

Congratulations to

John Revell and Mike Wood who topped the Leader Board in December with a whopping 70.77% on Monday 17th December. In second place were Bruce Carrison and Rosamond Palmer with 66.04% on Thursday 6th December and in third place were Tony Dwiar and Vi Boniface with 65.03% on Monday 3rd December. The Wednesday players are lagging behind still.

Congratulations to Gary Young and Bruce Carrison who won the Funny Bridge at the Christmas party. In second place were Jane Sage and Frances Wood. Well done.

Editor's Achievers' Awards this month go to Linda and David Farrell who got their personal best of 54.40% and were 3rd on Monday 10th December. Well done you two, a lovely result.

Date for your Diary

Please note there is NO BRIDGE on Thursday 10th January as there is a local Bye-Election and the Tennis Club becomes a Polling Station. All you Thursday afternoon players, why not come along to our Wednesday evening session on 9th January instead?

Club Directors

*Anthony Andrews: Barbara Herold: Patrick Hutley:
and Hilary Levett*

Enjoy your bridge whenever and wherever you play

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Newsletter

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*A very Happy New Year to all our Members
May all your slams be "Big" ones and all your
finesses work*

We had great fun at the Christmas Party on 19th December with a full house of 10 tables. My thanks to the following for their help with the catering: Annabelle Riseborough, Anne Topp, Carol Morrison, Dawn Applegate, Di Saunders, Frances Wood, Gary Young, Helen French, Hilary Rhodes, Linda Farrell, Liz Bornecrantz, Rosamond Palmer, Val Hart and Vickie Penfold. The food was amazing and plentiful. There was not a lot left over but I did manage to salvage a few bits for the badgers and foxes I feed on a nightly basis and the left-over cakes were efficiently despatched by the Thursday afternoon players. The quiz challenged most of you with the highest score being only 15 out of 20. The quiz mistress was tough this year and would not accept alternative answers. The fun bridge really was fun but frustrating. The 2♣ in each hand was replaced by a Joker and became a second Ace of Trumps if the final contract was a trump contract but if the final contract was in NoTrumps then the Joker became a second Ace of Spades; in both instances the Joker

ranked higher than the real card. I think most people had difficulty in remembering there were 14 trumps in a trump contract, I know my partner and I did and were surprised on more than one occasion to find a lurking trump with an opponent when we thought we had drawn them all!!

I will now have to put my thinking cap on to find something even more devious for next year. Suggestions always welcome.

The Supervised Play sessions on Friday afternoons will continue throughout January, dates being 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th at the Tennis Club, start time 1.30 pm finishing round about 3.30 pm. My thanks to Tony Dwiar has joined us as another "Expert". If there is anyone else out there who feels able to come along to mentor please let me know.

Stratification Upgrades for January

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

<i>Paul Williams</i>	<i>Mike Wood</i>	<i>John Revell</i>
<i>Richard Dewe</i>		<i>John Clark</i>
<i>Lynne Bayes</i>	<i>Rod Bayes</i>	<i>Alan Townson</i>
	<i>Christine Williams</i>	<i>Tony Dwiar</i>

Congratulations to Paul Williams who has been promoted to the dizzy heights of an NGS ranking of Ace of Clubs. Wow!!! Well done Paul.

Thank you all so very much for your most unexpected card and garden centre gift vouchers presented at the Christmas Party. I already have my sights set on an unusual white maple, a

variegated dwarf standard willow and a dwarf magnolia to go into 3 large ceramic containers. I will be spending the best part of a free day at the Garden Centre in Appledore that has the most extensive range of plants outside of Wisley that I know of.

Master Point Promotions for November

**Tournament Master
Master**

**Marilyn Rutherford
Rosamond Palmer
John Revell**

Area Master

**Margaret Crisp
Kenneth Johnson**

Unfortunately it's that time of year again when subscriptions are due. However, price remains at £15.00. Please renew with Barbara either by cash or cheque or bank transfer to Nationwide Building Society, sort code 07-01-16: account number 22682575.

January's "Defying all the odds" Hand

	♠ K10	
	♥ AK104	
	♦ Q8532	
	♣ 98	
♠ 864		♠ Q9532
♥ 762		♥ 3
♦ K		♦ 10764
♣ KQJ743		♣ 1052
	♠ AJ7	
	♥ QJ985	
	♦ AJ9	
	♣ A6	

The genie residing in the Duplimating machine lives on.....I was intrigued to see that according to the print-out a Grand Slam in No Trumps, hearts or diamonds was a makeable contract. I checked the results on this particular board and sure enough although nobody had bid a Grand Slam, two pairs had indeed made all thirteen tricks. I wish I could be that lucky at the bridge table.