

Kent Youth Bridge Report – 6 April 2024

There has been very little activity with respect to youth bridge over the winter in Kent.

The key to achieving a potential “youth feeder” into clubs, remains re-establishing bridge clubs and teaching in schools willing to host this activity. This, in turn, requires a group of volunteers (at least four per school, such that there is a once-a-month commitment for each volunteer), a dedicated teacher (someone who knows the game or is keen to learn), an enrolment conversation (with the School Head), Safeguarding registration, and a “Bridge Assembly”. The coursework is well prepared, largely provided by EBED, and easy to teach. There is a useful incentive scheme of Minibridge, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum that incentivises participants. Learning the game is also useful for programmes like the DoE. I have not yet had time to get any of the schools bridge going, but will need to target summer to: 1) recruit volunteers and target schools, and 2) re-establish classes at the local village school (Weald Primary), which would act as an “example” for the establishment at other schools.

William Bourne, after many years of successfully Championing the Youth Camp (held in October), has stepped down, and we are looking for another Champion. Tony Cherrett has expressed an interest in taking over, and I support this.

Yours in Bridge, Anton