



Chairman's report

April 2020

1. Sadly, the club had to close after the last session on Friday March 13 2020, because of the Coronavirus pandemic. It will remain closed until restrictions are lifted by the Government.
2. I have emailed the members several times since the closure. I hope that all our members are well. Although I have been in isolation for some 5 weeks, my health does at last seem to be improving, in spite of trying, I have not been tested. At least my brain seems still to be working.
3. I have tried to set up members on Bridge Club Live (BCL), Unfortunately they closed it to further registrations because they were swamped. They may reopen it soon. But I play regularly with Simon Brindle. And several others are registered. Also, there is another on Bridge Base Online (BBO). We need to encourage more to play online. Let's see if we can arrange some club nights or days.
4. My articles to Penarth Times continue each week. After interest from readers I will start to write these once or twice a month for beginners and improvers. They are all available online at www.penarthtimes/bridge. Hands and ideas would be appreciated. I had a good one from John recently from the Camrose.
5. The results of our competitions are at the end of this document. I suggest we award the trophies when we are back.
6. Subscriptions are due shortly. I suggest we leave these until we reopen.
7. The number of Tables on Tuesday and Friday evenings has varied typically from 4 to 6. The Thursday Club continues to be a great success run by Peter Craig, with very important support from Brian Hardey, Marnie Owens, and Patsy Cohen.
8. We congratulate our members John Salisbury, Tony Ratcliff, and Paul Lamford on playing for Wales in this year's Camrose. They beat Scotland to win the Patrick Jourdain Trophy.
9. The Penarth Menagerie team (Trish Tracey, Tony Campbell, Simon Brindle, Rod Hudson and Mike Downey) in the East Wales league has played some good matches. We still have one match to play. But I doubt if this will happen now. On March 2nd we were lying 2nd with 48 VPs to Cardiff All Stars, who have 52.
10. The Penarth team of 8 won the qualifying round held at the Gwent Bridge Academy. The team was John Salisbury, Joy Seculer, Mike Downey, Roy Holloway, Trish Tracey, Tony Ratcliff, Tony Campbell and Simon Brindle. The final is supposed to be in June. But is postponed.

11. I have had discussions with Tim Barsby about the trophy cabinet. I was about to buy it, but it disappeared from the Web site. I will leave it now till we are back in action.
12. I suggest we postpone the AGM until we are back again, and reduce the quorum needed to 20.
13. I would like to add some new blood to the committee. The constitution allows this. Suggestions are Debbie Dawkins and Simon Brindle. Simon is very computer literate and could help with Dealer 4 and scoring. Other suggestions are welcome. Carol Cochlin has stepped down from the committee, but she has kindly agreed to continue to organise the social events. She has done a tremendous job for the club over many years. Obviously, the proposed summer barbecue is cancelled. I am very grateful to Peter Sampson for taking over from Peter Craig as Secretary. Peter C has done a superb job for the club. We thank him immensely. He remains on the committee and will still help with Dealer 4 and scoring.

Annual Competitions Results 2019-2020

Competition	Winners
Favager trophy – highest average score for a pair. Must play ten times to qualify.	1. Joy Seculer and Mike Downey 2. Trish Tracey and Joy Seculer 3. John Salisbury and Joy Seculer
Eric's cup – total master points in the year Claret Jug	1. Joy Seculer - 772 2. Trish Tracey - 750 3. Tony Campbell - 745
Annie's cup (pairs 2 evenings)	1. Mrunalini Dewan & Tim Barsby 2. Tony Campbell & Trish Tracey 3. Pat Sullivan & Hugh Simmonds
Club handicap – (pairs 2 nights) - Rose Bowl	1. Pat Sullivan & Hugh Simmonds 2. Carol Cochlin & Philip Bottrill 3. Vivien Duckers & Peter Sampson
Handicap for members who have played 20+ times - Cup	1. Mike Downey 2. Martin Thomas 3. Philip Botrill
Club teams - Cup	1. Tony Campbell, Simon Brindle, Joy Seculer, Mike Downey 2. Adrian Tricky, Diana Trickey, Peter Millar, Trish Tracey 3. Carol Cochlin, Marnie Owens, Patsy Cohen, Peter Craig