

RICHARD CURRIE Obituary

On 19th September 2009, as the result of a brain tumour, Richard sadly passed away in the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice at the tragically early age of 36. We extend our sincere condolences to his parents and to his brother.

Richard was born in Montrose, Scotland, in 1973, and the family moved to Farnham three years later. From the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, Richard went on to Lancaster University where he obtained an honours degree in Mathematics and Accountancy. During Fresher's Week he met John Hemington, and together they formed the Lancaster University Bridge Club.

By the early 2000s, Richard had risen to Financial Director of a multi-million pound company, but despite the long hours spent behind his office desk, nearly all his spare time was devoted to bridge. He was a stalwart of Farnham Bridge Club, where he was on the committee, audited the annual accounts, directed, scored, and also duplimated all the boards.

He played in a lot of club, county and national competitions, with Wendy Miller from the Farnham Club and with John Hemington and John Amor from outside the county, a favourite venue being the EBU Congress at Scarborough.

At the Tunbridge Wells Congress, partnering John Hemington, he won the Kingsley Cup in 1999, and partnering Wendy Miller won the Swiss Teams there in 2001 and came 2nd in 2002. In 2006 and 2007, he and John Amor won the Swiss Pairs there two years running.

Partnering Wendy, he was in the winning SCBA Lady Rose Plate team twice, in 2000-01 and 2003-04, and they were also in Farnham's winning Wanborough Cup team in 1999-2000, and Richard was in the winning team again in 2007-08.

Partnering Paul Kirton, also from the Farnham club, he won the SCBA Mens Pairs in 2006-07 and they were then 2nd in the same competition the following year.

At the EBU Ranked Masters Pairs in 2009, Richard and John Amor finished 2nd in the Premier Life Masters section. A few months later, on 18th May, Richard collapsed at his office with what was initially thought to be a stroke, but later turned out to be an inoperable brain tumour, and he sadly died four months later, very close to reaching his goal of becoming a Grand Master.