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ENGLISH BRIDGE EDUCATION
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Press Release - for immediate distribution

South Bucks Bridge Centre donated to national bridge charity

Laurie Champniss and family, owners of the highly popular South Bucks Bridge Centre (SBBC) in Burnham, have this week made the very generous act of donating the Centre to the charity English Bridge Education and Development (EBED).

English Bridge Education and Development is a registered charity and is working to encourage more people to take up bridge, as well as building the infrastructure which will make that aim a reality. EBED began operations in April 2014 and whilst it is supported by the English Bridge Union (EBU) it is predominantly reliant on donations to fund its larger projects, so is extremely grateful to Mr Champniss for his generosity.

This donation will help Mr Champniss achieve his goal of securing the future of this unique club for the coming decade and beyond. The donation coincides with the retirement of club manager, Sue Reid, after twenty years in the position, and both EBED and the EBU have pledged to continue the club's tradition as a first-rate centre for playing and learning bridge. In addition the acquisition of the centre will provide a base for EBED to undertake some of its teaching and promotional activities. This will not only be of great benefit to bridge in England, but also specifically to members of SBBC and players – and potential players – in the local area.

Both EBED and the EBU would like to thank Mr Champniss for his great generosity.

For more information on South Bucks Bridge Centre please visit

<http://www.bridgewebs.com/southbucks>

For more information on the work of English Bridge Education and Development, to make a donation, or to find out about learning to play bridge, please visit www.ebedcio.org.uk

For more information on the donation of the club to EBED by Mr Champniss please contact Barry Capal, EBU General Manager, via barry@ebu.co.uk

What is Bridge?

Bridge is a card-based mind sport, played in pairs against other pairs (the pairs are sometimes combined into teams of four or eight); The partners sit opposite each other at a table. There is an auction (often called bidding) and then the play, after which the hand is scored. The more tricks a partnership correctly predicts they will make the better their score - but if they do not make as many as they predict their opponents score points instead. In competitions the same hands are played at each table so you can compare your scores with the other partnerships and work out who did best with what they were dealt, thus almost eliminating the 'luck' aspect that exists in card games such as poker.

Playing bridge is one of the most enduring and popular pastimes in the world and for over 100 years, and it has fascinated people of all types and from all walks of life. It is one of the most popular leisure activities in Britain, with around 300,000 people playing on a regular basis. Famous players include Bill Gates, Omar Sharif and members of the band Radiohead.

About the English Bridge Union

The English Bridge Union (EBU) was formed on 23 May 1936 and is a non-profit making membership-funded organisation committed to promoting the game of duplicate bridge. It is also a National Bridge Organisation, affiliated to the European Bridge League and the World Bridge Federation.

The national headquarters of the EBU are in Aylesbury where around 20 professional people support and advise the committees, serve the membership, and help implement policy. There are currently around 50,000 members of the EBU.

About English Bridge Education and Development

English Bridge Education & Development (EBED) is a newly formed charity registered with the Charity Commission. It began operations in April 2014 and has two public benefit objectives: the furtherance of bridge as an activity which enriches the life of all, and secondly a specific aim to foster bridge among those in full-time education.

EBED believes that bridge brings with it important benefits in terms of fostering social interaction, as well as supporting the use of mathematical reasoning and the application of logic.

For further information please contact the Communications Officer, Peter Stockdale, on 01296 317215 or at press@ebu.co.uk