

KEEP THE ROAD AREA CLEAR FOR THOSE WHOSE MOBILITY IS NOT AS GOOD AS YOURS  
AND PLEASE USE THE CAR PARK

# Newsletter

Summer 2014



Summer is technically over but it is still unseasonably warm and long may that continue! The club has had an interesting few months with some competitions approaching their climax. Disappointingly, the Mens and Ladies Pairs events were again poorly attended this year and the Committee will need to consider their future viability.

## MEMBERSHIP

Our regular numbers are dwindling – mainly due to ill health and some members moving away and there has not been a corresponding increase in new members. So, please, if you can come a little more often and / or recommend your friends or acquaintances to come along and join us this would be of great importance to us. The club will NOT survive unless YOU, the members, support it and new players join. It is up to each of us to “advertise” the club at every available opportunity. Our very best wishes of course to those who are seeking new pastures and especially to those who can longer come to the club for health reasons.

## FORTHCOMING

Liz is keenly awaiting calls from those who have not yet entered the **Swiss Pairs** on the **24<sup>th</sup> September**. Whether you have a partner or not please tell Liz if you can play or, if you know of anyone at other clubs who may be interested, please ask them to contact Liz too.

We have introduced a new event as a result of members’ feedback – **RANDOM TEAMS** – to be held on the **5<sup>th</sup> November**. Team mates will be drawn at random and I will try to ensure as far as possible that pairs of Stratification levels A and B cannot be drawn to play with other pairs of that level, thereby ensuring a really fair and random outcome! Please mark the date now – it’s easy to remember!

The **Children In Need** simultaneous pairs will be held on the 12 November – this is our only charity event and we have always supported it well.

Our **AGM** is the **26 November at 6.45pm** - note the time! More details and Agenda nearer the date

**CHRISTMAS EVENT – 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** I know it is a long way off but we need to think about what we want to do at our club night “Christmas Event” on the 10<sup>th</sup> December. It has been suggested that this year members bring their own food with the club providing wine etc as we have done in some previous years. I will try and think of something different this year re the bridge - possibly about 18 hands only of deals that past world champions have played so you can compare how you do against how they did! If anyone has any other ideas – or who would like to organise the evening - please let me know!!

## CHRISTMAS MEAL – THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> December

The proposed Christmas meal at the Fusions Brasserie on 18<sup>th</sup> December for members and their spouse / non bridge partner is looking as if will be highly successful – at the last count Lyndsey told me we have 32 coming along so it should be a great evening. It is not too late to add your name(s).

**HOSTING and OPENING UP:** The hosting system is going well but it does rely on you all looking at the CALENDAR on the web site so you can tell several weeks in advance when it is your turn. If you cannot make it then swop with someone who comes **after** you on the list and then let me know please so the web site can be updated. Several members have volunteered to open up the club but we need more please. It is far easier to administrate if the openers can do so for at least two (preferably three or four) successive weeks. Opening up requires only to open up the car park and hall at 6.25pm and to bring along a litre of milk. It is NOT necessary to put out the tables and chairs as members themselves can do that. Your Committee is always appreciative of those members who do help out but we still need more of you – PLEASE – to assist.

PTO

Thank you for your support

**WHAT IS A SQUEEZE PLAY? NO** – it is not something you got up to in your youth and pretend you are still capable of effecting with the latest new member; it is a play of the cards where declarer (usually) can force the opponents to discard potential winners thereby securing his (or her) own winners.

**FINESSE: DO YOU PLAY “EIGHT ALWAYS – 9 NEVER”** when deciding whether to finesse or go for the drop? What about the theory (some say Law) of **VACANT SPACES**?

Both these points were recently well illustrated when a classic example(s) cropped up on board 7.

		<b>Board 7 Dealer South – ALL VUL</b>
<p>♠ 9642 ♥ 2 ♦ 4 ♣ AQJ7643</p> <p>♠ Q                      ♠ AKJ53 ♥ AKJ10983          ♥ 54 ♦ J8753                ♦ A62 ♣ void                 ♣ K109</p> <p>♠ 1087 ♥ Q86 ♦ KQ109 ♣ 852</p>		<p>Bidding is likely to start P - 1♥ - 3♣ - 3♠ (100% forcing on W) and probably result in West playing in 6♥ but it matters little whether its E or W who declares in 6♥ or 6NT. It isn't a great slam but of course the contract is easy if opps lead a club but if N is on lead the 4♦ seems pretty good. W will have to play the A♦ - now what? There is no entry to the East hand except for overtaking the Q♠ and the last thing W wants is to end up in his hand having to play losing diamonds. Anyway – firstly what does W do about the Q♥? The bidding helps here, along with the law of vacant spaces. If N has 7 clubs and has led a diamond he only has five remaining spaces to hold 3 hearts to the Q. Probability wise therefore Qxx will be with S, so the 8 always, 9 never rule should NOT be followed. There is not the luxury of playing from dummy to the A♥, back to dummy and another ♥ to minimise the risks of N having a singleton Q♥ so W has to make the highest probability choice at the outset.</p>
<p>♠ 9642 ♥ ♦ ♣ AQ</p> <p>♠ Q                      ♠ AKJ5 ♥ 3                        ♥ ♦ J875                 ♦ ♣ void                 ♣ K10</p> <p>♠ 1087 ♥ ♦ KQ ♣ 8</p>		<p>BUT, how can W secure 12 tricks even if he does get the finesse correct? N has shown 7 clubs; the diamond looks ominously like a singleton and when he shows out in hearts on the second round you know N almost certainly has 4 spades. That is bad news as there are apparently only 3 spade tricks available due to dummy's lack of entries. And North is almost guaranteed to also hold AQ♣.</p> <p>A SQUEEEEEEEZE !! Take the A♦; play S for Qxx♥ and play out <b>all</b> the trumps forcing discards on N. As you near the last trump Declarer may glimpse N moving uncomfortably around in his seat but, whatever, Declarer now has 8 tricks and needs four more. If S has 4 spades and keeps them and K♦ the contract is doomed but if, as seems very possible, N has 4 spades then the squeeze can come to the rescue. When the last trump 3♥ is played this is the position (opposite):- If N throws a spade dummy discards the 10♣ and makes 4 spade tricks = 12 in total; if N discards the Q♣ then dummy overtakes the Q♠ and plays 10♣; again ensuring 4 of the last 5 tricks!</p> <p>There is a lot to commend a good squeeze!!</p>