

# Surrey County Bridge Association

### Newsletter #31 September 2018

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#### **President's Introduction**

We are well into the holiday season, so if like me you have taken the opportunity to visit an "away" bridge club, you may have had a pleasant or perhaps less pleasant experience. My wife and I took the opportunity to visit Bodmin Bridge Club while we were staying in Cornwall, and we were received in a most hospitable manner. The Chairman and other club worthies introduced themselves to us before play, we were announced as visitors as we took our seats (with applause!) and at each table the opponents gave their first names. It has to be said that they were rather less generous when it came to giving us good scores.

How does this compare with the reception visitors receive at your club? Is your website up to date? Are location, access and parking details current? The first impressions of our respective clubs are important - those visitors may be prospective new members. Isn't it nice to feel that you are welcome?

I was delighted to see that 25 clubs held heats of the summer charity sim pairs. The event raised over £2,200 for Cherry Trees. I was able to view the facility when I presented the cheque to the charity. It is clear that funds are being put to good use in providing facilities and equipment to the challenged young people who spend time there. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

This month sees the flagship Surrey Green Point weekend on 22nd and 23rd. If you haven't already entered, it's not too late to find a partner and/or team members to support these enjoyable events. I hope to see lots of you there.

**Best wishes** 

Tim

# The 2018/2019 Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2018					
Varies	s 10-14		Surrey Club Pairs Challenge Heats	Clubs	
Sat	12 noon	22	Guildford		
Sun	12 noon	23	Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Guildford	
OCTOBER 2018					
Sat	1100	6	Caterham & Selsdon Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Godstone	
Sun		14	Woking Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Woking	
NOVERA	D 2040				
NOVEME					
Sun	1300	4	Surrey Club Pairs Challenge Final	Oxshott	
Wed	1100	14		Old Barn Hall	
Sun	1300	18	Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Richmond	
DECEMB	ED 2019				
DECEMBER 2018  Mon-Fri Varies 3-7 Surrey Doris Salver Simultaneous Pair			Company Denie Calman Circulton acons Daine	Clubs	
WON-FI	varies	3-7	Surrey Doris Salver Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	
JANUAR	Y 2019				
Sun	1300	13	Surrey Affiliated Teams of 8	Richmond	
FEBRUA	RY 2019				
Sun	1300	3	Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Richmond	
Sun	1300	17	Surrey Mixed Pairs	Oxshott	
Sat	1100	23	Caterham & Selsdon Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Godstone	
MARCH 2019					
Sun	1300	10	Surrey Senior Pairs	Oxshott	
Sun	1300	31	Surrey County Pairs Cup & Plate	Oxshott	

For more information on events that Surrey County Bridge Association run <u>Click Here</u> or click on a link in the Calendar on the website. To enter an event either online using the <u>Event Hub</u>, download an entry form, or contact the competitions secretary, Shirley Pritchard <u>competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com</u>

22 September 12pm	<b>Green Point Swiss Pairs</b>
23 September 12pm	<b>Green Point Swiss Teams</b>
Closing date 29 September	Surrey and Novice Leagues
Closing date 25 September	Lady Rose Cup & Plate

# Hall of Fame so far

Competition	Winners	
Bank Holiday BP Swiss Pairs	Natalie Shashou & Nick Sandqvist (David Stallan & Simon Oldham – Non Expert)	
Charity Sim Pairs- Monday	Roger Hitt & Paul Skinner (Kenley) 69.27%	
Tuesday	Ernie Gilburd & Andrew Male (Woking) 67.24%	
Wednesday	Alan Webber & Mick Edwards (Caterham) 68.90%	
Thursday	Max Baumann & David Lofts (Camberley) 71.63%	
Friday	Mike Mulligan & Elisa Money (Effingham) 67.11%	
AGM Pairs	Jeffrey Allerton & Frances Hinden	
Wanborough Cup	Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden, Gerard Thompson, Andrew Mann	
Lady Rose Cup	Arun Suri, Peter Lee, Richard Granville Graham Sadie (Richard Granville's Team)	
Lady Rose Plate	Graham E Osborne, Michael Tinsley, Jane Handley, Alan Setchell (Graham E Osborne's Team)	
Surrey League Finals - Div 1	Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden, Peter Lee, Paula Leslie, Graham Osborne, Mike Scoltock	
- Division 2	Tim Pelling & Naomi Cohen, Simon Prager & Henry Klocek	
- Division 3	Alan Webber & Mick Edwards, Peter Kelly & Andrew Rumble	
- Division 4	Penny Moody, Susan Towlson, Jean Ebbon, Bobbi Chilton, Brian Pickles & Marilyn Walker	
- Novice	Alan Given & Janine D'Eath, Maciej Szetela & Jean Wilson	
Mary Edwards	Ralph Evers & Ronald Wood (Roehampton)	
Affiliated Clubs Teams of 8	RICHMOND - BLUE: Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm, Margaret Page & Patrick Bohan, John Clark & Nadia Koch, Dan O'Farrell & Maureen Dennison,	
Club Chairmens Lunch	Steve Irwin & David Elvin (Selsdon)	
Club Pairs Challenge Final	Marion Hart & Kenneth Wilshire	
Dorin Salver Overall winners	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns (Bookham)	
Dorin Salver Day 1 Monday	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns (Bookham)	
Dorin Salver Day 2 Tuesday	Allan Webber & Mick Edwards (Caterham)	
Dorin Salver Day 3 Wednesday	Frank Marshallsay & Steve Bourton (Tudor)	
Dorin Salver Day 4 Thursday	Michele Lundqvist & Graham Cunningham (Wimbledon)	
Dorin Salver Day 5 Friday	Renate Lane & Joyce Gibbs (Effingham)	
Ladies Pairs	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns	

Mens Pairs	Steve Bourton & Frank Marshallsay
Mixed Pairs	Easter David & Bhuma Rangarajan
Seniors Pairs	Steve Lock & Graham E Osborne
Surrey GP Swiss Pairs	Steve Preston & Andy Hughes
Surrey GP Swiss Teams	Ingar Hansen, Peter Lee, Paula Leslie & Mike Scoltock

### **Members Survey**

In 2015 we carried out an online survey to obtain feedback from Surrey members and visitors about a range of activities that the Surrey Committee is involved with. The feedback we received was of great help to us in determining the direction of the committee for the next few years. We decided at the time that a repeat survey in three years' time would be useful. That timing is opportune as our main venue have informed us of planned changes to their method of calculating the charge for hire of the hall and so the Committee will shortly be faced with decisions regarding the cost and timing of our events. There are other topics where we would appreciate your views, in particular if you have any thoughts on how we can support the development of Bridge in Surrey, or anything else you would like to tell us please click on the link below. Your input will be anonymous but of course if you wish to discuss any matters with the Committee then you can always us the Contact Us link on our website. <a href="https://goo.ql/forms/Ds8KOV1SC7BUMOI32">https://goo.ql/forms/Ds8KOV1SC7BUMOI32</a>

#### Victor Ludorum

Each season we keep a record of the cumulative success of individuals in all of our open events. Points are awarded for being placed in the top half, top quarter with bonus points for the top three places; points are also awarded for playing in winning teams in the Surrey League and the Lady Rose team competitions. So the winner is someone that has demonstrated sustained performance over many events across the whole season. We are happy to announce that the 2017-18 winner is Steve Bourton.



## Assistance marketing, legal, general admin

The Committee is looking for people to provide some assistance to its activities. In particular if you have any experience in marketing or legal work or are able to provide general admin assistance then we would be very happy to hear from you.

### Invitation to attend Committee Meetings

Just to remind you that we have an open invitation to members to attend any of our committee meetings. Those that have attended in the past have found the experience worthwhile.

#### Surrey & Novice Leagues

Just a reminder that these competitions are now open for entries. The purpose of these is to provide the opportunity for players of all levels of ability and experience to play teams bridge in the comfort of their own homes.

The **Surrey League** is divided into four Divisions:

- Division 1: This is a Blue Pointed event currently limited to eight teams. It is suitable for top Surrey players, typically NGS Ace to Queen;
- Division 2: Suitable for strong Club players typically NGS ~10;
- Division 3: Suitable for most club players, typically NGS ~8
- Division 4: Suitable for Improver and social players, typically NGS ~ 6. EBU Membership is not required.

Depending on the number of entries teams in Divisions 2 to 4 are grouped geographically to reduce the amount of travel and will typically involve 4, 5 or 6 matches in the period October to April, with a final in June 2019.

The closing date for entries is 29 September 2018.

The **Novice League** is suitable for players currently having lessons or just starting out. EBU membership is not required. Depending on the number of entries teams are grouped geographically to reduce the amount of travel and will typically involve 4 or 5 matches in the period November to May, with a final in June 2019.

The closing date for entries is 27 October 2018

Get more information and enter via our website at: http://www.bridgewebs.com/surrey/

## Lady Rose Teams Knockout

The Lady Rose is a Green Pointed knockout competition and can be entered in the same way as the Surrey League. It is a seeded competition so that teams successful in previous years do not enter in the first round and teams knocked out in the first two rounds are entered in to the Lady Rose Plate consolation event.

As a reminder, any person that played in either the most recent Wanborough Cup or the Affiliated teams of 8 will get free entry to this competition.

The winning team will represent Surrey in the Pachabo Cup.

Closing data for entries is 25 September 2018

# **Next Training Activities**

We are organising training activities to help the development of bridge players at all levels. These events hopefully will build upon and compliment training activities held in Clubs. If Clubs have training activities which they wish to promote to all players please contact Douglas Wright

23-25	Learn & Play Bridge Weekend - Counting & Competitive bidding
November	strategies

## **Bridge Hand (1)**

Nine sure tricks? (by Jeffrey Allerton)

At favourable vulnerability, you pick up:



You may wish to re-count the hearts a few times, but yes, you really do have nine of them. It must be long odds that an opponent has the guarded queen of hearts, so you would expect to make nine heart tricks most of the time.

LHO opens a weak 2♠, partner passes and RHO bids 2NT, enquiry. What is your strategy?

Steve De Roos of Belgium decided to give his opponents an immediate problem with a pre-emptive jump to 5. Pre-empts work when the opponents mis-guess. However, on this occasion, my partner gave him the last guess as the auction proceeded Pass, Pass, 6. Now what? If the vulnerable 6. is making then 7. is bound to be cheap. The problem here is that you know that RHO has not had the chance to bid scientifically and there are two ways 7. in which might lose: 6. might be going off, in which case any sacrifice is a phantom, converting a plus score to a minus score; or the opponents could even be making 7. and choose to bid it over 7.

Given all this information, what action would you take over 6♠? At the table, pass was chosen.

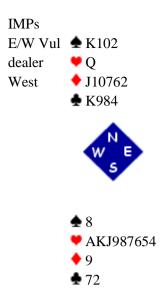
Tony Forrester, for England, adopted a different strategy. He decided that by giving the opponents more room, he would gain more information himself before having to make the final decision; the opponents were more likely to bid to the level they could make in spades, and then he could judge later from the sound of the auction whether to sacrifice in hearts. This was the auction:

West	North	East	South	notes
2♠	Pass	2NT	4♥	2♠ = weak two
Pass	Pass	5♥	<b>6</b> ♥	2NT = enquiry
6♠	Pass	Pass	7 <b>*</b>	
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass	
Pass	Pass			

5 sounded like a void with decent trump support. Also, with LHO being the person who bid slam, partner had had the opportunity to double  $6 \pm$ , So the decision on whether or not to sacrifice in 7 + 100 looks easier at this table.

How do you play 7♥x, or indeed any level of doubled heart contract?

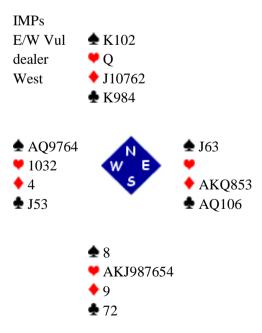
Partner is good enough to supply the  $\heartsuit$ Q to fill the potential hole in the trump suit and the hands are below. LHO leads the  $\diamondsuit$ 4.



RHO wins the •4 lead with the queen and leads out •K. Surely there are nine certain hearts and the possibility of a tenth trick if •A is onside. What can go wrong? The opening lead looks like it might be a singleton, so suppose you ruff high (LHO discarding a spade) and lead a spade, on the off chance that a sleepy LHO ducks with the ace, and setting up a safe ruff back to hand. Alas, LHO wins the ace and switches to a club. RHO takes the AQ and then leads another diamond. Down to only trumps, you ruff high again and lead a low heart to dummy's queen, but RHO discards. Suddenly LHO has a trump trick from an original holding of 10xx and you are held to eight tricks!

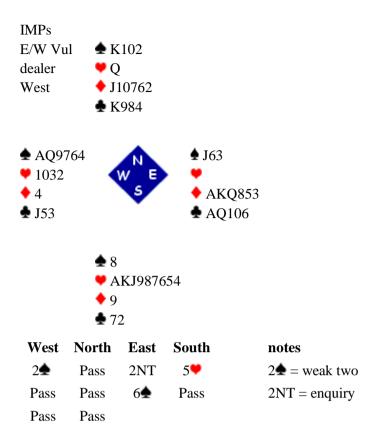
Let's try again. It really should be obvious to LHO to take the first round of spades, so it doesn't help to find the spade ace onside. Try discarding a spade at trick 2 on the second round of diamonds; now what can RHO do? If he persists with another diamond, you can ruff high, play a heart to the queen, ruff a spade low, draw trumps and then lead towards the  $\frac{1}{2}$ K, making nine or ten tricks depending on whether  $\frac{1}{2}$ A is onside.

This was the full deal:



Be honest. Did you manage to make all nine of your trump tricks? You are in good company if you didn't: of those who declared heart contracts in the recent European Championships, 6 out of 14 in the Open Series, 5 out of 11 in the Women's Series were restricted to eight tricks. In mitigation, this was the last board of the set and there were significant fines for finishing late, so maybe some of the declarers were in a hurry.

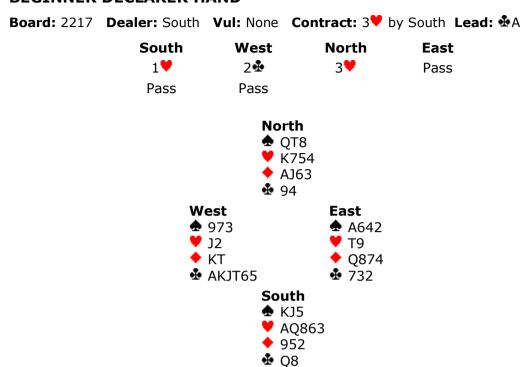
How did 6♠ get on at the other table?



Declarer ruffed the opening heart lead and run  $\triangle$ J. North switched to a club, but with a 3-3 diamond break virtually impossible, declarer was forced to take the club finesse and could then draw trumps and claim scoring up +1430. This was certain to be a swing in no matter how many tricks team-mates made in hearts.

## **BRIDGE HAND (2)**

#### **BEGINNER DECLARER HAND**



Unless trumps are 4-0 we can count five top tricks in that suit. ◆A is our sixth top trick and knocking out ♣ A will bring the total to eight. To make this contract we'll somehow need to make a second trick in diamonds.

Our best chance is to find West with  $\bigstar$ KQ (with or without small cards), but we can also make two diamond tricks if West has doubleton  $\bigstar$ KT or  $\bigstar$ QT, provided that we play the suit correctly.

Prospects look good when West cashes  $\triangle$ AK and switches to  $\diamondsuit$ K. We draw trumps and play on spades to knock out  $\triangle$ A. East returns a passive spade and we win the third round of the suit in hand.

We now make the key play of  $\blacklozenge$ 5 from hand. When West plays  $\blacklozenge$ T we cover with dummy's  $\blacklozenge$ J. East wins with  $\blacklozenge$ O, after which we can claim the rest. Nine tricks made.

It would be a mistake to lead ◆9 on the second round. This play can never gain, since West will cover with ◆T if he holds that card. Similarly, if West leads a major suit at trick 3 South must twice lead low from hand when he tackles diamonds himself.

When the hand came up at the table, one declarer thought that it could do no harm to allow ◆K to hold the trick. She duly finessed on the second round and therefore lost two diamond tricks, plus a third round ruff. Two down!

Hand supplied by Richard Granville for No Fear Bridge

Play more hands like this at www.nofearbridge.co.uk

## **Club News**

#### 3 Counties Bridge Club

# **Taster Sessions**

#### **♦♥** LIKE TRYING NEW THINGS? ◆ ◆

Come to a taster session, which will have you all playing a game of bridge. No prior knowledge or partner is required.

Bridge is by far the greatest card game of all, and it can provide immense challenge and enjoyment for the rest of your life.

As you play already encourage your friends to come along!

Click title "Taster Sessions" to register

Bring your friends and the next generation of bridge players: sons, daughters, nephews, nieces and their children.

For more information please contact <a href="mailto:douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com">douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com</a> or on 07801989630

## Busbridge Duplicate Bridge Club

Busbridge Duplicate Bridge Cub has put out posters saying WANT TO PLAY MORE BRIDGE? Busbridge offers – during Sep, Oct and Nov 3 free taster sessions to potential new members. No obligation and partners found if needed. If interested ring 01483 424746 or email <a href="mailto:secretary@busbridgebridge.org.uk">secretary@busbridgebridge.org.uk</a> Monday and Tuesday nights in Busbridge Village Hall. Refreshments included.

## Mayfield Bridge Club

For the seventh year running Mayfield Bridge Club is pleased to announce another open-to-all Swiss Pairs event. To be held on the evening of Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 there will be a top prize of £50 for the winning pair, £30 for 2<sup>nd</sup>, £20 for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Entry fees of £5 per person will include coffee/tea, biscuits and sweets! Run by top London director, Richard Banbury, the event will start at 7:15p.m. sharp and all being well will finish at approximately 10:30 p.m. Five matches of five boards will be played.

Do come, it's a fun evening, and a big welcome awaits you.

For details of how to enter go to our website:

http://www.mayfieldbridge.co.uk/

#### Reigate Bridge Club

Reigate Bridge Club is nearly three years old – and thriving. Formed in January 2016 the founder members were all ex-students of Liz Hammergren-Smiith - our first task was to form a Committee not so easy when none of us had experience of even being a Bridge Club member! Starting from scratch there was much to organise: leasing a hall, getting the equipment, arranging banking and insurance, contacting Scorebridge and learning how to do it! Then we had to ensure that we would have enough Directors and finding volunteers willing to train – not to mention writing our Constitution and setting the fees. We greatly valued being part of the EBU whom we could phone and ask for help whenever we found ourselves out of our depth.

Membership has steadily grown – we continue to welcome Liz's students in addition to attracting more established players who are happy to share their knowledge and encourage newcomers. Liz will be starting a new course of lessons later this month – already they are fully booked.

In November 2017 we held our first Annual Club Competition – the first pair to get their names engraved on the Trophy was our Treasurer, Sue Brown and Committee member, Cathy Graves. In the Spring we hosted a Charity Afternoon in aid of a local charity "Contact the Elderly". Our Christmas parties have been enjoyed by members and students – light hearted Bridge with lots of prizes. Our latest venture is to be taking part in the SCBA Pairs Challenge – our debut in the wider world!

Sally Wallace

Chairman - Reigate Bridge Club

#### Yateley & Hawley Bridge Club

Serving the Yateley, Camberley, Farnborough and West Surrey area.

Did you learn to play Bridge at College or in your younger days before the career, spouse and kids got in the way? And now you have a bit of free time you have a hankering to play this challenging card game once again but know you could not go to a bridge club because you are so out of touch with the game.

Well, we have just the answer for you. Every Wednesday we run our Improvers Group – a separate section dedicated to those wanting a refresher or needing a bit more experience after learning the basics. A host and/or instructor is always available and we start at 7:20 pm, aiming to play a maximum of 16 boards per session.

At the other end of the scale so to speak, we are pleased to announce that our joint Charity Blue Point event with Camberley BC has got the go ahead for next year - May Day, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019. As we are limited for space we can only accommodate 20 tables so you need to get your entry in well in advance. It can wait until next year though! Check in to our very informative website at <a href="http://www.bridgewebs.com/yateleyhawleybc/">http://www.bridgewebs.com/yateleyhawleybc/</a> or browse for yhbc.org.uk.

## Farnham Bridge Club

#### FIRST EVER FARNHAM FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE A SELL-OUT SUCCESS

The various bridge groups in the Farnham area combined to run an "All Farnham" Festival of Bridge in the Maltings Great Hall on the afternoon of Friday 24th August. There were over 160 participants, making this the biggest bridge event to be held in Farnham for decades. Participants ages ranged from 8 years old to 99 and there were different sections of bridge to suit all abilities, from beginner to grand master. All feedback to date has been that it was a uniquely enjoyable and friendly event, really demonstrating that the great game of bridge is alive and well in Farnham and has appeal for all ages and abilities. Participant

Jeremy Dhondy, Chairman of the English Bridge Union, presented the bridge trophies. Graham Davison and Joe Dinnen won the "Open Duplicate", Beverley and Graham Sylvester-Evans won the "No Fear Duplicate", with Lene Rasmussen and Maureen Butler winning the Chicago section. All participants were also given a free invitation to participating bridge clubs and a free invitation to a lesson given by 3 Counties Bridge.



There was also special award presented by the Mayor of Farnham and the chair of the English Bridge Union to Mrs Annabel Sommerfelt of Weydon School for "Exceptional contribution to the development of youth bridge in Farnham". Annabel, with Douglas Wright, launched the Weydon after-school bridge club several years ago. Since then, week-in week-out Annabel has led and encouraged the group, coached with the help of local bridge playing volunteers, and handled the essential admin that goes with such a task, all this in addition to her own heavy teaching workload. The Weydon school bridge group has been described as a "beacon of light", having won multiple Surrey Schools bridge trophies and also been invited in 2016 to visit and compete against the House of Lords.

Special thanks are due to the Farnham Institute for their grant, and for grants from two sponsors Arena Travel and Bridgeclublive. These grants funded all the trophies and enabled under 21s and participants in the beginner/taster session to participate free. The overall event, targeted to break even, made a modest profit of just over £100 that is being donated to Alzheimers UK.

Hopefully, the Festival will become part of the Farnham bridge calendar. There are also plans to hold a "Farnham Cafe Bridge" event on Monday May 13th next year.

### **Charity News**

#### Café bridge schedule

This is a list of upcoming café bridge events. If you are organizing a café bridge event, feel free to pass on the information.

18 September 2018 (Tue)	London Metropolitan Bridge Association Café Bridge - Brook Green in aid of The Honeypot Children's Charity  Now accepting bookings
19 September 2018 (Weds)	Trowbridge Café Bridge in aid of Town Hall Arts Trowbridge  Now accepting bookings
2 October 2018 (Tue)	Mayor's Charity Café Bridge Epsom in aid of Mayor's Charity Fund Now accepting bookings
4 October 2018 (Thu)	Guildford Café Bridge Drive in aid of North West Surrey Samaritans  This event is running a waiting list
16 October 2018 (Tue)	Barnes Café Bridge Drive in aid of Age UK Richmond upon Thames  Now accepting bookings
18 October 2018 (Thu)	Abingdon Café Bridge in aid of Flexicare  Now accepting bookings
26 November 2018 (Mon)	Wimbledon Café Bridge Drive in aid of Orbis UK  This event is not yet open for booking

### **Youth News**

Amid beautiful weather and a stunning setting, July's Junior Bridge Camp at Ardingly welcomed 90 youngsters, from complete beginners to our international squads. August's Farnham Festival of Bridge also attracted a number of juniors, with several beginners as well as established players. Wimbledon and Richmond BCs put on various youngsters' tournaments over the summer, with, for instance, a total of 22 coming along to sessions at Wimbledon.

With my counterparts in Kent and Sussex, we're seeking to expand what's on offer in youth bridge in an integrated way across the region. We're putting on a one-day event at Wimbledon BC on Sun 25 Nov, for youngsters who can already play bridge or MiniBridge. There'll be teaching in the morning, competitions after lunch, and an afternoon finish. Wimbledon is generously providing the premises FoC, and the only cost to entrants will be £10 to cover refreshments. The <a href="Surrey website">Surrey website</a> will have more information, or please <a href="Contact me">Contact me</a>.

The Guildford/Farnham corner of the county is seeing a lot of activity in junior bridge. As well of course as one of our flagship schools, Weydon, our two new school clubs at Boxgrove and Broadwater are due to restart in

September, and we have interest from George Abbott and Amesbury schools. Many people are involved in making all this happen, but the efforts from Douglas Wright and Mike O'Donnell in particular have been tireless.

Our article about the introduction of bridge as a curriculum subject at Claremont Fan Court Prep School, Esher, appeared in August's EBU Mag. The EBU has honoured Deb Casey, the teacher at Claremont who has led Claremont's bridge for 14 years, with this year's <u>Alec Salisbury Award</u>. We add our congratulations, too.

You may have noticed the suggestion by the Head at Claremont about developing material for schools' INSET Days. If you have any relevant experience, or would just like to help us take it further, please <a href="mailto:contact me on TimigWarren@gmail.com">contact me on TimigWarren@gmail.com</a>.

#### **Next Newsletter**

The next newsletter will be in December 2018. News, views and interesting hands, what is happening at your club – please send them to me. If you have any comments either on any of this newsletter or any other bridge news, please contact the Committee and explain how they can promote that through the website.