

*Congratulations to Top of the leader board this month were John Mawbey and Patrick Hutley with 71.60% on Monday 20th June, they were very closely followed by Muriel Parr and Norman Taylor who were in second place with 71.06% on Thursday 30th June. Third place went to Brian Gould and his partner with 67.26% on Wednesday 15th June. Well done everyone.*

*Editor's Achievers of the Month awards this month go to Marjory Coombes and June Sharp who were top with 60.67% on Monday 27th June. Very well done girls, I believe a personal best for both of you.*

*Date for your Diary*

**Friday 19th August**

**Masterclass in Benji Acol**

**(Weak twos)**

**Cooden Beach Sports & Social Club**

**Club Directors:**

Barbara Herold, Patrick Hutley, Hilary Levett and Alan Miley,

*Enjoy your bridge*

*whenever and wherever you play*

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**East Sussex Bridge Club**

**Affiliated to the English Bridge Union**

**Newsletter**

**Volume 18 No. 7**

**July 2016**

*We have a local celebrity in our midst.*

*Gary Young was runner-up in the Teachers' WORLD Final of "Maths in Motion", a competition sponsored by Jaguar, Silverstone and Toshiba, and his school team (Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys) were also runners-up in the Schools WORLD Final. The competition involved using maths to set-up cars and successful race strategies for a series of Grand Prix races. I am very seriously impressed.*

### **EBU Masterpoint Promotions**

**For the first time since Universal Membership there were no Masterpoint promotions within the club for the month of June.**

The Easy Duplicate sessions for players who are not yet confident enough to come to the mainstream club sessions are in full swing and we continue to attract four to five tables on Wednesday afternoons at Cooden. If any of you have the time to come along to play with and help an Improver they and I would be most appreciative. There is no charge for volunteers. If you would like more details please have a word with Barbara.

The Masterclass on Benji Acol (Weak Twos) will be held on Friday 19th August at our Cooden venue. This is a one-off class and will start at 1.30 pm and should finish about 3.30 pm. There will be comprehensive notes and hands to play to demonstrate the bidding as well as help with defending the system. Cost will be £7.00 per person. Please have a word with Barbara if you would like to come along. No partner necessary.

## Answer to June's Puzzle

♠ T54 ♥ Q9432 ♦ 873 ♣ 95	♠ K7 ♥ 5 ♦ KQ962 ♣ AKJ74	♠ J983 ♥ 876 ♦ JT ♣ Q832
	♠ AQ62 ♥ AKJ10 ♦ A54 ♣ 106	Dealer South    Lead 5♠

A small slam and a Grand Slam are available with these hands, in different denominations. How would you bid to reach one of them using Standard Acol? Would you be able to make your chosen contract?

7♦ or 6NT are both makeable here, the latter could make an extra trick as East will be squeezed and cannot protect both his J♠ and Q♣, but declarer will have to watch the discards and maintain entries to both hands to achieve this. 6NT is by far the safer contract rather than 7NT. Playing Standard Acol 7♦ will be very difficult to find without a huge leap of faith, so I would think the majority of players to find 6NT. To bid less would be rather timid with 34 points between North/South.

The bidding will probably go something like

1♥	P	2♦	P
3NT **	P	4♣	P
4NT	P	5♣	P
5♥	P	6NT	** 17 - 19 HCP

4♣ Gerber

### Marie Barnett - RIP 22nd June

**Funeral to be held at the Eastbourne Crematorium on Friday 8th July at 12.30 pm and afterwards at the Hydro Hotel.**

**A charming, delightful, always elegant lady whom we shall all miss.**

## Interesting Hand for July

♠ 5 ♥ 8762 ♦ T8764 ♣ 752	♠ AKQ84 ♥ AKT ♦ A92 ♣ A3	♠ T732 ♥ 543 ♦ J3 ♣ JT6
	♠ J96 ♥ QJ9 ♦ KQ5 ♣ K984	

This hand came up recently and I was playing North. Having checked my hand THREE times I was going to open 2♦ (Benji Acol, strong, game forcing) but to my amazement my partner opened with 1NT!!! (12 - 14). Having checked my partner held the two Kings I did not I settled in 7NT as did two other pairs. Two pairs played in 6NT making all thirteen tricks, one pair made only 12 tricks and one pair played in 6♠ making 12 tricks. I thought it worth publishing this hand as with a known minimum of 36 points North/South, and discovering no missing Aces or Kings AND a five card spade suit, it must be worth trying for a Grand Slam if only for the excitement value.

### Stratification Upgrades For June

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

Paul Williams	Richard Dewe	Gary Young
John Mawbey	Mike Wood	John Revell
Lynne Bayes	Rod Bayes	Norman Taylor
John Clark	Christine Bond	Karen Sloan
Matt Davis	Claire Weston	