**Tournament Report 2017**

**This has been a good year with events well supported. My thanks goes to all those involved in directing, organising, promoting and hosting the various tournaments.**

**BEN FRANKS:**

**A perfect number of pairs, 26, meant that everyone played two boards against every other pair over two sessions at Manchester Bridge club on Sunday 27th November.  In a very close finish John Holland and Michael Byrne won, with Rodney Lighton and John Currie second, Alan Mould and Alec Smalley third and Nicholas Greer and John Parsons fourth.  These pairs qualify for the Corwen Trophy in June.  Andrew Jackson and Graham Campbell were the top placed intermediates, finishing in eleventh place. John Holland has now won the event seven times, more than any other player.    
  
Thanks Jeff Smith for directing and to everyone involved in making this a very enjoyable day of bridge.**

**GAZETTE TROPHY:**

**There were 10 teams entered for the Gazette Cup this year with Stretford club making their second appearance. Congratulations to the winners Alan Mould, Michael Newman, Robert Myers and David Debbage, Catherine Draper, John Hassett, John Holland and Ollie Burgess. Manchester A Team who will go on to represent the count at the regional finals of the Garden Cities Trophy. Congratulations, also, to Graham Campbell, Andrew Jackson, Karen Jones and Barbara Easterbrook, Adam Weisberg, Jonathan Engler, Sallt Bray and Judith Dunkerley who won the trophy for the best intermediate team. Thanks goes to Joan Lewis who directed the event so efficiently.**

**CANTOR CUP:**

**The Cantor Cup event was very well attended by almost all newcomers. There were 25 pairs playing. The event was hosted by MBC and very well directed by Joan Lewis. Jeff Morris is to be congratulated for inviting so many new players, including 8 students, to participate in the event. This is very encouraging for the future. My thanks to Barbara Lewis who organised the event and to the Cantor family who fund it.**

**INTERMEDIATE EVENTS:**

**All Intermediate events have been well attended. Everyone reported that they enjoyed the bridge. June winners were Andrew Mills and David Welsh and the Autumn event was won by Margaret Kelly and Liz Downie. A new venture, Intermediate Swiss Pairs was held at MBC on Sunday 9th April. This event was well supported and again very much enjoyed by players. The winners were Jackie Lowrie and Annie Curtis. The event was well directed by Joan Lewis and organised by Susan Triggs supported by Graham Winn .**

**Ann Thornton**