

COUNTY NEWS

You will find your County's 'Local Results' (if submitted) and obituaries (in our 'In Memoriam' column) in the online magazine (page 67 onwards). These pages are also available as a stand-alone pdf in the English Bridge Section of the website and at www.ebu.co.uk/documents/magazine/county-extra.pdf. We would also encourage you to visit your County website for up-to-date news and results. The websites are given in each county report.



Avon

www.avoncba.org.uk



AT THE EBU Overseas Congress in Cyprus Sue O'Hara & Jan Duncan won the Ladies Pairs and Sue with Nelson Stephens came 3rd in the Swiss Pairs.

Trevor Ward & Rob Lawy were in the team which came third in the Senior

Camrose Trials.

Diary dates: Avon Mixed Pairs, 14 Apr. County AGM & Handicap Pairs, 22 May.

Bedfordshire

www.bedsbridge.co.uk



IAIN Roberts & Alan Oddie formed half of the Southwell team coming 2nd in the National Swiss Teams on 17 Jan. In the Bridge England Sim Pairs, Iain and Alan were also 2nd nationally while playing at Milton Keynes on 3 Feb with a score of 68.1%. Janet & Derek Marsh were 7th overall (out of 445 pairs) in the recent ECats Charity Sim Pairs for Syrian Children while playing at Leighton Buzzard BC on 25th Jan, scoring 69%.

Diary dates: Charity Pairs, 10 Apr, 1.00pm, Wilstead. BBA AGM followed by Sim Pairs, 5 May, 7.00pm, Wardown BC. BBA Champions' Trophy, 26 May, 7.30pm. Qualifiers will be listed on the BBA website and also emailed individually where their email address is known.

Berks and Bucks

www.bridgewebs.com/bbcba



SALLY Brock & Barry Myers recently had two notable successes. Their team was runner-up in the Gold Cup and also members of the team that won the trials to represent England in the Teltcher Trophy (the Senior Camrose) in May.

Congratulations also to Colin Simpson who was in the winning team in the trials to represent England in the European Championships in June.

Channel Islands

www.cwgsy.net/community/cicba/



HOWARD Basden-Smith & Sue Rankin won the Mixed Pairs on a split tie at the EBU Cyprus Congress. They also came third in the Swiss Teams playing with Chris Hill and Jane Knight.

Cornwall

www.bridgewebs.com/cornwall



THE CORNWALL Congress will be held at the Falcon Hotel in delightful Bude on 9-11 Sep. Championship Pairs will be held on the Friday, followed by two Green-Pointed Swiss events.

Diary dates: Ladies' & Men's Pairs, 24 Apr, Ladock.

Cumbria

www.bridgewebs.com/cumbria/

Diary dates: Friendly match v Westmorland Sun 19 June, Pearse McNamara - friendly match v Lancashire, Sun 10 July, Barrow Club. Green Point Swiss Teams and Pairs, 24-25 Sep, Castle Green Hotel, Kendal.

Derbyshire

www.bridgewebs.com/derbyshire



TWO MEMBERS of Allestree Bridge Club have recently reached their 95th birthdays. Ethel Halls, 95 on 21 Jan, has been playing bridge for 50 years and has played at the Allestree Club for the past 20 years. Ethel plays bridge three times a week. Judy



Ethel Halls and Judy Holland enjoy their 95th birthdays. They are both regular players at Allestree Club, Derbyshire

Holland was 95 in November. Judy started to play bridge when she was called up to the army in 1939 at the age of 18 and now plays twice a week.

Diary dates: DCBA Mixed Pairs, 6 Apr. Vic Morris Cup Round 1 (pivot teams of four, initial losers from round one go into the consolation plate event), 20 Apr. Midlands Mixed Pairs and Fitch, 1 May. DCBA AGM, 5 May. Summer Swiss

teams of four, 31 Mar - 31 Aug (any number of sessions) and Summer Swiss Pairs, starting 18 May for six sessions.

Details of all events scheduled by our county association can be found on <http://www.bridgewebs.com/derbyshire>.

Devon

www.devonbridge.co.uk



THE DEVON Club Teams of Eight was won by Torquay A (Peter Bowles, Mike Orriel, Ian Walsh, Jacek Pietrzycki, Bill Ellis, John Harriman, Paul Ainsworth and Bobby Ainsworth). They will go on to represent Devon in the EBU's Garden Cities Trophy in May.

Stefan Lindfors, Jim Grant and Alex Maddocks (with Miles Cowling) were 3rd in the Swiss teams at the National Teams Congress.

The Devon AGM will take place at the Isca Centre on Sun 12 June followed by Swiss teams. Full details will be on the website and notices at clubs. Nominations and resolutions must be submitted to the Hon Secretary by 15 May. Section AGMs will also take place – watch local notice boards for details. As always the County and sections would welcome new volunteers to help.

Diary Dates: Devon Congress, 8-10 Apr. Graphic Cup, 8 May. AGM, 12 June. Full details of all events and results are on the website.

Dorset

www.bridgewebs.com/dorset



CONGRATULATIONS to Mark Hooper & Robin Wright on winning the Green Pointed Swiss Pairs Midland Counties Congress (see photo below). Several Dorset players did well in the Hampshire Candlestick Pairs. 1st equal, Mark Hooper & Ron Heath, 5th Janet Smith & Matt Phillips, 7th Robin Wright & David Berwitz.

Diary Dates: Gee Trophy (Blue pointed Swiss teams), 17 Apr, Hamworthy Club, Canford Magna, Wimborne. Udall Trophy & AGM, 8 May, Dorchester.



Dorset's Mark Hooper and Robin Wright win Midland Counties Swiss Pairs

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk



WE ARE sad to announce the death of Dick Green, a former Chairman of the ECBA (obituary p71). Congratulations to all the following:

Year End Congress: Open pairs: 8th, Tony Verran & partner. Really Easy Afternoon: 3rd, Amarjeet Singh & Gurdeep Singh nationally, having won the

Barleylands Heat. British Winter Sims: Monday. 7th, Paul Mollison & Bernie Hunt. Essex competitions: Swiss Pairs, 1st, Paul Spencer & Marc Chawner. 2nd, Martin & Sandy Smith. 3rd, Alan Bryant & Geoff Webber. Eastern Counties League v Cambridge University. A team lost 7-13, C team won 16-4

Diary dates: Championship Pairs & 'B' Flight pairs, 10 Apr. Collier Row Open Teams, 8 May. ECBA AGM, 14 May. Mixed Teams, 25 May. Really Easy Afternoon, 28 May.

Gloucestershire

www.gcba.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Patrick Shields & Richard Chamberlain who won the Midland Counties Congress Swiss Teams with a pair from Wales.

The GCBA is keen to support bridge clubs across the county. It recently gave £500 to Cheltenham BC towards the cost of installing a lift, and it has been supporting Chipping Campden BC with expert advice about Bridgemates.

GCBA runs training events for our squads for the Midland Counties League. There are three teams of eight. If you would like to be considered, contact our Representative Events Committee – representation@gcba.org.uk.

We want to refresh our weekend events, which have been suffering declining numbers. If you have an idea that would make you more likely to play, please let our Chief Tournament Director know – ctd@gcba.org.uk.

Diary dates: The Cheltenham Congress, 29 Apr - 1 May. See the website - www.bridgewebs.com/cheltenham.

Hants and IOW

www.bridgewebs.com/hiwcba/



RUNNERS-UP in the NICKO: Petersfield, Owen Leigh, James Clark, Mike Kinsey, Steve Preston and Heather Maidment. Seniors Congress Swiss Teams: 1st Jeremy Dhondy. National Teams Congress Point-a-Board: 3rd Jeremy Dhondy. National Teams Congress Swiss Teams: 3rd Miles Cowling. Petersfield Swiss Teams: 1st Dave Huggett & Steve Preston, Andy Hughes & Miles Cowling. 2nd Mike Fithyan & Helen Beattie, Owen Leigh & James Clark. 3rd Jeremy Baker & John Dakin. Richmond Swiss Teams: 2nd John Dakin, Tony Truluck, Mike Fithyan. Torquay Congress Champ Pairs: 1st Miles Cowling. Dorset Rose Bowl Swiss Teams: 2nd Lesley Lewis & Dave Willis.

Diary dates: AGM and Champ Pairs, 3 Apr, Romsey. Phillip Graham Swiss Teams, 10 Apr, Yarmouth Inst IOW. Pottage Final, 24 Apr, Romsey. Entries via HIOW website or Steve Preston on 02380 702934. HIOW GP Swiss Teams, 22 May, Andover. Entries to Marian Rudd on 01264 333847 or marian@marian37.plus.com.

Herefordshire

www.herefordshirebridge.co.uk

IT HAS been a dreadful season so far in the Western League. Of the four matches played, there has only been one victory each for the A and C teams.

The Gloucestershire and Herefordshire Green Pointed Swiss Pairs and Swiss Teams will be held this year on 23-24 July at the Larruperz Centre, Ross-on-Wye. Entry forms are on both counties' websites.

Full results of all county competitions are on our website.

Diary Dates: Inter-club Teams Round 5, 8 Apr, 7pm, Ledbury; Avocet Teams, 23 Apr, 10am, Brooms Green; Gloucestershire & Herefordshire Green Point Events, 23-24 July, Larruperz Centre, Ross-on-Wye.

Hertfordshire

www.hertsbridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Celia & Derek Oram who won the prestigious Mixed Pairs at the London Year End Congress on 29 December.

Another fantastic year for all our squads - The A, B and C teams have all qualified for the national finals taking place on 10 July. At the County Match v Bedfordshire on 3 Jan, A team lost 6-14, B team won 15-5, C team won 13-7.

Diary Dates: All events takes place at WGC Bridge Centre, Gosling Sports Park. Seniors Pairs (including buffet lunch), 19 Apr, 11am. Club Cadet Teams, 22 Apr, 7.30pm. Championship Pairs Final, 24 Apr, 12 noon. County match v Suffolk, 1 May, 2pm. HBA AGM followed by Swiss Pairs, 15 May, 12 noon. County match v Cambs and Hunts, 22 May, 2pm.

Isle of Man

www.manxbridgeunion.org



THE MANX Bridge Union's 50th annual bridge congress will be held on 2-4 Sep and will be a bit special. There will be the usual bridge format, but there will be an additional social dimension, commemorative gifts for all and enhanced prizes.

The Congress originated at a time when the Island, with its beaches, history and countryside, was a significant summer holiday destination for the Brits. Most tourists travel further afield these days, and the island is quieter than it was 50 years ago. But it retains its natural charm and variety and is still a destination that provides a satisfying short break that combines well with a weekend of bridge.

Usually a modestly-sized 20 tables, the MBU is expecting larger numbers for the 'Golden Congress' with a sentimental return by past attendees and, perhaps, a few formerly young tourists who have memories of bringing their buckets and spades. For full details of the Congress see the MBU website.

Kent

www.kcba.org.uk



WELL done to Norman Selway and Pat Collins who were part of the team that won the Senior trials to represent England in the European Championships.

Helen Erichsen (playing with Fiona Brown) won the trials for the England team for the Lady Milne Trophy.

Diary dates: George Griffiths Cup (Kent Seniors Pairs), 10 Apr, 11am TW. Green pointed. Swiss Teams, 22 May, 1pm, Maidstone Leisure Centre. Phillimore Cup (Kent Swiss Pairs Championship) and KCBA AGM, 26 June, 11am TW.

Lancashire

www.bridgewebs.com/lancs



CONGRATULATIONS go to Jeff Smith & Jackie Pye on finishing runners-up in the Swiss Pairs at the Northern Year End Congress and to Barrie & Julia Newall, who were runners-up in the Mixed Pairs. Jeff also won the Manchester Congress Pairs playing with Marianne Farr.

Congratulations also go to Catherine Draper & Andrew Woodcock on winning the teams at the Chester Congress with Ollie Burgess & Michael Newman.

The four Lancashire pairs qualifying for the Corwen Trophy are Andrew Lum & David Costich, John Dearing & Anne Burgess, Nick & Sue Woodcock, and Andrew Woodcock & David Debbage.

Diary dates: National Pairs Final, 16-17 Apr, Birmingham Airport; Madeline Berney Swiss Pairs, 1 May, Brierfield Bridge Club; Blackburn Swiss Pairs, 8 May, Blackburn Bridge Club; LCBA AGM, 16 May, Bolton Bridge Club; M&CBA Swiss Pairs, 22 May, Merseyside Bridge Centre; Spring Bank Holiday Swiss Teams, 30 May, Bolton Bridge Club.

Leicestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/leicestershire/



WE REGRET to report the death of Geoff Swann a former LCBA Officer (obituary p71).

Congratulations to Ben Norton of Loughborough BC who was a member of the English U20 team which recently won the Channel Trophy.

Recent County teams results: 24 Jan v Nottingham, 1st team won 14-6, 2nd team lost 9-11, 3rd team lost 0-20. Current league positions: 1st team (Dawes League) - 3rd, 2nd team (Porter Cup) - 6th, 3rd team (Markham Trophy) - 7th=.

Diary dates: Stanley Trophy Round, 20 Apr, Glenfield. Yates Cup (No Fear for Students), 20 Apr, Rothley. Pairs League Round 4, 21 Apr, Rothley. Gimson Trophy Final, 24 Apr, Greenfields. Buckby Cup (Mens Pairs), 27 Apr, Rothley. Olga Cup (Ladies Pairs), 27 Apr, Rothley. Hyman Crammer Pairs, 4 May, Rothley. Joyce Cup (Pivot Teams), 11 May, Greenfields. Pairs League Round 5, 12 May, Rothley. LCBA AGM & Prize Presentations, 8 June, Greenfields. LCBA Green Point Pairs, 18 June, Spendon.

Lincolnshire

www.lincsbridge.org.uk

Diary dates: County Championships at Scunthorpe BC. Pairs 9 Apr, Teams, 10 Apr. Please try and support this important county event. The Veterans Cup, 8 May, City of Lincoln BC. Each pair must have a combined age of at least 125 years with the youngest being at least 60. An addition to the calendar is the All Comers Duplicate bridge event, 15 May, City of Lincoln BC. Experienced players partner players who are just beginning to play in county events.

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk



MANY congratulations to Sam Behrens & Liam Sanderson of the England U20s team who won the Channel Trophy, and to Sarah Ewart & Ewa Kater who came third in the Lady Milne trials.

At the Year End Congress Simon Gillis & Paul Lamford

won the Swiss Teams, with Nick Sandqvist & Tom Townsend second; in the Mixed Pairs Glyn Liggins was second and Terry Hewett third; and in the Open Pairs Toby Nonnenmacher won, with Mark Teltscher & Tom Townsend third.

At the National Teams Congress, Richard Bowley won the PAB Teams with Kieran Dyke second and Brian Callaghan & Ben Green third, while Kiril Delev won the Swiss Teams.

Diary dates: London Championship Pairs, 10 Apr, 11.30am, YCBC. London Trophy Pairs, 17 Apr, 2.00pm, RAC. Café Bridge in the Tonsleys, 19 Apr. Fox Shammon Senior Pairs, 24 Apr, 2.00pm, YCBC. London Trophy Finals, 3 June, RAC. Entries/enquiries to lmbaentries@gmail.com.

Manchester

www.manchesterbridge.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to John Holland who has won the Sunday Telegraph Salver for the most Master Points accumulated in the calendar year 2015. John also won this award in 2009, 2012, 2013 & 2014.

The county interclub teams of eight (Gazette Trophy) took place on 7 Feb at Altrincham Bridge Club. There was a good turn out of ten teams, with Manchester (Burgess) winning comfortably ahead of Cheadle Hulme. They go on to represent Manchester in the Garden Cities competition which was won by Manchester last year. The intermediate cup went to Altrincham (Fitzgerald) who were sixth. Stretford Bridge Club who have recently affiliated to the EBU sent a team for the first time

Diary dates: Higson Cup and Plate Finals, 10 Apr, 1.00pm, MBC. Annual General Meeting, 26 May, 7.30pm, Cheadle Hulme BC.

Merseyside/Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk



IN THE Northern Year End Congress, Stuart Matthews & Mark Weeks finished 3rd in the pairs event and David Stevenson & Liz Commins were 4th. These four then teamed up to finish a creditable 3rd in the Swiss teams.

Diary dates: Preece Rosebowl (Ladies pairs), 24 Apr, BBC. Championship pairs, 5 May, MBC. John Armstrong trophy, 22 May. Liverpool BC Open Pairs, 8 June, LBC. County AGM, 16 June, MBC. Bill Hughes Sim Pairs, 28 June Deva BC.



Chester Congress Pairs Winners, Staffordshire's Seb Jones and Keith Shuttleworth, with Ian Taylor, Club President

Middlesex

www.middlesexbridge.co.uk



WE ARE sad to announce the passing of our President, Charlotte Vine (obituary p25).

Congratulations to Andrew McIntosh on winning a silver medal at the 1st European Winter Games in Monaco; Nicola Smith on winning the Seniors Camrose Trial; David Burn on winning the Year End Swiss Pairs; Simon Cope and Tom

Paske on winning the National Teams Point a Board final; and Emile Lawy and Richard Spencer on winning the EBU Overseas Congress Swiss Pairs.

We are saddened to announce the passing of our Vice President and former Vice Chairman Peter Tobias and send Jacqui our sincere condolences. Peter won 18 Middlesex titles and in 1999 he was EBU National Pairs champion.

Diary dates: Ladies Pairs, 10 Apr. Seniors Teams, 22 May.

Norfolk

www.bridgewebs.com/norfolk/



IN 2017 the Norfolk Contract Bridge Association will host a team from Ireland in the Corn Cardis, a prestigious annual match between Ireland and England. On 6 Feb a Quiz was held to raise funds for the event.

The NCBA and its affiliated clubs continue to place increasing emphasis upon bridge education. Members and the general public can avail themselves of a wide variety of courses on offer from beginners and improvers to advanced, private coaching and masterclasses. Details can normally be found via your local club or by an internet search.

Bawburgh Bridge Club has recently hosted a very successful EBED teacher training course with 13 delegates attending from Norfolk and surrounding counties.

North East

www.neba.co.uk



WE REGRET to record that after more than 40 years of membership, Parsons Bridge Club has resigned from the EBU/NEBA because the progressive reduction in playing members makes the club no longer viable.

Diary dates: The 2016 NEBA Congress will be held in the fine bridge facility at the Marriott Metro-Centre Hotel from 11-13 Nov. All main events, Saturday Swiss Pairs and Sunday Swiss Teams, will be green pointed.

Nottinghamshire

www.bridgewebs.com/nottinghamshire



COUNTY match v Derbyshire. Notts first team lost 5-15; second team won 14-6; third team lost 9-11. Match v Leicestershire results were 6-14; 11-9; and 20-0.

Congratulations to Ankush Khandelwar who won the Open Pairs at the Lonon Year End Congress.

Diary dates: Journal Cup, 10 Apr, Nottingham BC. Retford Teams, 29 May, Blyth (contact Sandy Fulton 01909479748).

Oxfordshire

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to 11 year old Henry Rose, who plays at Oxford Junior Bridge Club, who has been selected to play for the England Under 15s at the Youth World Championship in Italy this summer.

Recent Oxfordshire successes included 2nd place for Alastair Gidman's team in the Manchester Congress Swiss Teams' B final. Alan Steer & Richard Sills were 2nd in the Tuesday Bridge England Simultaneous Pairs.

Ed Jones' team were 2nd in the Point a Board final at the EBU National Teams Congress. In the Swiss Teams, David Patterson, Brian Geary and Aleksandar Lishkov were 7th.

Congratulations to Jean Squires' team on winning the Pivot Teams at the EBU Cyprus Overseas Congress.

The Oxfordshire Congress is being held in Woodstock again this year on 11-12 June. Further information is on the county website.

Diary dates: OBA Beck Cup, 10 Apr. OBA County Pairs Final, 24 Apr. Henley Café Bridge, 26 Apr. OBA Mixed Pairs, 8 May.

Somerset

www.bridgewebs.com/somerset



WE ARE pleased to announce that the West of England Congress will be held on 30 Sep - 2 Oct in Weston-Super-Mare at the Weston College Conference Centre. Our web site has full details.

Changes to SCBA Committee, Jean Howard (Education Officer) and Daphne Greatorex (Secretary) replacing Tony Russ and Joe Patrick respectively.

Diary dates: SCBA AGM and prize giving will be held on 18 June, 1.30pm, Woolavington Village Hall, followed by Swiss Teams.

Staffs and Shrops

www.staffsandshrops.org.uk



MIKE Goldsmith, Jason Hackett, Adrian Kenworthy and Edward Levy, representing Manchester Bridge Club were in the winning team in the Gazette Trophy. Their win qualified them to play in the Garden Cities semi-final. Paul Hackett won the Swiss Pairs at the Year End Congress. Jason and Justin have been selected to represent England in the European Championships in Budapest.

Diary dates: Shropshire Congress, Green pointed pairs, 16 Apr and teams on 17 Apr. Contact Judy Mitchell 01743235374 or email mitchellmj@btinternet.com. The Bearn qualification, 24 Apr, Newcastle BC. Ladies and Mens Pairs, 12 May, Wolverhampton BC. Celebrate the life of Roy Edwards in a teams event, 15 May, Wolverhampton BC.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS and commiserations to David Price on finishing as runner up in the European Seniors Trial Final.

Diary dates: AGM with Pairs, 22 May, Barton Village Hall. Bridge with lunch, 7 May, 10.30am.

Surrey

www.bridgewebs.com/surrey



THE SURREY team came third in the Tollemache final.

Diary dates: County Pairs & Plate, 3 Apr, 1.00pm, Oxshott. Blue Pointed Bracketed Pairs, 3 July, 1.00pm, Oxshott. We urge players to please book online using the new website. If you do want to book by phone please call Shirley Pritchard on 0208 5407636.

Sussex

www.sccbca.co.uk



MANY congratulations to Sandra Landy who has thoroughly deserved her recent Diamond Award from the EBU.

Many congratulations also to Chris Jepson who, with partner Catherine Curtis finished second in the Lady Milne Trials and has thus qualified to represent England in the 2016 Lady Milne Trophy.

Well done to Ros and Geoffrey Wolfarth who were in the team which won the Swiss Teams at the National Teams Congress. Andrew Southwell and Richard Fedrick also did extremely well by being in the runners-up team.

Diary dates: SCCBA Green Pointed Swiss Pairs, 21 May Uckfield Civic. The Henfield Candles (a Blue Pointed event), 5 June. Entry details and more information can be found on the SCCBA website.

Warwickshire

www.warwickshirebridge.co.uk



THE COUNTY is delighted to announce that two of its young players, – Liz Gahan and Meg Jones – have been selected to represent England in the 2016 under 15 Junior Youth Team Championships to be held in Italy this summer. Very well done and good luck in the tournament.

The Midland Counties Congress, now run solely by the County, was a great success and congratulations to the organisers.

Diary dates: 30th Coventry Congress, 8-10 Apr. Open pairs Friday night, Peeping Tom pairs Saturday afternoon for players with little or no Congress experience. This event will consist of 4x6 board matches. Also on Saturday is the Swiss Pairs Championship with the Championship Swiss Teams on Sunday. Both these events are Blue Pointed.

For a brochure and more information contact Stephanie Galvin 01675 443291, email stephandbob@live.co.uk. Details can also be found on the Coventry and North Warwickshire bridge club website, and on the County website

Westmorland

www.bridgewebs.com/westmorland



CONGRATULATIONS to Sally & Philip Wraight and Glenda Lloyd & Peter Boardman for winning the Northern Year End Swiss Teams.

Tim and Babs Matthew and Ian Reeves and Ken Johnston won the County Pivot teams and Alan Farmer won the County Individual for the third time. The County day proved to be a very successful simple systems pairs at the Carus Green Golf Club with Carole Williamson & Dorothy Pritchard taking the honours.

Some bridges may be at risk with the long spell of inclement weather but bridge playing opportunities are not, so look out for the 'Westmorland Web-feet Waders' at County Competitions and Congresses; they have had a lot of time indoors to practise!

Wiltshire

www.wcba.co.uk



INSPIRED by our Gold Cup finalists, a Trowbridge team (Phil Green, Andrew Parkes, Phil Howard and Dave Latchem) beat the reigning champions in the second round of the NICKO and a Bath team (Phil Green, Hugh Gross, Roger Karn and Richard Moore) have made it to the Avon KO final beating a Welsh team by 4imps over 48 boards. Trowbridge A won the Garden Cities qualifier. As for the Western League our results need even more inspiration.

Worcestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/worcestershire



WORCESTERSHIRE members Chris Philp, Stewart Fishburne and Mike Willoughby combined with Warwickshire's Tony Poole to win a close, but good-humoured and thoroughly enjoyable, Silver Plate final. In the Midland Counties Congress, Heather Westcott & Jennifer Romer won the Ladies Pairs and Nick Forward & Steve Allerston were runners-up in both the Swiss Pairs and, with John Sansom & Richard Jephcott, in the Swiss Teams.

Nick Forward and Steve Allerston are leading the Phillipps, Stewart Fishburne and Mike Willoughby are leading the Pairs Ladder. In teams events, Jephcott takes on Fishburne in a repeat of last year's Championship Teams final, the winners going on to represent the County in the Pachabo. Worcester 2 are leading the Inter-Club teams, though being pressed by last year's winners, Droitwich 1. In the Grand Prix Teams, last year's winners, Worcester Grant, are the current leaders with Nothing to Declare and Four No Chumps in pursuit.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.co.uk/



CONGRATULATIONS to Daniel Winter, who played in the victorious England Under 20 team in the Channel Trophy international competition.

The Leeds/Harrogate team of Arthur Selman, Adrian Ford, Alan Hayward, Bill Holmes, Martin Ott and Terry Read reached the final of the EBU's Silver Plate, in which they were narrowly defeated by Poole (Worcs).

Carole Kelly and Geoff Kenyon won the Mixed Pairs at the EBU's Northern New Year Congress. In the Swiss at the National Teams Congress, James Thrower was in the fourth placed team while Barrie Partridge, Mary Whymys, Rob Turner and Rod Hose were fifth. Sandy Davies was in the winning team in the Swiss at the EBU Cyprus Congress.

Diary dates: Yorkshire Pairs, 10 Apr, Bradford. Scarborough Congress, 15-17 Apr, Wykeham. Nelson Rose Bowl, 20 Apr, Harrogate. Club TD Training, 23 Apr, Ilkley. Yorkshire Mixed Pairs, 24 Apr, Wetherby. Individual, 10 May, Wakefield. Leeds Swiss Pairs, 15 May. West Yorkshire Teams, 22 May, Bradford. Yorkshire Congress, 3-5 June, Harrogate.

THE 2015 MASTERPOINT ANNUAL COMPETITIONS

THE NATIONAL LEADER BOARD



CONGRATULATIONS to John Holland, who has topped the annual Masterpoints Competition for the fourth year in succession. He has claimed the Sunday Telegraph Salver, for the most masterpoints accumulated in the calendar year, for a fifth time.

John earned 29,397 points, with Derek and Celia Oram gaining the next most, each accumulating 22,517. Derek continues to gain on John Durden atop the all-time list of Masterpoint winners, and now trails by just over 51,000.

GOLD POINT RANKING

John Holland's good year has seen him reclaim the top spot in the Gold Point rankings. He moved marginally ahead of the 2014 leader, David Gold, holding 98.92 to David's 98.02. Andrew Robson, Tony Forrester and Alexander Alfrey complete the top five.

CLUB CHAMPIONS PRIZE DRAW

The winners of the Club Champions prize draw have also been selected. Club Champions are those who won the most Master Points in events held at each club. Kostadin Vasilev of Chipstead Duplicate Bridge Club was first out of the hat and wins £400. Roger Arnold of Liverpool Bridge Club was drawn second and wins £200, and Joe Mallabone of Lytham Bridge Club wins £100 for being drawn third.

The full Masterpoint lists for 2015, including a breakdown by county, can be accessed at www.ebu.co.uk/mpreports/2015



COUNTY NEWS – LOCAL RESULTS

Avon

www.avoncba.org.uk



THE AVON Championship teams final held on 14 Jan was won by Keith Rayford, Simon Rye, Vanessa O'Callaghan & John Brandon-Joyce.

In the County Leagues Hartley head League 1, Birt league 2 and Randell league 3. The County KO semi finals are Hartley v Page and Birt v Green whilst the semi finals of the KO Plate are Duncan v Letts and Oliver v Smith.

In the two most recent Western League matches Avon has been in fine form. Against Hereford there were wins for all three teams. A won 17-3 B team 11-9 and the C team 17-3 and against East Wales all three teams also won – A and B both 16-4 and C team 14-6. Avon has a substantial lead in the A division having won all of its matches.

The County qualifier for the Garden Cities was won by the West of England team of Suzy Lawson & Aidan Schofield, Eric Page & Colin Oakley, Robert Covill & Steve Turner, Jeremy Rickard & David Jones who qualify for the regional final in May.

The qualifier for the Avon County Pairs was won by Ana Tadeu and Steve Turner.

Channel Islands

www.cwgsy.net/community/cicba/



GUERNSEY Results – Island Bridge Club Open Pairs. 1st, Robert Plumley & Daniel McIntosh. 2nd Jacqui Crispini & Cherry Mcmillen.

Island Bridge Club Restricted Pairs. 1st, Robert Plumley & Daniel McIntosh. 2nd, Sean Galpin & Lynne Williamson.

Lower Restricted Pairs. 1st, Michael & Chrysta Roberts. 2nd, Allie Staples & Sylvia Lawrence King.

Guernsey Mixed Pairs Qualifier. 1st, Daniel McIntosh & Alex Gauld. 2nd, Margaret & Michael Allen.

Jersey League Teams. 1st, Howard Basden Smith, Marion Miles, David Hole, David Friswell, Roz Bavin & Meredith Case. 2nd, John Honey, Fiona Honey, Chris Hill, Jane Knight, Craig Honey & Seb Perez.

Jane Knight was the winner of Highfield Bridge Club's inaugural Slams ladder.

Cornwall

www.bridgewebs.com/cornwall



THE FALMOUTH Salver, excellently hosted by Falmouth Bridge Club, was won by Heather Upton & Daniel Orchard with Sandra & Chris Bickerdike second. Winners of the Star Masters

were Ken & Jan Keast with Stephen Crouch & Margaret Buckingham in second place. On the same day, The Tredova Cup, for players below Star Master, was won by Norman Banfield & John Davies with Bob Pretty & Suzanne Warring runners-up. The County Teams of Four Championship was won by Ken & Jan Keast, Joe Bryant & Geoff Warren with

Eileen Collings & Peter Scott, Maureen Brinton & Barrie Benfield in second place.

Cumbria

www.bridgewebs.com/cumbria/

SADLY our Multiple Teams had to be cancelled as the dreadful flooding disrupted the roads and the venue was under at least six feet of water.

Owing to Eden Club still being repaired after the flood damage, the County Championship Pairs was played at the Marchesi Centre in Windermere. Congratulations to Mike & Sally Ann Rothwell who won, second place Robin Rose & John MacLachlan. However, the first pair who qualify for entry to the Corwen are Sam Norman & Alan Anderson. Congratulations to all.

Derbyshire

www.bridgewebs.com/derbyshire



WINNERS of recent DCBA competitions: County Pairs champions were Don Smedley & John Griffin. The Hazel Whinfrey Plate was won by Mike Douglas & Paul Knighton. The Invitation Pairs was won by Annice & Howard Morton. The Xmas Pairs was won by Trevor Pilkington & Malcolm Young. The New Years Pairs was won by John Griffin & Malcolm Young.

Dorset

www.bridgewebs.com/dorset



KNIGHT Cup – 1st Ann Sharples & Bob Mott, 2nd Mark Hooper & Krzysztof Ginda. Winners of the Simeon Cup (below National Master) Jim Cowling & Terry Carpenter.

Frost Rose Bowl. 1st Michael Yeo, Geoff Cave, Sarah Fazakerley & Andrew Barnett, 2nd Richard Vessey, Claire Hillyard, Dave Willis & Lesley Lewis, 3rd Helen Ackroyd, Tim Dunsby, Chris Stevens & Ann Sharples.

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to all the following – South Woodham Ferrers Congress Swiss Pairs: 1st, Paul Spencer & Marc Chawner. 2nd: Val & Paul Mollison. 3rd, Simon Moorman & Steve Cade-Bowyer. Swiss Teams: 1st, Ernest Schlesinger, Graham Pollock, Adrian Ring & Paul Chapman. 2nd, David Wing, Chris Taylor, Paul Spencer & Marc Chawner. 3rd: Catriona Lovett, Mike Harbour, George Vede & Maureen Vede.

Gloucestershire

www.gcba.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of our Autumn competitions: Garry Watson, Richard Butland, Patrick Shields, Diana Nettleton &

Keith Stanley who won the Autumn Swiss Teams, Martin McWilliam & Toby Roberts who won the Autumn Swiss Pairs, and Ian Constable who won the County Individual.

Hants and IOW

www.bridgewebs.com/hiwcba/



JUBILEE Cup Teams of 8: John Jones & Mahmoud Nurmohamed, Mike Fithyan & Tony Olech, Dennis Adams & Jenny Ashby, Mike Kinsey & Dave Hinkin. Bloxham Mini Swiss Teams: Steve Tearle & Tracey Adams, Keith Bennett & John Fairhurst. Yuletide Mini Swiss Teams: Jeremy Baker & Jeremy Dhondy, John Sherringham & James Guiton. Midwinter Teams: Steve Preston & Christine Ray, Karen Dewar & Richard Ray. Candlestick Swiss Pairs: Steve Preston & Miles Cowling.

Hertfordshire

www.hertsbridge.co.uk



WELL played to Keith Graha & Maureen Ann Ashman, Joe Coulson & Anthony Osborne who won the Humble Plate on 10 Jan.

Congratulations to Roy Button & Karima Base who won the Championship pairs semi-final on 24 Jan. Tom Dessain & Tugrul Kaban were second.

Kent

www.kcba.org.uk



KCBA Club Teams of 8 – Congratulations to Chislehurst BC 'A' team winners of the Corbett Cup (Div 1), Maidstone BC 'A' team winners of the Corbett Plate (Div 2) and to Farnborough BC 'D' team winners of the Mitchell Salver (Div 3) and runners up Tunbridge Wells BC 'C' team. Both teams will be promoted to the Corbett Plate.

Congratulations to Fleming Femina (Kent Ladies' Pairs) winners Diane Rogers & Frances Connell and to Hunter Homines (Kent Men's Pairs) winners John Amor & Keith Ashcroft.

In conjunction with KCBA, the last in the series of EBED Tournament Directors courses will be on 19 Apr (Assessment). Applications should be made to Peter Jordan/Dawn Mertens at EBU. The Saturday dates booked at TWBC for the EBU Directors Course are 7 May, 18 June, 16 July and 10 Sep.

Lancashire

www.bridgewebs.com/lancs



PRESTON Teams – 1st Kath & Alan Nelson, Jeff Smith & Jackie Pye. LCBA Butler Pairs – 1st Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield. LCBA Championship Pairs – 1st Andrew Lum & David Costich.

Leicestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/leicestershire/



JOSEPHS Bowl (Championship Teams of Four): Semi-Finals – Arnold vs Wright, Cook vs Mason.

Butterworth Langley Trophy (Josephs

Plate): Semi-Finals – Tyler vs Ronan ; Hill vs Stokes.

Leicestershire Cup (KO Teams - Aggregate): Semi-Finals – Beasley vs Bowyer ; Cook vs Preston.

Leicestershire Plate (KO Teams - Aggregate): Semi-Finals – Halford vs Bee ; Rees vs Hill.

Wilde Cup (Restricted Teams) – Winners – Pauline Dignan, Val Rees, Susie Tyler & Gill Walton.

Stanley Trophy (Butler Pairs) - Leaders after 4 rounds: 1st - Brian & Sheila Stockdale (0.69), 2nd – John Glover & Lyn Hilton (0.43), 3rd – Tim Glover & Peter Neville (0.36).

Pairs League (Leaders after 1st round) : Division 1 – Brian & Sheila Stockdale; Division 2 – Diana Bowden & Richard Rees; Division 3 – Judy Hill & John Young.

Inter-Club Teams of Eight League (Current Divisional Leaders): Division 1 – Clarendon (64/8), Division 2 – Westcotes 'A'(65/8), Division 3 – Westcotes 'B'(60/8), Division 4 – Blaby 'B'(79/8).

Lincolnshire

www.lincsbridge.org.uk

THE BAINTON Trophy semi-final attracted 24 qualifiers. This was reduced to 14 pairs for the forthcoming final and was well directed by Helen Barr.

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk



THE PALMER Bayer No Fear Pairs attracted a record entry this year. Last year's winners, Jason Crampton & Sam Oestreicher won for the second year running, with the 2014 winners Matt Robins & Ben Thomas in second place. Third were William Frisby & Yola Makatrewicz.

In the Ian Gardiner Trophy qualifier, the leading three teams were 1st, Dean Swallow, Peter Rogers, Michal Dajwowski, Alexander Brett; 2nd, Mike Bull, John Bernard, Stefanie Rohan, Paul Lamford; 3rd, Tim Gauld, Paul Martin, Stephen Popham, John Pemberton.

Manchester

www.manchesterbridge.org.uk



IN THE Manchester Congress held in early January the highest-placed Manchester pair was Sam Herman & Peter Jones who came third. The teams was won by Rodney Lighton & John Currie, Sally Brock & Barry Myers. The Players Progress Cup on the Saturday was won by Sue Jones & Carol Traffon and the Kevin Comrie Cup on the Sunday was won by Liz Downie & Margaret Kelly.

The LCBA Butler Pairs was won by Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield on 23 Jan.

At the Chester Congress in Deva the teams was won by Michael Newman, Ollie Burgess, Catherine Draper & Andrew Woodcock.

Manchester B (Ollie Burgess & Rob Myers, Jason Hackett & Adrian Kenworthy, Ed Levy & Mike Goldsmith, David Sarabowski & Andy Green) won the Gazette Teams of Eight on 7 Feb and will represent MCBA in the Garden Cities Regional Final in May.

Merseyside/Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk



COUNTY trials – an excellent turnout of 20 pairs produced the following leading scores
1st, Peter Hall & Danny Miller +102, IMPs
2nd, Paul Holt & Peter Sumption +80 IMPs,
3rd Nigel Worthington & Martin Thorne +44 IMPs.

Chester Congress – Pairs, 1st Keith Shuttleworth & Seb Jones, 2nd David Stevenson & Liz Commins, Consolation Pairs, Peter Swingle & Jean Hand, Swiss Teams 1st Catherine Draper, Andrew Woodcock, Ollie Burgess, Michael Newman, 2nd David Stevenson, Liz Commins, Tracey Capel, Boris Ewart.

Norfolk

www.bridgewebs.com/norfolk/



THERE were three events in January, starting with the Norfolk Championship Teams – the winners on the day were Paul Darby, Simon Budd, Giles & Gabriel Ip. This is our qualifier for the EBU Pachabo Cup but the winners first have to succeed in a play off against second placed Matt Millson, Mike Walsh and Julie & John Aspinall.

Next was the Committee Cup – nine teams of eight with all players below the rank of Regional Master. The winners from the Noverre Club were James Tullett, Trish Raywood, Masuma Kneivitt, David North-Graves, David & Ann Ellis, Tony Metcalf and Paul Quinn. We are concerned that some clubs are unable to field teams because of the entry restrictions; the Tournament Committee is reviewing how we can maintain both numbers of entrants and the philosophy of the competition.

Last, the Afternoon Bridge Club hosted their Swiss Team event with 20 teams – the winners being Roger Amey, Michael Whiting, Matt Millson and Mike Walsh.

Our next big event is the Norfolk Congress from 1-3 Apr. I hope as many as possible from Norfolk and beyond will come to what has become known as a very friendly Congress.

North East

www.neba.co.uk



MANY congratulations go to the team of Anne and Eric Bell, Chris Stenning and Jim Hodgson, winners of the 2016 Niman Israel Cup (for mixed teams – each player required to play a set in turn with each of his/her three team mates). Their score of +57 IMPs just edged out Julian and Val Gibson, Martin Kane and Nichola Cockerill-Smith (+52 IMPs) with third position going to Patricia Tuff, Marion Curran, David Morrison and Mike Stanbury (+34 IMPs). Very much clear winners of the Deane Salver on 7 Feb were Steve & Georgia Ray (69.87%) David Morrison & Patricia Tuff were 2nd with 60.58%. Close behind were Brian Pacey & Susan Green with 59.83% tying for third place with Brenda Osborne and Frank Springett. Congratulations go to all successful players.

Nottinghamshire

www.bridgewebs.com/nottinghamshire



IN THE Winter Pairs, held on the second Wednesdays monthly the leaders are Willie Crook & Rob Sharpe.

Mixed pairs champions are Barbara Hatfield & Phil Otteswell.

After the qualifying round the top seeds for county teams are Auld and Crook.

Oxfordshire

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk



THE OBA County Pairs semi-final was won by Diana Nettleton & Matthew Covill with David Patterson & Brian Geary in 2nd place. The top 14 pairs qualified for the final which takes place on 24 Apr at the Oxford Bridge Club.

Diana Nettleton & Matthew Covill were also the winners of the Abingdon Club's Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs.

Somerset

www.bridgewebs.com/somerset



CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the Coda Cup Charity event held at various Somerset clubs during week beginning 1 Feb. Ian Norris & David Thrush came first with a convincing 72.58%.

Runners up Cathy May & Sheila Berringer with 68.26% and Gina & David Howard with 67.80%. Winners of the Swiss Pairs at Woolavington Village Hall 10 Jan were Steve Tomlinson & Chris King with 97 VPs.

Staffs and Shrops

www.staffsandshrops.org.uk



THE WINTER County Simultaneous Pairs event was held on 26 Jan with 37½ tables from 6 clubs taking part. The winners were Ruth Timmins & Rob Stevenson at Eccleshall (64.36%), 2nd Paul Cutler & Geoff Davies at Stafford (61.59%) and 3rd Arnold Copeland & Judy Midwinter also at Eccleshall (61.13%).

The Congress, a green pointed event, is taking place at the Park Inn at Telford again this year on 16-17 Apr. Day one will host the Swiss Pairs and day two the Swiss Teams.

The County Championship Pairs (Bearn) is to be held at Newcastle on 24 Apr- a new venture in two ways, firstly as a direct entry event and, secondly, is located away from County HQ for the benefit of those in the North of the County. The Ladies' & Men's Championship Pairs are to be held at Wolverhampton on 12 May. A Teams of Four competition is being held at Wolverhampton on 15 May to celebrate the outstanding contribution made by Roy Edwards to the game of bridge.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk



The top three in the Suffolk Mid-Anglia Pairs were: 1st, Peter Warren & Denis Carter 57.04 IMPs, 2nd Anne Edwards & Phillip Edwards 53.33 IMPs, and 3rd, Graham Beeton & Rick Hanley 51.11 IMPs.

Surrey

www.bridgewebs.com/surrey



A TEAM from Richmond won the County heat of the Garden Cities and will represent Surrey at the regional final in May. Winners of the Mixed Pairs were Maurice & Joyce Grant.

Sussex

www.sccba.co.uk



Many congratulations to the following SCCBA members – Lindsay Geddes & Philip Hunt who won the SCCBA Mixed Pairs. In second place were Neil Watts & Chris Jepson and in third place were George Phillips & Janet Rumsey.

Veronica & David Strachan won the David Pavey Trophy for players who have less than 10,000 master points. Robert Hirst & Sue Porter were second and third were Tim & Alison Finch.

James Bugden & Bill Nicolle (West Sussex BC) are the confirmed winners of the Charity Simultaneous Pairs. The runners-up were Neil Watts & Nigel Urban (West Sussex BC), and in third place were Barbara Miles & Jean Meneely (Worthing BC).

Philip Hunt, Matt Read, Peter Brown and Yves Lebrec won the New Year Swiss Teams. In second place were Richard Fedrick, Andrew Southwell, Peter Clinch, and Liz Hoskins and in 3rd place were Gerry Stanford, Dave Franklin, Neil Watts and Nigel Urban.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.co.uk/



Congratulations to the following in their results in recent county and open club events. Mixed Pivot Teams, 1st David Lewis, Roger Taylor, Pauline Cooper and Jim Proctor, 2nd, Tom Cohen, Fiona Brown, Hugh McGann and James Thrower.

Yorkshire Cup, 1st, Bill Holmes, Paul Below, Alan Barnett and Richard Kempner (Leeds), 2nd, James Carpenter, Stuart Kay, Wei Che Tham and Jason Kevesky (York).

Doncaster Swiss Pairs, 1st, Carole Kelly & Geoff Kenyon, 2nd, Mike Jackson & Philip Mason, 3rd equal, Graham Jepson & Stuart Fletcher, and Roman Gembicki & Janusz Adamowicz.

In Memoriam

ROGER BOWLES (Worcs): Roger's bridge career can be traced back to the 1970s when he played in Warwickshire with his friends Roger Flood and Pip Whitehouse. He won the County Championship Pairs seven times, the Goodman Cup six times and the Warwickshire Pairs League twice. He also won the Corwen Trophy, the national inter-county pairs event, and was County Secretary for a number of years.

Moving to Wales, Roger won the Welsh National Pairs Championship and then the Perry Shield (mid-Wales winning for the first time ever) with John Waller. He went on to win the Webber Cup (the Welsh Teams of Four Championship) twice and the Welsh teams of Eight with John, Keith Shuttleworth and Brian Nicholls. He also won the Bearne, representing the Shrewsbury club.

Arriving in Worcestershire in 2013, Roger soon established himself as a force within the county, winning the Championship Pairs at his first attempt and helping the County to qualify for the Tollemache final for the first time in over 25 years. He initiated a mentoring scheme to bring on promising players – this has just very successfully completed its pilot phase and, as it continues into 2016, will form a permanent reminder of how much he contributed to the county's bridge in the short time that he lived in Worcestershire.

TONY EASTGATE (Surrey): Tony passed away on 9 Feb, aged 87. Tony was a prominent bridge player for many decades. He was one of the few old school bridge players left who were specialists in both rubber and teams bridge. At rubber bridge, in addition to his bridge skills, he was able to exercise the courtesy and temperament necessary to succeed in the high stakes game, which he indulged in regularly over the years, whilst his club moved through the transitions of being Crockfords, Eccentric, St James and then TGRs.

In teams bridge he represented Cambridge in the Varsity match in 1952 and continued his allegiance in Alumni matches until very recently. In Surrey he won the main Surrey teams event, the Lady Rose, more than 10 times, the most recent in 2006. At national level he won the Hubert Phillips in 1972, the Brighton Teams in 1991, the Pachabo in 1985

April 8th is the closing date for the submission of county reports for the next issue of English Bridge. Please email lou@ebu.co.uk

In Memoriam

and 2000 and the Burlington Cup in the Autumn Congress in 1980. He also achieved notable second places at pairs in the Autumn Congress Two Stars Pairs in 1979 and the National Pairs in 1983.

He had many interests other than bridge. In particular, he received international recognition as a postal historian and was a keen follower of cricket.

DICK GREEN (Essex): The Essex Bridge Association is sad to report the death of Richard (Dick) Green, a long time member and current Vice President.

Dick joined the Association in 1958 and soon made his mark at the table and on the administrative side. With Keith Stanley, Gerard Faulkner and Mike Hall county competitions were won, as well as national events - The Field Cup, The Committee Cup and an international competition in Holland.

Dick became auditor to the EBU through the company he worked for, and an Essex County delegate. Eventually he became the longest serving Essex Chairman, retiring in 2010.

NIGEL LAVILLE (Worcs): Nigel was a long standing member of the county association for over forty years. As a competitor he was polite and always scrupulously fair and won all the county events for which he was eligible, including the Championship Teams seven times and the Championship Pairs in two consecutive years. He also served on the County Committee, including a term as Chairman.

PETER MOHAN (Beds): Peter Mohan's enduring legacy to Bedfordshire bridge was his founding (with Ann Pillinger) of PM Bridge, a club which offers bridge and lunch twice a month, unique in the County.

Apart from bridge, Peter's other addiction from an early age was carp fishing. Born in 1930 he left school at 16, worked on a market garden near Chichester for three years, did his National Service in the RAF (where he learnt bridge) and then trained as a teacher. After schools in Oxfordshire and Devon, he joined the British School in Montevideo where he became Headmaster of the Junior School.

He returned to England to teach in Bristol but gave up that career in 1970 to write. This was supported by part-time jobs successively with the National Anglers Council, the Avon and Bristol Federation of Boys' Clubs and as General Editor of Beekay Publishers.

ALAN JEFFERY (Sussex): Worthing Bridge Club's President, Alan Jeffery, has died at the age of 101. His consummate skill at the bridge table, displayed until just a few weeks ago, reflected the fact that he honed his game on the London high stakes rubber bridge circuit in the 1950s, alongside running a highly successful bookmaking business. He moved to Worthing on retirement in 1980 and became a qualified duplicate bridge teacher. One of his regular partners, Ken Shillam, writes, 'Alan was an absolutely outstanding bridge player and even at 101 years was without doubt the best player at Worthing. Many people have benefitted from his series of bridge lessons and can testify on his teaching skills and general bridge wisdom. He was tolerant of his partner's shortcomings and displayed an absence of swagger or bravado about his superior moves.'

GEOFF SWANN (Leics): It is with great sadness that the LCBA has to announce the death of Geoff Swann after an extended period of ill health. Geoff was the LCBA Fixture Secretary and responsible for the organisation of the County Teams from 1982 to 1987, during which time the First team won the Dawes Trophy. He and his wife, Barbara, competed regularly for the county teams and in local competitions and they were members of winning teams in the Leicestershire Cup and the Stanley Trophy (Swiss Teams) events. A full obituary can be found on the LCBA website.

JACK THOMPSON (Devon): Jack has died after a short illness. He was a long term member of Plymouth Bridge Club as well as serving on their committee and was also Treasurer of Devon's West Section. He will be greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers go to Jenny and their family. □