



# Surrey County Bridge Association

Newsletter # 33 March 2019

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## President's Introduction

Many of you will have taken part in the SCBA Charity Sims for the Dorin Salver before Christmas. This annual event supports the Queen Elizabeth Foundation for Disabled People near Leatherhead. I was pleased to be able to visit the centre to present a cheque for nearly £3,000, made possible by your generosity in supporting our charitable efforts. Thanks to all of you who participated. QEF is in the process of building a £15 million facility to extend its rehabilitation efforts, which still needs £5 million additional funding on top of the ongoing costs of its work so donations are especially welcome.

Many thanks to all those who have entered the County Pairs Cup on 31st March, we are increasing the capacity to 52 pairs, so there is now room for 2 more pairs. May I also add my encouragement for you to enter the Ladies' and Men's Pairs on 7<sup>th</sup> April, all welcome.

Best wishes

Tim

## The 2019 Calendar

### MARCH 2019

Sun 1300 31 Surrey County Pairs Cup & Plate Oxshott

### APRIL 2019

Sun 1300 7 Surrey Ladies Pairs Oxshott

1300 7 Surrey Mens Pairs Oxshott

### MAY 2019

Mon 1300 6 YHBC & Camberley Blue Point Swiss Pairs Yateley

Sun 1300 12 Surrey Mary Edwards Cup Oxshott

### JUNE 2019

Sun 1300 2 Richmond Blue Point Swiss Pairs Richmond

Sun 1300 9 Surrey Leagues Finals Oxshott

Varies Surrey Charity Sim Pairs Mon 10 – Friday 14 Clubs

Sun 1300 23 Surrey Wanborough Cup Oxshott

Sun 1300 30 Surrey Blue Pointed Mini Swiss Pairs (with AGM) Oxshott

### AUGUST 2019

Sun 1100 26 Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Oxshott

### SEPTEMBER 2019

Sun 1300 1 Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Richmond

Mon-Fri Varies 9-13 Surrey Club Pairs Challenge Heats Clubs

Sat /Sun 1200 14/15 Surrey Green Point Weekend Guildford Spectrum

### OCTOBER 2019

Sun 1100 6 Wimbledon Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Wimbledon

Sun 1300 13 Woking Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Woking

Sun 1100 27 Club Pairs Challenge Final Oxshott

## STOP PRESS: Surrey Green Point Weekend 14 & 15 September.

*For more information on events that Surrey County Bridge Association run [Click Here](#) or click on a link in the Calendar on the website. To enter an event either online using the [Event Hub](#), download an entry form, or contact the competitions secretary, Shirley Pritchard [competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com](mailto:competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com)*

## Hall of Fame so far

Competition	Winners
Chairman's Lunch	Steve Irwin & Roxanne Day
Club Pairs Challenge Final	Malcolm Bricknell & Peter Hardyment
Surrey GP Swiss Teams	Jeffrey Allerton & Philip Wood, Graham Osborne & Frances Hinden
Surrey GP Swiss Pairs	Miles Cowling & Ron Davis
Bank Holiday Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Natalie Shashou & Nick Sandqvist (David Stallan & Simon Oldham – Non Expert)
Charity Sim Pairs- Monday	Roger Hitt & Paul Skinner (Kenley) 69.27%
Tuesday	Ernie Gilburd & Andrew Male (Woking) 67.24%
Wednesday	Alan Webber & Mick Edwards (Caterham) 68.90%
Thursday	Max Baumann & David Lofts (Camberley) 71.63%
Friday	Mike Mulligan & Elisa Money (Effingham) 67.11%
AGM Pairs	Jeffrey Allerton & Frances Hinden
Wanborough Cup	Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden, Gerard Thompson, Andrew Mann
Surrey League Finals Division 2	Tim Pelling & Naomi Cohen, Simon Prager & Henry Klocek
Division 3	Alan Webber & Mick Edwards, Peter Kelly & Andrew Rumble
Novice	Alan Given & Janine D'Eath, Maciej Szetela & Jean Wilson
Mary Edwards	Ralph Evers & Ronald Wood (Roehampton)
Affiliated Clubs Teams of 8	MAYFIELD: David Norman, Arun Suri, Mike Scoltock, Peter Lee, Charles Chisnall, Bob James, Ian Swanson & Bill Hodgkiss
Dorin Salver Overall winners	Jill Cook & Ian Lewis (Yateley)
Day 1 Monday	Malcolm Oddy & Bob Guille (Ditton)
Day 2 Tuesday	Beryl Mullins & Marilyn Frame (Woking)
Day 3 Wednesday	Jill Cook & Ian Lewis (Yateley)
Day 4 Thursday	Sheila & Gerry Hayter (Bookham)
Day 5 Friday	John Fairhurst & Keith Bennett (Camberley)
Ladies Pairs	Ulla Adilz & Joyce Munns
Mens Pairs	Steve Bourton & Frank Marshallsay
Mixed Pairs	Steve Bourton & Julia Brough
Seniors Pairs	Steve Lock & Graham E Osborne

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### *Team Playing*

This was a topic discussed at the annual Chairman's meeting last November and it was subsequently agreed at the SCBA Committee Meeting in January that this will become one of the Association's priorities for action. The purpose is to promote and encourage Team Bridge in clubs across the County.

We already run various teams' leagues designed to cover the full range of experience and ability; from the Novice League up to Division 1. The latter includes some of the top players in the County. In the previous Newsletter we had an article contrasting the various methods of scoring available for club sessions which is still available in the Library on our website.

We have also recently introduced a new Blue Pointed Swiss Teams event that is scheduled for 10 November 2019 at Oxshott, and are establishing a small group to form the focal point for helping develop team playing within our clubs.

We are looking for a few people to help with this. You do not need to be a good Bridge player, you don't even need to know anything about Team Bridge (that can be taught). So if you are willing to learn about Team Bridge, or already know about it, and would like to become part of a small team of County experts that help clubs set up and run their own Team sessions then please contact us at: [chairman.scba@bridgewebs.com](mailto:chairman.scba@bridgewebs.com)

### *Membership Campaign*

At the Chairman's meeting in November, Tim Anderson from the EBU explain what they are doing on this, and what support they can give us. At the SCBA Committee Meeting in January it was agreed that the SCBA will support this activity, subject to finding someone to provide overall coordination. In the meantime, some clubs have started to make progress of their own. Leatherhead have introduced a training programme for 'intermediates' to help players manage the transition to playing in a club environment. Selsdon have made an active start on local advertising and promotion and have started to share their experience with Camberley. This is long term initiative and will take some time to bear fruit but the early signs are encouraging.

### *Members' Survey*

Last autumn we held another online members' survey and thank you to the 113 people who completed the survey. The responses were discussed at the SCBA Committee meeting in January and have been useful in helping us set our future direction. Some of the suggestions we were able to deal with immediately, others may take more time and of course some of the suggestions were in conflict with those from other people and so we are having to take a balanced view.

One major change we are making as a result of the survey is that from the start of our 2019-20 season, all our events at Oxshott will start at 11:00 instead of 13:00. This should enable the break to fall closer to a lunch time and also allow an earlier finish time.

There were several comments about people not being aware of our events, so we will make a greater effort to communicate better.

Sadly there were several comments about poor behaviour at the Bridge table. The view of the Committee is that such behaviour is unacceptable and we will be instructing our Directors to give this particular attention.

And finally...there were some comments about the poor quality of the chairs at Oxshott. Coincidentally the management of Oxshott Village Hall have recently replaced all their chairs so you will now find that we have new and comfortable chairs for events there..



The University of Stirling has launched the international 'Keep Bridge Alive' Crowdfunder to establish the Sociology of Bridge and to communicate messages about the benefits of bridge beyond the bridge world. This emerging academic field explores interactions within the mind sport, well-being, healthy ageing and social connection as experienced in the bridge community. The key goals of this research are to transform the image of bridge, to increase participation and enhance the sustainability of the mind sport.

The Keep Bridge Alive (KBA) campaign aims to attract new players to our game via innovative and collaborative approaches (including targeted resources aimed at children, young people, families as well as policy-makers, employers and teachers). Keep Bridge Alive is about taking action to share best practice, pool resources and develop an evidence-base to re-brand and grow the bridge world. This as an excellent opportunity to do something different and create momentum for change, within the bridge community.

Please have a look at the Keep Bridge Alive Crowdfunder Page here.

==> <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/u5c0e5e7810869>

And check out the Sociology of Bridge Homepage here <https://sociologyofbridge.wordpress.com/>

**Follow on Twitter @soc\_of\_bridge**

Also please find below further materials related to the campaign. Click the link to download

**[KBA - Keep Bridge Alive donation form 2019.doc](#)**

**[KBA - Bridge KBA poster digital.pdf](#)**

**[KBA - Blog on KBA.docx](#)**

**[KBA - A5 Bridge KBA Leaflet.pdf](#)**

**[KBA - Keep Bridge Alive letter to bridge organisations 14 Feb 2019.doc](#)**

## Gremlins Alert!

By Tim Warren

Some articles talk of Easley Blackwood, some of Terence Reese; of Ely Culbertson or Rixi Markus, and such great players as these. Or they might suggest a Really Useful Convention to cope with a particular situation. But, in my bridge experience, the real world is rarely as sophisticated as that. I need an alert card to warn about Gremlins.

Playing in the teams' event of the Surrey Green Point congress, at Game All my RHO opens 1NT. As I sometimes like to do, I've folded my cards and am bidding the hand from memory:

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

It's common to play a 2NT overcall here as showing a strong two-suiter, but we've recently agreed to limit it to either both minors or both majors - partner bids his better minor, and I'll bid again if that's not what I have. This is a great opportunity to roll it out, so I duly bid 2NT. LHO bids 3NT.

Partner pauses for thought. This is always a worrying time, so to distract myself I look at my hand again. To my horror, in that gap Gremlins have swapped the red suits round:

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

AAagh, how did that happen?! If ever I could see a disaster impending, this is it. I start frantically beaming "Just pass! Just pass!" at partner, but he isn't receiving; unfortunately, he has an ideal hand for the system - five cards in one of my suits, whether I have minors or majors:

♠ 3  
♥ J 7 5 4 2  
♦ 9 7  
♣ Q J 9 6 4

So he comes up with 4C. What can I do but bid 4D? Understandably, he's a tad confused by this, but after another pause inevitably he tries 4H. RHO's Double card hits the table, and I have no option but to complete the set with 4S. Partner gives up and RHO swings the final axe.

The oppos have been asking what it all means, with partner giving a perfect description of the system. Indeed, we've both bid strictly in accordance with it. Can I help it that Gremlins graunched my hand?

My suggestion is that we adopt a third card along the lines of Stop and Alert - a Gremlins card, to inform everyone that all this hand's previous bids should be viewed with suspicion. My partner does it naturally already, of course, but this would make it fair for the opponents, too.

Oh, by the way, it went for 800; it should have been 500, but my concentration wasn't as good as it might have been by then. Since our teammates went one off in 3NT at the other table, that was 14IMPs away. No, they didn't think a Gremlins card would have helped, either.

## PRIZE DOUBLE DUMMY PUZZLE

By **Tim Warren**

A hand is said to be played double dummy if everyone can choose the cards they play with full knowledge of all four hands. So, for instance, declarer need never lose a finesse to a singleton King offside, because it's clear to all the Ace will drop the King.

This newsletter, we're setting a double dummy puzzle, from a hand at Chobham BC last month; thank you to John Manches for pointing it out to me. The Surrey member who in my opinion provides the best-presented correct solution will gain free entry, of their choice, to a Surrey event at Oxshott.

	♠ 10 9 8 4 ♥ 3 ♦ Q J 8 4 ♣ K J 10 7	
♠ Q 6 ♥ Q 10 8 7 2 ♦ 10 9 7 3 ♣ 9 8	Contract 4S by S	♠ A 3 2 ♥ A J 9 6 4 ♦ K 2 ♣ 5 3 2
	♠ K J 7 5 ♥ K 5 ♦ A 6 5 ♣ A Q 6 4	

The puzzle has two parts:

1. How can S make 4S, on any lead from W and best defence? You should include all reasonable defensive options.
2. Suppose it's 4S by N instead. Mostly, the same solution will apply, but E can make a lead that will give a slightly different ending. What is that lead and how will it be different?

Send your entries to me at [TimigWarren@gmail.com](mailto:TimigWarren@gmail.com) by the 31st March. We'll publish the names of all correct entrants and the prize winner in the next newsletter.

This is the first such problem I've set, so please feel free to email me if what I've said here isn't clear. We trust Surrey members will solve this themselves, rather than using computers.

## BRIDGE HAND

### IMPROVER DECLARER HAND

Board: 2111 Dealer: South Vul: None Contract: 4♥ by South Lead: ♦J

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

#### North

♠ J8  
♥ AQ6532  
♦ AQ  
♣ 843

#### West

♠ Q962  
♥ 7  
♦ KJT8  
♣ Q965

#### East

♠ T74  
♥ KJ98  
♦ 973  
♣ J72

#### South

♠ AK53  
♥ T4  
♦ 6542  
♣ AKT

With this sort of hand it's easiest to count losers in dummy, the long trump hand after the transfer auction. We have a possible loser in both minors, but we'll still make the contract if we can restrict our trump losers to one.

Most of the time West's opening lead would be from a suit headed by ♦JT, but he might sometimes lead from ♦KJT if other leads from his hand were less attractive. At trick 1 we therefore try dummy's ♦Q, which holds the trick.

Now we can afford to lose two trump tricks. If we enter hand and finesse ♥Q, we make at least 10 tricks whenever the suit breaks 3-2 or West holds 4 hearts including the king. This line would also be successful if West has a singleton ♥J.

A better line is to play ♥A on the first round, which wins against any of the above distributions and also when East has a singleton ♥K. If nothing happens on the first round of hearts, we enter hand to lead a heart towards ♥Q.

We can do better still by taking advantage of our ♥T in hand. We make the key play of leading a small heart from dummy. If West beats ♥T with ♥J, we can later finesse ♥Q. This line makes the contract against all 4-1 splits except when West holds a singleton ♥J.

East wins trick 2 with ♥J and finds the best return of a diamond. We enter hand with ♠A to lead ♥T, taking care to play low from dummy when West shows out. We win the spade return in hand.

We now have a problem in getting to dummy to draw the rest of the trumps. In practice either a diamond ruff or a spade ruff works OK. We still have to lose another trick, but end up making our contract exactly.

Hand supplied by Richard Granville for No Fear Bridge

Play more hands like this at [www.nofearbridge.co.uk](http://www.nofearbridge.co.uk)



## Club News

### All Clubs

We would like to publish, promote and support all Clubs' Bridge Taster Sessions for New Players and Improvers. Please organise a Mini Bridge Taster Session for New Players between June and September and we will support the event. Please contact [douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com](mailto:douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com) with details.

This will be a good start to recruit players to your clubs.



**Membership Campaign**

**THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION**

New members  
Teaching  
Marketing  
Leaflets  
Gentle bridge  
and more

Click here to visit

5 MAR 2019

## How to create a novice-friendly culture in your bridge club



Tim Anderson (Membership Development Officer) writes this week about creating a novice-friendly environment for your bridge club. He gives a few tangible examples of simple ways clubs can improve.

Read the [full blog](#) to find out more.

[Previous blog posts](#)

## ***Busbridge Bridge Club***

Busbridge Duplicate Bridge Club now has a small library of bridge books which may be borrowed as you like. Also, we've solved our heating problem and now bask in glorious, silent warmth. Thirdly we've just received the fourth commendation in five months on how friendly and welcoming we are – come and try us and find out.

## ***Ditton Bridge Club***

### **Bridging the Gap – proving bridge is a game for all**



Featured here are the oldest and youngest players partnering each other at Ditton Bridge Club – a spread of almost 75 years! David Wadey celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday last summer and usually appears in the top half of the results.

## ***Lingfield and Dormansland Bridge Club***

Lingfield and Dormansland Bridge Club has moved to new premises in Limpsfield. We moved at the start of the New Year to St Andrew's Hall, Moorhouse Road, Limpsfield Chart, Oxted, RH8 0TB where we are settling in well and enjoying the new facilities. We play on Monday afternoons and on Tuesday evenings - please consult our website <http://www.bridgewebs.com/lingfield> for details.

## ***Richmond Bridge Club***

March 10 EBU National Pairs being held at Richmond

March 24 EBU Portland Pairs being held at Richmond

March 30 Supper & Bridge in aid of Princess Alice. 6.00pm

April 6 10.30am Paul Mendelson Seminar (Better Slam Bidding)

May 4 10.30am Paul Mendleson Seminar

June 2 1.00pm Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs 1st Prize £300.00

July 20 10.00 Bernard Magee Seminar

July 28 1.00pm Richard Millard Swiss Pairs (Raising money for Princess Alice Hospice)

## Bourne Bridge Club

### MARION CHIPPERFIELD

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February was a memorable, unique and very special evening at The Bourne Bridge Club in Farnham. Over 70 members gathered to help one of the Club's most popular and accomplished players, Marion Chipperfield, celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with other friends and family. The traditional letter from HRH Queen Elizabeth II was there for good measure!



Marion with her family at the Bourne Club

Marion was born in Newcastle upon Tyne on 21<sup>st</sup> February 1919. She joined the Bridge Club shortly after WW2 while working as a secretary, bookkeeper and eventually as Company Secretary – quite an achievement for a woman in the 1950s.

She moved to Farnham at the age of 89, living next door to the Bourne Club where she has been able to continue with her much loved hobby of Bridge.

Marion is not only a formidable player at The Bourne, winner of several trophies, but continues to play in the SCBA League. Marion didn't quite manage to crown her very special evening with a top, but she was as ever pressing for Master Points on an occasion all her family, friends and fellow members will cherish.

We wish her many years of continued enjoyment and success.

## Charity News

**Cherry Trees:** Hannah Matthews reported that they had raised £2,245 for the bridge lunch..

**19 March 2019 - Chiswick Cafe Bridge - Marfan Trust**

**30 March 2019 - Richmond BC Supper and Bridge - Princess Alice Hospice**

**3 April 2019 - Bourne Club - Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice**

**28 April 2019 - Farnham Sydney Chishick Swiss Teams - Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice**

**13 May 2019 - Farnham Cafe Bridge - Samaritans**

**22 May 2019 - Chichester Cafe Bridge - St Wilfred's Hospice**

**28 July 2019 - Richmond BC Richard Millard Swiss Pairs - Princess Alice Hospice**

**18 August 2019 - Bourne Club Farnham - Erica & Richard Currie Swiss Pairs - Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice**

## Youth News

**Tim Warren** [timjgwarren@gmail.com](mailto:timjgwarren@gmail.com)

Our flagship event for youngsters, the Surrey Schools Cup, has been running since 1969, and this year took place at Roehampton Club on 1st Feb. Roehampton Club is a wonderful place to play bridge, and we were really pleased that their generous support of our event, in terms both of cost and of members' help, enabled us to return for a second year.

We welcomed four new schools this year: Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree; Ryde School, Isle of Wight; Latymer, Edmonton; and George Abbot, Guildford. 89 students from 11 schools came along, braving the freezing temperatures, and making a record turn-out, at least for recent years. Given that the overnight snow meant some schools had to drop out on the day, this was a remarkable figure, up from 84 last year, which itself was 60% up on 2017.

**Habs' Boys** have won the national Schools Cup most years since 2010, so were a formidable new entrant. However **KCS Wimbledon** beat them, Westminster and St Paul's Boys Senior, amongst others, to win our main event.

**Epsom College's** victory in the Surrey Schools Salver brings a new name to our Honours Board, with their team including a pair who only last year were competing in the MiniBridge.

**George Abbot**, Guildford, are also a new name for us, and their achievement in winning the David Garfit Clowes MiniBridge trophy was all the more impressive for the fact that their first-ever bridge club started only last term. **Claremont Fan Court School**, Esher, were runners-up, winning the EW section.

The South East Counties Junior Bridge Camp will take place in Bowles Rocks leisure centre, Tunbridge Wells, over the weekend of 6-7 July 2019. You can find lots of information and an entry form via the Sussex website – <http://www.sccba.co.uk/> and click on the JBC 2019 link on the left-hand side.

## Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be in June 2019. Please send me news, views, interesting hands, and what is happening at your club. If you have any comments on any of this newsletter or any other bridge matter please contact the Committee, through the website.