



Introduction

Tim Warren

We hope you enjoy our latest newsletter. We're again very grateful to Julia Brough for producing it.

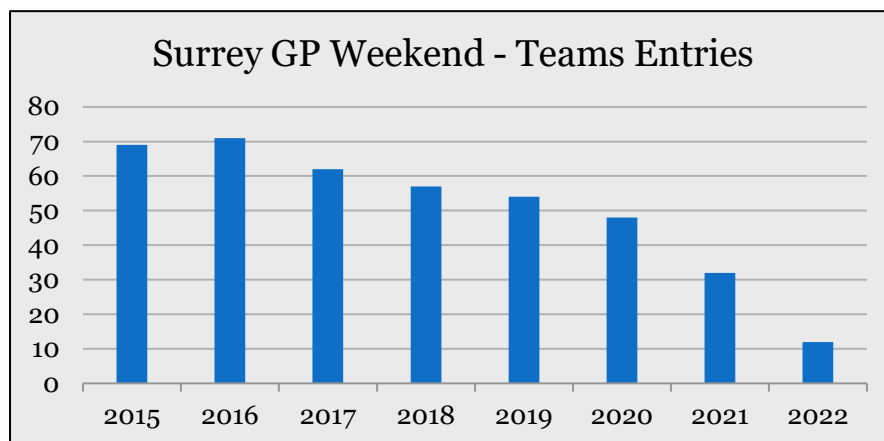
We've just had our flagship Surrey event, the Green Point weekend, with the Swiss Pairs online on the Saturday and the Swiss Teams face-to-face (F2F) at Richmond on the Sunday. It threw up some big questions.

The online Pairs attracted 84 entries, and the F2F part just 12 teams. (Twelve! More on this below.)

84 pairs was a bit more than half what we used to get five years ago or so. This year, only 28% were Surrey players, and many were from far-flung places. They were of course very welcome, and as it happens those from Surrey did very well, but when it's online saying it's a Surrey event ceases to have much meaning.

This is something all counties are facing, and the EBU are proposing to take back the running of online Green Point events. Under these proposals, there will be fewer such events, run centrally. There are arguments on both sides, but at our last committee meeting Surrey opted to support this.

The F2F Teams entry was a jolt. While this year's drop was dramatic, in fact it's been a long-term trend:



greatly prefer them; see the heartfelt plea in [the July 2021 newsletter](#), but others have also mentioned it to me.

But the drop in F2F numbers is a big challenge. Do we just have to accept that the future of major event bridge is largely, perhaps solely, online?

Personally, I'm very reluctant to let that happen. Our Swiss Teams was my first F2F major event since 2019 – and I loved it. I'd forgotten quite how enjoyable it is to meet people, whether old friends or new, at a real bridge table.

As always, I would welcome hearing from you about this.

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Why is this? Of course, F2F events are more expensive than online, but I doubt if it's primarily a matter of cost. Fear of infection will remain a factor for some, but I suspect for most it's unwillingness to put up with the travel and weariness involved, when there are so many other opportunities to play.

We've continued to put on F2F events, because we're aware that a proportion of our members

From the 2nd to the 4th of September EBED held its Junior Summer Camp at King's Park conference centre, near Northampton.

It was the first EBED camp since 2019, and as much as online bridge has been vital to get us all through Covid, there is no substitute for face to face bridge, particularly when it comes to young players.

Fifty children and young adults (ages 8 to 18), from absolute beginners to junior internationals, gathered for a weekend of bridge and a lot more.

Training sessions were intense, and all the teachers were impressed with the effort all learners put into it.

Two duplicate sessions and speedball on both nights gave everyone a chance to compete and test themselves.

When not playing bridge, the kids enjoyed roller skating, football, rounders, table tennis and pool. Judging from the noises coming from the rooms in the dormitories, some unsanctioned pillow fighting went on as well! A quiz, masterfully conducted by Michael Byrne, wrapped up the proceedings, just before prize-giving.



The camp also saw the conclusion of the first edition of the Grand Prix. This new competition comprises of six events – three face to face and three online – played all year round. The wonderful prizes were donated by the Makers of Playing Cards Charity, a long-time partner of EBED, and the overall winner of the GP was the U16 England superstar [Charlotte “Lottie” Bedford](#) (pictured left with Michael Byrne presenting the trophy).

The next edition of the GP will begin in earnest in October, at the Autumn Junior Bridge Camp run by William Bourne. Surrey are one of its sponsors. It is taking place at Bowles

Rock Centre near Tunbridge Wells in Kent on 22nd and 23rd October. The programme will be a mixture of training, competitions and fun - with lots of bridge. Juniors also have the opportunity on the Saturday to take one of four outdoor activities – this year's choice is rock-climbing, archery and bush-craft, teamwork on high ropes, or dry skiing, all included in the price. We welcome all standards of bridge players, and especially beginners and those a bit rusty because of the last few years' lockdowns. Parents and grandparents are as always welcome to accompany younger juniors and play bridge themselves. For further information and registration click on this link https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?club=sussex&pid=docs_South%20Eastern%20Counties%20Junior%20Bridge%20Camp%202022%20information%20sheet%20-%200425%20v3.pdf or visit the Sussex County website.

We will be holding a follow up one day event at Wimbledon Bridge Club on Sunday 20th November. There will be teaching in the morning followed by a competition in the afternoon. Details will shortly be available on the Surrey website.

The Schools online league will shortly be getting underway – if you know of any schools who are playing bridge but not currently taking part please get in touch with joan@ebedcio.org.uk. There are leagues suitable for all including those who have just started playing full bridge – don't be afraid that your children don't know enough! It is more important to get them playing and enjoying themselves.

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.

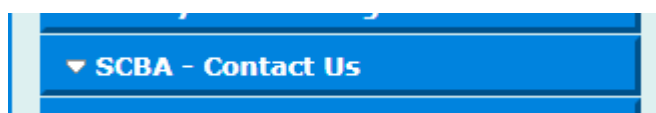
Sussex are holding a Junior Bridge Camp from Sat, 22 October 2022, 10:00 – Sun, 23 October 2022, 16:30 at Bowles Activity Centre, Sandhill Ln, Eridge, Rotherfield, Tunbridge Wells TN3 9LW, UK which we help to fund as a County.

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.

Meet the team

To contact anyone on the Committee, go the SCBA web site (<https://www.bridgewebs.com/surrey/>), scroll down the Left Hand Side of the menu until you see:



Click on this to open a page with all contact details.

| Role | Description |
|---|---|
| President | No current holder. The question is, is this still a relevant position? If so, what should the role be? Unless there are clear reasons to keep this role, the current plan is to pass a motion to abolish the role at the AGM next year. |
| Chairman Tim Warren I spent my career in IT, including living and working in France and India. With retirement on the horizon, I joined the SCBA team in 2015 as our junior bridge rep, before becoming Chairman in 2020. I still care deeply about helping youngsters to play, but I'm also keen that we promote our wonderful game to adult learners, and that our events appeal to as broad a range of players as possible. I live in Chobham, on the western border of the county. Alas, our village club is no more, but I can be found playing at Farnham BC, particularly in the club's Sylvia Rose competition, and in our Surrey League. |  |

Secretary

Gail Norman

My role as Secretary entails updating contact details of all the Surrey clubs and officers, sending out the Agenda for committee meetings and to all members for the AGM, keeping a list of acceptances and apologies, sending out invitations to various competitions and keeping a note of acceptances, in fact different things seem to permanently happen which keep me busy most of the time. I have recently been in touch with all the teachers to see if they are still teaching and updating the website with what they teach.



Treasurer

Jackie Hawkins

Managing the finances, including financial reporting



Match Secretary

Graham Osbourne

I have lived in Surrey all my life and have played in Surrey bridge events for longer than I care to remember. I previously served on the committee as events organiser and I am a past President.

My responsibility this year is to chair the selection committee which selects the Surrey representative teams for the events such as the Tollemache Cup and Metropolitan Cup.

Membership Secretary

Trevor Hobson

After several years of managing the Surrey Sim Pairs, the Surrey League and Lady Rose competitions and being Chairman for five years and President for two I now have a much less demanding role as membership secretary. This involves keeping our membership database up to date, well, as up to date as the EBU keep their database, also reporting on things like members' promotions, NGS increases, Master Points earned and



performance in the annual Victor Ludorum competition (check our website for these).

Also, my wife, Barbara is affectionately referred to as our 'trophy monitor'. She keeps track of where the trophies are, collects them when required, ensures they are engraved correctly and nicely cleaned before passing them on to the new recipients. The move from face-to-face to online Bridge has involved her and I in many cross-county road trips to collect and deliver trophies at peoples' homes. It was much easier when winners could pick up the trophy from the previous winners at an event, arrange their own engraving (and occasionally their own cleaning!), but it is nice for us to meet the winners, and it was a nice way to get out during the various lock downs.

Competitions Secretary

Shirley Pritchard

My role on the committee is that of Competitions Secretary.

This role has changed a lot since lockdown.

I used to arrange around 13 events a year in a central location together with the annual Green Point event at the Spectrum.

Since lockdown players are reluctant to travel to venues, and prefer to play at their club or online so planning events has changed a lot, and it is likely to change again in the future with the changes proposed by the EBU.



Web Manager

John Lemmey

As the photo indicates I'm Australian, but have lived in the UK since 1984. When I now go Down Under for a holiday, I'm told that I "sound like a bloody Pom".

I was born and bred in Adelaide, South Australia, went to university there, got a Bachelor of Science with Majors in Applied Mathematics and Computing Science, and have worked in IT ever since until I retired.

In 1981 I moved to Melbourne Victoria to acclimatise myself before coming to England.

The move was a boon to my cricketing career as I thought I was past it in Oz. I loved village cricket, the grounds were small, the bowling very friendly, and I could field in the slips so didn't have to run around much.

And all the grounds had sightscreens, I could actually see the ball again.

My jobs had me travelling overseas a lot and after I retired my wife insisted that I took up a hobby. She now regrets that decision due to the amount of time I spend playing and looking after the SCBA website.

I've tried to convince her to take bridge up, but I'd made the mistake of telling her too many stories about clashes between partners

I really love bridge and regret that I never took it seriously until my 70s.



Communications Looking for a volunteer

This has two aspects:

- Promoting events to our membership
- Editing our newsletter, mainly by encouraging others to write articles

The role is currently vacant. The two elements are entirely separate, and can be carried out by different people. If you might be interested in taking on one of them, we'd love to hear from you.

Development

Tony Cherrett

Bringing new players into bridge

Helping learners and other members develop further

Junior & University Bridge

June Middleton

Maintains contacts with schools and provides assistance where needed. At some of the schools the teacher organising bridge has limited knowledge of the game.

Organises the Surrey School Cup, Salver and minibridge competitions which are played annually.

Runs occasional teaching events for juniors in the county.

Promotes junior events run by neighbouring counties through Surrey Newsletter and school contacts.

Liaises with the others involved with junior bridge locally and nationally.

Lady Rose Organiser

William Clennell

I have recently joined the SCBA Committee in a supporting role, focusing primarily on the organisation and smooth running (hopefully!) of the Lady Rose Cup. I have also represented the county in discussions with the EBU surrounding the future of green point events, including finding the right balance between online and face-to-face competitions. Outside of Surrey, I am a member of the Laws and Ethics Committee and the U26 England squad.

My home club is in Camberley, which couldn't have been more welcoming since I became a member six years ago. Camberley Bridge Club is hosted in the cricket pavilion, making for quite a coincidence between my main interests!



Surrey & Novice Leagues Organiser

David Burch

I learnt to play Bridge on my mother's knee (not literally, of course) over 60 years ago, as she regarded it as an essential social skill alongside ballroom dancing. A grounding that needed a lot of correction within the Bridge club at the National Coal Board's Operation Research Executive, my first employer, which contributed teams to all six divisions of the Harrow League.

Decades passed until I found myself to be the Chairman of Woking Bridge Club, where my mother's upbringing came to the fore in ensuring the club maintains the highest standards of ethics and friendliness.

And then, two years ago I was approached to take over the administration of the leagues for Surrey County Bridge Association, a back office role which involves:

- collating all the entries into the league
- managing the promotions and relegations between the divisions of the league to ensure an appropriate size of each division to the benefit of all
- entering the team details into MyEBU and generating the fixture list
- preparing and issuing the division information and fixtures for each team captain
- dealing with any problems that arise as the competition progresses
- finalising the divisions at the end of the season so that players receive their Master Points and that the County pays the appropriate fees to the EBU
- taking a short break until it all begins again.



Sim Pairs Organiser

Brian Adlam

RealBridge Support

Barry Stoker



Retired management consultant. Bridge player since school bridge club was founded in 1965. Surrey member and Surrey competition player continuously since 1980. Have won Lady Rose, Surrey Bowl (when it existed) and Surrey Swiss Teams, but it has been as the result of a lot of attempts. Married to Barbara who has fulfilled all of the roles of life partner, work partner and bridge partner. When not playing bridge, we spend a lot of time with family: two children and currently two grandchildren.

I had never played online bridge before lockdown in 2020 but started running sessions for old bridge friends on RealBridge, because there was no other way to play at the time, and they are still running. I now find that I prefer to play tournaments that way also, rather than travelling and hotels. Following on from all of this, I have agreed to set up matches for Surrey members who wish to play their matches on RealBridge. I can also offer guidance to get them started, but little is needed since all have found it very straightforward. On technical matters, however, I can only refer people to the guidance issued by RealBridge.

Calendar

October 22nd – 23rd Junior Bridge Boot Camp Tunbridge Wells
 Dec 11th Mixed Pairs Realbridge

Eastbourne many ways.....

Various

Eastbourne this year was a very good event. There were 57 tables in the Swiss Pairs which ran over 2 days (Saturday and Sunday). The current times are such that you play during the day and then have the evening free – although there are evening pairs events for the truly dedicated. There were also one day Swiss Pairs run in parallel each day.

Brian Senior wrote up the last 8 boards on the second day. This was truly nail-biting for him as they drew their last match ending up in a 3-way draw for top place. He has given me permission to show one those hands here (for all of them go to: [The Last Round-Up](#)). I have followed his write-up of board 24 (the final board on the final day!) with commentary by other Surrey players on this board.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

Board 24

Traveller

North NV

♠ K J 10 6 4

♥ 10 8 3

♦ J 9 5

♣ 8 4

West D NV

East NV

♠ A 7 5 2

♥

♦ 10 7 6 2

♣ A K Q 6 2

♠ 9 8

♥ Q J 6

♦ A K 4

♣ 10 9 7 5 3

South NV

♠ Q 3

♥ A K 9 7 5 4 2

♦ Q 8 3

♣ J

HCPs

| | |
|----|----|
| 5 | |
| 13 | 10 |
| 12 | |

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|-------|---|---|---|---|----|
| North | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| South | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| East | 5 | 3 | - | 1 | 3 |
| West | 5 | 3 | - | 1 | 2 |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| West Deshepper | North Senior | East Plackett | South Bird |
| 1♣ | 2♠ | Pass | 3♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

One Club could have been short with a weak NT type and, knowing that the previous disaster had put us behind in the match, it was time to try to get it back. My weak jump overcall on only a five-card suit worked like a charm. Richard felt unable to support what could be a doubleton with only ten-to-five, so passed, and Nigel introduced his long heart suit. Despite having decent heart support, with my pile of garbage I didn't care whether Nigel thought that his 3♥ bid was forcing – I passed, and 3♥ ended the auction.

Nigel ruffed the second club, cashed a top heart, and played a spade, losing two diamonds and one trick in each of the other suits, so down one for –50.

Half the field was bidding and making 5♣. Indeed, after a non-spade lead, the three-three diamond break meant that the pair who bid to 6♣ could get the spade loser away on the thirteenth diamond and make their slam – take a bow Tim Pelling and Naomi Cohen.

Our –50 was worth 103.84 MPs, giving a final match result of 449.01-446.99. Let's claim that as being a moral victory for us but, of course, it scored up as a 10-10 VP draw. Had our two pairs been tied on our own at the top, that fractional advantage would presumably have given us the trophy as, in matchpoint terms, we had sneaked the direct match. But it was not to be.

Elsewhere, Tony Verran and Brian Gladman had finished off with a 19-1 VP win to join us in a triple tie for first place. The tiebreaker would now only have been the results of the direct matches had we all played each other, but we had not. Tiebreaker number two, is on matches won and drawn – two points for each match won, one point for each match drawn. And so it came to pass that Richard and Mia, who had won nine and drawn one, came out on top and took the Harold Poster Cup. As you can see from the deals discussed above, we can't say that we didn't have our chances to win it.

By Brian Senior

My partner (West) and I play a strong club system, hence to show the West hand partner opened 2 Clubs (showing an unbalanced hand with clubs, 11-15 points). As East my options on this hand were either 3 Clubs (weak, no interest in game) or 4/5 clubs (both pre-emptive) or 2 Diamonds which is artificial and asks for more information - in principle showing 11+ points. Clearly the latter is right with game interest. Now South chimed in with 3 Hearts, reasonably enough, and partner doubled (take-out), and I faced an unclear bidding decision: I considered 3NT, 4 Clubs, 5 Clubs and converting to penalties. Which would you choose? (you know at this point that partner has 11-15 points, 5+ clubs and 4 spades, probably heart shortage). My view was that converting was out; with such a big club fit our defence is not looking good; I really felt like bidding 3NT, but the opposition will attack hearts and I would presumably therefore need partner to be able to run off 8 tricks quickly which felt improbable. I decided on 4 Clubs in the end as I had already slightly overstated my hand. Partner, with her heart void raised to five.

In the play North naturally enough led his partner's suit. Partner ruffed, drew trumps and could play on diamonds which given the 3-3 break provided a length discard on which to dump one of dummy's spades, allowing partner to come to 12 tricks, which turns out to be crucial in pairs as it comes in just better than 3NT which makes on the nose. It's also interesting that if NS know the full layout they must attack spades from the opening lead to set up their second trick.

By Tim Chanter playing with Helen Wildsmith

Diamonds are a girl's best friend

| | | | |
|-------|----------|-----|---------|
| Naomi | Andrew | Tim | Michael |
| | Urbanski | | Letts |
| W | N | E | S |

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------|----|
| 2C (1) | P | 2D (2) | 4H |
| X (3) | P | 5C | P |
| 6C (4) | | | |

- (1) The original Precision bid showing a limited hand (11-16) with 5 clubs and a 4 card major, or 6+ clubs.
- (2) The standard enquiry. (Slightly underweight but encouraged by the big club fit.) If W can show a spade suit, E hopes 3NT will come home.
- (3) A near maximum with 4 spades.
- (4) Pushy, but W is buoyed by her partner's original enquiry and her own heart void.

Lead 3H

6C felt like a punt but I couldn't resist. When dummy came down I wondered if I'd been over-optimistic but partner could have been stronger for his 2D enquiry. It all hinged on the diamond situation. On the heart lead I could pitch the spade loser on the fourth diamond should they break 3-3. With growing tension, I ruffed the heart, drew trumps, played A, K diamonds and (with bated breath) a third diamond. Our luck was in. I won the return and threw the spade loser on the fourth diamond. On the day we'd had, we were owed some compensation.

By Naomi Cohen playing with Tim Pelling

| | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------|----------|
| Ceri Pierce | Steve | Sophie Cunninigham | Julia |
| W | N | E | S |
| 1C (1) | P | 2C (2) | 2H |
| 3C | P | P | 3H |
| P | P | 4C | all pass |

- (1) Playing 5 card majors
- (2) Showing 5+ clubs and 10+ points

Not one of the world's most exciting bidding sequences, but from our point of view one of those boards where you feel you will be damned if you do and damned if you don't. I chose to go in with a tame 2H to start with. Steve then chose to pass at his turn since I could be very weak. Because I did have more than I might have for the 2H I then chose to bid 3H. Steve again decided his hand was not offering anything much and passed the 4C. If he had bid 4H, I'm sure they would have then bid the game, which would not have been good for us! If I had started with 3H not 2H, would they have passed it out? Which would have been very good for us, or would W bidding over 3H have galvanised E into bidding the game?

By Julia Brough playing with Steve Bourton

Congratulations

SCBA GP Pairs 1st Christopher Whitehouse & Mary-Ann Sheeley
2nd James Bond & Graham Davison
3rd Paul Murray & Andrew Woodcock

SCBA GP Teams 1st Frances Hinden, Sally Brock, Barry Myers & Steve Eginton



Surrey League

Division 1 Frances Hinden, Jeffrey Allerton, Peter Lee, Graham Osborne, Mike Scoltock
Division 2A Richard Granville, John Cox, Richard Fedrick, Graham Sadie, Andrew Southwell
Division 2B Jackie Davies, Michael Aslett, Sally Bennett, Gerald Freedman, Bob Turnham
Division 3A Neil P Thomas, Philip Cretch, Sue Cretch, Charles Nixon, Dorothy Rivers,
Barbara Thomas
Division 3B Sue Shaw, Sue Grant, Bridget Macdougall, Colin Porch, Carla Sidney-Woollett,
Lorna Vestey
Division 4 Manda Kimbery, Lynn Paynter, Tilsley Peck, Jonathan Prizeman, Michael Rushworth,
Douglas Wright
Division 5 Nigel Biggs, Allyson Biggs, Kevin Byrne, Martin Farmer, Wendy Farmer, Nashat Saridar

Wanborough Cup Mayfield Team
Mike Scoltock & Peter Lee, Andrew Southwell & Richard Fedrick

Lady Rose Cup Charles Chisnall, Ian Swanson, Bob James, and Bill Hodgkiss

Lady Rose Plate Won by Bary Stoker's team

Mary Edwards Roehampton - Malcolm Bricknell & Peter Hardymont

Mixed Pairs John Edwards & Jane Carpenter

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal (held with Kent and Sussex)
Celia & Derek Oram

County Pairs Steve & Jane Hopkins

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/England
Thomas Bradkin & Raphaela Sinclair
William & Edward Battersby

Teams of 8 Mayfield Red B
Peter Lee & Mike Scoltock
Andrew Southwell & Richard Fedrick

This issue offers you two Double Dummy hands. Hand 1 is challenging, Hand 2 less so. Good luck. Please send your answers to me at johnmanches74@gmail.com. The Deadline Date is end of November. The winner will be drawn from all those with clear, full, correct-first-time solutions to both puzzles. 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.

DD No 15: Hand 1 (challenging)

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|
| ♠ – | ♠ 5 4 3 | ♠ Q J 9 7 |
| ♥ J 9 7 3 | ♥ 8 6 2 | ♥ Q 10 4 |
| ♦ 10 7 | ♦ 8 6 5 4 3 | ♦ J 9 2 |
| ♣ A K 9 6 5 4 3 | ♣ 10 7 | ♣ J 8 2 |
| | ♠ A K 10 8 6 2 | |
| | ♥ A K 5 | |
| | ♦ A K Q | |
| | ♣ Q | |

South to make 4♠
Lead ♣A,
followed by ♣K

DD No 15: Hand 2 (gentle)

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|
| ♠ 3 | ♠ K 8 6 4 2 | ♠ 7 5 |
| ♥ K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 | ♥ 4 3 | ♥ – |
| ♦ J 8 | ♦ K 4 3 | ♦ Q 10 9 7 6 |
| ♣ 10 | ♣ A 9 5 | ♣ K Q J 8 3 2 |
| | ♠ A Q J 10 9 | |
| | ♥ A 2 | |
| | ♦ A 5 2 | |
| | ♣ 7 6 4 | |

Bidding goes

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
| | | | 1S |
| 4H | 4S | end | |

Contract 4♠ by South
Lead = ♥K, ruffed by East.
East returns ♣K

Allingham Bridge Club

30th Anniversary Summer Social – Mon 18 July

On a glorious summer's evening members gathered together for a 'Special' Summer Social to celebrate 30 years of Allingham Bridge Club, Reigate, Surrey.

Members were welcomed with a glass of prosecco served by Andy and Jeremy and asked by Kate to put their tickets in a hat for a prize draw.



After collecting further wine from Mike and Chic members took their seats at the beautifully set out tables – table flowers supplied by Betty and table clothes from the Merstham Charity MAPS. Gerri welcomed everyone to the Social and then Mary took over to organise the serving of the sumptuous buffet and further wine was served by our wine waiters (Mike and Chic).

If the noise level was an indication everyone enjoyed the buffet/drinks and congratulations to our caterers.



There was then a Quiz run by our 'Quizmaster' Hazel assisted by our 'Scorer' Margaret. A table quiz had been passed out earlier which caused a lot of head scratching!! The rounds of the quiz involved questions on 1992 (the year Allingham was founded), Cookery and a picture 'games' round to name but a few.

After the quiz Gerri announced various winners:

The Allingham Cup – won by Mireille Fiander and Gail Norman- Cup and bottles of wine presented.

The 'lucky name' out of the hat winner – Marian Bjorin - bottle of prosecco

The quiz winners – The Kings and Queens (Andy, Jeremy, Mike, Kate, Gill, Ian, Jackie & Jacqui) – chocolate orange each.

A WONDERFUL EVENING CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Bookham Afternoon Bridge Club

In September, after a period of eighteen months, Bookham Afternoon Bridge Club resumed its Thursday afternoon sessions. The Monday sessions continued being played online to accommodate members who felt uneasy about returning to face- to- face bridge. As of March the Club has ceased online sessions and therefore both Monday and Thursday sessions are being held at the Barn Hall much to the delight of many members. Bookham Bridge Club prides itself on being both a competitive and friendly club. Since the reopening of the Club many visitors have joined our sessions and judging by the number who have continued to attend speaks volumes. At each session the Club aims to provide a host who will play with either a member or visitor who is without a partner that day. In November, after an absence of two years, the AGM was held at which the members had the opportunity to show their gratitude to the Chairman, Neil Higgins, who had worked tirelessly to keep the Club viable during the Covid period by setting up online Club bridge. At this event the Chairman's Cup was awarded to Ron Rutstein who does an outstanding job updating the Club website. In March 80 players gathered for another Andrew Robson Masterclass. Over £1100 was raised at this event which will be donated to the Bookham Community Association for the upkeep of the Barn Hall. Various competitive events have been held over the past 9 months to raise money for various charities, such as Children in Need and Dorin Salver QEF and most

recently one to support Ukraine. We are proud to announce that almost £2000 in total was raised at these events.

Carol Newton (committee member)

Busbridge Bridge Club

The club tried to provide both F2F and on-line bridge but have had to accept that there is insufficient demand for F2F. We now offer on-line bridge on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 7.00 for 7.15pm throughout the year. We considered using BCL and BBO but have chosen Realbridge because, of the three systems, it provides the closest experience to F2F bridge. It incorporates video software which allows players to see and talk to their partner and opponents. Another feature that our members like is the ability to see the score and detailed results at the end of each round.

We welcome new members. Anyone who is interested in joining us should contact Barbara Sayer at barbarasayer133@hotmail.com.

Leatherhead Bridge Club

Leatherhead Bridge Club continued to play bridge face-to-face on Mondays and Fridays through the summer. Although many people were away during August, we managed to average about 5 tables. We have also been able to welcome a few new members, and we look forward to slightly higher numbers in the autumn.

Several of our members have booked to go on a bridge weekend at the end of October – forming a little social group there, participating in a larger event.

Surrey and Friends Bridge Club

Fun 2 Play Bridge / Surrey and Friends Bridge Clubs

NGS 8 and below Monthly Ladder – Open to all – Prizes for top 3 Pairs

Surrey and Friends BC would like to welcome all players at NGS 8 or below to join the monthly ladder game on BBO each Thu evening, 7:15 pm start, from Thu 6 Oct.

Pairs need to play at least 3 out of the 4 sessions each month and prizes will be awarded to the top 3 pairs each month. A substitute partner is allowed for one of the 3 sessions.

If you are not a regular player for these online games, please register your BBO name and details and mention Thu Ladder in the comment field: https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?club=fun2play&pid=display_page1

Note that your NGS level should be public / visible to be able to play in this ladder

Lessons on Card Play for Intermediate Players

We have all looked at our scores immediately after play on the scoring device or online and noticed that several other pairs have managed to make more tricks or have defeated an opponent's contract, whereas we haven't. How did they do that?

Learning Bridge involves a lot of time being spent on mastering Bidding and getting to grips with essential as well as fancy conventions. But perhaps not enough time is spent on Card Play – whether it is Declarer Play or Defence.

There is huge satisfaction (not to mention a higher percentage / better results) when we are able to make the optimum number of tricks and get a few top scores or when, with just the right partnership defence, we have been able to defeat a contract or minimise opposition's overtricks.

Meena Samani, who runs the online Fun 2 Play and Surrey and Friends Bridge Clubs is planning a series of lessons on Card Play, which will focus on how to plan the play, count (!), and apply various techniques such as Ducking, Unblock, Finessing, Establishing, Ruffing, Discarding, Managing Entries when Declarer. When defending, doing a virtual dance with partner across the table as we step together with Leads, Signals, giving Count, Discards, Surround Play to name just a few dances...

The lessons will be on Zoom, followed by play at a BBO Teaching Table, where players are invited / rotated in and out of the table, while others watch the action of all 4 hands on Zoom. It is highly participative and great fun!

The session will be recorded and the link of the recording, together with notes will be sent out after the session.

The 2-hour lessons will be online each Wednesday at 9:30 am, starting on Wed 5 October and finish on Wed 7 December. The course will go ahead if there are a minimum of 10 participants.

For more information and booking details please click here:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?club=fun2play&pid=display_page24

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| ♠ 6 3 2 ♥ – ♦ K J 5 4 3 ♣ J 10 8 6 3 | ♠ K ♥ 10 6 2 ♦ 10 8 6 2 ♣ A K Q 9 7 ♠ A Q J 10 9 8 ♥ K Q 3 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ – | ♠ 7 5 4 ♥ A J 9 8 7 5 4 ♦ – ♣ 5 4 2 |
|---|---|--|

Bidding goes

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

South to make 6SX

Lead ♣J

Solution

Given that West led a club and did not find the diamond lead that would enable to defence to take the first 6 tricks on a cross ruff, the contract can be made only by finding the right play at T1. Declarer must win the club lead in dummy and discard QD from hand.

Declarer plays AQJ spades to draw trumps, discarding a club and diamond from dummy. Now KH. If East wins this he is endplayed and must give an entry to dummy via a club or 10H. Declarer is then home via 6 spades, 3 clubs, 1 heart, 1 diamond and an extra club or heart depending on what East plays.

East must therefore duck KH. Declarer now leads a small diamond. If West ducks, dummy wins 10D and declarer is home with 6 spades, 3 clubs, 1 heart and A10 diamonds. So West must play JD and is now endplayed, forced to give an entry to dummy via a club or 10D. Again declarer is home with 6 spades, 3 clubs, 1 heart, AD and an extra club or diamond depending on what West plays.

NB: If declarer throws a small diamond at trick 1, he cannot later force the entry to dummy. If he leads a small diamond from AQ9 after winning KH, West wins and returns a diamond to South's blocked AQ. Declarer must then lose 2 heart tricks. If Declarer leads QD, West can duck, and continue diamonds when he wins the continuation. Again Declarer must then lose 2 heart tricks.

Winner

The winner is: John Poole – whose name was drawn at random from the list of those responding correctly.

And finally.....

The next newsletter will come out towards the end of December. 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