



**The 2019
Junior Camrose
and
Peggy Bayer Trophies**



**La Mon Hotel & Country Club
Castlereagh, Belfast
15-17 February 2019**



2019 Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies presented by The Northern Ireland Bridge Union

Welcome to Northern Ireland

Bridge Great Britain and the Northern Ireland Bridge Union extend to all a warm welcome to the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies 2019.

The venue is the La Mon Hotel and Country Club, a superb family owned 4 Star Hotel located 15 minutes from Belfast city centre yet nestled away in the countryside. There is a Vugraph theatre for spectators to watch the action live whilst listening to expert and instructive commentary.

Officials

Match Manager	Helen Hall
Assistant Match Manager	Anne Hassan (IBU President)
Director in Charge	Fearghal O'Boyle
Scorer	Mairead Basquille
BBO Director	Eamon Galligan

BBO OperationTeam

Liz Scott (Organiser), Joan Baird, Helen Cole, Barbara Ewart, Anne Fitzpatrick, Ron Hall, Ian Hamilton, Ken Hammond, Heather Hill, Norma Irwin, Roberta Madill, Diana Patterson.

Refreshments

Refreshments for players and officials are at the following times:

Friday	17:30 Buffet Meal	Milford Suite
Saturday	14:30 Light Lunch	Milford Suite
	20:30 Dinner	Milford Suite
Sunday	14:30 Light Lunch	Milford Suite
	20:30 Dinner and Closing Ceremony,	Milford Suite

JUNIOR CAMROSE PLAYING SCHEDULE

Table 1

Table 2

Table 3

FRIDAY	17.00	Captains' meeting – Riverview 3		
	17.30	Buffet meal – Milford Suite		
Match 1	19.00–21.10	Scotland v England	Wales v Ireland	N Ireland v CBAI
Match 2	21.25–23.35	N Ireland v Scotland	England v Wales	Ireland v CBAI
SATURDAY				
Match 3	10.00–12.10	Wales v N Ireland	Ireland v England	Scotland v CBAI
Match 4	12.25–14.35	Ireland v Scotland	England v N Ireland	Wales v CBAI
		Lunch – Milford Suite		
Match 5	15.20–17.30	Scotland v Wales	N Ireland v Ireland	England v CBAI
Match 6	17.45–19.55	England v Scotland	Ireland v Wales	CBAI v N Ireland
	20.30	Dinner – Milford Suite		
SUNDAY				
Match 7	10.00–12.10	Scotland v N Ireland	Wales v England	CBAI v Ireland
Match 8	12.25–14.35	N Ireland v Wales	England v Ireland	CBAI v Scotland
		Lunch – Milford Suite		
Match 9	15.20–17.30	Scotland v Ireland	N Ireland v England	CBAI v Wales
Match 10	17.45–19.55	Wales v Scotland	Ireland v N Ireland	CBAI v England
	20.30	Dinner & Closing Ceremony – Milford Suite		

PEGGY BAYER PLAYING SCHEDULE

Table 1

Table 2

FRIDAY	17.00	Captains' meeting – Riverview 3	
	17.30	Buffet meal – Milford Suite	
Match 1	19.00–21.10	Ireland v England	N Ireland v Scotland
SATURDAY			
Match 2	10.00–12.10	Ireland v N Ireland	Scotland v England
Match 3	12.25–14.35	Scotland v Ireland	England v N Ireland
	Lunch – Milford Suite		
Match 4	15.20–17.30	England v Ireland	Scotland v N Ireland
Match 5	17.45–19.55	N Ireland v Ireland	England v Scotland
	20.30	Dinner – Milford Suite	
SUNDAY			
Match 6	10.00–12.10	Ireland v Scotland	N Ireland v England
Match 7	12.25–14.35	Ireland v England	Scotland v N Ireland
	Lunch – Milford Suite		
Match 8	15.20–17.30	Ireland v N Ireland	Scotland v England
Match 9	17.45–19.55	Ireland v Scotland	N Ireland v England
	20.30	Dinner & Closing Ceremony – Milford Suite	

The Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies

Junior Camrose Format

The Junior Camrose Trophy, comprising 6 teams, is contested between England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland. All the participants are under the age of 26 years. For 2019, Ireland is providing the 6th team, named CBAI.

Each team plays 2 matches against each other team. Each match comprises 16 boards.

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.

The Captain of the second-named team nominates his/her pairs first in each match.

Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before each match is due to begin.

Peggy Bayer Format

The Peggy Bayer Trophy in 2019 is to be contested between England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland with the participants being under the age of 21.

Each of the 4 teams will play 3 matches against each other team. Each match comprises 16 boards.

Systems and Conventions

The Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies are considered to be "Category 3" events as defined within the World Bridge Federation Systems Policy. Therefore Brown Sticker and Highly Unusual Methods are not permitted.

Public presentation

In any one session, 5 matches are in progress, 3 in the Junior Camrose event and 2 in the Peggy Bayer event. All 3 tables in the Junior Camrose will be broadcast live on the internet via Bridgebase. Selected matches will be shown in the Vugraph Theatre. The other option for spectators is to watch live in the Open Room. Spectators are subject to the regulations set out below. Entry to the Closed Room is prohibited.

Regulations for Open Room Spectators

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

1. No spectator may enter the Open Room while play is in progress. (Please note that this applies even if a match has started before the advertised time).
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Spectators are permitted to observe the cards of 1 player only.
5. He/she should be seated behind that player and may not walk round the table or seek to look at the cards of any other player.
6. Spectators are not permitted to sit where they can see the screen of the computer operator covering the internet match.
7. Spectators may not draw attention to any irregularity/mistake nor speak on any question except by request of the Director.
8. The Director in Charge and/or the Match Manager is empowered to control the presence of spectators, individually or collectively.
9. Under no circumstances may a member of the audience enter the Closed Room.
10. Spectator facilities in the Open Room are limited.

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.

The Teams



Northern Ireland Junior Camrose

John William Carey & Ridwan Faurouki;
Gavin Irvine & Philip Martin; Ryan Lightowler & Craig Smylie
NPC Diane Greenwood

John William Carey is an American composer, conductor and pianist. With a career spanning over six decades he has composed some of the most popular, recognizable and critically acclaimed film scores in cinematic history, including those of the Star War series and the first three Harry Potter films. When he isn't bathing us in glorious symphony, he dons his bowler hat and a pair of Ray-Bans to hit up the city's bridge clubs for some good old-fashioned action at the table.

Ridwan Farouki (Mr Ridwan Farouki)

We are waiting for a bid from you (waiting for a bid from you)

You will never go down

You always know to take out trumps

Oh Mr Ridwan Farouki (Mr Ridwan Farouki)

When the bidding comes back to you

Will you double or raise to game?

Will you just play it out or claim?

Bridge play will never be the same

Gavin Irvine is competing in the Junior Camrose for the 4th and final time before he creeps into the senior age category. He also competed in the Junior European event in Croatia this year to add to bridge trips to Germany and Finland.

Gavin is studying for a PhD in Polymer Chemistry from Queen's and in his spare time he enjoys long distance running and learning Korean. He is currently training for two long distance sporting events - an Ironman triathlon in Copenhagen and the Last One Standing ultra marathon in Florence Court, NI.

Phil Martin is a former physics student and current bartender living in Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh. In between both pouring and drinking pints, ranting about politics and taking care of his fish, he plays some bridge. This will be his second (non-consecutive) appearance at the Junior Camrose and is not to be confused with the other Phil who occasionally comes along to these events, Phil Adams.

Craig Smylie is in his final year studying Insurance fraud and will graduate in July with a triple first. He is currently considering what he wants to do with his life pondering whether to be an outlaw or a hero. We at the NIBU hope Craig makes the right decision on Brexit for all our futures. Occasionally Craig plays rubber bridge. This will be his third Junior Camrose

Ryan Lightowler is currently in his third year of his lifelong goal of being a professional student. Currently, studying towards his Maths degree, he is open to suggestions to widen his knowledge base for later life. His top choice right now would be Yubaranology. He takes part in several secret societies at Durham university, such as [redacted], [redacted], and recently has been appointed as treasurer of [redacted]. Not all his time is spent at university though, he uses some to "find" expensive watches on skiing holidays!

Diane Greenwood (NPC) has lots and lots of experience with the Juniors and enjoys working with them. She is currently helping Norma Irwin and others to start up a teaching programme for Primary School students in Northern Ireland. She is hoping that her vast teaching experience and international playing experience will stand her in good stead for this project.

Northern Ireland Peggy Bayer

Min-Seog Kim & Aileen Armstrong;
Conor Gallagher & Luke McGarvey
Lucy O'Kane & Xander Todd
NPC Sandie Millership

Min-Seog Kim is currently studying for his A levels at Belfast Royal Academy (BRA), Belfast. He is studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths for A-level and has applied to study Dentistry next year at university. He has represented both Carrickfergus Grammar School (his previous school) and BRA on many occasions and has been playing bridge for 7 years.

Aileen Armstrong is 15 and lives on the Isle of Wight, although both her parents came from Northern Ireland. She enjoys bridge, drawing, writing and reading fiction. This will be her 1st Peggy Bayer and she is really looking forward to representing Northern Ireland for what she hopes will be the 1st of many occasions.

Connor Gallagher is 18 and in his final year at Belfast Royal Academy, studying Software Systems Development, Business Studies and English Language. He has achieved major colours for both Bridge and Hockey at B.R.A. Besides that, he also plays for Belfast Harlequins hockey club as their goalkeeper. This is his 2nd Peggy Bayer.

Luke McGarvey is 18 and has played bridge for 5 years. He is currently working at Deloitte and studying Business Technology at Ulster University. He enjoys playing bridge, hockey and hurling. This is his 2nd Peggy Bayer.

Lucy O'Kane is 18 and had been playing bridge for nearly 4 years. Lucy studies chemistry, biology, physics and maths for her A levels and aside from playing bridge Lucy enjoys playing the piano. This is her 2nd Peggy Bayer.

Xander Todd is currently in Lower 6th studying his AS's. He is studying Physics, Maths, Biology and Systems Software Development. He enjoys school and is studying hard but currently he is not sure if he will go to university or take another route. Outside of school and bridge he is learning guitar which he is enjoying despite making little progress. This is his 2nd Peggy Bayer.

Sandie Millership (NPC) has played for Northern Ireland a number of times in the Lady Milne and also in the inaugural Seniors Camrose (now rechristened the Teltcher Trophy). She has been involved in Junior Bridge for some time and loves the enthusiasm that the young people bring to the game although some of their bidding is turning her hair grey.



ENGLAND

Junior Camrose

Charles Bucknell & Dominic Price; Ben Norton & Shahzaad Natt
Eshan Singhal & Ian Robson
NPC David Bakshi

Charles Bucknell, 21, is currently studying Classics at Durham University, although this is widely believed to be a ruse while he pursues his true passion, Bridge. Having played since a young age, Charlie is a sharp player who is never afraid to innovate when it comes to system.

Dominic Price's bridge style is almost as exotic as his cooking, but his bridge tends to have better results! Dom has had a vast array of bridge students, including a couple of cats, so he is now looking for a different challenge. This is Dom's first international competition so whilst screens are still relatively new for him, he is delighted at the prospect of avoiding having to look at his partner for hours on end. As a self-taught player Dom has worked hard for his selection and hopes that he can come back with some silverware for his cabinet (instead of wine.)

Ben Norton is 21 years old and lives in the East Midlands. He writes about bridge for a living, but is still not very good at it. Ben is also an avid reader of bridge books, and his bookshelves house a collection which many would deem to be 'sad'. This is Ben's seventh appearance in the junior home internationals, and he is still wondering why he keeps coming back for more!

Shahzaad Natt learned bridge at an airport. One of his friends got detained by a Swiss border guard and as a result, Shahzaad was required to make up a foursome. The rest is history: he quickly discovered that bridge was a great way to flirt with old ladies and gave him an excuse to neglect his degree. Today he is happy to play with anyone, just as long as they play Gerber!

Eshan Singhal is 22 and lives in London. He picked up bridge at school and his interest surged at Cambridge University, where he was president of the bridge club in his final year. He now works as a software engineer. Outside of bridge, he enjoys travelling and finds himself in Canada on sporadic occasions.

Ian Robson is 24, living in Nottingham. After playing at school and at Cambridge and Durham, he made his international debut in the European Youth Pairs in 2018. His job involves a combination of software testing and development, and in his spare time he likes to edit videos. And sadly no, his dad is not famous.

David Bakhshi (NPC) was lucky enough to play in the Junior Camrose when he was (significantly) younger than he is now, and is making his debut as England NPC. His team also contains four players making their Junior Camrose debuts – Eshan & Ian, and Charlie & Dominic. David is looking forward to a closely contested event, but is excited to be able to bring such a talented group of players to represent England.

David is a full time bridge professional, and was recently appointed as the England U26 squad leader.

ENGLAND

Peggy Bayer

Sam Anoyrkatis & Liz Gahan; Oscar Selby & Imogen La Chapelle
Theo Anoyrkatis & Andy Cope
NPC Michael Byrne

Making his debut in the Peggy Bayer is **Andy Cope**, whose quick declarer play is legendary amongst the England squad. He plays like lightning, and very occasionally he even makes the contracts he has bid. He comes from Coventry which is where last year's Junior Camrose trophy was held, although like the rest of the players you may have chosen to block it from your mind, Andy certainly has since he wasn't picked. Andy's hobbies include running, cycling and wicker basket making, and he has achieved his level 3 weaving certificate.

His partner is **Theo Anorykatis**, who was on the team last year and is hoping to successfully defend his title. Nicknamed the dark destroyer (because he is incapable of having any sensible auctions involving the club suit) he plays with a quiet and steely reserve, pausing only to look confused when the opponents play cards that he thought were already in his own hand. He hails from a place called Devon, which is where people from London move to when they want to escape the pollution and crime.

Theo's brother **Sam** is next on the team and can be spotted from several miles away since he wears luminous crocs (the make of shoe not the animal) on his feet. He is easily excited and changes his hair style as often as he changes which suits he is playing on in 3NT, neither with any great success it must be said. Sam is always excellent at working out why he just went down in a cold contract, just time to go down in the next one in fact!

Sam's partner is **Liz Gahan**, who carefully hides her American roots under waves of golden hair. Cleverly disguising herself as a shy and affable teenager, her pleasant smile and kindly nature are merely a front for her job as a long term CIA operative, doing undercover research into the ACOL system. Sadly her mission has gone awry since she has already started playing 5 card majors, her American roots shining through. Liz is making her debut in this event on the back of a successful campaign in the English Lady Milne trials, having qualified for the final stages she is retiring undefeated rather than run the risk of making the team and having to subject herself to the horrors of Women's bridge.

Imogen La Chapelle also makes her debut in this event having previously played in the European pairs last summer in Croatia. Imogen comes from Norfolk, a place mainly famous for potatoes, Sandringham and er potatoes. Imogen started playing aged 12 and says that her first ever bridge game was an individual event at her club where she was able to equally wreck everyone's chances! Imogen is a cadet with the St John's Ambulance and is keen to practise so don't hesitate to call her.

Her partner is **Oscar Selby**, who has played in a previous Peggy Bayer, the less said about that the better. Oscar used to be famous for claiming to be a child genius, having reached the final week of the first series of the TV competition 'Child Genius' in 2013. Now he is just a British Youth Go champion. Although a keen mathematician Oscar's ability to work out how many points he needs to open 1NT is remarkably poor, he looks at his hand and once he gets to ten with a few to spare he reaches for his favourite contract, the average number his 15-17 no trump opening contains is somewhere just short of 11.

Their Captain is **Michael Byrne** whose name is on the Peggy Bayer trophy more than any others, not because he ever does very well but because he always takes it with him and has it engraved regardless of whether or not he wins or loses. A scheme by the English Bridge Union to avoid this by booking him Ryan Air (hand baggage only) has failed to slow him down, now he just gets the ferry instead.



SCOTLAND Junior Camrose

Jun Nakamaru-Pinder & Stewart Pinkerton
Athena Chow & Glen Falconer
Liam O'Brien & Ronan Valentine
Anne Symons NPC

JUN NAKAMARU-PINDER & STEWART PINKERTON

Jun has been playing bridge for around 16 years. Although he has 5 Open caps, he is still eligible for the juniors. At junior level he has the dubious accolade of having donated successive partners in the Under 26 European Mixed Pairs to the English junior squad, despite winning gold with the latter in 2016. Having spent most of his life in Aberdeen and at university in Edinburgh, he has continued his southward migration and now lives and works as an actuarial consultant in London.

Stewart is very much the silent partner, especially when it comes to answering e-mails or writing pen portraits. This means that his NPC has had to compose something necessarily vague. He is a graduate of St. Andrews and is now continuing with post grad studies in Edinburgh. Coming from a Bridge playing family, he started young, and continues to play occasionally with his Grandad, a Senior Internationalist, who was a big influence in his Bridge career. Stewart has played many times Internationally, and when not at the bridge table, has been known to spend time at the snooker table.

ATHENA CHOW & GLEN FALCONER

Athena is 22 years old and is a 4th year Economics student at the University of Edinburgh. She is delighted to be making her debut for Scotland at the Junior Camrose this year, having gained some experience at local and national level for the past two years. Her biggest bridge achievement to date is being part of the Division 2 winning team in the National League in 2018. Being on the Edinburgh University Bridge Club committee, Athena is eager to promote the game to students and encourages more advanced players to participate in local competitions. Away from bridge she sings in a choir and enjoys a round of golf. She would like to thank her dad for introducing her to the game, her bridge friends in Edinburgh and Hong Kong for their encouragement, as well as Anne and Paul for their continued guidance and support.

Glen has recently graduated from St.Andrews University and is currently seeking full-time employment, although keeps the wolf from the door by working at Amazon. This is his second Junior Camrose, but first with Athena, with whom he recently formed a partnership. He likes to play in Open events and has been lucky to partner Alex Adamson in several of those. His main interest, outside Bridge, is music, and he is an accomplished saxophonist and pianist. This partnership has great potential for some musical entertainment!

LIAM O'BRIEN & RONAN VALENTINE

Liam is 22 and spends most of his time playing or teaching Bridge, and working occasionally at Brechin Football Club. He and Ronan are regulars on the Scottish Bridge scene, and this will be their third Junior Camrose. They have also played several times at Junior European level, twice narrowly missing qualification for the Pairs Final. Liam is the quiet one of the partnership, whereas.....**Ronan** is a 21 year old, fourth year English student at the University of Stirling and like all humanities students really doesn't know what he'll do after his degree. Ronan and Liam have ended up as a mainstay in Scottish junior teams of late which can only be highly worrisome to the junior selectors. Last year, they nearly worried the open selectors as 3 out of the 6 playing this weekend went very close in the open trials to represent Scotland in Ostend. On the official scale, this marks Ronan's 10th Scotland cap as a junior, which ought to be celebrated by buying him a beer or two. This is Ronan's first trip to Northern Ireland, his third Junior Camrose, having previously played in two Peggy Bayers, and with no victories to his name he hopes that this time things could be different. Indeed, if Scotland do win, he might even refrain from making a speech at the closing ceremony.

ANNE SYMONS (NPC)

Anne is a regular on the Scottish Women's team and is delighted they have qualified for the Venice Cup this year, for the first time. She has worked with the Juniors for several years now and often captained teams in the Peggy Bayer and Junior Camrose. She has thoroughly enjoyed seeing the youngsters grow and develop their Bridge skills, even though, in some cases, their skills at answering emails promptly seem to be somewhat lacking. She is looking forward to returning to one of her favourite venues and working with the Northern Irish organisers, who are so efficient and friendly.

SCOTLAND

Peggy Bayer

Chloe Farrell & John Russell; Adam Tobias & Wan-Hew Tran
David Tobias & Saketh Jampana
Andrew Svmons NPC

CHLOE FARRELL & JOHN RUSSELL

Chloe is 16 and in S5, studying maths, English, physics, graphic communication, art and design and accounting. She is also a young leader for the brownies. She's been playing bridge for about three and a half years and took part in the 26th European Youth Bridge Teams Championships in 2017. She plays in clubs once or twice a week and online when able. She has recently formed a partnership with John, and this is her first Peggy Bayer.

John is 18 and plays regularly in Aberdeen, where he lives and works. Having formed a partnership with Chloe last year, he now practises online with her under the mentorship of Paul Gipson. Ever keen to improve, he plays as much as he can in local and National events and played in the Peggy Bayer for the first time last year. He is very much looking forward to competing again this year.

ADAM TOBIAS & WAN-HEW TRAN

Adam is now studying Medicine at Edinburgh University, and although he doesn't have a lot of free time, is hoping to join the increasingly popular Bridge Club there. This is his third Peggy Bayer, the second in partnership with Wan-Hew. A former pupil at Hutcheson's Academy in Glasgow, which is a breeding ground for many of our Juniors.

Wan-Hew also learned his Bridge at Hutcheson's in Glasgow, but has now gone on to study Engineering at Cambridge University. This is his second appearance in the Peggy Bayer, having made his debut last year. He has been playing a bit at University and hopes to keep improving his game. He and Adam are delighted to be part of the team again.

SAKETH JAMPANA & DAVID TOBIAS

Saketh is 16 and in S5. He is studying Maths, English, Economics, Chemistry, Biology and Physics at higher. He has been playing bridge for 4 years and this is his 2nd Peggy Bayer and he is eagerly looking forward to playing. When he is not playing Bridge he enjoys playing hockey as a goalie, which means he must be brave and a little crazy – excellent qualities for a bridge player!

David is also in S5 at Hutcheson's grammar school in Glasgow. Like Saketh, he has been playing for 4 years, and this is his third Peggy Bayer. He loves competing internationally, and is keen to improve his bridge, so much so he is cutting short a skiing holiday to get back in time for the weekend. Hopefully his bidding will not go off piste!

ANDREW SYMONS (NPC)

Andrew is a recently retired schoolteacher who enjoys all sports. Originally from Cornwall but now thoroughly enjoying living in Scotland. He and Anne were recently NPCs of the 2 Scottish Bridge teams in the Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast although that trip was really just an excuse to watch England play the Aussies at Cricket at the MCG and the new stadium in Perth. Andrew plays at tournament rather than international level himself but is often on hand at Lady Milnes and Europeans to bring Anne her coffee or something stronger when it is not going so well. Hopefully we will both only need coffees over this weekend.



WALES

Junior Camrose

Sarah Greener and Stephen Loat;
David and Iwan Williams
Mel Thomas and Jo Mulally
Gilly Clench NPC

Sarah Greener is a keen member of her local Young Farmers Club, although she is a wannabe because she doesn't live on a farm or have any pets. She loves wearing wellies and had to be told not to bring them this weekend. Sarah has so many dietary issues that we have lost count, although I'm told she can have more than just water now, she has added rice too. If you don't know who she is then she will be standing by the kitchen talking to the chef or waiting for her food. Sarah has been playing junior bridge for as long as Stephen, but her hair is getting greyer every year although that's no surprise considering who her partner is.

Stephen Loat is still claiming he's 18 for the 4th year in a row. He still has difficulty being served at the bar and he will never show us his ID so we are still convinced he's underage. Stephen also claims to shave his legs but we know he's still waiting for his leg hair to grow. Stephen originally from Llandrindod Wells felt too posh for his surroundings so moved to Royal Leamington Spa (he gets very offended if you drop the Royal from the name). When Stephen isn't in school (he calls it work) he enjoys playing Frisbee in the park, going to kids camp and rapping. Stephen has been playing junior bridge for many years and many of you will know that his bidding is inspired but unfortunately not by his convention card. The bids are so inspired that his partner has to write "who knows it's Stephen" as an explanation to bids. Stephen is a very thoughtful player so if he is declaring then make yourself comfy.

David Williams is 22 years old and started playing bridge one and half years ago. He plays with his partner who is also his brother Iwan Williams. David has participated in in one event in Llandrindod Wells where he represented North Wales in the Presidents Cup. He is very excited to play in his first Junior Camrose, and depending on the result, hopefully a few more.

Iwan Williams is 20 years old and is currently studying law at Manchester Metropolitan . He has been playing bridge for the past year and a half with his brother and partner David Williams. Iwan has participated in the Presidents Cup competition in Llandrindod Wells, where he represented North Wales. Away from bridge Iwan is an avid footballer and football fan, although his choice of teams should not be held against him.

Mel Thomas is a newbie on the team so will be an unfamiliar face to many of you (including most of the Welsh team!). I'm told you will hear her coming before you see her because she is very loud. Mel now lives in London but we can still hear her in Wales. Mel likes to wear bright colours, so much so that she refused to wear the black shirts and insisted they changed their colour to red before she would play bridge. Mel is a fitness fanatic and is a keen triathlete (apparently one sport isn't enough for her). She doesn't know it herself yet but she is in training for Ironman, because isn't that the goal of every triathlete? If you can't see or hear Mel then try the swimming pool or gym.

Joe Mulally is originally from North Wales but now lives in Glasgow, so his accent is something between Welsh and Glaswegian making him almost impossible to understand, especially when he's celebrating on Sunday night. Joe is a keen rugby player and has the body of one too. He's the WBU's answer to Gavin Henson and even shaves his legs too! Girls, (and boys?) don't worry if his dashing good looks and fake tan are too much for you because he's a doctor so has been formally trained in the kiss of life. Joe is finally making a comeback to junior bridge after an overage appearance in the Peggy Bayer in Porthcawl. The comeback is long awaited but he had to wait for everyone that he upset on the Sunday night to go overage.

Gilly Clench (NPC) is the brave member of the WBU who has the responsibility of the juniors. Although the juniors have never had the same NPC for more than one year so that shows the challenge that Gilly has let herself in for! Gilly, like her daughter Mel, is also very loud (but then again someone has to give Michael Byrne a run for his money). She also enjoys singing opera especially in the shower so you will have a wake up call every morning if you are in the room next door. Gilly is very creative and if the bridge gets too stressful then she might start rearranging the flowers in the lobby or painting the windows. Gilly is a frequent face at the Lady Milne and somehow manages to organise all the women bridge players in Wales (which is no mean feat).

Mark is our mascot and this will be his third outing. He is a popular spectator as he never criticises even the worst bridge and no amount of revokes appear to stress him out.



Ireland Junior Camrose

John Connolly & Nathan Doyle,
Stephen Barr & Michael Donnelly;
NPC Thomas MacCormac

Nathan Doyle doesn't use the term Icon very often, and I'm not going to use it here. Nathan's career has been long and trophy-less, like Tottenham's. When he played his first Home-International, Obama hadn't been elected, Michael Jackson was alive and Michael Byrne hadn't earned the G in MGB yet. I can't comment on whether his last foray into battle will be a successful one but if I had to sum up Nathan's career in one Miley Cyrus lyric: "It's the climb".

John "J Connolly" Connolly with his personality matching the creativity of his BBO username, this year will make his 4th appearance at the Junior Camrose where he will try his best to follow suit. John currently holds numerous impressive records including being the oldest person in his degree where he studies "nothing much" and finally, ditching Michael an hour before a pairs event for "The first girl I've liked in over a year" yeah... alright John.

John recently has entered the real estate market by moving into the infamous "Cranford" apartment complex which has become his primary tool of attraction for young women (yes he is on a list somewhere). Under John's supervision, many bizarre events have occurred in Cranford including certain members of the CBAI team cleaning chimneys during the night and a few smashed doors.

Having recently overcome the murky nature of the Christmas holidays, John is excited to hit the felt again this weekend where he no doubt will reconnect with his old friends, -1100, -1400, and Ronan Valentine.

Michael Donnelly, "MalSwan" earns his nickname because of his grace and beauty; of which his bridge is neither. Although he is a Peggy Bayer champion, he insists the highlight of his bridge career has been making it into MGB's speech for negative reasons. This year he hopes he can make it a double; come on Mr. Byrne, you can make it happen. He fancies his chances at victory this year, that is of course unless he meets any pretty imaginary girls in the lobby, in which case he will desert his team faster than you can say "Three no trump" ('She wasn't imaginary!'- Mike). While thousands of intermediate bridge players across the country try to be "like Mike" there can be only one: do not let him play above the two level undoubled. Ask him why he's called "Hot Jets" or alternatively ask him how his day is going.

This is **Stephen "Stephen Barr" Barr's** second attempt at the Junior Camrose, and potentially his last. Having sold his soul to Microsoft Excel for the promise of financial independence in his 40s, it looks like his days of 8-23 point openings are going to be replaced with days of 8.00-23.00 working hours. Watch out this weekend for bids from a man desperate to prove he's still "hip" and "down with the kids", and genuinely do watch out on Sunday evening for a man who can count the number of nights out he has left on his hands.

Thomas MacCormac (NPC)

Thomas, T, T-Mac, Tommaaaay... but definitely not T-bag. Thomas always calls people "The legend" but I think the title best fits himself. He's been the foremost patron of junior bridge in the lives of all the current team and we couldn't imagine a more supportive character. He takes a laid back approach to captaining but would definitely smash Bakhshi in a fight if it came down to it. Liz however, I'm not so sure. The parting glasses' lyrics "Of all the money that ere I spent, I spent it in good company, and all the harm I've ever done, alas it was to none but me" sums him up nicely. He loves to say "I keep telling yez" when telling his team something for the first time.



Ireland Peggy Bayer

Monica Thorne & Aisling Kate McAuliffe Hickey
Denise Walsh, & Leah Finnegan
Sheila Walsh & Ariane Kane;
NPC Margaret Murphy

Denise Walsh

We know her as Denise Walsh but you probably know her as the one with the severe RBF. Denise is extremely talented, is left-handed and can still use a tin-opener. Unfortunately, Denise has been stressed lately due to her civil rights movement for left handed people and of course, her addiction. She's been clean for 13 months but has taken up drinking excessive amounts of Red Bull in order to cope. She claims it keeps her in "high spirits". Denise is extremely motivated and ambitious. Like most people her age, she aims to skip over her youth and head straight to retirement. She can't wait to spend her days on bridge cruises and trolling robots on BBO.

Leah Finnegan

" A Bridge Prodigy " - The New York Times - " A Musical Genius " - The Rolling Stones - "A Disappointment " - Her Mammy. Leah-pee-a-diarrhoea is the Thumper to my Bambi. If you're an OG, you may recall that Leah bravely ventured into the realm of YouTube as a Britney Spears impersonator but those days are behind her now. Instead, she is establishing herself on the platform of musicality where she lip syncs to profound ballads by the likes of Daniel O'Donnell and Nathan Carter. With a combined view count of a hefty 16, she is no doubt making her mark in this community of intellectuals. (DW)

Aisling Kate McAuliffe Hickey

Unlike her partner, AK doesn't dilly dally and likes to get things done early. Although her French is très bien, learning potato in as many languages as possible is as far as her linguistic interests go. Her favourite thing about bridge is probably poring over her vast collection of pens and choosing which one of them to bring along to competitions... she likes playing cards too though. Her bag resembles Mary Poppins' and she's never unprepared. Don't shy away from asking her for anything at the bridge table- food, plasters, teabags or even cards.

Monica Thorne

Monica Thorne comes from Limerick far, far away. She likes gluten free bread and reading. Her hobbies include doing things and going places. Much like the white rabbit, she is often late for important dates but she's never late to meet with the Queen of Hearts.

Ariane Kane

Ariane Kane who often goes by her street name AK47, because she fires like a gun, believes this nickname has earned her street cred - but don't be fooled. Behind this rebel redhead's hard exterior lives a soft spot for acapella. Having failed at progressing to the second round of auditions for Pitch Perfect 4, she has resorted to applying for the Trinitones. She is awaiting a favourable response avec l'impatience. In the meantime, she will continue smoking trees in the hopes of finding salvation

Sheila Walsh

Sheila Walsh is in second year studying in Dublin (the place to be in Ireland, or so we're told). In this Peggy Bayer, she is looking forward to seeing the Pokemon Go scenario up north, in line with her annual junior bridge tradition. Readers will be pleased to know however that Sheila will have a much better bio next time. Her sister Denise has volunteered to write it!

Margaret Murphy N.P.C.

Margaret Murphy is a bridge teacher from Kilkenny who has been discovering talent in schools from that part of the country for many years. She has now included her 5 grandchildren – aged from 8 – 12 years – to her bridge classes.



CBAI

Junior Camrose

Jarlath McDonnell & Conor Farrell,
Arran Bolger & Lawrence Childs,
Ceara Walsh & Emma Noonan;
NPC Dermot O'Brien

Emma Noonan

The rare Emma Noonan can be found underneath multiple layers of bed sheets in her dark bedroom - like her soul. She will only appear for food, video games, to look at the stars with her telescope (@MrMc) or her music (and to meet up with friends but that depends on her mood). She might surprise you with her dramatic change from the last time she's been here. Do not feel bad if she runs away from you, tall strangers do tend to scare her, especially in elevators. Every sixteenth day after a full moon that falls on a Sunday is when Emma is (sometimes) seen at bridge practice. *Verified by David Attenborough.*

Ceara Walsh

Ceara Walsh, aka the lean mean korean speaking fighting machine or as her friends like to call her sha-ceara is a 17 year old dancing queen and the epitome of a Capricorn.

Everyone has a scary partner in bridge and although you cannot tell from her calm, kind exterior I often believe she is plotting my demise across the bridge table.

When she's not playing bridge (or avoiding practise) you can be sure to catch her running the underground gambling ring at our local school. The town legend at 45 and the mediocre poker player will happily gamble with your life. Warning: batteries not included, does not include off switch. Will talk to herself at random times of the day. Will quote vines mercilessly. Partner with at your own risk.

Conor Farrell

My name is Conor Farrell and I'm a vegan. I'm 20 years old and, did I mention, I'm a vegan. My main hobbies are rugby and bridge. I've been playing rugby for about 14 years now and am not afraid to show off my muscles with my XS t-shirts. I'm told I'm a ladies' man and I guess bridge has taught me "to play my cards just right". We're hoping to have a good Junior Camrose and bring home a positive result

Jarlath McDonnell began playing bridge in his school during the transition year program, he quickly grew to like the game and began taking lessons with Thomas MacCormac. Four years on, Jarlath has represented Ireland internationally on three occasions, twice in Latvia and once in Germany. This is his first year at the Junior Camrose and he hopes to make the most of the experience, to build for the future.

Laurence Childs

The aptly named Laurence says bridge is the first thing he's been truly excited about since his tap dancing recital at the age of 8. When asked about Blackwood he replied "I prefer mahogany". When pushed for what no trump he plays he retorted "I don't discuss politics at the bridge table". He frequently describes his hands in an emotive fashion e.g. "Well my trumps weren't the best but they had great character and the Jack had a hungry look in his eyes so I thought I'd give him a shot".

Arran Bolger

Arran "Protruding" Bolger is a veteran of the Irish Junior Camrose team, which is why he's been given the cushy retirement post of playing on the equally prestigious CBAI team this year. Bolger has always been a champion of the downtrodden, working as a keen advocate for the South Dublin cycling community in their war against poorly placed wheelie bins and particularly large puddles, while still finding time to show the castaways of Dicey's Garden the attention they deserve. It has been said that Bolger never cuts his hair, a lifestyle choice which grants him accented mental and physical abilities – the Jungle, as he likes to call it, measured at 4.5 meters long when last unravelled. When approached for comment, Bolger failed to hear the question."

Dermot O'Brien NPC

Dermot is a bridge player and teacher and serves as Secretary of the Irish Junior Bridge Committee. He is also a keen cricket fan whose cousin scored a famous century to defeat England in the World Cup.

Junior Camrose Scoring Record

	<i>Eng</i>	<i>Scot</i>	<i>Wales</i>	<i>Ire</i>	<i>NI</i>	<i>CBAI</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>England</i>							
<i>Scotland</i>							
<i>Wales</i>							
<i>Ireland</i>							
<i>NI</i>							
<i>CBAI</i>							

Peggy Bayer Scoring Record

	<i>Eng</i>	<i>Scot</i>	<i>Ire</i>	<i>NI</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>England</i>					
<i>Scotland</i>					
<i>Ireland</i>					
<i>NI</i>					

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

VIP SCALE FOR 16 BOARD MARCHES

Imp Diff.	Win	Lose	Imp Diff.	Win	Lose
0	10.00	10.00	31	16.88	3.12
1	10.31	9.69	32	17.03	2.97
2	10.61	9.39	33	17.17	2.83
3	10.91	9.09	34	17.31	2.69
4	11.20	8.80	35	17.45	2.55
5	11.48	8.52	36	17.59	2.41
6	11.76	8.24	37	17.72	2.28
7	12.03	7.97	38	17.85	2.15
8	12.29	7.71	39	17.97	2.03
9	12.55	7.45	40	18.09	1.91
10	12.80	7.20	41	18.21	1.79
11	13.04	6.96	42	18.33	1.67
12	13.28	6.72	43	18.44	1.56
13	13.52	6.48	44	18.55	1.45
14	13.75	6.25	45	18.66	1.34
15	13.97	6.03	46	18.77	1.23
16	14.18	5.82	47	18.87	1.13
17	14.39	5.61	48	18.97	1.03
18	14.60	5.40	49	19.07	0.93
19	14.80	5.20	50	19.16	0.84
20	15.00	5.00	51	19.25	0.75
21	15.19	4.81	52	19.34	0.66
22	15.38	4.62	53	19.43	0.57
23	15.56	4.44	54	19.52	0.48
24	15.74	4.26	55	19.61	0.39
25	15.92	4.08	56	19.69	0.31
26	16.09	3.91	57	19.77	0.23
27	16.26	3.74	58	19.85	0.15
28	16.42	3.58	59	19.93	0.07
29	16.58	3.42	60	20.00	0.00
30	16.73	3.27			

