



THE PENYLAN CLUB

Penylan Bowling & Cardiff Bridge Club
Marlborough Road, Roath, Cardiff CF23 5BU
Telephone: 029 2049 1865



Secretary/Acting Chairman's Report for the Cardiff Bridge Club 50th AGM

Tuesday 21st January 2025

Welcome to you all and thank you for attending this years' AGM.

The year of our 50th Anniversary was sadly affected by the tragic and untimely death of our Chairman, Glyn Meredith, on the 2nd July. He was growing into the job and had been bringing fresh ideas to the table. In his honour we held our Chairman's Charity in his name. As a result of this and donations raised by his children, we were able to send £2005 to Velindre Cancer Centre.

As a contrast one of our Members, Edith Wade, has just celebrated her 100th birthday. Congratulations from us all.

2024 started with the Xmas Party and Individual Event and was quickly followed by the second Hirst Kurbalija Swiss Teams, which was again both enjoyable and successful. Thereafter, we were able to hold all our Annual Special Events. You will see details of the winners later.

We have also been able to hold all our regular Sessions both in the Club and online. However, Sarah's pleas for more TDs went unheeded, so we owe a great deal to her, Ian Evans, Angela Gilbert, and Brian Quinlan and to Julia for the cakes. We could not have managed without them all and especially Angela

It would be nice if people tried other sessions. You will find that Wednesday evenings in the Club and Thursday afternoons are very friendly. Also give the Pro-Am Teams a go.

We can be very proud of our varied Teaching programme. It must be the best in Wales with both Begin and Continuing Bridge Courses and Supported Play Sessions. We owe a great deal to Simon Gotschalk, Stephen Lindsay, Jon Jones and their band of helpers.

We are also very grateful to James Brindle, Joe Bently, Sophie Akers, Sarah King, Sooz Nesom and James Williams for all the work they do with the Juniors, starting with the Cardiff University's Freshers Fair. Thanks to their efforts I understand that there is now a Bridge Society for the first time. One of the benefits of this is that there will be no need to pay for a stand at future Fairs.

The Social Committee comprising Veronica Burrows, Jane Buttrick and Teresa Goss have had a particularly busy year with a number of events in relatively close proximity. These included the Chairman's Charity, our 50th Anniversary celebrations and the Geoff Evans Quiz. They worked tirelessly to help make sure they were all successful. I am extremely grateful to them and also to David Buttrick and Simon Lee for their help too. If any of you are prepared to become part of your Social Committee to help share the workload that would be much appreciated.

The Quiz was enjoyable and successful once again with the Hall full to capacity. I am pleased to say that Anna and Kevin have agreed to run it again this year on the 5th December 2025. Thank you both and your helpers very much indeed.

Thanks, are also due to the many of you have been called upon to provide food and raffle prizes for various events. You have not let us down.

A major situation occurred earlier in the year when due to proposed Legislation Spade Tickets had to close down. This caused a lot of extra work not least for several people, including our Bookkeeper, Carole Hibbs. Simon Gottschalk has come to our rescue and over a period of time has developed Club Tickets, which is now fully operational and which I would entreat you all to use. You can view your Masterpoints and Handicaps amongst many other things. Simon is still looking at ways to expand it. I cannot imagine how many hours, days and weeks he has spent on this. We are in his debt. I must also take this opportunity of thanking Brian Quinlan for the considerable amount of work he did in developing Spade Tickets and in maintaining it over several years. He has also helped considerably with the handover, so as to speak.

There are also a number of other people who have gone above and beyond for the Club. I do not like singling people out but I must make specific mention of Liz Atkinson. Aside from being our Club Captain, she deals and delivers our pre-dealt hands every week, makes sure our Office requirements are up to date and there is sufficient coffee, organises the Winter League and is one of our Reps on the EWBA Committee.

I am also extremely grateful to David Buttrick for running an excellent website, preparing our Posters and handouts, helping when necessary and together with Jane ensuring on a weekly basis that we do not run out of refreshments.

Unfortunately, David Smith had to resign from the Committee and as one of our PMC Reps for personal reasons. It is a shame as he contributed a lot.

This leaves my final thanks, which goes go to the remaining Committee members. They meet monthly and as necessary and take on other tasks. The care they have for the Club is demonstrated by the fact that they have all agreed to stand again this year.

I have decided to stand for the vacant post of Chairman this year. I will in all probability carry on with most of the Secretarial duties, although it would be appreciated if someone could take the Minutes. I intend to stay as the PMC Secretary.

I complete my comments in this Report by urging you to attend the Penylan Club AGM on Tuesday the 25th February, before Bridge. There has been no increase in Membership Fees for many years, so it will not surprise you to learn that there will be a proposal regarding them this year. All Section and Social Members will be affected. In our case, the initial payment would become £30 (plus the WBU Sub as usual) and table money aside from Supported Play £4 (£5 for Visitors), still a very cheap afternoon or evening out.

At this point, I would like to offer congratulations to Members, who have won a broad array of competitions or who represented Wales in International Competitions

Cardiff Bridge Club – Roll of Honour 2024- External competitions

WELSH REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS (Selection)

Camrose (Home International)

Mia Deschepper and Ceri Pierce (NPC)

Lady Milne Trophy (Ladies Home International)

Gilly Clench, Mia Deschepper and Ceri Pierce and Maggie Pierce (NPC)

Teltscher Trophy (Seniors Home International)

Diane Kurbalija

Junior Camrose (Junior Home International)

Sophie Akers, Joseph Bentley, James Brindle, Emilia Cadden and Milan Malecki and Sooz Nesom (NPC)

WBU CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

Champions of Champions

Gwynn Davis and David Smith

National Teams

Tim Barsby, Glyn Meredith, Steve Webb and Jennifer Wardell

Mixed Pairs

Mike Best

EAST WALES REPRESENTATIVE – WINNERS

Spicketts Bowl (WBU Inter-Area Teams)

Winners East Wales; the team included 4 Cardiff Members: Sophie Cunningham, Mia Deschepper, Helen Houston and Ceri Pierce

EAST WALES CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS – WINNERS

East Wales Congress – Teams

Mia Deschepper and Richard Plackett

Arthur James Pairs

Simon Gottschalk and Chris Rochelle

Beatus Cup

Darren Bellamy and Janet Cunnington

Stan Berger Pairs

Gwynn Davis and Sue Ingham

Patrick Jourdain Teams

James Brindle, Gwynn Davis and Sue Ingham

Mixed Pairs

Adrian and Mel Thomas

Cardiff Bridge Club- Roll of Honour 2024 –Internal Competitions

Hirst Kurbalija Swiss Teams

Paul and Sophie Cunningham, Gwynn Davis and Sue Ingham

Sadie Valdemar Pro-Am Teams

Joseph Bentley, James Brindle, Veronica Burrows and Martin Joseph

Club Championship Pairs

Simon Gottschalk and Chris Rochelle

Club Championship Teams

David Birt, Gilly Clench, Simon Richards and Viking Yuen

Club Championship Mixed Pairs

Liz Atkinson and Chris Rochelle

Handicap Pairs

Joseph Bentley and James Brindle

Individual

Simon Lee

Italo Basiletti Men's Pairs

Gwynn Davis and David Smith

Italo Basiletti Ladies' Pairs

Mia Deschepper and Ceri Pierce

50th Anniversary Handicap Swiss Teams

David Birt, Gilly Clench, Simon Gottschalk and Sonia Griffiths

Winter League

Maggie Pierce, David McAndrew, Ceri Pierce, Viking Yuen and Fu Cheung

Forgive me if I have omitted anyone.

In addition to those people I have already mentioned, I think it is important for you to know which of our Members are doing what. Here goes:

Club captain

Liz Atkinson

Finance Officer

Ray Kemp

Membership Secretary	Ray Kemp
Club Tickets	Simon Gottschalk
Chief Tournament Director	Sarah Amos
Tournament directors	Sarah Amos, Ian Evans, Angela Gilbert and Simon Gottschalk and online Brian Quinlan.
Assistant TDs	Aileen Ashmore
Teachers	Simon Gottschalk, Stephen Lindsay and Jon Jones.
Masterpoints Secretary	Arthur Matheson
Handicaps Secretary	Angela Gilbert
Webmaster	David Buttrick
Pre-dealt hands Dealer	Liz Atkinson
Purchasing Officer (Refreshments)	David & Jane Buttrick
Purchasing Officer (other consumables)	Liz Atkinson
Special Events Officer	Angela Gilbert
Winter League	Liz Atkinson
Social Committee	Veronica Burrows, Jane Buttrick and Teresa Goss.
Get well and Condolence Cards Officer	Teresa Goss
Appeals Panel	Sarah Amos
ECATS Contact	Sarah Amos
Email contact though website	Ray Kemp
Technical Support	Simon Gottschalk

We are a Members' Club, so just like the Co-op we own the place! This does not oblige you to do anything other than play but you can still play a small part by arriving early, putting up tables, putting out bidding boxes, helping set up the kitchen, returning your cups, and tidying up afterwards etc. Aside from these, I would finish by repeating the plea every year for more Committee and Social Committee Members and TDs and in addition a Minutes Secretary and a PMC Rep.

Thanks again for your ongoing support. Here's to a successful 2025 for us all.

Martin Joseph
19.01.25

AFFILIATIONS

Welsh Bowling Association • County of South Glamorgan Bowling Association • Welsh Private Greens Bowling Association (Eastern Section)
Welsh Women's Bowling Association • Glamorgan County Women's Bowling Association
Welsh Bridge Union • East Wales Bridge Association