

COUNTY NEWS

You will find your County's 'Local Results' (if submitted) and obituaries (in our 'In Memoriam' column) in the online magazine (page 73 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



AVON qualified for the final of the *Tolle-mache* for the first time in several years. Congratulations to Tim Brierley, Mike Elliott, David Jones, Trevor Ward, Robert Glass, Jeremy Rickard, Graham Hartley, Rob Lawy, Mike Lettes and Andrew Urbanski,

with NPC Stuart King. Best of luck to the team in the final on February 14-15.

In the *Western League* match versus Wiltshire the Avon A team won 17-3, the B team won 12-8. The A team still lead the Division after three matches, with four more to go.

Diary dates: Feb 12, Championship Pairs Qualifier. Mar 7-8, Avon/Wilts Green Point Swiss Pairs and Teams.

Bedfordshire

www.bedsbridge.co.uk



THERE was not quite enough support to start a daylight league this season but the BBA intend to circulate details in May, with a view to starting a daytime league that will run from June 2015 until April 2016. The league will follow the format and rules of the BBA League with two significant changes as follows: the league will be open to any Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes-based team and all matches must start and end in daylight hours with sufficient daylight time to return home.

Diary dates: Sun Feb 22, County Pairs Qualifier, Final and Plate, 1.30pm, Wilstead. Thurs Mar 12, Inter-Club Teams of 8, Wilstead. Mon Mar 23, BBA Swiss Pairs, 7.30pm, Leighton Buzzard Rugby Club. Thurs Mar 26, Seniors' Pairs, 1.30pm, Wilstead.

Berks and Bucks

www.berks-and-bucks-cba.co.uk



THE last two months of the year have been most successful for BBCBA and our players with a number of runner-up positions in national events. Our experienced *Tolle-mache* team ended 2nd in the qualification heat and will try to grab their third consecutive win in mid-February. Good luck to you all! New Amersham B (Sally Brock, Barry Myers, Dick Davey, Ed Scerri) were 2nd in the *NICKO Final*.

A Burnham BC team (Joan Murphy, David Beever, Bob Holder, Nigel Lancaster, Nigel Marlow), were the runners up of last season's *NICKO Plate*.

We hope to see many pairs and teams from most clubs in

the qualification heats for the *Waller Bowl* (Pairs) and the *Committee Cup* (Teams). For those who qualify it is a great experience to compete with players of similar standard from other clubs. Can we beat last year's number of entries?

Please enter for the *Mixed Pairs* and *Fritch* on March 1st, and *Men's* or *Ladies' Pairs* on April 12.

Channel Islands

www.cwgsy.net/community/cicba/



CONGRATULATIONS to the Jersey team of David Hole, David Friswell, Roz Bavin and Paul Martin who won the *Llangollen Congress*.

Diary date: Apr 24-May 3, Jersey Lambourne Congress.

Cornwall

www.bridgewebs.com/cornwall



MANY congratulations to Jim Barker (*see page 31*), who has received the Dimmie Fleming Award from the EBU for thirty years' service to Cornish bridge. (Full details on our website). Congratulations also to Viv Mably and Richard Lingham, who won the *Mixed Pairs* at the *Porthcawl Congress*.

Sandra Bickerdike is becoming our Sims star. Not content with finishing fourth, with Owen Prior, in the *Autumn Sim Pairs*, she did even better in the *Children in Need Sims*, coming 2nd with Laurie Burley, a new partner.

Our *Western League* teams are also going from strength to strength. All three teams won in the match against Devon, maintaining a 100% record with three matches played.



Photo: Horsham BC

David Cairns (left) and Reg Underwood of Horsham Bridge Club in Sussex, winners of the £1000 first prize in the draw made from Sim Pairs club heat winning pairs – see page 32.

Note that the *Cornwall Congress* will be held at the Falcon Hotel, Bude, on September 18-20. The Saturday and Sunday *Swiss Pairs* and *Swiss Teams* will both be Green Pointed.

(Please see the online magazine for an Obituary and Cornish results.)

Devon

www.devonbridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Ian Walsh on winning the *Malvern Congress Pairs* (with Jack Terry) and to Dick Andrews – Gaynor Wiseman on their win at the *Torquay BC Swiss Pairs*.

Diary dates: Jan 27 Jan – Feb 10, Qualifiers at clubs for the Julia Chadwick (Green Point) final on Feb 21. Sun Feb 8, Swiss Pairs, Filleigh. Sun Feb 22, EBU Masters Pairs, Isca. Feb 27 Feb-Mar 1st, North Devon Congress. Mar 28-29, Advanced Workshop with Michael Byrne. Apr 10-12, Devon Congress.

Full details of all events and results are on our website.

Dorset

www.bridgewebs.com/dorset



CONGRATULATIONS to Helen Ackroyd, Tim Dunsby, Alan Wilson, Janet Smith who finished 2nd in the *Hampshire Wessex Blue Pointed Teams*. Also congratulations to Helen Ackroyd, Janet Smith, Doris Hutchinson, Roy Riley who came 3rd in the *Hampshire Yuletide Swiss Teams*.

Diary dates: Feb 24, Weymouth College Trophy (Multiple Teams), Weymouth BC. Mar 22, EBU Portland Mixed Pairs – Green Pointed Simultaneous Pairs, Christchurch BC. Mar 24, Garden Cities Qualifier – Teams of 8 at Christchurch BC.

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk



ESSEX players who did well in the *Middlesex Congress Swiss Teams* were Peter Scotting, Pat Johnson, Tony Verran and Brian Gladman (*photo on page 58*) who won the event in a strong field of 61 teams. Chris and Sue Taylor with team-mates came 3rd.

Hants and IoW

www.bridgewebs.com/hiwcba/



BOB McRobert and out-of-county partner won the *Wessex Teams*.

Diary dates: Apr 26, Philip Graham Blue-pointed Swiss Teams, Franklin Conservative Club, Isle of Wight. Entries to HIWCBA website or ☎ 01590 622917. May 17, Green-pointed Swiss Teams, Andover. Entries to Marian Rudd, marian@marian37.plus.com or ☎ 01264 333847.

Herefordshire

www.herefordshirebridge.co.uk

AT the *Malvern Congress Swiss Pairs*, Ron Carter – Kanwar Rahim came 3rd, and Ben Britton – Mike Ralph came 9th equal. In the *Swiss Teams*, Chris Chowney was in the team that came 7th equal, and Carol and Albert Brown were in the team that came 9th equal.

There has been a much better start in the *Western League* this season. The C Team has won both their matches, and both the A and B Teams have had one win and one loss.

Full results of all county competitions are on our website.

Diary dates: Feb 7, Club Teams of Eight, 10.30am, Tarrington. Feb 28, Championship Pairs, 10.30am, Tarrington. Mar 13, Inter-club Teams Round 4, 7pm, Ledbury. Mar 20, Mixed Pairs, 7pm, Bartestree. Apr 10, Inter-club Teams Round 5, 7pm, Ledbury. Apr 25, Avocet Teams, 10am, Brooms Green.

Hertfordshire

www.hertsbridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Jackie Davies and partner, 2nd in the *Two Star Final* at the *Autumn Congress*.

Diary dates: Feb 22, Blue-pointed Swiss Pairs, 1.30pm, Hemel Hempstead BC. Feb 23, HBA Sims Pairs, Hemel Hempstead BC. Mar 20, Marjorie Lukyn Cup Final, 7.30pm, Bridge Centre. Mar 22, Portland Pairs, 12 noon, Bridge Centre. Apr 12, Desmond Flockhart Trophy, 12 noon, Bridge Centre.

Isle of Man

www.manxbridgeunion.org

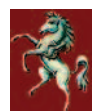


CONGRATULATIONS to Dikken Sargent of the Douglas Bridge Club who was part of a team which won the *Congress Teams of Four Final* at the 2014 annual *Highland Bridge Congress* at Aviemore in November. Dikken partnered three Scots against forty-seven other teams, some of which included Scottish and Welsh players of international standard – so a fine win.

The handsome trophy the team won was on display at the Douglas Bridge Club recently. Unless a volunteer is found (unlikely), Dikken has the task of polishing it up in time for the 2015 Congress!

Kent

www.kcba.org.uk



55TH KENT CONGRESS: Championship Pairs – *Invicta Cup*: Kay Preddy – Norman Selway; *Allnutt Trophy* (Leading Mixed Pair): Christine Kempton – Phil Jones; *Gentry Cup* (Leading Married Couple): David and Gina Dickenson; *Puddledock Plate* (Leading Non-expert Pair): Jonathan



Photo: Dorset CBA

Dorset's Flemmich Cup winners, from the left: Helen Ackroyd, Chris Stevens, Keith Bartlett, Tim Dunsby

Wittmann – Nick McCarthy. Swiss Teams Championship – *Lukey Cup*: Mike Hampton, John Amor, Michael Prior, Keith Ashcroft; *Owl Cup* (Runners Up): Norman Inniss, Stefan Sypliwczak, Dick Davey, Bill Charwood; *Birkle Bowl* (Leading Non-expert Team): Irene Thomas, Morag Gibson, Diane Potter, Robert Cave.

Well done to our Kent team who won their group in the *Tollemache* qualifier: Gerald Tredinnick (Capt), Derek Pattison, Norman Selway, Kay Preddy, Malcolm Lewis, Steve Auchterlonie, Pat Collins, Peter Law, Michael Prior, Leigh Chapman. There were four groups with nine counties in their group. The top two teams from each group went into the final (14-15 February in Birmingham).

Lancashire

www.bridgewebs.com/lancs



CONGRATULATIONS go to Catherine Draper, who was a member of the winning *Women's Team* at the *World Mind Games* in Beijing. She also came 3rd in the *Individual* competition (see page 16).

Lancashire qualified for the final of the *Tollemache* by finishing 2nd in Group B. The team was Austin Barnes, Stuart Norris, Jeff Smith, Jackie Pye, John Brearley, Ross Shine, Paul Hepworth, Rick Bentley, Bill Alston and Colin Mitchell.

Congratulations also go to Nick Woodcock – Sue Fjortoft, who came 3rd in the *Swiss Pairs* at the *SBU Winter Congress*.

Diary dates: Feb 1st, LCBA Championship Pairs, Blackburn BC. Feb 8, LCBA Teams of Eight, Bury Athenaeum. Mar 7, MCBA Swiss Pairs, Altrincham. Mar 8, M&CBA Swiss Teams, Deva. Mar 20-22, Cumbria Congress, Windermere Hydro. Mar 22, Portland Pairs, Brierfield BC. Mar 29, Hector Barker Pivot Teams, Southport BC. Apr 3-5, Northern Easter Festival, Ilkley.

Leicestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/leicestershire/



DIMMIE Fleming Award: congratulations to Robert Northage on receiving this prestigious award following his retirement after twenty years service as County General Secretary.

During this time he has also been the county's senior TD and Laws and Ethics Officer and was responsible for introducing Green Point events locally (see also page 31).

Diary dates: Feb 11, Stanley Trophy Round 5, Glenfield. Feb 19, Pairs League Round 5, Rothley. Feb 25, Joseph's Bowl/Butterworth Langley Trophy Semi-Finals, Blaby. Mar 7, Leicestershire Green Point Swiss Pairs, Spondon. Mar 8, Leicestershire Green Point Swiss Teams, Spondon. Mar 11, Stanley Trophy Round 6, Glenfield. Mar 29, Midland League v Derbyshire, Greenfields. Mar 31, Mercury Learners Trophy, County BC. Apr 1st, Gimson Trophy Semi-Finals, Rothley. Apr 12, Charity Swiss Teams, TBA. Apr 22, Yates No Fear Pairs, Rothley. Apr 22, Stanley Trophy Round 7, Glenfield. Apr 26, Gimson Trophy Final, Greenfields. Apr 29, Olga Cup – Ladies' Pairs and Buckby Cup – Men's Pairs, Rothley.

Lincolnshire

www.lincsbridge.org.uk

ON Wednesday February 25 at 1.30pm Michael Byrne will give a talk on Duplicate Pairs Tactics at Scunthorpe Bridge Club, including practice and a question and answer session. Admission by ticket only. Cost is £6 for club members and £10

for non-members, including light refreshments.

For tickets, contact Glynn Elwick or any member of the Scunthorpe Bridge Club committee.

Diary dates: Sun Feb 22, Bainton Trophy Final, Dunholme. Mar 1st, County Pairs League Heat 5, Dunholme. Mar 8, Garden Cities Heat (Teams of Eight), Dunholme. Mar 21-22, County Championships, Scunthorpe; please remember the early start on both days. Mar 29, County Pairs League Heat 6, Dunholme.

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk



MANY congratulations to Heather Dhondy on winning gold in the *Teams* and coming fourth in the *Individual* in the *World Mind Games* in Beijing (see page 16). Congratulations to *Premier League* winners Andrew Robson, David Gold and David Bakhshi, and runners-up Heather Dhondy, Brian Callaghan and Frank To, who also earned places in the English *Camrose* team. Also to *PL Division 2* winners Nick Sandqvist and Tom Townsend, and runner-up Kieran Dyke. Well done to the London *Tollemache* team who came second in their group to qualify for the final. Special congratulations to Mike Hill for receiving the EBU Silver Award (see page 30) for outstanding services to bridge – very well-deserved.

The *Lederer Memorial Trophy* will be held over the weekend of February 28-March 1 at the RAC in Pall Mall. Spectators very welcome – enquiries to lederertrophy@gmail.com

Other diary dates: Sun Feb 8, Ian Gardiner Trophy. Sat-Sun Mar 7-8, Green Pointed Swiss Weekend. Sun Mar 29, London Championship Pairs. Tues Apr 21, April Café Bridge, Tonsleys.

Manchester

www.manchesterbridge.org.uk



WORLD Championship selections: after medal-winning performances in the European Championships, Jason and Justin Hackett were selected for the *Open* team, Catherine Draper for the *Women's* team, and Paul Hackett and John Holland for the *Seniors'* team.

Catherine Draper was part of the gold medal winning *Women's* team in the *World Mind Sport Games* (see page 16) and the winner of the bronze medal in the *Individual*.

Congratulations to Mike Bell and Michael Byrne on promotion to *Division 1* of the *Premier League*. John Holland and Alan Mould separately reached the *semi-finals* of the *Gold Cup*; sadly neither player made the final. Well done to Bernard and Rhona Goldenfield on winning the main event, the *Swiss Pairs*, at the *Scottish Bridge Union Peebles Congress*.

Diary dates: Sun Feb 8, Gazette Cup, Altrincham Bridge Club. Sun Feb 22, Cantor Cup (Newcomers), 1pm. Manchester BC. Sat Mat 7, Green Pointed Pairs, 11am, St Peters Assembly Rooms (Altrincham Bridge Club).

Merseyside/Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk



The *North Wales Teams* event for the Harold Griffiths Trophy was dominated by M&CBA teams with Dave and Jean Keen, Stuart Matthews, Marks Weeks winning and John Hampson, Paddy Murphy, Andy Prothero, Chris Pope 2nd. In the *NWBA Autumn One-day Pairs*, Ted Reveley –

Bill Niccol were 3rd.

Diary dates: Mar 1, Jean Keen Trophy, MBC. Mar 8, Eric Howarth Cup, MBC. Apr 26, Preece Rosebowl, Blundellsands BC. May 17, John Armstrong Trophy (GP Swiss Pairs), MBC. May 30-31, Dublin match, Deva BC. June 11, Jim Davies Swiss Teams, Heswall BC.

Middlesex

www.middlesexbridge.co.uk



MANY congratulations to Alex Allfrey whose team has won the *Gold Cup* (report on page 21). Andrew McIntosh and Stefan Skorchev were in the team which finished 2nd.

Well done to Nevena Senior and Nicola Smith who were in the Women's Team which won the gold in the *World Mind Games*. Nicola then went on to win the *Individual* gold (see page 16).

In the *Middlesex Congress Swiss Pairs* the clear winners were Andrew Conway and Keith Bush; Mark Hill – Giles Ip came 2nd and Andy Bowles – Shireen Mohandes were 3rd. Well done to all of them. In the *Swiss Teams* Pat Johnson, Peter Scotting, Brian Gladman, Tony Verran won, with Alex Roberts, Shivam Shah, Peter Crouch, Simon Cope runners up.

Diary dates: Mar 22, Gentle Duplicate Pairs, 2pm, Pinner BC. In February there are a number of Mixed Pairs heats. Please visit the county website which has an extensive competitions calendar: www.middlesexbridge.co.uk

Norfolk

www.bridgewebs.com/norfolk/



BOOK now for the *47th Norfolk Congress*, to be held again at the Wensum Valley Hotel in Taverham, near Norwich, from Friday 27 to Sunday 29 March.

Hon Congress Secretary Maureen Kimbley is confident that it will be another successful and well-attended Congress: 'Our new Norwich venue has proved really popular over the last two years,' she said. 'Entries have been flooding in for months and we look forward to welcoming bridge players from all over the country – our regulars and new faces too.'

The Norfolk Congress is open to all members of the EBU or equivalent bridge unions. Events during the weekend range from several pairs' trophy matches to the teams of four Bob Lawton Trophy and Norfolk Swiss Teams – Neville Hill Cup.



Photo: Peter Hasenson

Middlesex Congress Teams winners, from the left:
Tony Verran, Pat Johnson, Peter Scotting and Brian Gladman

Players can book the entire Congress for £52 – or pay just £5 to compete in one of the Friday afternoon or evening events.

See the Norfolk Contract Bridge Association website: www.bridgewebs.com/norfolk for booking forms.

North East

www.neba.co.uk



IN the *Congress Teams of Four Final* at Peebles, congratulations to two NEBA Teams who came 2nd in both the A and B section namely: Clive Owen, John Atthey, Charles and Vi Outred, and Norman and Rosemary Gray, Frank Springett, Mike Stanbury. Relative newcomers to bridge, NEBA pair Ken and Sue Goddard scored 57.92% to come 4th out of 22 in their section of the *Pairs* qualifier on Saturday night – a splendid result!

2014 Tollemache (Inter-counties Championship) qualifier: the NEBA team of Julian Gibson (captain), John Atthey, Steve and Georgia Ray, Martin Kane, Damian Hassan, Shivam Shah and Basil Letts, finished a close 3rd behind Avon and London, just failing to qualify despite only losing one match (to Avon). The crunch match was the last of the day against Avon, so it felt a long journey back from Birmingham having lost!

Northamptonshire

www.bridgewebs.com/northants/

THE county's *Eden Cup* and *Murchie Lerner* competitions will take place at Kettering BC on Sunday March 29. The top two pairs in the *Eden Cup* will represent the county in the *Corwen*.

The *Alastair Brodie Trophy* will be held at Kettering on Sunday April 12. This is designed as a social event with a pairs event in the afternoon and a teams event in the evening. The presentation of the season's trophy will take place in the interval.

Belated congratulations to Malcolm Pollack who finished second in the *Two Stars Pairs Final* at the *Autumn Congress*.

In the *Eastern Counties League* match against Cambridge University the A team lost 7-13 and the C team won 15-5.

Nottinghamshire

www.bridgewebs.com/nottinghamshire

FROM October 2014 the *County Winter Pairs* has been played on the second Wednesday of the month. In 2015, the *Journal Cup* for the County Pairs Championship will be played on Sunday April 18.

Honours were even in the match against Staffs and Shrops: 13-7, 10-10 and 7-13. Other matches include Leicestershire in January and Derbyshire in February. In the *Tollemache* Notts performed reasonably coming 5th in their group of nine teams.

Rob Sharpe and William Crook did well finishing 2nd in the *Seniors' Congress Swiss Teams* in November.

Oxfordshire

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk



AT the EBU *Seniors' Congress* Oxfordshire players were very successful with Robert Procter and Mike Robinson's team winning the *Swiss Teams* and Sandra Nicholson and Krys Kazmierczak's team in joint 2nd place. Another well done to Hugh Thomson – Mike Webley who came joint 2nd in the *Swiss Pairs*.

Well done to Freddie Illingworth and Laura Covill who played for the England Under 20s team in the *Junior*

Championships in the Czech Republic.

Other Oxfordshire results: Carol Benzie – Aleksandar Lishkov won the *Swiss Pairs Consolation Final* at the *Torquay Congress* and David Southcombe came 4th in the *Malvern Congress Swiss Pairs*.

Oxfordshire's team of Alan Wilson, Nick Smith, Chris Cooper, Ed Jones, Robert Procter, Mike Robinson, John Williams, Sandra Claridge, Kathy and Denis Talbot came 3rd equal in the *Tollemache Qualifier*.

Diary dates: Feb 8, Midland Counties League v Leicestershire. Feb 22, OBA Swiss Teams Championship. Mar 11, OBA Management Meeting. Mar 29, Midland Counties League v Warwickshire.

Somerset

www.somersetbridge.org.uk



RESULTS of the Western league matches to date: vs East Wales, 'A' won 19-1, 'B' won 16-4, 'C' won 13-7. Vs Devon, 'A' lost 5-15, 'B' lost 8-12, 'C' lost 9-11. Vs Wiltshire, 'A' lost 9-11, 'B' won 17-3, 'C' won 19-1. Vs Hereford: 'A' lost 3-7, 'B' won 16-4, 'C' won 19-1.

The *Tollemache* team of Alan and Jette Bailey, Eric Cummings, Colin Flood, Frank Coltman, Colin Simcox, Colin Juneman and Roger Sweet came 7th out of nine teams in their group.

Diary dates: Feb 14. Bridge Café Seminars, Beah Café, Wells. Feb 16-20, Michael Coda Sims Pairs. Mar 6, Paul Bowyer Seminars, Woolavington.

Staffs and Shrops

www.staffsandshrops.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Justin and Paul Hackett for being in the winning *NICKO* team.

Diary dates: Sun Mar 8, Shrewsbury Open Swiss Pairs, Radbrook Community Centre. Our Green-pointed weekend is at the Park Inn Telford; Pairs on Sat Apr 11 and Teams on Sun Apr 12; entries/enquiries to Judy Mitchell, email mitchellm@btinternet.com or ☎ 0174 3235374.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk



ONE hundred and thirty-eight pairs from Abbeygate, Clare, Deben, Framlingham, Frinton, Ipswich Hospitals, Stansfield and Woodbridge bridge clubs took part in the *Suffolk Simultaneous Pairs* won by Charles Parker and Andre Gray from Framlingham.

In the *Tollemache qualifier* Suffolk finished mid-group and failed to qualify, but David Price and Jane Moore did well to finish 2nd overall in the cross-IMPs.

Nine teams contested the *Abbeygate Shield*, won by Colchester A and twenty-two pairs played in the ever popular *Novice Pairs* won by Wendy Harknet – David Parish.

Surrey

www.surreycountybridge.org.uk



SURREY are holding a *Blue-pointed Elimination Teams* event on the weekend of April 10-12 with a *Swiss Teams* on Sunday 12 at Sandown Park Racecourse. Please support this special event at this prestigious venue.

Diary dates: Feb 8, Men's and Ladies' Pairs, Ripley. Feb 15, Friendly Swiss Pairs, Oxshott. Mar 29, County Pairs & Plate, Oxshott. Enter via the Surrey website or contact Frances Trebble, f.trebble@ntlworld.com or ☎ 01252 679883.

Sussex

www.sccba.co.uk



MANY congratulations to Oliver Powell and Jonathan Derrick who were selected to play for England in the Under-20s *Channel Trophy* in Lille.

It is with some pride that we heartily congratulate County stalwarts Sally Bugden and Joy Mayall who were presented with a Gold Award and Dimmie Fleming Award respectively at the EBU AGM in November (see pages 30-31). Their outstanding contributions to English (and in particular Sussex) bridge are well-known to, and much appreciated by, all SCCBA members and these awards are richly deserved.

Please also note that the *SCCBA Seniors' Simultaneous Pairs* will be played over two days on Wednesday February 11 and Thursday February 12. As with the Charity Sims, individual players may only play in one heat. To arrange for your club to enter this event, please email or telephone the organiser, Peter Clinch (his contact details are on the SCCBA website).

Warwickshire

www.warwickshirebridge.co.uk



The *29th Coventry Congress* will take place on March 27-29; the *Swiss Pairs* on Saturday and *Swiss Teams* on Sunday are both Blue-pointed. The *Peeping Tom Pairs* on Saturday is for less experienced players, a light-hearted one session event playing four six-board matches, the emphasis being on participation rather than competition. On both days, two-course meals are available at a cost of £8 per day. Further details can be found on the Coventry and North Warwickshire Bridge Club website www.bridgewebs.com/cnwbc or contact the Congress organiser at stephandbob@live.co.uk ☎ 01675 443291 for a brochure.

Congratulations to the West Midlands Bridge Club for winning the *NICKO*. Paul, Justin, and Jason Hackett were joined by Brian Senior and Anita Sinclair.

Diary dates: Tues Feb 10, National Pairs Heat, 7.15pm, West Midlands BC.

MASTER-POINT PROMOTIONS

The latest list can be found at
www.ebu.co.uk/masterpoint-promotions



Wiltshire

www.wcba.co.uk



BRIDGE continues apace in Wiltshire and our community has grown too. A warm welcome to our newest affiliated club, Bridge for all Marlborough (www.bridgewebs.com/bfamarlborough), and we wish them every success for the future.

Worcestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/worcestershire



IT'S unusual, and very welcome, to be able to report an international success by a Worcestershire member. However, John Sansom achieved a bronze medal in the *Seniors* event in the *World Bridge Series* in China – well done John!



Photo: Tony Gervis FRPS

Malvern Congress Pairs Winners,
Jack Terry (left) and Ian Walsh

Closer to home, having moved to its new venue, the *Malvern Congress* was again a great success. Significant prize-winners were: *Green-pointed Swiss Pairs*: Jack Terry – Ian Walsh (*photo above*); *Green-pointed Swiss Teams*: Tim Brierley, Jack Terry, David S. Jones, Alan Jones.

At the *Porthcawl Congress*, Pam Pearce – Susan Sharp won the *Ladies' Pairs*.

There are significant changes to the county competitions this year. In order to make them more accessible to a greater number of our members, some qualifying rounds are being abolished, leaving a simple Sunday event. Members are encouraged to look out on the county website or ask their club secretary for details.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.co.uk/



CONGRATULATIONS to Fiona Brown on her gold medal as a member of the victorious England women's team at the World Mind Games in Beijing (*see page 16*).

Yorkshire finished third equal in their qualifying group for the EBU's *Tollemache Cup* – not quite enough to reach the final. The team was Brian Senior, Sandra Penfold, James Thrower, Phil Godfrey, Tom Gisborne, Sandy Davies, Sarah Teshome, Richard Winter, Richard Pike and Dave Robinson.

Janet and Ted Latham (*photo below*) won the *Swiss Pairs* at the EBU's *Seniors Congress*. At the EBU's *Montenegro Congress*, Toby Wall – Mike Rodgers were 2nd in the *Men's Pairs*, and Julia Staniforth – Philip Mason were 3rd in the *Mixed Pairs*.

Diary dates: Feb 8, Yorkshire Cup Final, Leeds. Feb 12, Margery Cartwright Simultaneous Pairs, Clubs. Mar 18, Peter Littlewood Midweek Pairs, Leeds. Mar 22, Improvers' Pairs, Leeds. Mar 29, West Yorkshire Open Teams, Bradford. Apr 3-5, EBU Northern Easter Festival, Craiglunds Hotel, Ilkley. □



Photo: EBU

Jeremy Dhondy (centre) presents Ted and Janet Latham with the Swiss Pairs trophy at the EBU Seniors Congress



PERMITTED AGREEMENTS

ADDITIONS and amendments to permitted methods take effect from August 1st and any applications to change anything need to be received by the Laws and Ethics Committee by the end of February.

If you wish to apply for approval of any agreement not currently permitted, you should send it *by the end of February 2015* either typed on A4 paper to the Secretary to the Laws and Ethics Committee, EBU, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury HP19 8AZ or by e-mail to John Pain, john@ebu.co.uk. You should include a logical defence to any agreement and indicate how it is to be shown on the convention card.

The Committee tend to look more favourably on applications that are not especially difficult to defend against.

COUNTY NEWS – LOCAL RESULTS

Avon

www.avoncba.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Bob Curtis who, at the age of 92, won the ACBA *Men's Pairs*. Also to his partner, Mike Brady, of course.

The *Ladies' Pairs* was won by Pat Chant and Cathy Davies.

Bedfordshire

www.bedsbridge.co.uk



WINNERS of the BBA *Mixed Pairs* were Alan and Saroj Ellis. Dolly Burgess – Anne Page won the BBA *Marsh Trophy* (for non-expert pairs) and winners of the *Inter-club Teams of Four* were Milton Keynes, represented by Ron Davis,

Lynne Emmett, David Woulds and Janis Maurins.

Winners of the *Seniors' Teams-of-Four* were Les Calver, Peter Scott, Janet and Derek Marsh.

Channel Islands

www.cwgsy.net/community/cicba/



THE inter-insular weekend was held in Jersey in November. Guernsey regained both trophies, in the A Team match winning 421-299 and in the B Team match winning by the much narrower margin of 372-348. The top scoring fours were Daniel McIntosh, Mike Bane, Sue Shaw and Tuula Lehtinen in the A match winning the *Wyn Coleman Trophy* and Barbara Hunter, Susan Jones, David Trestain and Geoff in the B match winning the *Bill Fleet Salver*.

Three other events were completed. The *CI Ladies' Pairs* was won by Lynda Mildon – Susie Farnon. In the *CI Men's Pairs* top scorers were Andy Hall – Dan McIntosh (trophy winners on tie break) and Richard Christensen – David Waters. The *Sigma Trophy* was won again by Peter and Gill Pitcher, the non expert prize going to Aline Staples – Mary Friswell.

The *CI Unrestricted Pairs* was won by Andy Hall – Mike Allen and the *Lower Restricted* by Sylvia Bale – Vivien Hudson.

District News: In Jersey the *District Mixed Pairs* was won by David Waters – June Le Blancq. In Guernsey the same event was won by Robert Plumley – Sue Shaw.

Congratulations to all the recently qualified club directors following the course and assessment in November.

Cornwall

www.bridgewebs.com/cornwall



The *Mixed Pairs* was won by a new pairing, June Fitness – Cyril Harding, who was playing at Ladock for the first time, from Jan and Ken Keast.

The *Penzance Swiss Teams* was won by Chris and Sandra Bickerdike, David and Lynda Chidell, from Jim Barker, Jenny Daniel, Cynthia Owen, Pamela Wakley. The *Pivot Teams* went to the Keasts, Rob Jones and Jo Bryant, from the Bickerdikes, Jim and Frances Barker. Mike Booth – Jenny Cant won the *Bodmin Swiss Pairs* from Colin Pote – Pat Meade.

Diary dates: Feb 1st, Teams of Four Ladock. Feb 8, National Pairs Heat, Wadebridge. Feb 22, Swiss Pairs, Newquay. March 8, Men's and Ladies' Pairs, Ladock. March 29, Club Teams of Eight, Ladock.

Devon

www.devonbridge.co.uk



ALL county results, committee news and minutes, etc. are on the website. Visit www.devonbridge.co.uk

Dorset

www.bridgewebs.com/dorset



FLEMMICH Cup: 1. Chris Stevens, Keith Bartlett, Tim Dunsby, Helen Ackroyd; 2. Roy Riley, David Berwitz, Doris Hutchinson, Barry Watts; 3. Sarah Fazakerley, Geoff Cave, Andrew Barnett, Michael Yeo.

The *Weymouth Cup* (for teams below National Master) was won by Sarah Fazakerley, Andrew Barnett, Geoff Cave, Michael Yeo.

Hardwick Cup: 1. Brian Browse, Pam Hirst, Hugh Kevill-Davies, Jon Holland; 2. Bob Mott, Ann Sharples, Keith Bartlett, Barrie Cantello; 3. Eugene Sheehan, David Gill, Robin Wright, Mark Hooper.

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Margaret Curtis, David Sherman, Peter Franklin, Frank Morrison on winning the *Tony Kelvin Teams*. Also well done to Val Mollison, Brian Davies, Paul Mollison, Bernie Hunt on coming 2nd and John Stimson, Colin Elliot, Peter Oake, Robert Elliott who were 3rd.

Well done to Richard Register – Tanya Genthe who won the *Mixed Pairs*; Richard Perryman – Mary Homer were 2nd and June Brown – Charles Hook were 3rd. Congratulations to Chris and Sue Taylor who won the *Essex Fitch Trophy*.

Diary dates: Feb 13, Gwen Herga Trophies. Feb 22, Ray Cornell Trophy, Helliar. Mar 15, Play with an Expert. Mar 11, Essex Spring Seniors' Pairs. Mar 26, Spring Pairs League.

Gloucestershire

www.gcba.org.uk



BUSY times coming up, so please make a note of the following which are open to all EBU members: Feb 22, Newent Bowl – a friendly event including great tea. Apr 12, Ace of Clubs. May 1-3, the famous Cheltenham Congress – excellent bridge and a chance to play with people from all parts of the UK; for more details go to the GCBA website or CBC website (www.bridgewebs.com/cheltenham) and access through useful links.

We look forward to welcoming you to Gloucestershire.

Hants and IoW

www.bridgewebs.com/hiwcba/



ATTENDANCES at county events in the last few weeks have been an improvement on last year's, so let's hope that it continues. Let a committee member know if you liked the idea of a flighted event for the *Candover Teams* competition, at which £500 was raised for the Air Ambulance.

Wessex Teams: 1. Bob McRobert – Arun Suri, 2. Pauline Serby – John Moore. *Candover Teams, A flight*: 1. Roger Johnson, Mike Gwilliam, John Jones, Adrian Fontes; *B flight*: 1. Ray Crawford, Heather McGinn, Marian Rudd, Tricia Brooks; *C flight*: 1. Alan Mansell, Pat Cavannah, Ann Jenks, Kay Staines.

Simmons Married Pairs: 1. Helen and Chris Kinloch. *Lincoln Mixed Pairs*: 1. Leslie Lewis – Dave Willis. *Simple Systems Pairs*: 1. Jan and Henry Miller, 2. Holly Baker – Chris Diston.

Diary dates: Feb 9-13, IBM Duplicated Pairs, clubs. Feb 15, Valentine Mini-Swiss Teams, 2pm, Romsey. Mar 8, Pottage Semi-finals, 1pm, Romsey – qualifiers only. Apr 12, Pottage Final, 1pm, Romsey. Mar 22, Harrop Swiss Teams (Blue-pointed), 2pm, Southampton BC). Entries must be given in advance either via the HIWCBA website, or to Guy Lawrenson ☎ 01590 622917.

Hertfordshire

www.hertsbridge.co.uk



THE *Rose Bowl* was won by Anne Flockhart, Mike Hancock, Derek and Celia Oram; Maria Budd, Malcolm Harris, Roy Button and Rick Irwin were 2nd.

Eccles Cup A: North-South winners were Tom and Judith Walters; East-West, Kevin Clark and Paul Kemp. *Eccles Cup B*: North-South winners were Patrick McIntyre – Derek Gowlett; East-West, Cyril and Pat Gibor.

Cup Winners Cup: Sheila Evans, Mike Robson, Colin Hayward and Ian Kemp.

The *Mixed Pairs* was won by Jill Mumford – John Eyre. Well done to all players.

Kent

www.kcba.org.uk



THE KCBA is delighted to announce that Brian Crack has been granted a Silver Award by the English Bridge Union in recognition of his services to the EBU, the KCBA and to clubs in Kent for over thirty years. This is a thoroughly deserved honour (*see page 30*).

There is still time to enter for the *Larsky Cup* as there are seven heats in a variety of venues being played in February. The Larsky heats lead to the top four pairs in the final qualifying to represent Kent in the *Corwen Trophy*. There are also two heats of the *National Pairs* being played in February. See the website for more details.

Diary dates: Sun Mar 9, Green-pointed Swiss Pairs, 1pm, Maidstone Leisure Centre. Sun Mar 29, Larsky Final, TW BC. Sun Apr 6, George Griffiths Cup (Kent Seniors Pairs), 11am, TW BC.

Lancashire

www.bridgewebs.com/lancs



LCBA Congress Pairs: 1. Austin Barnes – Stuart Norris. *LCBA Congress Teams*: 1 Andrew and Veronica Petrie, Bill Alston, Colin Mitchell.

Pendle Witch Pairs: 1. Rodney Lighton – John Currie. *Foundation Cup*: 1. Dagmar Fazackerley – Ken Renno, Robin Atkinson, Pauline Holden. *Lytham Rose Bowl*: 1. Paul and Hilda Williams.

Leicestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/leicestershire/



MIDLANDS League County Team results: vs Gloucester (home): 1st team won 13-7, 2nd team lost 7-13, 3rd team lost 7-13. Vs Worcester (away): 1st team lost 3-17, 2nd team won 20-0, 3rd team won 16-4.

Leicestershire finished in 6th place in the *Tollemache Qualifier* in November.

Current divisional leaders in the *League* (Club Teams of 8) are: *Div. 1* – County 'B'; *Div. 2* – Loughborough 'A'; *Div. 3* – Westcotes 'B'; *Div. 4* – Blaby 'B'.

Children in Need Simultaneous Pairs: in the Tuesday heat Judy Hulland – Rebecca Ronan (Grantham) finished in 11th place overall.

The *Otto & Edith Mixed Pairs* was won by John Glover – Lyn Hilton with Dick and Lucy Pathan in 2nd place.

Current leaders in the *Stanley Trophy* after three rounds are Ian Bruce – Mick Mahoney with Tim Glover – Peter Neville close behind. Best placed of those who have played only two heats are Dick and Lucy Pathan.

Pairs League divisional leaders after two rounds are: 1. Jenny Grant – Bharat Thakrar; 2. Marjorie Gilbertson – Pat Watson; 3. Peter Halford – Mick Mahoney; 4. Paul Loveday – Richard Tyler.

Lincolnshire

www.lincsbridge.org.uk

COUNTY Swiss Teams: 1. Debbie Burton, John Gaunt, Pete Stackhouse, Glynn Elwick; 2= Brian Smith, Ron Wall, Mo Parsons, Maurice Ladlow and Nick Hunter, Ruby Schnalke, Andrew Green, John Longmuir.

Sidney Vincent Trophy: 1. Andrew Green – John Longmuir, 2. Phillip Harland – Roger Shelley. *Vincent Trophy* winner: Brenda Begley.

Ghost Pairs: North-South winners Roy Hughes – Keith Stewart; 2. Mo Parsons – Maurice Ladlow. East-West winners: Nick Hunter – Ruby Schnalke; 2. Roger and Margaret Shelley.

County Pairs League Heat 3: 1. Chris Phillips – Alan Millington, 2. Phillip Harland – Sue Barraclough.

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk



THE inaugural *Men's and Women's Pairs* in October attracted a small but diverse entry. The *Men's Pairs* was won by Nick Sandqvist – Tim West-Meads, with Roger Morton – Mike Hill 2nd and Nigel Freake – Paul Lamford 3rd. The *Women's Pairs* was won by Brigid Battiscombe – Linda Pethick with Jane Moore – Gillian Fawcett 2nd and Chantal Girardin – Mandie Campbell 3rd.

Manchester

www.manchesterbridge.org.uk



MANCHESTER qualified for the final of the *Tollemache* in February by winning their qualifying group and finishing above the holders Berks & Bucks. The team was John Hassett, Jeff Morris, Michael Byrne, Michael Newman, Gary Hyett, Ollie Burgess, John Holland, Alan Mould, Tom Slater and Alec Smalley. Peter Jones was NPC.

Ben Franks Trophy: Alan Mould – Michael Newman won the *Corwen* qualifier; 2nd were Gary Hyett – Peter Carey-Yard, 3rd were Patricia Burrows – Paul Worswick and 4th were Raymond Semp – Ken Hassell who all qualify for the *Corwen* final.

The *Autumn Intermediate Pairs* was held at Altrincham; twenty pairs participated. The winners were John Attree – Peter Allison, 2nd were Chris Baker – Jim O'Neill and 3rd were Ray Hill – Enid Norohna.

Merseyside/Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk



The *Waterworth Cup* (our *Corwen* qualifier) was won by Mike Amos – Pete Foster; John and Pauline Rudolf were runners-up with Alan Stephenson – Stuart Matthews 3rd.

The winners of this season's *Merseyside Cup* were Gill Jones, Dave Edwards, Robbie Roberts, Earl O'Keffee.

Middlesex

www.middlesexbridge.co.uk



Congratulations to Richard Savours – Belinda Bridgen who won the *Middlesex Senior Pairs*; Harry Ashar – Brian Cowley finished 2nd.

Middlesex won its qualifying heat in the *Tollemache* and we wish the team the best of luck in the final.

All results, diary dates and much more information can be found on the Middlesex County Bridge Association website www.middlesexbridge.co.uk

Norfolk

www.bridgewebs.com/norfolk/



IN late October we travelled to Cambridge University for an *Eastern Counties League* match for A and C teams only. The C team achieved their second victory of the season, the A team did not fare so well.

Our AGM was followed by the *Orb Paquot Trophy* – a Swiss pairs event won by Matt Millson – Adrian la Chapelle with John Dennis – Bryan Renouf in 2nd place.

Next up, an *Eastern Counties League* match against Hertfordshire; none of our teams added to their victory tally. Let's hope we do better in the new year. This was the final match as Captain for Paul Darby – many thanks for taking on this load Paul. Welcome to our new Captain, Bogdan Drobný.

The inter-club *Allwood Wharton* teams of eight nearly produced an upset with unfancied Wymondham & District surrendering a half-time lead to finish equal 2nd with Norfolk & Norwich B, just behind the winners, Norfolk & Norwich A.

2014's final event, the popular *Barclays Bank Trophy*, was won by the father and son pairing of Gabriel and Giles Ip with Mike Walsh – Bryan Renouf in 2nd place. Well done to all and thank you for your support.

North East

www.neba.co.uk



The *NEBA Congress* was held at the Marriott Hotel for the second year running with several visitors attending from other counties, which made for a very successful congress. Winners: Bill and Joyce White, *Mixed Pairs* (Cumbria); Hayden Dando – Julian Gibson, *Men's Pairs*; Mary Page – Aileen Cunningham, *Ladies' Pairs*; Bev Godfrey – Nicola Cockerall Smith, *Swiss Pairs*; Damian Hassan, Martin Kane, Mike Ferguson, Dave Broadhead, *Swiss Teams*.

Winners of the *Arnold Deane Quaich* were Bev Godfrey – Nicola Cockerall Smith – congratulations.

Fifty-two pairs competed for the *Gazette Cup* at the Cramlington Bridge Club and congratulations go to the winners, Don Reid – David Brickland, and to Irene Burns – Joan Compton, winners of the *Gazette Shield* – well done to both pairs. The professionally run competition brought a number of newcomers into tournament bridge and the event was played in excellent spirit.

Northamptonshire

www.bridgewebs.com/northants/

THE *Lakeland* was won by Kettering A and they will represent the county in the *Garden Cities*. The *Kettering Trophy* was won by the Stamford team of David Banks, Marlene Jones, Alan Coker and Doreen Simpson, with the Stamford team of Brendan Alston, Rex Berresford, Bob Wakerley and Paul Double in 2nd place.

Wed. Winter League 3: 1. Brian Davies, Gerard Lawlor, Jim Bainbridge, Maggie Jones[2. Malcolm Orr-Ewing, Leszek Lubaszewski, John Josephs, Ross Stacey. *Wed Winter League 4*: 1. Malcolm Orr-Ewing, Trevor Wray, John Josephs and Ross Stacey; 2. Brian Davies, Gerard Lawlor, Jim Bainbridge, Maggie Jones. *Sat Winter League 3*: 1. Marcus Witt, Trevor Thrower, Bill Chadwick, Mike Gore Browne; 2. Robin Griffiths, Andrew Bisson, Ben and Joan Gibson. *Sat Winter League 4*: 1. Rob Miller, Trevor Thrower, Bill Chadwick and Mike Gore Browne; 2. Bill Simpson, Beryl Peill, Doreen Simpson and David Banks.

Diary dates: Sat Feb 7, Saturday Winter League, Stamford. Wed Feb 18, Wednesday Winter League, Northampton. Sat Mar 14, Winter League Play-off, Stamford. Sun Mar 29, Eden Cup and Murchie Lerner. Sun Apr 12, Alastair Brodie Memorial Trophy.

Somerset

www.somersetbridge.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the *County Swiss Teams*: Richard Feetenby, Sally and Terry Stuttard, Chris Thomas.

The *Club Teams of Eight* was won by Wells BC; well done to Tony Russ, Sharleen Weir, Eric Cummings, Gillian Toogood, Sheena Ianham, Andy Ridgers, Barbara Biggin, Anne Skinner.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk



SUFFOLK Simultaneous Pairs: 1. Andre Gray – Charles Parker, Framlingham; 2. Tony McLarty – Janet Fleming, Ipswich Hospitals; 3. Helen Mason – David Mathews, Abbeygate; 4. Julie Menzies – Victor Floriean, Frinton.

Abbeygate Shield (Teams of Eight): 1. Colchester A (Eric Newman, Mike Sherer, David Morran, Julian Lang, Rick Hanley, Graham Beeton, Neil Bresler, David Cooper); 2. Stansfield (Paul Flavell, Allyn Bignell, Jackie Chester, Susan Nisbett, Cleopatra Hensby, Marcus Hopkins, Richard Evans, Celia Jeal); 3. Ipswich & Kesgrave (Malcolm and Barbara Carey, Christopher Chambers, Brian Ellul, Phillip Edwards, Anne Edwards, Barbara Barker, Maria Allnutt).

Novice Pairs: 1. Wendy Harknet – David Parish, 2. Terry Otterman – Allison Kaye, 3. Bill Bethell – David Eaton, 4. Sue Russell – Jamie Fegarty, 5. Penny Turner – Rosie Varley.

Surrey

www.surreycountybridge.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Tony Quilley – Richard Rule for winning the *Senior Pairs*, and Garrett Cooke – Julia Beaurain for winning the *Friendly Pairs*.

Sussex

www.sccba.co.uk



MANY congratulations to Margaret Collins – Julia Simpson who won the annual *SCCBA Ladies' Pairs* event. Congratulations as well to David Telfer – Michael Campbell who won the closely-fought *County Mid-week Swiss Pairs*; they finished just ahead of Ros and Geoffrey Wolfarth.

Very well done to Mike Keeping (Lewes BC) – David Benjamin (Eastbourne BC) who were runners-up in the *Swiss Pairs* at the *55th Kent Congress*.

The *Invitation Pairs* was played over eight sessions with the best six scores counting. There was a close finish this year with Shefton Kaplan – Tim Dickinson in 1st place with Andrew Southwell – Ian Lancaster 2nd and Gerry Stanford – Dave Franklin 3rd.

Congratulations to Peter and Marit Langston and Sally and James Bugden who won the *Hills Trophy* at Angmering in November.

Congratulations also to the overall winners of the *East Grinstead Basic Bridge Pairs*, David Peters – John Bushell. This event was stratified and other prize-winners were John Cobbett – Gloria Flint who were overall runners-up, and Eileen McNicol – Linda Souter who won the *Stratification Levels B+C* grouping and Chris Hook – Chris Mewes who won the *Stratification Level C* grouping.

Warwickshire

www.warwickshirebridge.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to the West Midlands Bridge Club for winning the NICKO. Paul, Justin, and Jason Hackett were joined by Brian Senior and Anita Sinclair.

Wiltshire

www.wcba.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS to Katharine Hodgson – Keith Williamson, Taf Anthias – Pat Davies, and Dave Latchem – Philip Howard for coming 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively in the recently held *Championship Pairs*.

Worcestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/worcestershire



THE Inter-Club Teams, the *Healey Cup*, was won by Pershore A (Ted Phillips, Mary Portman, Alan Boyes, Peter Kershaw) with Malvern (Geoffrey Herbert, Nigel Laville, Paul Tapster, Maurice Curtis) and Bromsgrove B (Paul Slater, Martin Gill, Conrad Knewstubb, Keith Wheatley) being joint runners-up.

Stewart Fishburne – Mike Willoughby are leaders in the *Pairs Ladder* and John Sansom – Richard Jephcott are leading the *Phillips*. Worcester Grant are leading the *Grand Prix Teams* and Worcester 2 lead in the *Inter-club Teams League*.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.co.uk/



CONGRATULATIONS to the following on their achievements in recent events:

Ryedale Pairs: 1. John and Beryl Bramall, 2. Brian and Jenny Graham, 3. Charles Burton – Eric Finkle, 4. David and Carol Hall, 5. Jane and Chris Matthews.

YCBA Stratified Pairs: 1. Peter Stocken – Philip Mason (Grade 1 winners), 2. Geoff Kenyon – Carole Kelly, 3. Terry Jacobs – David John Narcross, 4. David and Carol Hall (Grade 2 winners), 5. Mike and Annette Jackson. The winners of Grade 3 were Jason Levesley – Rachel O'Brien.

In Memoriam

RAY DAWSON (Berks & Bucks). Reading BC suffered a significant loss recently with the death at the age of 93 of Ray Dawson. Ray was one of the longest standing members of the club, captain of one of the teams of eight in the County League, Secretary for a considerable number of years and President from 2002 to 2006. Ray and his wife Maureen were regular attenders at the club and at Berks & Bucks county events, until prevented by his ill-health over the past year or so. Their successes stretched from the County Fitch in 1978 to the Club Mixed Pairs in 2008 and 2010 (having first won it in 1976).

DEREK GRIFFITHS (Cornwall) played at Truro for many years, represented Cornwall and was prominent in county competitions. He was very well liked and had a wicked sense of humour. He had been a successful businessman and a Bishop of the Mormon Church. He and his wife Kitty moved to Spain for three years, returning to live in Newquay. After a short spell in Wiltshire they returned to Newquay, where Derek played once a month, until his death.

LYNNE HEATH (Dorset). Lynne had represented Surrey for thirty-one years before moving to Dorset where she represented Dorset for six years. Her recent illness has deprived us of another Grand Master, falling only a couple of Greens short. She represented Great Britain in the Common Market Pairs in 1984 and England against Ireland in 2003. Lynne often featured in congresses, winning many prizes. With Ron, her husband, she won the 2014 Dorset County Pairs Championship. Lynne was a frequent player at Christchurch Bridge Club where she will be sadly missed.

LADY TELFORD (Essex). ECBA is sorry to hear of the death of Lady Telford. Betty was a member of ECBA for over fifty years and played at many bridge clubs during her life. She also represented Essex in county matches. Betty served on the ECBA committee (as co-opted member) for over twenty years and was presented with the Friend of Essex award.

LILY COX (Norfolk), a popular veteran Norfolk bridge player, died in hospital in December three months after suffering a stroke. Lily, who was well over 80, was a former President of the Norfolk & Norwich BC, and Chairman of Wensum and President of Noverre bridge clubs at the time of her death.

Her friends were keen to pay tribute. Wensum BC President Phyllis Spratt said that she had been popular throughout the bridge community – and had played four times a week until recently: ‘Lily was much loved and will be sadly missed.’ David Ellis recalled how she met friends for coffee every morning at Jarrolds department store: ‘She was a lively outgoing person who loved life,’ he said.

BELLE BOAST (North East) played regularly at several clubs in the Newcastle area for over fifty years. She will be fondly remembered by everyone for her gentle manner, good humour and courteous behaviour at the bridge table. Belle loved parties, people and life. When she was with Gwen Stafford at congresses, everyone knew their door was always open to pop in and have a drink, and many of us will always remember the good times we all enjoyed in Belle’s company.

STEVE O’KELL (Northants). Northamptonshire CBA is sad to report the sudden death of Steve O’Kell, who was a regular player at Orton, Peterborough and Stamford bridge clubs, and at county events.

MERRITA DICKINSON played at four clubs in Surrey and Middlesex. The remarkable thing about her was how she continued to enjoy her bridge and play successfully right up to her final weeks as she battled against cancer.

Merrita took up bridge at the age of 54, joining a beginners’ course in September 2006; she completed the improvers’ Bridge for All course two years later. Had Merrita lived longer or started to learn earlier, she could have played bridge to a much higher level. In her short bridge career she won several trophies but, much more importantly for her, she made many friends.

HYLDA TOWNSEND (Warwickshire) and **TED BOND** (Yorkshire): see obituaries on page 36 and 52 respectively.