



# Surrey County Bridge Association

Newsletter # 24 December 2016

## ***In this edition***

- President's Introduction
- The 2017 calendar
- Hall of Fame
- Chairman's Lunch
- A New Look for Surrey
- Dimmie Fleming Award Citations
- Bridge Hand
- Club news, events and other snippets
- Charity events
- Youth News

## ***President's Introduction***

In November the annual chairman's lunch took place in Surrey. This event is by invitation only and the chairman of every bridge club in Surrey is invited with a partner to attend as well as the Surrey committee. Bridge is played before and after lunch.

During the lunch break the committee and chairmen were divided into 4 groups. Each group discussed a section of the SCBA Strategic Plan that the committee had been working on to get feedback from the groups.

The committee is very focused on finding ways to develop bridge in Surrey and would be very happy to receive any feedback from members. Please contact your chairman with any ideas so they can put them forward to us.

We are continuing to make the website as user friendly as possible and to this end a description of these changes is contained in this newsletter

Surrey players continue to do well in National and other County events, and we try and put the details on our website as soon as possible after the event.

Please take some time to look at our website as it is full of useful information on events that are coming up and results from Surrey events.

Finally Surrey is very proud to have two of our members recognised by the EBU by being given the Dimmie Fleming Award for services to Bridge in the County. They are Peggy Griffin and Julia Brough. Pictures are on the website. Well done to both of them.

I wish you all a happy Christmas and a successful Bridge new year.

Charles Chisnall, President

## The 2017 Calendar

### Dec 2016

Tue 27 EBU Really Easy Afternoon Richmond

### Jan 2017

Sun 15 SCBA Affiliated Clubs Teams of 8 Richmond  
 Sat 21- Sun 22 EBU National Point-A-Board Teams Young Chelsea  
 Sun 29 SCBA Mixed Pairs Oxshott

### Feb 2017

Sun 05 Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Richmond  
 Sat 11-Sun 12 Tollemache Final Solihull  
 Mon 13-Fri 17 Surrey Simultaneous Pairs Clubs  
 Sun 1300 19 SCBA Ladies' and Men's Pairs Oxshott  
 Sat 25-Sun 26 EBU Ranked Masters Pairs Birmingham  
 Sun 26 EBU Master Pairs Richmond

### Mar 2017

Sun 12 EBU National Pairs Regional Richmond  
 Sun 19 EBU Portland Pairs Richmond  
 Sun 1330 26 Bourne Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs Bourne Club, Farnham

### Apr 2017

Sun 1300 02 Surrey County Pairs and Plate Oxshott  
 Wed 1930 05 Sidney Chishick Swiss Teams (1) The Maltings, Farnham  
 Sun 12 noon09 Wimbledon Blue Point Swiss Pairs Wimbledon  
 Wed 1930 12 Sidney Chishick Swiss Teams (2) The Maltings, Farnham  
 Sun TBA 30 Princess Alice Swiss Teams Esher

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 [Competition Hub](#), download an entry form, or contact the competitions secretary, Shirley Pritchard [competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com](mailto:competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com)

## National Point-a-Board Teams Competition

There is a new event on the EBU's national congress calendar taking place in London in January. The National Point-a-Board Teams competition will take place at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> January. The Young Chelsea Bridge Club is now located near Goldhawk Road tube station in West London. Free parking is available in the neighbouring side roads at weekends. Surrey members travelling by train can avoid tube travel by changing at Clapham Junction and taking an Overground train to Shepherds Bush, approximately ten minutes' walk from the Club. The Point-a-Board competition was previously part of the National Teams Congress which was held in January in the Midlands. The congress has been split into this competition, and the Swiss Teams element which will now be held in May at West Midlands Bridge Club.

The competition information booklet and entry form are available on the EBU's [Event Web Page](#). We are aware that some people may not be familiar with 'point-a-board' competitions, so some articles are available. A short guide to Point-a-Board matches is available, you can read David Gold's guide to the tactics of PAB in the [June 2013 issue of English Bridge](#), or you can read Brian Senior's [discussion of the different tactics](#) for Point-a-Board, IMPs and Match Points (these are also available via links on the event webpage).

## Hall of Fame so far

Competition	Winners
Chairman's Lunch - By Invitation	Marion Hart & David Sims
Club Pairs Challenge "A" Final	Peter Hardyment & Saji Ispahani
Club Pairs Challenge "B" Final	Ian Lewis & Derek Gunter
Dorin Salver Day 1 Monday	(70.12%) - Malcolm Oddy & Bob Guille
Dorin Salver Day 2 Tuesday	(70.44%) - David Burch & Liz Dunjay
Dorin Salver Day 3 Wednesday	(68.66%) - Simon Whiteside & Maxine Julius
Dorin Salver Day 4 Thursday	(74.82%) - Alan Webber & Mick Edwards (Dorin Salver)
Dorin Salver Day 5 Friday	(71.41%) - Derek & Alison Gardner
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Christine Dyer & David Dawson and Stephen Brown & Stuart McPhee (Joint Winners)
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Martin Garvey, Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden & Graham Osborne
Seniors Pairs	Steve Lock & Graham E Osborne

## Chairman's Lunch

Our annual Chairman's Lunch was held on 16 November. It is becoming an increasingly useful way for establishing and maintaining friendly, informal communications between the Surrey Committee and individual clubs as well as between the clubs themselves. The Chairmen of all of Surrey's EBU Affiliated clubs were invited and the majority either came themselves or were able to send representatives for their club.

We are grateful to Bookham Bridge Club for once again hosting this event.

## Our Plan

The main purpose of the SCBA Committee is the organisation, development and encouragement of Bridge in our area. There are of course many ways this can be done and many decisions to be taken, but with limited resources we also need to be focused on some key priorities. So to help us with our decision making we have created what we grandly call our Strategic Plan. A draft of the plan was sent to all club Chairmen recently and was the main topic for discussion at the recent Chairman's Lunch that I hosted in November.

During the Chairman's Lunch the club representatives were divided into groups to discuss the plan and we got some useful feedback. The Plan can now be found on our website in the section that we call Library so please feel free to have a look. Comments, and especially offers of help, would be gratefully received.

Trevor Hobson

## A new look for Surrey

Towards the end of 2015, SCBA moved away from its old website to use Bridgewebs. This was a tough decision given that the previous website was well managed and well-presented but couldn't offer some of the advantages that Bridgewebs is able to offer.

Since we have started using Bridgewebs, we have been adding sections and features and amending the look and feel of the site. This has, inevitably, resulted in a lot of information and a lot of content. As this has grown, we have tried to keep the site as easy to use and navigate as possible but we are aware that it has become a little cluttered and confused. To this end, we have now tested a new design and have now launched a new design.

We have now tried to eliminate duplicated pages and have also slimmed down the header links. These links are the most commonly used parts of the site and should help you to navigate where you need to go. Within each link, a new page will open which will try to provide a service to that area, below are the new and old menu items:

### Previous:

<a href="#">Surrey Clubs</a>	<a href="#">Surrey Venues</a>	<a href="#">Club Events</a>	<a href="#">Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Results</a>	<a href="#">Teachers</a>	<a href="#">Contact Us</a>
<a href="#">Sim Pairs Results</a>	<a href="#">Club Champion Events</a>	<a href="#">Library</a>	<a href="#">EBU Leagues</a>	<a href="#">EBU Knockout</a>	<a href="#">TD Courses</a>	
<a href="#">Annual Master Points</a>	<a href="#">Bridge Diary of a Palooka</a>	<a href="#">Representing Surrey</a>	<a href="#">Gold Cup</a>	<a href="#">EBU Calendar</a>	<a href="#">My EBU</a>	
					<a href="#">EBU Competitions</a>	

### New:

<a href="#">News</a>	<a href="#">Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Competition Hub</a>	<a href="#">Results</a>	<a href="#">Surrey Clubs</a>	<a href="#">EBU Links</a>	<a href="#">Contact Us</a>
----------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------------

### Items that have moved away from the Header:

1. **Surrey Venues** has moved to be part of the Comp Entry area. Click on the Comp Entry to find this alongside all details and information you would want to know as you enter a competition.
2. **Club Events** is under Club News & Info in the left menu and also summarised in the centre of the home page with the next event in more detail above this.
3. **Teachers** has its own left menu item and contains details of masterclasses and club teaching events as sub-menus.
4. **TD Courses** (where applicable) will be within the EBU Links area.
5. **Sim Pairs Results** are now under the Charity Events left menu item. These are now managed via the EBU and the Sims page contains results and upcoming events (Surrey and beyond!).
6. **Club Champion Events** was a poster to advertise these finals – there is now a Competitions Summary document within the Competition Hub area which details all events from clubs to a Surrey Final and also representative events and how these operate and what they mean.
7. **All of the items prefixed by "EBU"** are now under EBU Links.
8. **Annual Master Points** is under EBU Links.
9. **Gold Cup** is also under EBU Links (although not strictly an EBU managed event).
10. **Bridge Diary of a Palooka** is now in the left menu. Each hand has its own sub-page and these can be navigated by clicking on the title (and back up by clicking on the black title).
11. **Representing Surrey** was a document and is now part of the Events document held in the Competition Hub.

There is also a new item called “**News**” – here you will find the latest Newsletter, archive Newsletters, Feature stories / articles and communication minutes. Further newsworthy items may also be added here – always worth a look into this section!

The Competition Hub is a new page designed to provide links and information to all Surrey, Club and relevant EBU events. All events listed can be entered directly by clicking on the event name. We also aim to provide details of the current event from last time (to give an idea of the event) and are also providing a summary of the event with the date to help you decide if the event is for you.

## The New Home Page!

The plan is to keep the format of the home page reasonably static in terms of layout but to keep each item updated and fresh.

- **The left side** is for standing Surrey items “can you help?” and “surrey club events advertising requests”.
- **The middle section** is for Events (Surrey, Surrey Clubs and neighbouring Counties). There is also an Intro section where you can find out anything you want to know about bridge in Surrey and how to get started – this article will also be there as a reference document.
- **The right side** is for Congratulations including photos where available. If you have any successes you would like to share with Surrey (even a great club score!), let us know and we will feature you or your friends’ success here also!

## Library:

- We have amended the Documents and Rules section and turned this into a Library with sections for each topic and will continue to expand and become a useful reference point for all SCBA files, documents, minutes etc.

## New Style:

- We have listened to our members and toned down the colour scheme. We have chosen pale blue as a background with the traditional Surrey blue as headers and highlights. We aim to add more pictures and logos etc to add flecks of colour.
- **Blue** text represents something you can click to take you to a new area or site.
- **Purple** text represents Winners / Success.
- **Bold** text represents the subject or key item of text.
- Where possible, pages are being grouped together via links or summary boxes or sub-menu items, this should help to navigate to any aspect or item that you are interested in.
- Indexed pages (such as the new Library) will also be used more often as this has the ease of navigation to move up and down by clicking on the listed item or the item title to go back to the top.

## Committee:

- This now has a summary of the roles and what the committee member is responsible for. There is an e-mail icon that will open up an e-mail to that committee member with a subject pre-populated.
- There is also a listing of past presidents as a sub menu here.

## Hall of Fame:

- This now has a blue highlight for events that contribute to the Victor Ludorum (Champion of Champions throughout the Surrey events).
- There are photos of winners (where available) from the 15/16 season onwards.
- Results Archive has been added to show results by year as far back as we have results!
- Summary events also show each event (upcoming, latest and past) and are a good way to see results for a specific competition over the years.

## Leagues & Knockouts:

- These events are now hosted on the EBU website and managed via Captains and their My EBU accounts. All tables are available here (and via the EBU). Sub sections of divisions and past years' records per division are available to view.
- Entry to these events is via Comp Entry each season and there is a Find a Partner / Team mates page if you would like to enter but need additional players to form a team.

## Members Rankings & NGS:

- Under this menu, find details of Surrey members Ranks and NGS – there is a grouping of NGS by Grade and also a detailed % view of NGS (this takes a minute or 2 to download as there are a lot of members to search for and display!)

**If you have any ideas or issues with the Surrey website, please contact us. This site is for the members and your view really does matter to us. The e-mail address of the Surrey website manager is [webmanager.scba@bridgewebs.com](mailto:webmanager.scba@bridgewebs.com)**

## *Dimmie Fleming Award citations - 2016*

**Peggy Griffin** joined the Surrey Committee in 1994 and served the County for 21 years.

During that time, Peggy took on many onerous tasks and fulfilled a wide variety of roles on behalf of the County, including Congress Secretary (for 10 years), Match Secretary (for 13 years), Shareholder and league organiser. Peggy was also the County's Master Points Secretary for several years. In the days before computerisation and direct crediting, this was a particularly onerous job as at the end of the season master point cards had to be written for all the winners and league participants; in those days there were over 70 teams in Surrey's County Knockout and Plate competition, not to mention the various leagues and numerous tournaments organised by the County. Peggy also served as President in 2000 and 2005, during which time she visited many clubs and was a great ambassador for the County.

**Julia Brough** joined the Surrey committee in 2000 and served the county for 15 years. Nowadays when every club and county has a website as a matter of course, it is impossible to imagine life without one. Julia created a bespoke website for Surrey which was one of the first in the EBU. Not only did it list the usual events and information, but Julia tailored it to enable on-line event entries, and league results which was way ahead of anything else on the market at the time.

Julia also instigated the county's quarterly newsletter and organised its distribution via email to 500 members. She also fought a constant battle updating members email addresses.

Julia was also very helpful to other members of the committee who were not as technically aware as she was especially in the early days. Requests for amendments to the website were met with helpful suggestions, and immediate action.

Surrey owes a large debt to Julia for all her work in bringing the county into the 21st century.

## Surrey Eclipsed in Tollemache Qualifier (by Jeffrey Allerton)

The Surrey Tollemache team of Peter Lee & Mike Scoltock, Graham C Osborne & Frances Hinden, Paula Leslie & Jeffrey Allerton, Charles Chisnall & John Short, Ian Swanson & Ken Ford, npc Richard Millard has missed out on qualification for the final in February.

The 35 participating Counties were drawn into four groups. Two teams qualify from each group. Surrey was drawn in a tougher than average pool, including perennial rivals Middlesex and Cambs & Hunts. Although disappointing, it's worth noting that Surrey's eventual score of 99VPs would have been good enough to qualify in any other group this year. Two teams qualify from each pool. Middlesex topped the group and the surprise qualifiers in 2<sup>nd</sup> place were Dorset. These two teams are joined in February's final by London, Somerset, Berks & Bucks, Manchester, Oxfordshire and Kent.

The Tollemache is teams of 8 scoring so each team has two N/S and two E/W pairs playing each hand. The results are 'cross-imped', i.e. each N/S gets to score up with both sets of E/W teammates, so there are four comparisons on each board. This can lead to some big swings. For example, on one board on the first day both N/S Surrey pairs stayed out of a poor vulnerable game, bid by both Cambs & Hunts pairs. Unfortunately for Surrey, both finesses worked, enabling all four declarers to make ten tricks in spades. That was four 10 IMP swings on one board, so somewhat harshly Surrey lost 40IMPs on the deal.

Surrey was in a poor position at dinnertime on Saturday, but a recovery started on Saturday evening and continued on the Sunday. This hand I declared from the Sunday rematch against Cambs & Hunts helped to contribute to the recovery:

		♠ A652	
		♥ J5	
		♦ A954	
		♣ 1083	
♠ KQJ94			♠ 75
♥ Q6			♥ K10872
♦ J862			♦ 103
♣ Q5			♣ J974
		♠ 108	
		♥ A943	
		♦ KQ7	
		♣ AK62	

Dealer E, N/S vulnerable, Cross imps

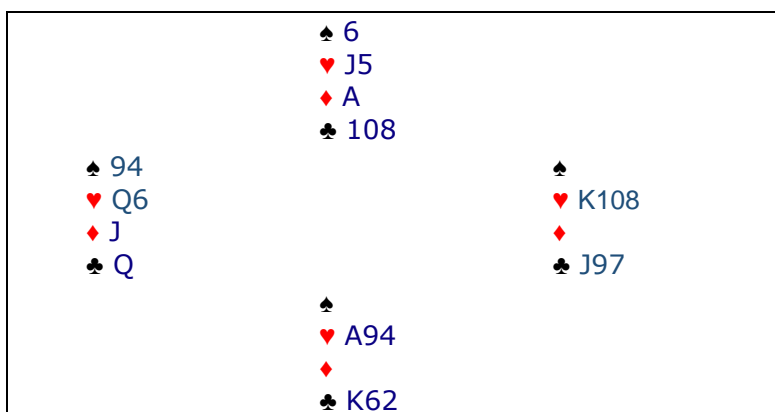
E	S	W	N
2♥	2NT	P	3♣
P	3♥	P	3NT
P	P	P	

The bidding requires some explanation. Although E/W were playing natural weak twos in three suits, at this vulnerability they have an aggressive style and 5-card suits are permitted. North's 3♣ bid was Staymanic and the reply denied 4 or 5 spades.

West led ♠K against South's 3NT contract, continuing with ♠Q and then ♠J when the first two tricks were ducked. Trick three was won by dummy's ♠A whilst East and South both discarded hearts.

How should declarer play from here? If the diamonds play for four tricks, there are eight on top and the objective is to develop a ninth trick without allowing West to gain the lead. Singleton ♥10 in the West hand is possible but a very specific holding; it's more likely that East has been dealt ♣QJx (in which case there's nothing East can do) or ♣Qxx (in which case East needs to be very alert to beat the contract). With this in mind, declarer led a club to the ace (both defenders played low; if East had produced ♣Q it would have been allowed to hold). Now declarer cashed ♦KQ (East played the 10 on the second round) and finessed ♦9 (East is known to hold at least as many major suit cards as West, so the principle of restricted choice is still valid in the diamond suit).

The following end position was reached with declarer requiring four of the six remaining tricks:



When ♦A was cashed, East started thinking. After due reflection, he discarded ♣7. Declarer shed a low heart and then continued with K and another club, developing a third trick in the suit and nine in total whilst East had to win the trick and give an entry back to the South hand in hearts.

It does East no good to discard ♥8 at trick 8; declarer simply plays a low heart from dummy, to the 10 and A, then a low heart round to East's King. Now ♥9 is the ninth trick. East could try following with the King on the first round of the suit but declarer can counter that by ducking.

So can the contract be beaten? Yes! In the diagrammed position, East has to *discard* the King of hearts. Now, although South can still set up a 2<sup>nd</sup> heart trick, he can't do so without letting West gain the lead. Whatever South does, he cannot succeed.

Should East have found this flamboyant discard? Maybe, but if you switch the rounded suit sixes between the West and South hands, then his actual club discard would have been necessary. How can East tell the difference? The only possible clue comes from the order of West's carding in spades (and diamonds). West played ♠Q then J, when he could have played ♠J then Q or ♠J then 9. This should be a suit preference situation and if he had held a singleton ♥Q and ♣Qxx West perhaps ought to have helped his partner out by playing ♠J at trick 2.

Would you and your regular partner have defeated the contract? Something to discuss: bridge is a partnership game.



## Club news, club events and other snippets

### 3 Counties Bridge Club

We are running two Weekends at the Balmer Lawn Hotel for Duplicate Players who also would like to Improve their Declarer Play and Defence Play. Seminars are given by International player Laura Porro and Professional Teacher Douglas Wright.

3/4/5 March – Safety Plays, Elimination and End Plays, and Squeezes

31 March/1/2 April – Signals, Discards and Trump promotion

For further details email [douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com](mailto:douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com)

### Wimbledon Bridge Club

Andrew Robson Seminar at Wimbledon Bridge Club Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> of January at 18.30  
£20 each.

Bridge for beginners: new course starting on Thursday mornings in January 2017.  
All information is posted on our website nearer the time.

### Roehampton Club

On 23 October, Roehampton Club held its annual Swiss Teams event, which this year had 32 teams-of-four competing. Eleven of these were from Roehampton but the other 21 were from other sports and social clubs around SW London and Surrey. Started 11 years ago, this is now a popular annual fixture in many people's diaries.

This is a privately run event, with entry by invitation, but many of the entrants would be members of SCBA.



1. The winning team being presented with the Cup.  
left to right: Ron Wood (in background), Ned Paul, Vivien Harris (Roehampton Bridge Chairman), Christine Tomkin, Neil Tomkin, John Balson.
2. The TDs and Ron Wood at Dinner. left to right: Miranda Churchill, Gary Conrad, Ron Wood.

## ***Farnham Bridge Club***

Farnham Bridge Club intends to hold two blue-pointed charity events in 2017, viz.

Sidney Chishick Swiss Teams, on the evenings of the 5th and 12th April, from 7.30pm to 10.30pm

Richard Currie Swiss Pairs on the afternoon and evening of 30th July, from 1.00pm to 8.00pm.

Entries will be managed by Frances Trebble.

## ***Charity News***

### **Sep16 Charity Sim Pairs**

The SCBA president Charles Chisnall presented a cheque to QEF a leading disability charity with more than 80 years' experience of developing innovative services which enable and support people to increase independence and improve opportunities for life.

Since supporting this charity through our sim pairs each year Surrey members have raised over **£23,000** for this Charity.

## ***Youth News***

On 22 November, six pupils from Weydon School's bridge club, together with teacher Mrs Annabel Sommerfelt and bridge coach Mike O'Donnell, had a truly memorable experience when they visited the Houses of Parliament. The visit was organised by the All Party Parliamentary Group for Bridge, hosted by Baroness Henig, and funded by the EBU.

Together with pupils from The Weald Community Primary School, Kent, they played duplicate bridge with several Peers. All the pupils were presented with commemorative trophies, and Michael Fallon, Secretary of State for Defence, dropped in to add his congratulations.

Mike tells us that the pupils were enthralled by their own "behind the scenes" tour of both Houses, they really enjoyed the bridge, and they demolished all the chocolate cake in the House of Lords cafeteria.

SCBA and Surrey bridge clubs have played a major role in supporting Weydon, with Douglas Wright helping to get the club set up, Anna Holmes of the Bourne BC teaching MiniBridge, and now Mike O'Donnell of Farnham BC helping them learn full bridge.

We held a MiniBridge taster session recently at Greenfield School, Woking. The Deputy Head told us "it was a fabulous success ... thoroughly enjoyed by all", so we're hoping a club will start up there in near future.

If you have links to a local school, and would like to help them set up a club (and maybe visit the Houses of Parliament in future years?) please contact Tim Warren on [TimjgWarren@gmail.com](mailto:TimjgWarren@gmail.com)

## ***Next Newsletter***

The next newsletter will be in March 2017. News, views and interesting hands, what is happening at your club – please send them to [secretary.scba@bridgewebs.com](mailto:secretary.scba@bridgewebs.com)