

Surrey County Bridge Association

Newsletter # 45, June 2022



Introduction

Tim Warren

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We continue to seek a Comms Editor, but this comes to you courtesy of Julia Brough, who has kindly offered to produce a couple of editions. We're very grateful to Julia, who was a member of the SCBA team for several years, for stepping into the breach.

A big thank you, too, to John Gallagher, who's recently stood down after doing a sterling job as our Treasurer for the last couple of years. A warm welcome to Jackie Hawkins; Jackie isn't a Morris dancer, but has taken over the rest of John's role. Will Clennell is also joining us, taking over the Surrey League and Lady Rose Cup responsibilities from Trevor Hobson. Trevor's staying on the team, but will be standing down as President at the next AGM. As a reminder, the AGM will be on Zoom at 14:00 on Sunday 4 July – see below and [our website](#) for details.

In this edition, you can read about a special 'Play and Coach' event we've just run, in line with one of our key aims, of helping and encouraging our members to improve.

We also celebrate a particularly successful time for Surrey members in various national competitions – we're fortunate to have a lot of the country's top players, but recent results have been exceptional. And of course we have our usual information about upcoming club and county events, puzzle, etc.

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AGM

As required by our constitution, notice is hereby given of our 2022 AGM which will be held on Zoom on Sunday, 3rd July at 2 pm. Please click below for the Agenda and Minutes for 2021.

Agenda: <https://www.bridgewebs.com/surrey/SCBA%20AGM%20Agenda%20220703.pdf>

Minutes: <https://www.bridgewebs.com/surrey/AGM%20Minutes%2004072021.pdf>

Surrey Results

The last couple of months have seen a remarkable run of successes for top Surrey players:

- Representing the county, the team of Malcolm Bricknell & Peter Hardymont, Paul Mumford & Mike Ellis, Steve Irwin & Tony Cherrett, Robin Clarke & Christine Dyer won the [B Division of the National Inter-County League Final](#).

- Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden & Graham Osborne (1st, 3rd and 4th from the left in the photo below) were members of the team that [won the EBU Schapiro Spring Foursomes](#). In that report, Chris Jagger says the Spring Fours is “a gruelling five days” and “generally regarded as the toughest event of the UK calendar”.
- Two weeks later, a team with the same trio of Surrey members [won the Hubert Phillips Bowl](#).



Mayfield BC have [won the Garden Cities final](#). They were representing Surrey following winning the Teams of 8 in January. Peter Lee writes about it in the article below, ‘A Busy Time in National Finals’.



Mayfield Bridge Club (l-r): David Dawson, Richard Fedrick, Mike Scoltock, Peter Lee, David Norman (captain, with trophy), Andrew Southwell, Neil Gayner & Julian Hemsted.

There's a list of congratulations for Surrey events later in this newsletter.

A Busy Time in National Finals

Peter Lee

In recent months I have played with mixed success in a number of national finals; starting with an unexciting average with Arun Suri in the National Pairs final, and improving, again with Arun, to 8th out of 78 in the Corwen. Life seemed to get better in the Pachabo final, where I played with Richard Fedrick, with Richard Granville, Graham Sadie, Charles Chisnall and Bob James as team mates, where we were a close second after 3 of the 4 sets, but fell away to end up 8th of the 24 counties. Finally, in the Garden

Cities final, representing Mayfield Bridge Club, we won (repeating earlier successes in 1990 and 1995) ahead of the six other clubs qualifying. I partnered Mike Scoltock, with Richard Fedrick, Andrew Southwell, Neil Gayner, Julian Hemsted, David Norman and David Dawson as team-mates. While all four pairs were plus, the two Davids were exceptional, pulling in 2.37imps a board on the cross-imps, over an imp more a board than any other pair in the event.

While my memory of the hands is mainly of forgetting the system on occasion, one hand was of interest, as being an extremely unusual sequence. Our free auction went 2♣-2♦-2NT-3NT-4NT-6NT. Were we mad? Not in fact, as 2♦ showed 4-7 points, while 2NT was game forcing, and 3NT merely showed a balanced hand, happy to play in 3NT if partner had 23-24 points. However, he had 27 (♠ AK ♥ KJ93 ♦ AKQJ ♣ AQ5), and as I had a 6 count with various tens and nines (♠ 10953 ♥ Q107 ♦ 76 ♣ KJ109) I accepted his 4NT invitation happily, and partner could declare for 12 tricks at trick 1, after knocking out the Ace of hearts.

Team mates Julian Hemsted and Neil Gayner managed to bid and make three grand slams in the Garden Cities final, which must be very unusual. On one, bid by Mike and myself also, and overall by 9 out of 12 pairs, you hold ♠ 102 ♥ AKQ102 ♦ K75 ♣ K52 and partner opens 2C strong with ♠ AKQJ ♥ 7 ♦ AQJ1092 ♣ A4. Just the 15 tricks.

Another, again bid by 9 out of 12 pairs, was easy if playing the gambling 3NT, as partner with ♠ AKQ9 ♥ AJ94 ♦ 4 ♣ AKQ5 could happily raise to 7NT, a very swift auction. Only 14 tricks this time opposite ♠ J3 ♥ 7 ♦ AKQJ952 ♣ J74. Julian and Neil bid this way, but Mike and I were not playing the gambling 3NT, but after the start 1♦ - 1♥ - 3♦ followed by Roman Key Card Blackwood we got to 7NT also.

More difficult, only reached by 3 out of 12 pairs, and not by us after an auction where I forgot the system, was a hand where at adverse vulnerability you hold ♠ - ♥ K1042 ♦ AKQ7 ♣ AQJ95 and partner responds 1♥ to your 1♣ opener with ♠ K4 ♥ AQ975 ♦ J3 ♣ K1082. It is interesting to note that despite having a 6-5 fit the opposition can only make 5 tricks in spades. However, 8 off doubled is "only" 2000, beating the 2210 for 7♥ making. Julian and Neil's opponents got up to 5♠ quickly in the auction

1♣ - No - 1♥ - 2♣
 4♣ (void showing splinter) - 5♠ - 6♣ - No
 6♦ (grand slam try) - No - 7♣ - No
 7♥ - No- No- No

But they reached the grand nevertheless.

A board from the Pachabo was amazing:

		Game all	
		North	♠ KQJ64
		(Dealer)	♥ A64
			♦ 76
			♣ A74
West	♠ A753	East	♠ 82
(me)	♥ K		♥ J973
	♦ A4		♦ KQ1095
	♣ KQJ1098		♣ 32
		South	♠ 109
			♥ Q10853
			♦ J832
			♣ 65

North opened 1♠, passed back to me as West. Had I bid 2♣ this would probably have ended matters, but I was worried that I might miss a game on some hands if partner passed, and doubled, probably unwisely. Partner bid 2♦ (On his hand I might have bid 2♥) and I bid 3♣. Partner now tried 3♥ (worried I had 6 clubs and 4 hearts) and I ventured 3NT. North led a top spade and continued with another after I ducked. I won, with my 7 now miraculously representing a stop, and played the club Queen. North won, played a top spade, on which I discarded a diamond from dummy. He now played the Ace of hearts, and time stood still as he wondered whether partner had the Ace of diamonds or the Queen of hearts. Eventually he played a diamond and I claimed +600.

Remarkably this contract made 8 times out of 11, 5 times with an overtrick, presumably when North did not cash the Ace of hearts but hopefully cleared spades. At one table, though, East declared 3NT and went 7 off, the defence starting with 2 rounds of hearts, then the 10 of spades. West, when in the spade Ace, then played the Ace of diamonds, followed by small to the 10, to make no more tricks. Though cashing two more diamonds to go 5 off would hardly have helped much.

Also, in the Pachabo was what I felt might qualify as an entry for the overbid of the year competition. With your side vulnerable, the player held ♠ J974 ♥ – ♦ AJ1087 ♣ J1032 and partner opened 1♠. The next hand bid 4♥ and he competed with 4♠. OK so far. The next hand bid 5♥ and partner 5♠. After a pass on your right, he made the considerable overbid of 6♠. After two passes right hand opponent believed him and bid 7♥ and, instead of happily doubling, our hero incredibly made a forcing pass, inviting partner, who couldn't bid 6♠ over 5♥, to bid 7♠. Partner, expecting a much better hand than you have, somewhat optimistically now bid 7♠ with ♠ AKQ82 ♥ 7652 ♦ Q ♣ K86. This lost 800 (which could have been 500), when a similar number was available off 7♥ doubled.

Play and Coach Sessions

Tony Cherrett

One of [our key aims](#) is to help and encourage our members to progress. Last autumn we trialed a special, free-of-charge 'Play and Coach' event, to which we invited those at the lower end of the EBU rankings who had won the most Master Points the previous year. Those who came along competed in an informal, friendly environment not only with each other, but also with Sally Brock – one of the country's top players, and long-term member of the England Women's team – and her partner Barry Myers. Sally and Barry discussed some of the interesting boards, and provided insights into becoming a better player.

With a new departure like this, you can expect a few glitches, but the event was generally very well received, so we put it on again at the end of June, this time with Gordon Rainsford and Giorgio Provenza providing the analysis and insight. Gordon is the EBU's CEO, and Giorgio is all of: one of Surrey's top bridge teachers, squad leader for the U16 national team, and EBED's CEO.

To thank Gordon and Giorgio for their efforts, we're donating £450 to EBED, the bridge development charity.

We'll let you know how it went in the next edition.

Calendar

June 26 th	Play and Coach – see article by Tony Cherrett	
July 3 rd	AGM	Zoom
August 29 th	Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	New Haw Community Centre
September 24 th	Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	RealBridge
September 25 th	Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Richmond
October 22 nd – 23 rd	Junior Bridge Boot Camp	Tunbridge Wells

Congratulations – Surrey Events

Wanborough Cup	Mayfield Team Mike Scoltock & Peter Lee, Andrew Southwell & Richard Fedrick
Lady Rose Cup	Charles Chisnall, Ian Swanson, Bob James, and Bill Hodgkiss
Mary Edwards	Roehampton - Malcolm Bricknell & Peter Hardyment
Mixed Pairs	John Edwards & Jane Carpenter
County Pairs	Steve & Jane Hopkins The top few pairs qualified to represent Surrey in the Corwen Trophy. In the Corwen, Peter Lee & Arun Suri put in the best performance, finishing 8 th /78.
9 High Pairs	Mike O'Brien & Frances Wallace
Surrey Schools Salver	Westminster B James Berry & Daniel Yap Aditya Gupta & Ryaan Sultan
Surrey Schools Cup	Harrodian/St Paul's Girls/Westminster Thomas Bradkin & Raphaela Sinclair William & Edward Battersby
Teams of 8	Mayfield Red B Peter Lee & Mike Scoltock Andrew Southwell & Richard Fedrick As reported here, the team subsequently qualified in the regional finals, and won the Garden Cities final
Victor Ludorum	Peter Lee

Club News

Horley Bridge Club

Sadly, our Wednesday evening sessions have come to an end (dwindling attendances, as Crawley also run a session on Wednesday evening) but we're still going strong on Monday afternoons - visitors welcome. We also play on all Bank Holiday Mondays (except Christmas day and New Year's day).

East Horsley Bridge Club

East Horsley Bridge Club is a friendly Club, established 40 years ago. After Covid restrictions were lifted, some members were pleased to return to playing bridge F2F last November. Like other Clubs, table numbers are improving on a weekly basis but they have not returned as yet to the 12-15 tables playing previously.

New members are welcome to join in at The Drift Golf Club on a Monday evening at 7.15 p.m. The Club adopted the BriAn Bridge electronic scoring and cashless payment system. Playing on line was enjoyed during the lockdown and the BBO has continued on a Wednesday evening at 7.15 p.m.

Leatherhead Bridge Club

Leatherhead Bridge Club is now playing on Monday and Friday evenings at the Institute building in the centre of Leatherhead, following the decision of Effingham Bridge Club members to join us. We are a small, relaxed and friendly club – and we are beginning to attract new members.

Sessions are open to all members of EBU-affiliated bridge clubs, subject only to the requirement to register in advance – as described on the club's website.

Roehampton Bridge Club



Malcolm Bricknell & Peter Hardymont, who won the Roehampton Founders Pairs Salver, and have also won the Mary Edwards – the Surrey Club pairs championship.

Tudor & Guildford Bridge Club

Tudor and Guildford Bridge Clubs have taken the opportunity of merging following a change of venues for them both. Tudor Bridge Club, the longest established bridge club in Guildford, was formed in 1949 and has recently joined with Guildford Duplicate Bridge Club, formed around 1978 and both have moved from Merrow to the Shalford Village Hall. The new club, Tudor & Guildford Bridge Club meets on Wednesdays at 1.30pm and Thursdays at 7.30pm.

Duplicate bridge players of all standards together with regular rubber bridge players who want to experience the challenge of duplicate bridge are welcomed and the club will endeavour to find a partner if required.

Suzanne Burroughs and Neil Huggins being presented the Doreen Handyside Cup by John Ward, mayor of Waverley and club member.



Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee with wine and nibbles.

Wimbledon Bridge Club

Wimbledon Bridge Club has been back playing face-to-face bridge since the end of July 2021, following 14 months of successful online sessions. It has taken a little while for players to regain their confidence to return to playing at the Clubhouse but numbers are gradually increasing. We have plenty of learners in our teaching sessions and are very encouraged at the number of them who have ventured into the duplicate sessions. Marietta Andree returned to manage the Club (for a second time) in May 2021, overseeing the return to face-to-face play. With great enthusiasm she reintroduced regular Saturday

suppers which have proved popular. To the great sadness of all at WBC, Marietta died suddenly in March 2022. She was full of bright ideas, had impeccable standards and was a force to be reckoned with at a Committee meeting! She had many, many friends in the bridge world and will be sorely missed by players at WBC and beyond. Memorial events held at WBC were full to bursting point, confirming the respect she commanded. A fuller tribute to Marietta can be found [here](#).

We will continue to hold Saturday suppers and remember her, especially on a Curry evening! The next Saturday supper will be a Summer buffet on Sat, July 2nd at 6.30pm. (Please book [here](#)). We have recently held a successful Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs event. Two more are planned – Sunday, July 24th and Sunday, September 11th. Details will be on the WBC website nearer the time. Please look out for further events at Wimbledon Bridge Club [here](#). We would love to welcome you.

Wyvern Bridge Club

It was lovely to get back to seeing people again, in many ways a huge relief. Needless to say we are playing with a reduced number of tables – some members do not feel confident about going out. We are averaging 8 to 10 tables each Wednesday which compared to other local clubs is very encouraging. Good to report that we also have a few new members.

Prize Double Dummy Puzzle #14

[John Manches](#)

<p>♠ 6 3 2 ♥ – ♦ K J 5 4 3 ♣ J 10 8 6 3</p>	<p>♠ K ♥ 10 6 2 ♦ 10 8 6 2 ♣ A K Q 9 7</p> <p>♠ A Q J 10 9 8 ♥ K Q 3 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ –</p>	<p>♠ 7 5 4 ♥ A J 9 8 7 5 4 ♦ – ♣ 5 4 2</p>
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Bidding goes

West	North	East	South
		3H	X
P	4C	P	4S
P	6S	X	end

South to make 6SX

Lead ♣J

A cute puzzle I feel. I'd rate it as medium.

Please send your answers to me at johnmanches74@gmail.com. The Deadline Date is 15th July 2022. The winner will be drawn from all those with a clear, full, correct-first-time solution. The prize, which is open to all Surrey members, will be free entry to one of our county competitions for the winner and partner of choice.

Surrey Schools Cup

[June Middleton](#)

After much prevarication in January over the state of Covid we took the plunge and went ahead with the Surrey Schools Cup on Friday 4th February. At three weeks' notice we managed to get 76 children playing F2F bridge at Wimbledon Bridge Club with another 8 children playing the minibridge tournament from their school owing to Covid concerns. Everyone was delighted to be back playing F2F. We also welcomed teams from Putney High School and Lady Eleanor Holles for the first time.

In addition to the main Schools Cup we ran the Plate competition for those relatively new to bidding and the minibridge competition for those who had yet to learn the bidding.

Congratulations to the winners of the Schools Cup Thomas Bradkin, Raphaela Sinclair & William & Edward Battersby, a mixed teams from Harrodian, St Paul's Girls, & Westminster, who could not get a full team together.



The Salver was won by the team of James Berry, Daniel Yap, Aditya Gupta & Ryaan Sultan from Westminster. In the minibridge, Leo Skingley & James Lau from Epsom College narrowly beat Nikhil Dalton and Blake Haden from Kings College.



Many thanks to our volunteer director Richard Banbury who took on the challenge of dealing with the three competitions at once. Wimbledon Bridge Club very kindly provided their premises for free and also supplied volunteers to help.

Upcoming Junior Events

June Middleton

Have you got a child in your family who would enjoy bridge? Why not get them started by attending one or more of the following events.

EBED are running a junior teach in from 2nd - 4th September 2022 at KING'S PARK Conference centre in Northampton: Postcode NN3 6LL

More information including a booking form can be found on their website at

<https://www.ebedcio.org.uk/junior-teach-in>

Complete the application form on the website to apply for junior place (plus accompanying adult).

Sussex are holding a Junior Bridge Camp from Sat, 22 October 2022, 10:00 – Sun, 23 October 2022, 16:30 at Bowles Activity Centre, Sandhill Ln, Eridge, Rotherfield, Tunbridge Wells TN3 9LW, UK which we help to fund as a County.

A two day residential/day event for 8-21 years old juniors of all abilities from beginners to experts. Held by Sussex CCBA at Bowles Activity Centre with an opportunity to try one of their activities: dry skiing, rock climbing, etc etc. Great opportunity to play lots of bridge and practise that class learning with other juniors. Further details are available on www.sccba.co.uk, or contact William Bourne on rwb225@gmail.com or 07876 350650 for further information.

Surrey will be running a one day event junior teach in at Wimbledon Bridge Club on Sunday 20th November with teaching in the morning and a tournament in the afternoon. More details will be available nearer the time on the Surrey website.

Join Our Team!



We still have a key role to fill. If we're to publish newsletters, we need a new editor – could it be you? Currently, they're quarterly, but we're very open to new ideas about how best to reach our members, including online platforms.

If you could embrace this challenge with enthusiasm, and would like to join our friendly and active team, [please get in touch](#). A love of playing the game is essential ... but bridge ability isn't important at all. In both cases, there'll be lots of support available to help you learn about the role.

And Finally.....

Just to remind everyone, the EBU summer festival in Eastbourne this year is a bit cut down. There's a reduced 4-day [Summer Meeting at Eastbourne](#), to take place from the evening of Thursday 11th – Sunday 14th August.

Thursday 11th - Mixed/Open Pairs
Friday 12th - Swiss Teams
Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th - Swiss Pairs

Book early to receive £10 off the price of the full congress!

Come along for a lovely long weekend of face-to-face bridge. Please send enquiries to comps@ebu.co.uk, 01296 317203 or book online via [My EBU](#).

This excitement is followed up by the SCBA Green Pointed Swiss Pairs and Teams:

September 24 th	Pairs	This is on RealBridge so no travelling required
September 25 th	Teams	This is face-to-face, and is at Richmond Bridge Club. Yes – a bit of travelling, but it is nice to actually meet people sometimes!

The next newsletter will come out towards the end of September. So, please send me any clubs news, personal stories and photographs for the next edition. Is your club having a charity event you would like to tell people about? Let me know.

Julia Brough
Editor