

S.C.C.B.A. NEWSLETTER

February 2006

Chairman's Column



The New Year saw the launch of our exciting new website. The County is once again on top in keeping up to date with this modern information system. Much planning has

gone into giving us a new, attractive site which is clear, quick and comprehensive. For most events we will have the results on the site within hours, possibly minutes and you will be able to check not only the final ranking list but all the travellers and personal score cards as well. For those of you that use this facility, we do hope you all like it.

The Spring Congress at Uckfield will see the introduction of Bridgemates to some of our events. Instead of filling in a paper traveller the scores are entered on a numeric keypad and then sent directly to the scorer. This enables events to be scored more quickly and accurately. The system is easy to use, but just in case, there will be plenty of Directors to help with any problems.

It will be February before you read this but may I wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Martin

NOTICE OF AGM

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The SCCBA will hold an
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

at the
Uckfield Civic Centre
on
Sunday 9th April 2006 at 12:00 pm.

Refreshments will be provided for those members attending the meeting.

INVITATION PAIRS WINNERS



Our congratulations to the winners of the 2005 Invitation Pairs Joan Hootman and David Galpin.

Dates for your Diary

MARCH

- 5 **SCCBA Mixed Pairs Semi-Final Eastbourne & Worthing**
- 12 SCCBA Pairs Final *West Sussex*
- 12 Mini Swiss Teams *St Leonards*
- 18 SCCBA Elisabeth North Final *Avenue*
- 25 SCCBA Mixed Pairs Final *West Sussex*
- 27 Mini Swiss Teams *Eastbourne*

APRIL

- 2 SCCBA Kremer Dersch Trophy *Eastbourne*
- 7-9 SCCBA Spring Congress *Uckfield*
- 23 Mini Swiss Teams *St Leonards*
- 30 Mini Swiss Teams *Eastbourne*

MAY

- 7 Mini Swiss Teams *St Leonards*
- 14 SCCBA/EBU One Day Swiss Teams *Ardingly*
- 20 SCCBA Basic Bridge Pairs *Hastings*
- 21 Metropolitan Cup *Ardingly*
- 21 Mini Swiss Teams *Eastbourne*

JUNE

- 4 Mini Swiss Teams *St Leonards*
- 11 SCCBA Novice Swiss Teams *Keymer*
- 25 SCCBA Swiss Pairs *Ardingly*

CALENDAR CORRECTIONS

- p30** *Patcham Bridge Club*. The starting time of the Teams 1st Sunday has been changed to 2.00 pm.
- p31** *Weald Bridge Club*. The venue for meetings

MIXED PAIRS SEMI-FINALS

March 5 2006, Eastbourne & Worthing

Would all qualifiers please take note that the date has changed from the date given in the Calendar.

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Direct Debit Subscriptions

The county's activities are all financed by our subscriptions and entry fees for competitions. These have not altered very much over the years due to care and increased efficiency initiated by the Treasurer and others.

One way you could help our efficiency drive is to **pay your subscriptions directly to the EBU** preferably by Direct Debit. You can also pay on line through the EBU website or simply pay by cheque.

EBU Education visits Sussex



Alison Nicholson, Education Officer at the EBU visited Sussex on 15 November 2005 to discuss bridge education in schools in the county. Alison is willing to assist us in terms of supplying teaching material and undertaking initial teaching sessions in schools but we need volunteers to take up this challenge, identify schools and run sessions.

Do you have children or grandchildren that attend a school that might be interested in bridge lessons? Would you be willing to give up some time to get them interested in the game? If so, please contact Sally Bugden on 01273 890285.

In this series we have tried to get some insight into the people who spend so much of their time making our bridge experience enjoyable.

One of the most senior directors in the County is Eddie Williams and together with his wife Kathy, also a County Director, they make a formidable team when directing and organising events. You will see from the article below that Eddie did not even begin to play bridge until 1990 so latecomers take heart, you do not need to learn bridge when you're a teenager (although it does help). Now over to Eddie and Kathy.

What a wonderful job we have, we spend about 6 months of the year running bridge holidays all over the world. We meet lots of lovely people and many have become good friends.

Kathy started playing bridge about 25 years ago. Eddie didn't join a club until 1990, which was purely accidental! He and a friend were passing St. Leonards Bridge Club and thought they could play bridge and popped in to "have a game". After coming bottom week after week they decided to have lessons and have never looked back.

St. Leonards were looking for Director's so both of us did our Club Director's course. In 1994 Eddie took his County Director's course and was invited onto the EBU panel in 1996.

COUNTY PEOPLE Kathy & Eddie Williams

It all happened very quickly for him and he talked Kathy into helping him Direct and then do her County Director course.

We now run lots of events for our club, county and the EBU.

We have both been on our Club Committee. Kathy was a committee member for 5 years and then became treasurer and served for another 5 years. Eddie was match secretary for 5 years and also chairman for a year and still serves on the committee.

Eddie has served on the county committee since 1995 as Youth Officer, Secretary and lately Vice Chairman. He is also a member of the tournament committee, the conduct committee and selection committee. Eddie also served on the EBU tournament committee for 3 years.

When we are home in the summer months Eddie gives lessons to beginners and improvers.

It sounds as though our whole life is bridge. We do try and have holidays with friends without bridge. Our other interests include



golf, walking and cycling – well we have just bought ourselves bicycles and will use them soon!!

We met at the bridge club and became a couple in 1994 and married in 2001.

Eddie has three children 27, 22 & 19 the younger two are both at university.

Kathy has two children 21 & 20 both at university.

AROUND THE CLUBS

WEST SUSSEX BRIDGE CLUB

TOM BRADLEY MEMORIAL SWISS TEAMS

On the 20th November 2005 thirty teams representing a number of clubs in the County met at Clair Hall in Haywards Heath in memory of our late County President. Under Peter Langston's directing, the event was played in a spirit that Tom would have approved.

Including the Raffle which was most generously supported a total of £1,400 was raised & shared between MacMillan Nurses and St. Peter and St. James Hospice.

Tom's son Julian was delighted to be there to present the Raffle prizes and to chat with some of Tom's oldest friends.



The winning places were



1. Norman Hardy, Peter Brown, Joy Mayall & Andy Willard.



2. James & Sally Bugden., Kathy & Pat Kent
3. Mike Keeping, Richard Burnett, Fran Thornton & Janet Cattermole.

Jackie Clinton

HENFIELD DUPLICATE BRIDGE SOCIETY

ST BARNABAS PAIRS

The 3rd Charity Pairs event for the Worthing Cancer Hospice held on 15th October was well supported with fifteen tables in play. The Henfield Friends of St Barnabas provided an excellent ploughman's lunch and the whole Simple Systems event was played in an enjoyable, relaxed but competitive atmosphere watched over by our director Ian MacGregor.

Players arrived from all over the county with eleven different clubs represented.

1st Vi Boniface & John Clark (Wilton) 62.4%;

2nd Tony Horsfield & Alan Ireland (Worthing & Southdown) 61.5%;

3rd Kathie Genders & Sheila Stedman (Eastbourne) 60.8%.

The net proceeds on the day amounted to £523 with an anticipated matched donation from the Abbey National Charitable Trust of a further £500, helping to clear the £1000 raised in 2004.

Thanks go to the County for the loan of the duplicated boards and circulation of entry forms; to the catering team; our director and, of course, to all those who entered and made donations. Next year's event is already in the planning stage and we hope to see a packed hall again.

Bob Whiting

(Photographs at West Sussex by Pat Kent)

Do You Need Help with your Website or Scoring Programme

If you are a club or an individual with an interest in improving your website or scoring programme please talk or send an e-mail to the Webmaster scba@timberlands.co.uk. The county have much expertise on both these subjects which you might find useful.

Martin Pool

Ladies Pairs 30 Oct 2005



1. May Langmaid & Heather Barker
2. Tilly Hennings & Fran Thornton
3. Brenda Cross & Sally Thompson

Chichester Basic Bridge Pairs

4 Dec 2005

1. Rita Lyford & Roger Stevens
2. Roger Herman & Fred Ghaleb
3. Carson Pratt & Tony Whiteley

Devonshire Club Cup 11 Dec 2005



1. Leon Northeast, John Jackson, Yves Lebrech & Longin Rzonca
2. Joyce Smith, Sue Rolles, Sylvia Reeves & Maurice Reeves

Men's Pairs 30 Oct 2005

1. Mick Carrington & Richard Fedrick
2. Andy Morris & Duncan Curtis
3. Simon Reade & Pyers Pennant

Invitation Pairs 2005

1. Joan Hootman & David Galpin
2. Duncan Curtis & Andy Morris
3. Martin Pool & Dave Franklin

Devonshire Club Plate 11 Dec 2005



1. Martin Pool, Mick Carrington, Andrew Southwell & Dave Franklin
2. Barrie Cavell, Christine Dean, John Austin & Gordon Clark

Daily Telegraph Cup

The Sussex team of Chris Bainham, Magnus Berger, Eddie Lucioni and John Murrell took third place in the Daily Telegraph Cup competition for teams representing the Home Counties.

Chris and his team were invited to represent the SCCBA in this event as a result of winning the 2005 Championship Teams Plate. The event is held yearly at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, under the auspices of the London Metropolitan Bridge Association.

JOHN Pugh

1929 - 2005

John Pugh, a great friend for over fifty years and former bridge partner for many years, has just died of a heart attack; he was 76.

John will be remembered as a stalwart of the Sussex representative teams throughout the fifties and sixties and as a winner of numerous national events, including the Gold Cup. He also represented GB in

the World Pairs Olympiads in 1962 and 1964 (with me) and later in the European Championships with Irving Gordon.

John was a superb player and a generous and understanding partner. A solicitor by profession who really enjoyed his spare time playing bridge. On one occasion when competing in international trials he doubled the opponents in their suit at the five level knowing fully well that they could make a slam and were about to bid it. Of course, he was all ready to run out into our suit if redoubled - the coup of the Striped-Tail Ape - but the opposition, perhaps too surprised at this turn of events, forgot to redouble although duly making twelve tricks. Ostensibly this looked like a reasonable gain for our side. However, the other half of our team, Nico Gardener and Tony Priday, had a rare misunderstanding which resulted in bidding the grand slam - missing the ace of trumps! Boris Schapiro, never one to allow an opportunity like this to go by without comment, duly announced, "They were unlucky. The ace of trumps was on the wrong side. Could happen to anyone!"

John leaves a widow, Jane, and four grown-up sons. His death creates a huge vacuum for the family and his many friends - and especially for this one.

Freddie North

DIRECTOR's DUNGEON The Laws for practical players

The Director does not yet have the power to throw you into the dungeon but if this power is ever granted then reading and digesting the articles in this series by *The Keeper of the Keys* may keep you safe from harm.

Use of the stop card

Again this is a great idea, that once explained will help your opponents a great deal. Notice that I said your opponents and not you because you use it to protect them. The rule is simple - if you are going to make a jump bid you take the stop card from your bidding box, place it in front of you, make your bid, wait an appropriate time (about 10 seconds) and then place the stop card back in the bidding box. For your opponents the rule is simple too, they may not bid whilst the stop card is on the table. They must also not make it obvious that all they are waiting for is the card to go back before they pass.

You may ask, what is the purpose of this card? It is all to do with the law that says, "When a player has available to him unauthorised information from his partner, as from haste or hesitation, he must carefully

avoid taking any advantage that might accrue to his side."

So, there you are, partner is the dealer and opens 1♠ and you are all ready to bid 2♦ when the your opponent bids 3♥. You need to think don't you? You might be worth 4♦ but that takes you past 3NT so that is a problem. You might have 3 card spade support but partner might only have 4. There are all sorts of things to think about now and it is not fair that if you do think and then pass your partner will not be put in any invidious position. So, now we have a stop card you can be thinking away while the stop card is out quite legally.

You will have at least 10 seconds while the card is on the table while putting your partner under pressure.

Great isn't it?

What can go wrong? Lots - first let us look at the side that uses it. First lots of people take out the card, wave it around, put it back in the box and bid. Wrong, the correct procedure is described above.

Second is that they think it is for partner. This is not so and partner must not take into



STOP abusing the STOP

account whether the card has been used improperly or not. The times I have heard players say, "you didn't say "stop" partner so I thought you might have made a mistake"! Not allowed, we are back to the unauthorised information again. The stop card is for your opponents and not for you.

Now back to the problem above and this 3♥ overcall. Maybe you need to know whether it is weak or strong to consider your bid. Many players wait until the stop card is removed, ask their question and then think. Wrong - the rule states that you cannot call when the card is out, it does not say that you cannot ask questions. Ask your question, think about your bid, wait for the card to go away and make that call.

So, my tip this time is - STOP abusing the STOP.

The Keeper of the Keys

Best Behaviour at Bridge

(The SCCBA has been operating a Zero-Tolerance policy at events for many years as part of our efforts to make bridge more friendly for newcomers. This has now been rewritten by Sally Bugden following the work done by the American Contract Bridge League and is renamed "Best behaviour at Bridge".)

Bridge is an extremely enjoyable game. Courteous behaviour is an exceptionally important part of that enjoyment.

This guide serves as a brief reminder of how to behave at the bridge table. We are sure that all players naturally follow this code of conduct but there are times when concentration and pressure can take their toll and it is for these situations that we issue this as a reminder.

Greet others in a friendly manner prior to start of play on each round.

Be a good "host" or "guest" at the table.

Make your convention card readily available to your opponents and fill it out completely.

Make bridge enjoyable for yourself, partner and opponents.

Give credit when opponents make a good bid or play.

Take care of your personal grooming.

Ensure that your mobile phone is turned off.

Enjoy the company as well as the game.

Remember that it is rude to criticise your partner or opponents in public, to be less than polite at the table, to gloat over good results or object to a call for the tournament director or to dispute or argue about a director's ruling.

Please call the director if you think you have been affected by bad behaviour. You will be helping others as well as yourselves.

As in all games that are governed by rules and regulations, bad behaviour will be penalised.

If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately. Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by Law 74A. Law 91A gives the director the authority to assess disciplinary penalties. This can include immediate disciplinary board penalties, and if a future violation is incurred at the same event, disqualification from future competition in that event. The guilty party or parties will be deemed not to have played in that event. No masterpoints will be awarded and no refunds received. Any further violations may result in a disciplinary hearing where the player(s) future participation in tournaments will be considered. A Best Behaviour Report Form shall be available for players to report incidents which occur away from the table; and for directors to document complaints and action taken.

Enjoy your game!

New Year Swiss Teams

15 January 2006

Henfield Village Hall

The New Year Swiss Teams is an event not to be missed; a friendly atmosphere, unobtrusive organisation and directing and an excellent buffet. This year's results:

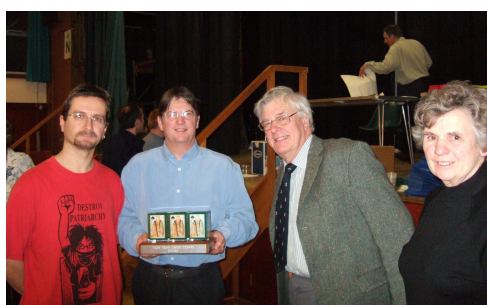
1. Duncan Curtis, Andy Morris, Harold Linfield and Cecily Linfield.
2. Keith Ashcroft, Malcolm Pryor, Michael Pryor & Karen Pryor.
3. John Williams, Matt Read, Richard Burnett & Mike Keeping

The non-expert prize went to the team of

Mervyn Wotton, Helen Kent, Hazel Ogden & Norma Woodbine.



The Winning Team



DORIS OGILVIE

The Doris Ogilvie Memorial Trophy is awarded to the winners of the Mixed Pairs at the SCCBA Spring Congress. Continuing our occasional series about the bridge players whose names grace our trophies we are fortunate to have Doris Ogilvie's daughter to write about her.

Doris Newman was born in 1909, in Bradford, into a family with a wide range of interests, which included playing cards. Bridge as we know it now, had not been devised then, but by the time she was in her early twenties it certainly had and many members of our extended family knew how to play the game well. She married John Alexander Ogilvie in 1937 and he was quickly taught to play. But the outbreak of war in 1939 sent Alex off to the front and curtailed activities at the Davies Club in Croydon where Doris played regularly.

Bombs had a habit of falling on our house, so in 1944 Doris moved the family to Hove, where there were several clubs, but it wasn't until 1947 that the first post-war duplicate was played at the Sussex Club on Hove seafront – Doris and her partner Enid Alfandary won the prize of a silver spoon. Thus hooked on duplicate she played regularly and so did Alex when eventually he was demobbed. They were one of the best mixed pairs in the area, but the competition was quite tough, with star players like Freddie and Bet North in the area.

Sadly Doris developed breast cancer and died in 1956, whilst my sister and I were still at school. The family decided that in her memory we would give the trophy for the Sussex Mixed Pairs, when the event was introduced into the Sussex Congress.

I learned to play by hearing my parents' detailed discussions on bridge after every duplicate, but sadly I never played with her. Nor have I ever managed to win the trophy we gave in her name.

Sandra Landy

No Internet Access? - Try your local Library

You will have read in the Chairman's Column we have an exciting new web site. Unfortunately, you may be one of the many members who do not have a computer and can hardly justify the expense of buying one to look at the County web site. So what do you do?

The answer is to **use the Peoples Network at your local library**. The People's Network is part of a Government initiative **UKOnline** intended to give everyone access to the internet. There are centres other than libraries which also give you access. Wherever you go

there is help available to get you started. If you are seated next to someone who obviously knows what they are doing **ask for help**. Do not be afraid.

So you're in the library sitting in front of the computer. Get your helper to type www.sccbba.co.uk into the "address bar" and click the GO button (they will tell you how). You will then see the new web site in all its glory and after a short while you will be "surfing the net".

To find your nearest UKOnline centre telephone this number 0800 77 1234.