

Surrey County Bridge Association Newsletter #17 March 2015

In this edition

- President's Introduction
- The 2014-2015 calendar
- Don't get too clever by Frances Hinden
- Hall of fame
- Surrey February Sim. Pairs
- Schools Cup
- Charity events
- SCBA goes to the County Show
- Club news, events and other snippets
- Teachers advertise
- Peter Bentley Obituary
- Duplicate scoring on your iPhone (BRIAN)

President's Introduction

The bridge season is well underway and I hope that many of you have found competitions of interest in the Surrey Calendar. As ever, the committee is interested to hear any comments members have about the format of the competitions or the venues used. Each year, the President selects a charity for the Sims Pairs event in February. This year I choose the Meath Epilepsy Centre in Godalming and I would like to thank all those who played in the event contributing to this very worthwhile cause.

Many of you will have heard that Peter Bentley passed away a few weeks ago. I would like to pay tribute to the many years he served on the Surrey Committee and as Tollemache Captain. Despite his illness worsening in recent months he continued to attend EBU shareholder meetings for Surrey and was at the most recent Surrey Committee meeting in January. He will be missed by many.

I am pleased to say that the Surrey University Bridge club is now established and meeting regularly. The association is funding a teacher in the early months and up to twelve students having been attending. We hope that we can build on the foundation that we have established.

Enjoy your bridge

Graham Osborne President

The 2014-2015 Calendar

March 2015						
Sun	29	County Pairs Cup and Plate	Oxshott			
April 2015	April 2015					
Fri-Sun	10-12	Spring Double-Elimination Teams	Cancelled			
Sun	12	Spring Swiss Teams	Cancelled			
Sun	26	Friendly Teams	Ripley Village Hall			
May 2015	May 2015					
Sun	10	Mary Edwards Cup	Wimbledon			
June 2015	June 2015					
Sun	07	Leagues Finals	Oxshott			
Sun	14	AGM Swiss Pairs	Ripley Village Hall			
Tues	16	TRY TEAMS	3 Counties			
Thurs	18	TRY TEAMS	3 Counties			
Thurs	18	Golf Bridge	Hampton Court Palace GC			
Sun	21	TRY TEAMS	Wimbledon			
Sun	28	Wanborough Cup	Wimbledon			

Do you play golf as well as bridge? Have you considered entering the SCBA Golf Bridge event? This year it is being held at Hampton Court Palace Golf Club on June 18th.

The format is

18 HOLES PAIRS FOURBALL BETTERBALL STABLEFORD IN THE MORNING DUPLICATE PAIRS BRIDGE IN THE AFTERNOON

The handicap limit for golf is --- men 28, ladies 36.

The entry fee of £50 per player includes coffee on arrival, green fee and a rolling buffet lunch with tea/coffee during the afternoon. The morning golf will be played from the Yellow/Red tees with ¾ handicap allowance for both men and ladies. The ladies will score from their own card.

Pairs (any combination) will be ranked both for Golf and Bridge, with Stableford golf scores converted to a percentage to allow an aggregate percentage to be calculated. Overall winners will be the pair with the highest aggregate percentage.

Entry forms can be found on the SCBA web site on the Competition Entry page.

The Spring Double Elimination Teams and the Spring Swiss Teams have been cancelled. The few teams who had entered have been informed. If you were considering entering these event please contact Trevor Hobson trevor hobson@hotmail.com so that we have your Team details for future events.

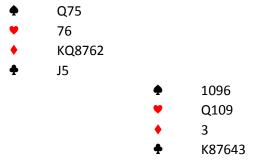
For more information on events that Surrey County Bridge Association run go to: www.surreycountybridge.org.uk/Events.php or click on a link in the calendar.

To enter an event either enter online www.surreycountybridge.org.uk/CompetitionEntryForm.php using the online entry form, download an entry form, or contact the competitions secretary Frances Trebble (competitionsecretary@surreycountybridge.org.uk).

Don't get too clever

Playing in the quarterfinal of the NEC Cup in Japan with SCBA President Graham Osborne, a fascinating hand came up which was misbid, misplayed (twice) and misdefended (twice, once by each defender).

Try it from my point of view first:

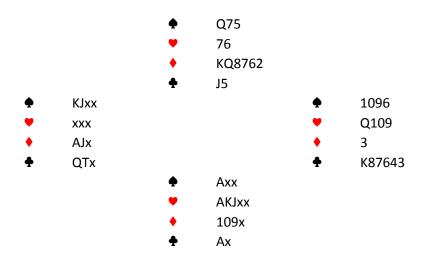


At love all, my partner (West) dealt and opened 1 - 10, which is usually either natural or any 11-14 balanced without a decent 5-card major. North overcalled 1 - 10, I bid 3 - 10 (pre-emptive, usually six clubs) and after some thought, LHO bid 4 - 10 which ended the auction.

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♦	3 ♣	4♥
D	D	D	

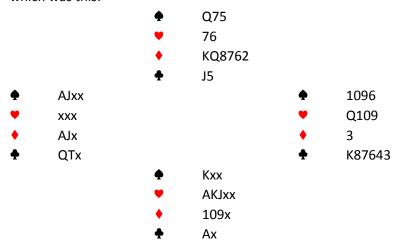
West led the 2 of clubs, which in our style shows an odd number (here exactly three). Declarer played low from dummy, I played the king and then declarer thought for a long time and eventually ducked. I knew a lot about the hand from the auction and play to trick 1: West has exactly Q102 of clubs, and at most one top spade honour (with the AK he would have led one). Declarer cannot have more than six hearts because partner must be balanced to open a 3-card club suit. If partner has no top spade honour, he must have both red aces (to get up to 11 points) and the contract is hopeless. If partner has one of the top spades, he must also have either the ace of diamonds, or at least four points in hearts. If partner's spade is the ace, then a diamond return now will beat the contract, because partner will get in with a red suit card to give me a diamond ruff to go with the club and ace of spades.

But what if partner's spade is the king? Suppose the full hand looks like this:



This gives declarer only five hearts, but this is the only sensible layout where it matters what I do. On this hand, I have to switch to a spade at trick two to set up four tricks. On all other layouts I could construct – including the more likely ones where declarer has six hearts – it doesn't matter whether I play a spade or a diamond.

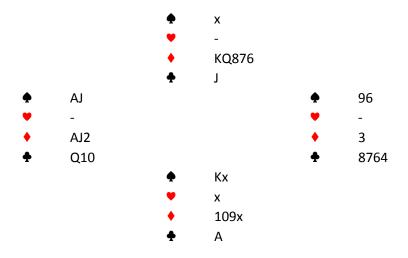
Accordingly, with my eye on the bulletin, I switched to the spade ten. I was quite close to the actual layout which was this:



After my spade switch, all partner had to do was win the ace, cash the ace of diamonds and give me a diamond ruff. Of course he would work out that this must be the layout...

At the table, partner played low on the spade switch without thinking too hard about it, which is the natural thing to do. He assumed that if I had a singleton diamond, I would have switched to it and that declarer had something like Kxx AKJxxx 10x Ax in which case he appears to have four losers.

However, appearances can be deceptive, because whether declarer has five or six hearts, he can win the queen of spades in the dummy and plays four rounds of trumps via a finesse. This is now the position:



Declarer also knows that West started with both the missing aces, exactly three clubs and hence was originally either 4333 or 3343 – which makes him odds on to have the jack of diamonds as well as the ace. On the last trump, what does West discard? A club lets declarer play a diamond to dummy (which West must duck), a club back to hand, another diamond to dummy and then a third diamond which endplays West to give declarer the king of spades. A diamond discard allows declarer to set diamonds up. A spade discard is the most interesting: declarer now has to run the 10 of diamonds. When that holds, he plays a second diamond – which West has to duck again – and then ducks out the bare ace of spades.

At the table, declarer didn't find this cunning triple squeeze. He drew trumps, then simply led towards the diamond KQ twice before cashing the trumps, and there was no squeeze. Possibly he simply assumed that diamonds had to be 2-2 because East hasn't switched to a singleton.

Declarer's duck at trick one was odd. If he had simply won the ace and played a diamond towards dummy, West has to rise with the ace and give a diamond ruff to beat the contract. In practice, on such a blind

auction, he's highly unlikely to find this. The 4♥ bid was also slightly strange when 5♦ or 3NT might have been better spots – I suspect he simply wasn't sure what various bids would mean, and what was forcing, after the pre-emptive 3♠ bid.

West misdefended at trick two. With a lot of thought, he should be able to work out that he needs to take the ace of spades to avoid being endplayed later. This is incredibly hard, however. It also involves working out that declarer has diamond support, which is not at all obvious from the 4♥ bid.

As East, I also misdefended. I chose the card that had the best chance of beating the contract, but that was only true if partner worked out that I had a singleton diamond in spite of not switching to it. This is something you might find in a book, but at the table it's simply too difficult. Better to play for a layout where you will beat the contract in practice than one where you beat it, but only in theory.

Frances Hinden

Hall of fame so far

Competition	Players	Place
Club Chairmens Lunch	Tony Bromley & Norma Macmillan	First
Club Pairs Challenge Final	Sheila Cockerill & Tony Cockerill	First
Dorin Salver Day 1 Monday	Marian Rumbold & Marjorie Rowledge	First
Dorin Salver Day 2 Tuesday	Margaret James & Jen Morgan	First
Dorin Salver Day 3 Wednesday	Trevor Hobson & Barbara Hobson	First and overall winners
Dorin Salver Day 4 Thursday	Owen Lunt & Mahmoud Jawad	First
Dorin Salver Day 5 Friday	Arthur Haddock & June Haddock	First
Friendly Pairs	Garrett Cooke & Julia Beaurain	First
Summer Swiss Pairs (Aug BH)	Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm	First
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Philip Hunt & Neil Watts	First
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Gordon O'Hair & Barry Stoker	Second
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Bob McRobert, Arun Suri, Peter Lindon, Dee Lindon	First
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Steve Bourton, Julia Brough, John Nevin, Bob Edmonds	Second
Seniors Pairs	Tony Quilley & Richard Rule	First
Affiliated Clubs Teams of 8	Selsdon - Denny Wade, Jagdish Aggarwal, Robin Clarke, Christine Dyer, Steve Irwin, Tony Cherrett, Jeremy Fitzpatrick, David Elvin They will represent Surrey in the Garden Cities	First
Mixed Pairs	Berry Hedley & Graham Hedley	First
Friendly Swiss Pairs	David Burch & Liz Dunjay	First
Ladies Pairs	Norma Macmillan & Bobbie Johnson	First
Mens Pairs	Steve Bourton & Mike Ullyett	First
Surrey Sim. Pairs Feb Monday	Rosemary Linington & Mick Edwards	First
Surrey Sim. Pairs Feb Tuesday	Berry Hedley & Graham Hedley	First
Surrey Sim. Pairs Feb Wednesday	Owen Lunt & Keith McAllen	First
Surrey Sim. Pairs Feb Thursday	Lesley Standen & Savas Oratis	First and overall winners
Surrey Sim. Pairs Feb Friday	Margaret Bradshaw & Ian Lewis	First
County Pairs Cup		
County Pairs Plate		
Friendly Teams		

Mary Edwards Cup	
Lady Rose Cup	
Surrey League Division 1	
Surrey League Division 2	
Surrey League Division 3	
Surrey League Division 4	
Novice League	
Wanborough Cup	
Victor Ludorum	

You can see results from the current and previous seasons on the web site. Go to http://www.surreycountybridge.org.uk/CountyFocus.php#HallOfFame

There is a drop down box to select the season you would like to see the results from. By default it shows the results for the current season.

Representative events

Event	News
Beck Cup	Oxfordshire by invitation teams. This year representing Surrey are: Steve Bourton, Julia Brough, John Nevin, Bob Edmonds who came second in the Surrey GP teams in September.
Garden Cities	Selsdon will be representing Surrey in this
Home counties league	Surrey has two teams – Orange and Purple. Orange has played 2 matches and won them both and is currently in the lead. Purple has played 2 matches, won one of them and is currently lying third.
Pachabo	The winners of the Lady Rose Cup will represent Surrey
Reg Corwen	The top 5 (SCBA members only) from the County Pairs cup are asked to represent Surrey
Tollemache	The team is selected by the Matches committee

Surrey February Sim. Pairs

The Surrey Simultaneous Pairs event this February was a great success. Nearly 40 clubs entered, some of them several times. Some clubs took additional contributions from their members over and above the extra £1 per person table money and more than one club rounded up the table money by over 100%. As a result we have been able to raise over £2,000 (of which £413 was in addition to the £1 table money) for the Meath Epilepsy Trust in Godalming. So a big thank you to participating clubs for your wonderful generosity.

The hands: Several people commented that the hands were 'funny' or 'fixed'. Having played in a few sessions myself I can understand people thinking this, but I can guarantee they were not, the software I used would not do it, I didn't have the time or the desire to do it manually, but, more importantly, the EBU would not like it. What we all got were a set of normal computer generated random hands. Many of them were quite interesting and some held a nasty, or nice depending on where you were sitting, surprise or two. I hope you enjoyed them.

Trevor Hobson

Charity Events

Teddington Café Bridge

Tuesday 3rd February 2015

Despite an unpromising start (this was the day it snowed!), the 96 participants who played in the Teddington Cafe Bridge event all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and turned up on time. Six local cafes/restaurants were used and all were rated excellent. The local retailers supported the Raffle enthusiastically and in all a total of £1300 was raised for the two Charities involved, the Kingston Samaritans and the Thames River Boat Project.

The organisers (Pauline Finn, Rosemary Vase, Jennifer Breeden and Barbara Beaumont) would like to thank all those



who played and supported us, particularly Victor Lesk (Bridge Director) who organised the technical side of things superbly, using his bridge app BRIAN. Congratulations to the winners, Dominic Flint and Pamela Reiss. (The photograph shows from left to right: Rosemary Vase, Barbara Beaumont, Victor Lesk, Jennifer Breeden and Pauline Finn)

By popular demand we will certainly be holding the event next year and anticipate that yet again demand will be high. No precise date has yet been decided but it will probably be around the same time again. Watch this space!

The winners Dominic Flint and Pamela Reiss, with Pauline Flinn on the left and Victor Lesk on the right

Barbara Beaumont 20.02.15



Guildford Café Bridge

CAFÉ BRIDGE Guildford Thursday 24th September 2015 is in aid of CRY and Shooting Star Chase. Put the date in your diaries. As this event was so popular last year we are planning to increase the restaurants to 9, and increase the number of pairs by 30%. More details will follow later.



Cardiac Risk in the Young

and

Shooting Star Chase A



Schools Cup



Apart from one year when inclement weather intervened, SCBA has organized the Surrey Schools Bridge Event since 1999 and this year's event on 6th February at St Paul's Boys School in Barnes was no exception. With about 50 boys and girls attending, the turn-out was better than in recent years with 12 pairs in MiniBridge Pairs and 7 tables in Teams-of-Four Bridge.

In the MiniBridge competition, Rufus Smith and Blake Pearce (Claremont Fan Court) tied for first place with Jasmine Woods and Aidan Fellows (Weydon), while the Teams Bridge competition for the Surrey Cup was won by the St Paul's Boys 'B' team of Roman Evans, Quentin Gueroult, Max Groeller and Carlo Mancini.





Attractive engraved cups were presented to the winners by Sarah O'Connor (St Paul's Girls School) and each participant took away a large bar of chocolate. Thanks to Tom Lyster organizer at St Paul's Boys School and the event tournament director and scorer Trevor Hobson, the event was a great success with many boys and girls enjoying their first experience at competitive bridge.

With more schools playing proper bridge in the North Surrey and South London area, the SCBA hopes to initiate a small Surrey bridge league in the near future.

SCBA are currently looking for someone to help with development of bridge in Schools with a view to taking over as Schools Officer when Bomi retires from this role. If you are interested in this please contact Douglas Wright for more information about the role.

EBU School's Cup

17 teams competed in the EBU Schools Cup, held at Loughborough Grammar School on 28th February. Congratulations to the team from St Pauls who came 4th.

SCBA goes to the County Show

The Surrey County Show is on Monday May 25th, which is a bank holiday. The show is a great day out for the family, and this year SCBA will have a stand in the Craft Hall. We will be playing bridge and showing people how easy it is to pick up the basics and how enjoyable the game is. Why not come and have a glass of wine with us? Bring your friends, neighbours, children and grand-children.

Club news, club events and other snippets

Bourne

Our next event is our Blue-Pointed Swiss Pairs on 22nd March 2015.

Effingham

Effingham Bridge Club will be 50 years old this year. We will be holding a summer party on Friday 12th of June to coincide with our Golden Anniversary.

Whilst there are some members of very long standing, we are very proud to have two founder members, Alan and Pat Hammond who still play regularly at the Club.

In 1965 a number of friends went to bridge evening classes and afterwards played at Alan and Pat's house. They soon had 12 regular players so decided to form a club; they appointed a committee and began advertising for new members. Following this they rented the WI hall in Effingham for about a year. In 1966 the Catholic Church in Effingham built a new hall and the Effingham Bridge Club became their first tenants. By coincidence, the Church has commissioned the building of a new hall in the copse alongside the Church which is scheduled for completion late summer.

Pat Hammond remains as our contact for players needing a partner and prior to this had a 25 year stint of being Club Secretary. Alan Hammond is still a current member of our committee.

Although small, Effingham Club is thriving and their Chairman Frank Marshallsay believes its success is due to the welcoming ambience as well as providing friendly but competitive bridge.

Wimbledon

April 'Bridge for Beginner's' NEW course, times - please see web site for more information April Bridge lessons continue – various days/times for Beginners, Intermediate and more..

Sat 28 March Fish and Chip supper + Bridge evening

Sun 26 April Afternoon Tea and Bridge Sun 24 May Afternoon Tea and Bridge Sun 31 May SW Congress at WBC

Sun 7 June Seminar 'Defence for Beginners + Improvers'

Sat 13 June Summer Buffet Sun 21 June TRY TEAMS SCBA

Sat 18 July Cheese & Wine + Bridge evening

Sun 26 July Swiss Pairs – SW Congress

South Croydon

South Croydon will be holding a Swiss Teams competition on Sunday 26 April visitors welcome. Please contact Mary Sales (marysales@aol.com) or Andrew Worth (07860 555755) for details

Teachers advertise

Meena Samani

Fun 2 Play Bridge - A Gentle Duplicate Club in Thames Ditton

Fun 2 Play Bridge Club, based in Thames Ditton, is the ideal club for Bridge players who want to try out duplicate Bridge at a slower pace compared with fully fledged clubs.

The club encourages Bridge players who want to play around 16 boards, and Bridge students, who are learning or have just finished learning, to try out duplicate Bridge, in some gentle, fun and friendly sessions, on the evenings of the first Monday of the Month.

Please see Fun 2 Play Bridge website for more information: fun2play

Course on Jacoby 2NT Convention - Wed Apr 22 and 29

The Jacoby 2NT is a conventional bid, used to make a game-forcing raise of a major suit opening. It allows the partnership to describe their hands further and assess the possibility of a slam. A super, space-saving, constructive convention!

Jacoby 2NT can be played with both ACOL/4-card Major and 5-card Major openings.

Meena Samani is running a Jacoby 2NT course over 2 Wednesdays, Wed April 22 and 29, from 10am-12noon at Thames Ditton. The sessions will cover introduction to the 2NT response and opener's rebid, hand reevaluation by the responder and continuation of the auction and slam tries. There will be LOTS of bidding practice.

Cost is £35 for the full course and includes tea, coffee and cake.

For more information or to book, please email meena_samani@hotmail.com or contact on 07740 053683.

Course on Defence against NT Contracts - Thu Apr 30, May 7 and 14

If Bridge were a simple game of rules such as '2nd hand low, 3rd hand high', and just standard 4th highest opening leads, it would be a boring game! This course will show you how to be a detective and make inferences from the bidding and play. There is no greater satisfaction surely, than defeating opposition's contract?

Meena Samani is running a Defence againt NT contracts course over 3 Thursdays from 10am-12noon in Thames Ditton - Thu 30 April, 7 May and 14 May. The sessions will cover Opening Leads, 3rd hand play, 2nd hand play and killing defence (ouch).

Cost is £50 for the full course and includes tea, coffee and cake.

For more information or to book, please email meena_samani@hotmail.com or contact on 07740 053683.

Peter Bentley Obituary

Peter who has died aged 81 was a stalwart of Surrey bridge for many years. He was President of the County twice and has served on the committee for over 30 years with some breaks. He was awarded the Dimmie Fleming in 2004 for services to Surrey bridge. He was a Surrey EBU shareholder, and a regular attendee at Surrey events.

He was the non playing captain of the Tollemache team for 25 years. He was very pleased to achieve his goal of becoming a Grand Master in 2013.

Peter was an optometrist by profession and had his own business in Camberwell for over 30 years. He was also a keen golfer and had been captain of his golf club at Dulwich.

Peter was generous and easy to get on with. He never complained about anything and was always upbeat despite suffering from cancer since 2000. His wife Detta has suffered from dementia for the past few years, and he has been determined to keep her at home as long as possible. He also took her around the country to bridge congresses, and also regularly to Wimbledon until about a year ago.

Peter could also be very stubborn - despite his illness he was determined to keep going and to remain a member of the Surrey committee. He attended his last meeting on 16th January.

The bridge world will miss him greatly.

By Shirley Pritchard

Duplicate scoring on your iPhone

Several years ago, I started wondering whether the power and ubiquity of modern smartphones could be harnessed to score physical games of duplicate bridge. The upshot is a phone app-based scoring system, *BriAn* ("Bridge on iPhone and Android") which provides wireless scoring for club and home duplicates and other games without the large startup cost of bespoke terminals.

BriAn has been taken up so far by about a dozen clubs, mainly in London, and is used for charity events and teaching weekends. Some of you may have encountered BriAn at one of the large annual drives in Teddington, Barnes or Chiswick. We intend to bring it to the Guildford café bridge this September.

PLAYER EXPERIENCE

Players download the free BriAn app onto their phone or tablet, enter their pair number, and are ready to go. Usable devices include all iPhones and iPads, and all Android-based phones and tablets including Samsung, Motorola, LG, Sony and HTC. During the event, devices will communicate over the internet, either via their sim card or the club's Wifi network. If internet is unavailable, we have a piece of kit that will provide a local server and a Wifi network to connect; this would be suitable *e.g.* for an event on a cruise ship.

Contracts are input by touching coloured buttons on the screen. For overtricks and undertricks, repeatedly touch the plus and minus buttons; *e.g.* one down is just "minus", not "minus", "one". After the opponents confirm, the app shows the interim percentage or IMPs and the other outcomes on the board. Moreover, if your club uses pre-dealt hands, the full hand diagram and double-dummy analysis are also presented, which makes for less speculative post-mortems (TD's don't worry, it's on a 30 second timer).

At the director's discretion, players can check their current rankings on their phone; they can browse the movement, their own scorecard, and any hands which they have played in the current event.

As with Bridgemates/pads, one phone or tablet per table is sufficient; it can pay for the club to have a couple of spare devices to assign in-running to a table where there happen to be no smartphone owners in a particular round.

RUNNING AN EVENT USING BRIAN

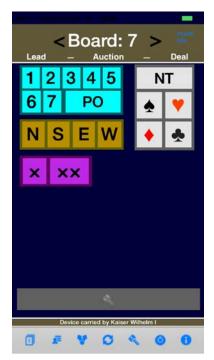
TDs can perform all in-event administration from within the app, using their own or any of the players' devices, so in principle there is no need for a laptop at the venue. An in-app password protects director-only features: event creation, movement selection, monitoring play, introducing arrowswitches or rovers, cancelling rounds, score adjustment, imposing fines and finalising the game. The app also provides a serial entry mode for entering all the scores from paper travellers.

The director can display the rankings on any monitor or TV screen by simply navigating to *brianbridge.net*; spectators on the other side of the world can do the same and watch the results come in. The *brianbridge.net* site can also be used for more general event administration including easier name entry, and offline tasks such as managing the club database, deal file upload, result publication, and account management. A movement composer is also planned. A single click sends the results to your website, BridgeWebs account, Pianola or ECATS, as well as generating EBU P2P files.

There is no charge for installing the app, nor any software license fee; TDs pay a modest amount on a per-event or yearly basis for use of the web server.



WHO USES PHONE SCORING



A sample of clubs which score their weekly duplicate with BriAn:

- Crouch End BC
- Kingston BC
- Oxford University Contract Bridge Association
- National University of Singapore Society Bridge Section

A sample of teaching, holiday and charity uses:

- Bridge weekend at Wroxton House Harold Schogger and Paul Wilson
 - Bridge in a weekend Ned Paul
- Café bridge: Barnes (45 tables over 9 venues), Teddington (24/6),
 Chiswick (35/7)

We also score our teams league games with our phones!

FOR FURTHER INFO

Organised bridge is currently concerned with attracting younger players, and we have found BriAn's phone-savvy technology has had special appeal to the coming generation. More mature members have also taken to it with ease, including one club with average member age of over 80.

We would be glad to hear from any club interested in trialling BriAn. If you are interested in hearing more, please get in touch with me on 07804 953460 or E-mail brianplaysbridge@gmail.com. Alternatively visit our website www.brianbridge.net, and take a look at our explanatory videos, answers to common questions, and an easy-to-read instruction manual.

Victor Lesk, developer BriAn Electronic Bridge Scoring

The next newsletter

The next newsletter will be in June 2015. News, views and interesting hands, what is happening at your club – please send them to me.