge Club

Secretary email: ray.medhurst@fsmail.net

East has no way out – if he pitches a spade, declarer cashes the spade Ace and exits with the heart Jack; if he throws a heart, declarer just plays Ace and another. Very pretty.

That was too easy? Try this one, and see if you can defend as well as a computer.

	K87				
	A8				
	KQJ10542				
109	9	A63			
Q6543		K1072			
97		6			
AK63		QJ852			
	QJ542				
	J9				
	A83				
	1074				

At most tables South played in 4♠, making the obvious 10 tricks; some lucky declarers who avoided both the heart lead and the diamond ruff made 11. The post-hand discussion usually centred on whether EW could / should have found their cheap save in 5♥.

To general consternation, when the hand records came out at the end of the evening it transpired that Deep Finesse was claiming that 5♥ was a phantom – the maximum number of tricks available in spades was just NINE. Intrepid Yeti-sporters were heard derisively dismissing Deep Finesse's declarer play; even a beginner could make 10 tricks apparently. The defence can either lead a heart, establishing their trick there but giving up on the diamond ruff; or it can lead a diamond to obtain a ruff (East wins the spade Ace and puts West in with a club); but it can't do both. Or can it?

Suppose West leads a diamond. Declarer wins and plays the King of spades, which East must DUCK; on the next spade lead East takes his Ace and plays a club. Now the spotlight falls on West – he must resist the temptation to hand East his diamond ruff, and instead play a second club to force dummy. The position is now:

-	A8				
	KQJ542				
-					
		6			
	Q6543	K1072			
7		-			
63		QJ8			
	QJ5				
	J9				
	A8				
	10				

Declarer has lost two tricks so far, and if only he could reach his hand to draw the last trump he could claim the rest. But East will ruff the next diamond, and cash the club Queen for one-off. It's hands like this that remind me why I love this game.



## The Young Ones

Eleven young players from Sussex took part in the Junior weekend at Loughborough. They all did very well; James Hobden (15) was invited to trials for the junior under 19 squad; Tom Fedrick (9) together with dad Richard finished 12th in the Saturday night tournament (24 boards); Lily (9) & Eric (9) finished 44th (out of 60 pairs) and Aimee Humphrey won the individual prize for Mini Monsters which was her group.

Since returning from Loughborough Felix (12) has played in his first pairs event at The Avenue Bridge Club and ended on 50%, obviously hampered by his partner, Granddad Dave!

The youngest member was eight and the eldest fifteen. The students were James Hobden from Eastbourne; Tom Fedrick from Crawley; Chris Derrick and Aimee Humphrey from Hove; Stephen Kennedy from Bexhill; Eric Dibb-Fuller, his sister Lily and brother Felix from Brighton; Lucy Taylor, Leona Richens and Ben Cleminson from Brighton. A special mention should be made to Gary Richens (Leona's father) he had not played bridge since the age of 11 years but he encouraged Leona to join the bridge class rather than the chess group then he came to Loughborough and sat in and played in the Mini Monsters class. Who knows we may have recruited Gary as well, as daughter Leona.

We need to encourage many youngsters into the game and our special thanks go to Dave Armstrong and his wife Jill for taking the youngsters and coaching them. If anyone has any children or grandchildren who would like to learn the game or has ideas on how to promote junior bridge please contact Dave on [bridgebug@google.com](mailto:bridgebug@google.com) or call on 01273 566101.

The English Bridge Union Junior Bridge Teach-in for 2008 will be held at Loughborough on August 29 to 31 (and NOT the weekend of September 5 to 7 as shown in the EBU diary).

## The Older ones... also known as our Tollemache Team!

The county selectors headed up by David Galpin, their Chairman, have chosen the players to represent Sussex in the Tollemache Cup, the national inter-county teams-of-eight competition. The qualifying round will be held on 24-25 November in Hinckley. This will consist of four groups of approximately nine teams, seeded based on the previous year's success. The top two teams in each group then progress to the final held in February, an all-play-all round-robin with Victory Point scoring. Our team are Non Playing Captain, Julian Mitchell, with team members:

Mick Carrington and Richard Fedrick  
Dave Clifton and Chris Jepson  
Dave Franklin and Gerry Stanford  
Ian Lancaster and John Frosztega

I am sure all Sussex bridge players wish the team the very best of luck in the qualifying round.

## Charity benefits from generosity of Sussex Bridge Players

Julia Franklin, Chairman of the West Sussex branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association is pictured receiving our cheque for £500 from Val Chandler. Two of our members, Patricia Gadsby and Joan Sapsford received help and support from this Association and yet again we have helped a truly worthwhile cause. The money was raised by the SCCBA Charity Simultaneous Pairs which takes place at the beginning of every year. We always support two charities and this year we also gave £500 to St Wilfred's Hospice Eastbourne. We thank all our members for their support of this event and would like as many clubs as possible to take part in next year's event which will take place on 14 – 18 January. This year's charities are the local Air Ambulance and Knowle's Tooth Centre for families at Hurstpierpoint. We always try to give support locally so please let us know if you are aware of a charity in Sussex that you think we should support. The Committee would like to thank Val Chandler for her continued hard work in helping us support our local charities.



The SCCBA held the first Venture pairs in Henfield Hall on 1st July specifically for bridge players either new to the game or new to bridge congresses. Sixty players from across the county and into Surrey arrived for the 1.00p.m. start, all but ten of them at or below the rank of county master. Twelve different bridge clubs were represented with substantial contingents from Bognor and Henfield itself. The duplicated boards provided the expected array of so called unusual card distributions and the whole afternoon was played in a relaxed and friendly style, while sticking to the rules. SCCBA Chief Tournament Director Norman Hardy and EBU Vice Chair Sally Bugden saw to that! An excellent afternoon tea was provided by John Porteous of Shaves Thatch just outside Henfield and satisfied players were on their way home soon after 5.30.p.m. Congratulations to the winners Sheila Wright and Joan Smith from Henfield club with 63.6%, 2nd were Mike Greenfield and Beryl Pitman also from Henfield. 3rd were Sandra Dennison and Sandy Grinham from Horsham club.

## Venture Bridge Pairs at Henfield

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## Sussex players win at Brighton

The first weekend was the pairs event and Sussex pair David Clifton and Julian Mitchell were 5th overall from 495 pairs an excellent result.

The midweek teams was won by a Sussex team of Eddie Lucioni, Matthew Hoskins Dave Moir and Andrew Southwell, pictured right.

On Tuesday in the open pairs Eddie Lucioni and John Dakin were 2nd.

In the Seniors events best results were by Peter and Marit Langston who were 8th in the 'A' Final and Pat and Kathy Kent who were 6th in the 'B' Final. Tilly Hennings and Jack Woodard were 9th in the 'C' Final.

In the senior teams Dave Franklin, Martin Pool, Mick Carrington and Mike Keeping were 6th. Well done Sussex.

