

Congratulations to

Kate Mullaney & Denise Hodd who topped the Leader Board in January with 70.08% on Monday 29th January. In second place was Richard Dewe and his partner with 69.64% on Wednesday 17th January and in third place were Bruce Carrison & Liz Bornecrantz with 68.57% also on Wednesday 17th January. Well done everyone.

Editor's Achievers' Award this month goes to Jane Kemp who was 3rd on Thursday 11th January with 59.79%. She was ably assisted by her partner, Bill Pender. Very well done Jane, keep up the improvement.

Dates for Your Diary

Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs at Bexhill Bridge Club

Sunday 11th February 2018

Sussex County Spring Congress at Uckfield

27th, 28th and 29th April

Entry forms for both available at the club

Club Directors

Anthony Andrews: Barbara Herold: Patrick Hutley:

Hilary Levett and Alan Miley

Enjoy your bridge whenever and wherever you play

©K J Latty

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East Sussex Bridge Club

Affiliated to the English Bridge Union

Newsletter

Volume 20 No. 2

February 2018



End of Year Winners' Gallery



Bruce Carrison

**Winner of the Yearly
Averages for all sessions
during 2017**

John Revell and Mike Wood

**Winners of the Yearly
Averages for Monday
afternoons during 2017**



Di Saunders

**Winner of the Improver's
Trophy for 2017 with an
improvement of 5.49%
from her 2016 average**



Stratification Upgrades for February

The players below all have NGS rankings of honour cards at the end of January and will therefore be upgraded to "A" status for the month of February in addition to those players who have a life-time ranking which puts them into the A grade.

Paul Williams	John Clark	Pat Collings
Alan Townson	Lynne Bayes	Rod Bayes
Mike Wood	Richard Dewe	Norman Taylor
	John Revell	Tony Dwiar
Kate Mullaney		Brian Bestley

There is now an additional print-out of pairs who achieved 70%+ during 2017, available at the club and also on line. Also available at the Club rooms by request, a print-out of all members' masterpoint promotions during 2017 and a current list of everyone's NGS ranking.

Membership Subs

Subs were due 1st January 2018. The good news is the price is unchanged, still at £15.00. Payment may be made by cash, cheque or bank transfer to Sort Code 07-01-16, Account Number 22682575. There are still a few renewals outstanding and I will endeavour to remind those of you personally. I also have a payment by bank transfer with no name. It is a Nationwide sort code and account number XXXX5834. Please let me know if it is yours otherwise I will not be able to give you your certificate.

Get well wishes to Gary Manley who is in the Sussex County Hospital with severe injuries following an accident at home. I am keeping in contact with his wife and will keep you all updated.

February's Interesting Hand

♠ Void
♥ 8
♦ AQT98543
♣ KQT9

♠ J98542	♠ AKQ7
♥ QJ732	♥ 954
♦ 6	♦ Void
♣ 4	♣ 76532

♠ T3
♥ AKT6
♦ KJ72
♣ AJ8

This amazing hand came up on Thursday 25th January. North is dealer. The contract of 7♦ cannot be beaten. However, how to bid it? Changes to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge mean that North cannot open with 2♣ (Acol) or 2♦ (Benji) as the hand does not meet the new criteria of "Strong", i.e. Minimum of 16 + High card points or a hand with 12 HCP and at least 5 controls (Ace = 2 controls and King = 1 control)

As far as I can see the choices are only 1♦ or 4♦ neither of which I am happy with, so I will try and get some advice from the EBU and give you a definitive answer.

6

Master Point Promotions

December	1 Star Tournament Master	John Clark
	County Master	Hilary Levett
	Club Master	Di Saunders
	Local Master	Ken Johnson
January	Advanced Master	Brian Bestley
	Master	Bill Edghill
	Local Master	Marion Nicholls

County Competitions for the less experienced.

Following on from last month's rant and rave by yours truly about the latest Minutes of Sussex County Management Committee who apparently misunderstood my email and thought I was suggesting new competitions rather than replacement ones..... Anyway, the Secretary has suggested that we hold our own!! If it is successful the County will "consider" adding it to their list of competitions in the future. I have therefore made arrangements to liaise with Eddie Williams from St. Leonards when he is back in the country to see what we can achieve together so watch this space.