

**The 2023 Camrose Trophy  
(Weekend 1)**

**hosted by**

**The Northern Ireland Bridge Union**



**La Mon Hotel & Country Club  
Castlereagh, Belfast  
6 – 8 January 2023**

# The Camrose Trophy

## A Brief History



The Home Bridge Internationals for England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (then called the Irish Free State) was launched in 1937. Lord Camrose, at that time proprietor of the Daily Telegraph, donated the trophy in 1938. The original trophy has been lost but a replacement is competed for annually.

The 1939 series was not completed due to war. The Camrose re-started in 1946. The 2022 series was the 79<sup>th</sup>. The 1939 series was incomplete and is excluded from records which makes the Camrose the most-played international bridge series in the world. The European Championships which began in 1932 has recently only been played in alternate years.

The South of Ireland dropped out in 1951 but re-joined as the Republic of Ireland in December 1998. The format from then until 2005 was head-to-head matches played over five weekends, with a different country sitting out each weekend, as in the former Five Nations Rugby. Each weekend was divided into three stanzas of 30 boards victory-pointed separately.

From January 2005 the format was changed to match the Lady Milne but over two weekends. All five countries met at the same venue playing a full round robin each weekend with two matches in play at a time and one country sitting out each stanza. The Republic of Ireland won the first match under the new format in 2005.

The sit-out combined with six-player teams meant some players sat out half the weekend. This led to calls for a sixth team to be added and this was implemented for the first time in January 2007. The sixth team was called "The Holders" which meant the Federation winning in 2006 fielded two teams in 2007. The holders (by chance, the same six players who represented Republic of Ireland throughout 2006) won again for the Republic of Ireland. Hence, the Republic of Ireland again fielded two teams in 2008. This time the trophy went to England who thereby would have two teams in 2009, when by chance England was host for the second weekend.

The idea for the sixth team was changed to be "the host for the second weekend fields two teams on both weekends". One team is called by the name of the country and the other by the name of the Federation (e.g. England and EBU, Ireland and CBAI etc)

The Victors over 79 years are as follows:

- England, 56 times with 2 wins for the EBU in 2009 and 2019
- Scotland 12 times with most recent win in 1998
- England and Scotland have drawn three times in 1961, 1972 and 1973
- The Republic of Ireland, 7 times with most recent win in 2017
- Wales once in 2011
- Northern Ireland has yet to win the trophy.

# 2023 Camrose Trophy

The Northern Ireland Bridge Union extends a very warm welcome to all the teams participating in The Camrose Trophy, Weekend 1.

## Officials

Match Manager	Helen Hall
Assistant Match Manager	Anne Hassan
Director in Charge	Fearghal O'Boyle
Assistant Director	Alan Hill

## RealBridge Broadcasting Team

Liz Scott (Organiser), Ken Hammond, Heather Hill, Joan Baird, Sandie Millership, Anne Fitzpatrick, Dermot O'Brien and Paul Porteus.

## Refreshments

Refreshments for players and officials will be served in the Milford Suite at the following times:

Friday	17:30 Buffet Meal
Saturday	14:30 Light Lunch
	20:30 Dinner
Sunday	14:30 Light Lunch
	20:00 Reception and Dinner

## 2023 CAMROSE TROPHY MATCH SCHEDULE

FRIDAY		TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3
<b>Friday</b>	17.30	<b>Buffet Meal</b>		
<b>Match 1A</b>	19.00–21.10	Wales v N Ireland	CBAI v Ireland	England v Scotland
<b>Match 1B</b>	21.25–23.35	Wales v N Ireland	CBAI v Ireland	England v Scotland
<b>SATURDAY</b>				
<b>Match 2A</b>	10.00–12.10	Scotland v CBAI	England v Wales	N Ireland v Ireland
<b>Match 2B</b>	12.25–14.35	Scotland v CBAI	England v Wales	N Ireland v Ireland
		<b>Lunch</b>		
<b>Match 3A</b>	15.20–17.30	Ireland v Scotland	N Ireland v England	CBAI v Wales
<b>Match 3B</b>	17.45–19.55	Ireland v Scotland	N Ireland v England	CBAI v Wales
	20.30	<b>Dinner</b>		
<b>SUNDAY</b>				
<b>Match 4A</b>	10.00–12.10	England v CBAI	Scotland v N Ireland	Ireland v Wales
<b>Match 4B</b>	12.25–14.35	England v CBAI	Scotland v N Ireland	Ireland v Wales
		<b>Lunch</b>		
<b>Match 5A</b>	15.20–17.30	Northern Ireland v CBAI	Ireland v England	Wales v Scotland
<b>Match 5B</b>	17.45–19.55	Northern Ireland v CBAI	Ireland v England	Wales v Scotland
	20.30	<b>Reception &amp; Dinner</b>		

The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room throughout the match.

In the first stanza, the Captain of the second-named team nominates his pairs first; in the second stanza the first-named Captain nominates first.

## **THE CAMROSE TROPHY**

### **Format**

The Camrose Trophy comprises six teams, the sixth team being fielded, in rotation, by the country hosting the final weekend. In 2023 Ireland fields two teams, one as "Ireland" the other as "CBAI".

Five head-to-head matches of 32 boards in 16-board stanzas, the 2 teams from Ireland playing against each other in the first match.

Teams consist of a maximum of 6 players. The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room throughout the match.

Seating rights alternate between the two teams. In the first stanza the Captain of the second-named team nominates his/her pairs first; in the second stanza the first-named Captain nominates first.

### **Public Presentation**

In any one session, 3 matches are in progress. The play in each match is broadcast with a 30 min delay on the internet via RealBridge. 'Live' viewing for Team Captains and spectators is available in the Broadcasting Room. Entry to the Closed Room is prohibited.

### **Smoking and Alcohol**

Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere in the hotel. In addition the consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing areas.

### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile phones and electronic devices capable of communication must be switched off in the playing area and be visible at the table at all times. Any player leaving the playing table prior to completion of the session must leave his mobile phone and electronic devices at the table. Spectators in the Vugraph theatre are requested to ensure that mobile phones are switched off.

## **Regulations for Open Room Spectators**

You may watch the players live in the Open Room provided you observe the following rules:

- A spectator may not enter the Open Room while play is in progress. This also applies even if a match has started before the advertised starting time.
- If a spectator leaves the Open Room while play is in progress, he may not return until the play session (i.e. the match) has been completed.
- During play in the Open Room spectators must refrain from mannerisms or remarks and must not converse with a player or display any reaction to bidding or play.
- Spectators are permitted to observe the cards of one player only.
- A spectator should be seated behind a single player and may not get up to walk round the table or seek to look at the cards of any other player.
- Spectators are not permitted to sit where they can see the screen of the BBO operator covering the internet match.
- Spectators may not draw attention to any irregularity or mistake nor speak on any question except by request of the Director.
- The Director in Charge and/or the Match Manager is empowered to control the presence of spectators, individually or collectively.
- Under no circumstances may a member of the audience enter the Closed Room.



## Northern Ireland

*Ian Hamilton & Ian Lindsay  
Diane & David Greenwood;  
Michael Coffey & Fergal O'Shea  
NPC Michael McFaul*

### Ian Hamilton and Ian Lindsay



**Ian Hamilton** is a retired GP and Occupational Physician living in Belfast. As well as bridge he enjoys cricket being Fixture Secretary for his club and a League Secretary in the Northern Cricket Union. He has watched England home and away in all Test countries, bar Bangladesh and Zimbabwe. He is responsible for running the NIBU Simultaneous Pairs competitions and has other NIBU duties. Ian has played with several partners in both the Teltscher and Camrose over 25 years. This is his 3<sup>rd</sup> Camrose partnering Ian Lindsay.



**Ian Lindsay** has represented the Northern Ireland with six different partners. He is a retired chartered accountant who now acts as Treasurer for six charities connected with music, the visual arts, health and the disabled. Ian is a past Secretary, Chairman, Selector, and Congress Organiser of the NIBU, a past President of the Irish Bridge Union and the examining accountant of BGB.

### Diane & David Greenwood



**Diane** has played in many Lady Milnes and has previously played in the Camrose with both her husband David and the late Martin Devlin. She has represented Ireland in six Europeans and also World Championships. As a bridge instructor she has travelled on cruises to Antarctica and The Falklands, sailed down the Amazon, among many other places. As well as bridge and animals, the other main love in her life is gardening, having undertaken a horticultural diploma and now grows her own plants and vegetables and does voluntary work at Antrim Castle Gardens. Her group there was recently awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.



**David** is a retired Financial Adviser. He has represented Ireland on many occasions and has already played in 5 Camrose matches with his wife Diane. His partnership with Rex Anderson has been the bedrock of the Northern Ireland Camrose team for many years. He is the only member of the team to have won the Camrose (albeit playing for England at the time!)

## Michael Coffey & Fergal O'Shea



**Michael** recently retired from AIB Group after 47 years' service where he spent most of his career in IT. A native of Kenmare County Kerry he studied at Trinity College Dublin and also has a Master's Degree from University of Ulster. He moved to Northern Ireland in the late 1970's where he became interested in the game of Bridge thanks to a former bank colleague Aiden Fitzgerald (RIP). He claims to be the only "Kerryman" to represent Northern Ireland in the Camrose, (or any other sport) which he has done on numerous occasions primarily with John Lavery (The Bishop) and more recently with Fergal O'Shea from Co Cork. Michael is also a keen Golfer and is a member of Belvoir Park Golf Club Belfast. He has a keen interest in all sports, Gaelic Football and Rugby to mention a few.



**Fergal** is currently working as a Tech Lead with a company in Belfast. He is a relative newcomer to the team, with this weekend being his third Camrose cap. His time outside work is usually fully occupied by a family, including 2 teenagers, a dog and a cat. In addition to bridge, he also enjoys football, rugby, GAA and anything to do with 20th century history.

## Michael McFaul NPC



**Michael** has been Secretary of the Northern Ireland Bridge Union since 2013. He has been writing (mostly humorous) articles and anecdotes for the Irish Bridge press since the late 1970s. Michael has been NPC to the Camrose and Teltscher teams on numerous occasions as well as playing in both events. His proudest moment was playing on the team that beat England 18-2 in the 2014 Commonwealth Games ....





## Ireland

*Mark Moran & John Carroll*  
*Tom Hanlon & Conor Boland*  
*Adam Mesbur & Tommy Garvey*  
*NPC Gráinne Barton*

### Mark Moran & John Carroll



**Mark**, originally from Offaly, represented Ireland at junior level, but for a long period after that bridge took something of a back seat to a very successful business career. On returning to the game more seriously, it didn't take him long to re-establish himself, being part of the 2005 Camrose winning team in partnership with Peter Pigot. Playing initially with Rory Boland and more recently with John Carroll, he has been a regular on the Irish panel since 2013, and has been part of many successful teams, winning the Camrose in 2015 and 2017, as well as the Gold Cup in 2020. He has also been non-playing captain of several Irish teams, including the first Irish team to win the Camrose in 2000.



**John** is an executive in the software industry, based in Dublin, and is part of an Irish bridge dynasty, with both his mother and his wife having represented us internationally. He has been a member of the Irish team for the best part of two decades, and was part of the European silver medal winning team in 2006, the fourth-placed team in the World Teams championships in 2012. He has won multiple Camrose and Lederer trophies, and recently added the Gold Cup to his CV. During covid, John did his bit to ensure that the dynasty continues for another generation, teaching his 2 sons to play bridge.

### Tom Hanlon & Conor Boland



**Tom**, originally from Rochfortbridge, Co Westmeath, but based in Dublin, Tom (aka "Kinder" – you can ask him where he got the nickname) has been a fixture on Irish bridge teams for three decades, moving straight from the Junior to the Open team in 1994. Now a full-time bridge professional, he plays, and wins, extensively in Europe and the USA. Aside from more than 50 national championships, Tom is a multiple winner of both the Camrose and the Lederer, and a European Team silver medallist in 2006, Tom is also a successful high-stakes poker player.

**Conor** is a former junior international who is making his senior debut and his first Camrose appearance here. He already has a home international title under his belt, however, having been a member of Ireland's (only) Peggy Bayer winning team in 2016. In partnership with Karel De Raeymaeker, he has won several national titles in the past few years. Recently graduated from Dublin City University, Conor has embarked on a career in the world of accounting and taxation.



## Adam Mesbur & Tommy Garvey



**Adam** is retired from a number of senior positions in the world of finance. Playing on this occasion with Tommy Garvey, he is best known for his long partnership with Nick FitzGibbon, which dates back to the early 70s, and established them as one of the leading pairs in Europe. Their many achievements include multiple victories in the Camrose, silver in the Junior European Teams in 1974, bronze in the European Teams in 1979, silver in the Common Market Pairs in 1980, silver in the European Teams in 2006, and a fourth-place finish in the World Teams championships in 2012.



**Tommy** As part of another Irish bridge dynasty, Tommy, with his father Donal, makes up Ireland's only father-son grandmaster pairing. He has been a member of the Irish team for the best part of two decades, and was part of the European silver medal winning team in 2006, the fourth-placed team in the World Teams championships in 2012. He has won multiple Camrose and Lederer trophies, and recently added the Gold Cup to his CV. This will be his first Camrose appearance in his new partnership with Adam Mesbur. Tommy works in investment management in London, and his young family occupies most of his non-bridge time. In case you fail to recognise him at the Camrose, he now has conspicuously less hair than in his official EBL picture.

## Gráinne Barton NPC



**Gráinne** has been the NPC of this Irish Team for the best part of ten years now, guiding them to many successes, including in the Camrose. The team are always quick to acknowledge the key role that Gráinne's organisation and motivation plays in their success. Perhaps less well known is that her playing credentials are also impeccable – she is an international medal-winner in her own right and has represented Ireland in both the Camrose and the Lady Milne.



## CBAI

*Martin Brady & David Dunne  
Paul Delaney & Tomás Roche  
Ciarán Coyne & David Walsh  
NPC Derek O'Gorman*

### Martin Brady & David Dunne



**Martin** learned his bridge at Durham and Bristol Universities in the 1990s, before the lure of an actual paying job drew him to move to Dublin in 2001. Though he's a native Englishman (with Geordie origins), he and England have grown in different directions in the last 20 years, and he now considers himself a fully assimilated Irishman - except when England are playing in the World Cup, of course. He's a long-time member of the Bankers club in Dublin and joint Secretary of the Irish Bridge Union. In his working life, he is a university lecturer in Latin language, literature, and culture, and is currently Head of the School of Classics at University College Dublin.



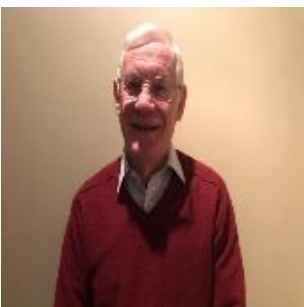
**David** is a recently retired accountant living in Dublin with his wife Sheila, whom he met playing bridge. He has had two significant bridge playing phases, one in the late-1980's to mid-1990's and then recommenced in early 2012 and has been very active since. David has achieved a number of wins and high placings in Irish major competitions over the last number of years. His interests include listening to music, travelling and generally getting plenty of exercise. David is a FIDE chess master and former Irish chess champion, representing Ireland on numerous occasions many years ago. This is

David's first time to play in the Camrose.

### Paul Delaney & Tomás Roche



**Paul** is a former Irish Chess Champion who graduated to bridge. This is Paul's first Camrose appearance. He is a two-time winner of the Irish National Pairs Championship (Davidson Cup) and several National Teams championships. Paul is a Life Master and was NPC/Coach to the Irish Lady Milne Team in 2004 when they finished second. Now retired after a busy career in Finance/IT Paul has recently taken on a role as a bridge coach.



**Tomás** began playing bridge during his university years and was soon selected to play for Ireland at junior level. He went on to represent Ireland on several occasions at European/EU Team championships (winning a silver medal in Montechoro, Portugal, in 1993) and in Camrose events. His proudest moment amongst his many victories in CBAI and IBU titles was winning the national Mixed Pairs (Spiro Cup) in partnership with his wife Mary in 1995. Tomás has also taken part in the administration of the game, serving on a variety of CBAI committees and as Joint Secretary of the IBU. Originally from County Wexford, he has recently retired from a career in IT. He enjoys travel and many sports especially hurling and gaelic football.

## Ciarán Coyne & David Walsh



**Ciarán** lives in Cork with his wife Cynthia and their three sons. He recently started a role as a lecturer in Computer Science after many years working in technology roles in industry. He has several previous Camrose appearances with David Walsh as well as with Donal MacAonghusa and Peter Goodman, and also played with Donal in the European Championships. In addition, he has served as NPC of both the IBU Open and CBAI Camrose Teams. In his free time, he enjoys supporting his sons' football, hurling, rugby and soccer teams, and playing golf.



**David** hails from Galway and is part of a well-known Irish bridge family. He took up bridge properly while in college, along with several other card games! Married to Orla, they have four children, which keeps them both very busy. This is his 8<sup>th</sup> Camrose appearance, partnering Ciarán on most occasions. He has also served as NPC. He has a keen interest in sports, with hurling and rugby to the fore.

## Derek O'Gorman NPC



**Derek** works part time as a HR Consultant having spent many years in the public service as a HR Director. He played with Hugh McGann in his early international career and, in latter years, in many national and international events with Terry Walsh. With Terry he has enjoyed many successes including several national event wins and playing in the European Open Championships. Derek has also acted as NPC for the Irish Senior Team in several Teltscher, European and World Championships. Derek has also played and captained at previous Camrose events, including Teltscher victory.



## Wales

*Julian Pottage & Tony Ratcliff*

*John Salisbury & Tim Rees*

*Gwynn Davis & Sue Ingham*

**NPC Paul Denning**

### **Tony Ratcliff and Julian Pottage**

The partnership of Tony Ratcliff and Julian Pottage formed soon after Julian moved to Porthcawl in 2005. In recent years they have won a number of domestic events, including the Welsh Premier League, the Welsh Cup, the Welsh National Pairs, the Welsh Camrose Trial and the last three Geoff Evans online leagues. Internationally, they played together in the 2016 European Championships in Budapest and in the 2022 European Championships in Madeira, in the Camrose for each of the last four years and in the 2021 European Bridge League qualifier.



**Tony** lives in Barry and works as an Accountant for a group of Companies in Cardiff. He leads the all time Master Point List in Wales and was part of the team that brought home the Gold Medal for Wales in the 2014 Commonwealth Nations Championships in Glasgow. In his spare time, Tony spends some time selling collectibles on Ebay and also enjoys gardening.



**Julian** lives with his family in Porthcawl. He is Bridge Correspondent for the Daily Telegraph and is the host of the Bridge Questions Forum for Bernard Magee Bridge. He contributes to several bridge magazines, at home and abroad, and has written over 25 books on the game. Julian's other business interests are dog breeding (golden retrievers) and stock photography (mainly landscapes and general scenes). Julian is also an avid genealogist, managing DNA results for several of his relatives.

### **Gwynn Davis & Sue Ingham**



**Gwynn** was Professor of Socio-Legal Studies, Bristol University Law School, but is happily retired. He lives with Sue in Cardiff and enjoys hill-walking and scribbling.



**Sue** is Clerk to the Tribunal Service in Cardiff. She enjoys partnering her daughter, Charlotte, at the bridge table, playing the piano, solving mathematical puzzles, reading crime novels and, when no escape, hill-walking.

### **Tim Rees and John Salisbury**



**Tim** has represented Wales in over forty Camrose weekends and several European Championships, in partnership with Peter Goodman, Filip Kurbalija and Gary Jones. This is Tim's seventh Camrose weekend playing with John. Tim topped the EBU's Gold Point rankings for most of the 2000s. He has won the majority of the major UK domestic competitions, including the Gold Cup twice, Crockfords and Spring Fours, and also the Welsh and Scottish Cups. Tim is a former chairman of the Laws and Ethics Committee of the EBU and still serves on the committee. He is approaching retirement

from his role in road research at TRL, studying ways to make our roads work better.



**John** played his first Camrose match for Wales against Scotland in 1974 in his home town of Wrexham. Since then John has represented Wales in the Junior Camrose, Camrose, Seniors Camrose, European Open and Seniors and Commonwealth Nations, when Wales (including John, Tim, Gary and Mike) won the Gold Medal. He also won a bronze medal representing Great Britain in the Mixed Teams in the Common Market Championships. It is somewhat unusual that in all that time and in all those events John has only had four partners

– Jessie Newton, Robert Upton, Mike Tedd and for the past three seasons Tim Rees. He has also undertaken some of the most thankless tasks in bridge - Chairman of the WBU's Selectors and NPC. John has also found time to have a career in Social Services and have a family.

### **Paul Denning NPC**



**Paul** - Since his debut in 1978 at the tender age of 22 years old Paul has played numerous Camrose weekends and European Championships. Last year he may have produced a first in being a player in the first Camrose weekend, an NPC in the second Camrose weekend and then an NPC in the Lady Milne. He's looking forward to catching up with some old friends over the weekend.



## Scotland

*Harry Smith & Roy Bennett*  
*Liam O'Brien & Ronan Valentine*  
*Sam Punch & Stephen Peterkin*  
**NPC** *Alex Adamson*

### Harry Smith & Roy Bennett



**Harry** - Most bridge players in the UK who reach the heights of their national team start in the Camrose, or possibly even the Junior Camrose. Harry has chosen a different route, with this his first Camrose appearance coming after playing in the Teltscher 5 times. Indeed, with his partner Roy, he was in the team which currently holds that trophy having won it here at La Mon in Northern Ireland last May. He doubts, however, if he will ever manage a Junior Camrose appearance! Harry has also played three times in the Scottish Senior Team in the European Championships and has a Bronze Medal as the NPC of the Scottish Senior Team in the European Championships of 2012. He was also NPC of that team in the D'Orsi trophy World Championships the following year when the team came a very creditable 4<sup>th</sup> and he went on to captain the Scottish Women's team in the European Championships of 2014.



**Roy** - This is Roy's first Camrose cap for 30 years. In the 1980s and early 90s he was a mainstay of the Scottish team in partnership with Bill Mitchell, Les Steel, and Dave Walker. Of the team who played in his first international, in 1981, only he and Barnet Shenkin survivor. He expects to be comfortably the oldest player in Northern Ireland. The trouble is that playing in the Senior Camrose last year he had the same distinction. Roy has been playing for over 60 years and says that he still makes the same mistakes and is adding new ones. In bridge age does not seem to have the privileges deserved. He is still very keen and still enjoying every minute - which is good for all the youngsters to know. He has seen enough to know that dreadful sessions can happen and be just as easily followed by good ones, so they should be an exciting pair to watch this weekend. The NPC is hoping for more of the latter.

## Liam O'Brien & Ronan Valentine



**Liam** is 26, studies maths with the Open University and teaches bridge. Liam and Ronan learned to play bridge at school together, and have played together since. They have represented Scotland in the juniors over the past 7 years. Having recently aged out of the u26s, the introduction of the u31 category has extended their junior career. This will be Liam and Ronan's first appearance in the open game.



**Ronan** is an English teacher who works at an International School in Finland, primarily working with children who have difficulty accessing mainstream education. Prior to this, Ronan worked in Liverpool as an English teacher. Despite enjoying his work in Liverpool, he decided to flee the country in search of sunshine and warmth. When that failed, Ronan took into account his wife's Finnish nationality and settled on Helsinki. Alan Hansen once famously said, when describing Alex Ferguson's Manchester United side, that "you can't win anything with kids". In a bridge sense at least, both Ronan

and his partner Liam are practically infants, and will therefore spend the weekend proving either Alan Hansen or Alex Ferguson correct.

## Sam Punch & Stephen Peterkin



**Sam** has played in the Scottish women's team since 2008, winning seven Lady Milnes. She is researching the Sociology of Bridge and leads the project - Bridge: A Mind Sport for All (BAMSA). Her book, 'Bridge at the Top: Behind the Screens', based on interviews with top USA and UK players, won the 2021 IBPA Book of the Year award. She also won the IBPA of the Year award 2021 for her BAMSA Personality work.



**Stephen** and Sam formed a partnership 13 years ago and were on the winning team for the Commonwealth's transnational teams in Glasgow. This is their eighth Camrose together. Stephen is a regular BBO operator and a classically trained pianist but more recently was teaching English to students from across Europe until Covid hit. Stephen and Sam, along with NPC Alex, won the Alan Truscott Award and the Lazard Sportsmanship award for being part of Team Scotland when there was a boycott at the European Qualifiers in 2021.

## Alex Adamson (NPC)

**Alex** works in heritage, at Historic Environment Scotland. He has played in and captained Scotland teams on a number of occasions. A captaining highlight was captaining the Women's team (including Sam Punch) in the Venice Cup in Wuhan in the autumn of 2019 – an event which he returned from with a corona virus. Playing highlights so far have been European Championships and the World Bridge Games. When the time allows, Alex writes about history and bridge.







## England

*Andrew Black & David Gold*  
*Simon Cope (Playing Captain) & Peter Crouch*  
*Andrew McIntosh & Tom Paske*

### Andrew Black & David Gold



**Andrew** is 59 years old and lives on a farm in Surrey with his wife Jane, four large children and two large dogs. He was the original owner of Betfair, but he took the money and ran ten years ago. Today he owns an oil re-refining business, a Victorian water works housing a biotech company that manufactures DNA and a lot of racehorses. In 2002 team Black won the Gold Cup and were losing semi-finalists in the Rosenblum in Poland.



**David** was born in Perth, Scotland on September 10th 1979. He started his career in the sports world as a top junior chess player going on to learn bridge at school aged about 16. He also played a little rubber bridge in London with his father who was an avid bridge player. After deciding that further education and a maths degree wasn't what he wanted to do, David started to get seriously into bridge in 1999 when he had just turned 19. He began working as a host at the St John's Wood Bridge Club, and in 2000 started a partnership with Tom Townsend who had been taught to play as a school boy by David's father! David has since formed partnerships with Tony Forrester and David Bakhshi and has represented England with them numerous times in the European Championships, Bermuda Bowl and World Olympiad. His most recent international partner is Mike Bell and they have played together in the 2016 and 2017 Camrose Trophy. In 2017 he was part of a team which won a bronze medal in the Transnational competition at the World Teams Championships and in 2022 he won Bronze in The Rosenblum.

## Simon Cope (Playing Captain) & Peter Crouch



**Simon**, 40 years old, is from Radlett in Hertfordshire. He plays bridge full time but is also often found hacking around various golf courses. Away from those two activities, he enjoys travelling, eating out and following various sports.

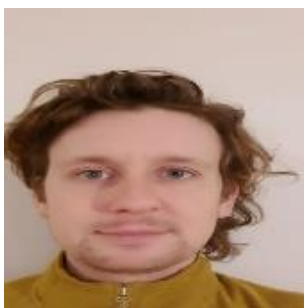


**Peter** lives just south of London with his wife Sara, two grown up children and his five year old grandson Theo. He retired from his day job at the start of Covid and now spends his time playing and coaching bridge, playing bad golf and helping look after his grandson.

## Andrew McIntosh & Tom Paske



**Andrew** - It is now 30 years since Andrew made his Camrose debut in 1993 in Perth playing for Scotland v Northern Ireland with Malcolm Cuthbertson. Time has flown but playing with Tom 'Mini' Paske keeps him young and as part of Team Black, they have won the Gold Cup, English Premier League and a bronze medal in the World Open Championships this last year. Ageing doesn't bother him for, as the attached photo proves, he is still some 20 years younger than Peter Crouch.



**Tom**, 32 years old, grew up on a farm in rural Herefordshire where he spent most of his time climbing trees or chasing cows around a field. At school he was introduced to a more interesting game, Bridge, by his maths teacher Richard Croot and hasn't looked back since. After studying maths and science at college he had a brief foray into university life before enjoying the pace of life on the continent. He currently spends his time between England, hotel rooms and Austria where his wife Adele lives. When he isn't enjoying Bridge he can normally be found at the climbing wall, cycling or sipping on one

his several daily espressos.

**VP SCALE (32 BOARDS)**

<b>IMPs</b>	<b>VPs</b>	<b>IMPs</b>	<b>VPs</b>	<b>IMPs</b>	<b>VPs</b>
<b>0</b>	10.00 - 10.00	<b>29</b>	15.10 - 4.90	<b>58</b>	18.21 - 1.79
<b>1</b>	10.22 - 9.78	<b>30</b>	15.24 - 4.76	<b>59</b>	18.29 - 1.71
<b>2</b>	10.44 - 9.56	<b>31</b>	15.37 - 4.63	<b>60</b>	18.37 - 1.63
<b>3</b>	10.65 - 9.35	<b>32</b>	15.50 - 4.50	<b>61</b>	18.45 - 1.55
<b>4</b>	10.86 - 9.14	<b>33</b>	15.63 - 4.37	<b>62</b>	18.53 - 1.47
<b>5</b>	11.07 - 8.93	<b>34</b>	15.76 - 4.24	<b>63</b>	18.61 - 1.39
<b>6</b>	11.27 - 8.73	<b>35</b>	15.88 - 4.12	<b>64</b>	18.69 - 1.31
<b>7</b>	11.47 - 8.53	<b>36</b>	16.00 - 4.00	<b>65</b>	18.76 - 1.24
<b>8</b>	11.67 - 8.33	<b>37</b>	16.12 - 3.88	<b>66</b>	18.83 - 1.17
<b>9</b>	11.86 - 8.14	<b>38</b>	16.24 - 3.76	<b>67</b>	18.90 - 1.10
<b>10</b>	12.05 - 7.95	<b>39</b>	16.35 - 3.65	<b>68</b>	18.97 - 1.03
<b>11</b>	12.24 - 7.76	<b>40</b>	16.46 - 3.54	<b>69</b>	19.04 - 0.96
<b>12</b>	12.42 - 7.58	<b>41</b>	16.57 - 3.43	<b>70</b>	19.11 - 0.89
<b>13</b>	12.60 - 7.40	<b>42</b>	16.68 - 3.32	<b>71</b>	19.18 - 0.82
<b>14</b>	12.78 - 7.22	<b>43</b>	16.79 - 3.21	<b>72</b>	19.25 - 0.75
<b>15</b>	12.95 - 7.05	<b>44</b>	16.90 - 3.10	<b>73</b>	19.32 - 0.68
<b>16</b>	13.12 - 6.88	<b>45</b>	17.01 - 2.99	<b>74</b>	19.38 - 0.62
<b>17</b>	13.29 - 6.71	<b>46</b>	17.11 - 2.89	<b>75</b>	19.44 - 0.56
<b>18</b>	13.46 - 6.54	<b>47</b>	17.21 - 2.79	<b>76</b>	19.50 - 0.50
<b>19</b>	13.62 - 6.38	<b>48</b>	17.31 - 2.69	<b>77</b>	19.56 - 0.44
<b>20</b>	13.78 - 6.22	<b>49</b>	17.41 - 2.59	<b>78</b>	19.62 - 0.38
<b>21</b>	13.94 - 6.06	<b>50</b>	17.51 - 2.49	<b>79</b>	19.68 - 0.32
<b>22</b>	14.09 - 5.91	<b>51</b>	17.60 - 2.40	<b>80</b>	19.74 - 0.26
<b>23</b>	14.24 - 5.76	<b>52</b>	17.69 - 2.31	<b>81</b>	19.80 - 0.20
<b>24</b>	14.39 - 5.61	<b>53</b>	17.78 - 2.22	<b>82</b>	19.85 - 0.15
<b>25</b>	14.54 - 5.46	<b>54</b>	17.87 - 2.13	<b>83</b>	19.90 - 0.10
<b>26</b>	14.68 - 5.32	<b>55</b>	17.96 - 2.04	<b>84</b>	19.95 - 0.05
<b>27</b>	14.82 - 5.18	<b>56</b>	18.05 - 1.95		
<b>28</b>	14.96 - 5.04	<b>57</b>	18.13 - 1.87		

## International Match Point Scale

Points difference	IMPs
0 - 10	= 0
20 - 40	= 1
50 - 80	= 2
90 - 120	= 3
130 - 160	= 4
170 - 210	= 5
220 - 260	= 6
270 - 310	= 7
320 - 360	= 8
370 - 420	= 9
430 - 490	= 10
500 - 590	= 11
600 - 740	= 12

Points difference	IMPs
750 - 890	= 13
900 - 1090	= 14
1100 - 1290	= 15
1300 - 1490	= 16
1500 - 1740	= 17
1750 - 1990	= 18
2000 - 2240	= 19
2250 - 2490	= 20
2500 - 2990	= 21
3000 - 3490	= 22
3500 - 3990	= 23
4000 and above	= 24