

Terry Goldsmith (1951-2025)

Terence Paul Goldsmith was born 21 August 1951 in Eastbourne. The family then moved to Hillingdon where he grew up, and on leaving school he studied Economics & Statistics at Southampton University. While at the University he started playing bridge at the University Bridge Club.

Terry's main passion was music, it all started with listening to a Beatles record his father bought. When he found out that the Supremes were arriving for a tour of UK Terry was keen to see them so he cycled from Hillingdon to Central London to buy front row seats for himself and his sister Val. This was the start of his lifelong interest in music. While at Southampton University he attended Led Zeppelin, his memory of the music that it was very loud.

In 1969 Terry started his journeys around Europe. One year he and a friend set off, but their car broke down in Ashford in Kent. So, he returned home to pick up a tent and left by himself. He met one of his university friends south of Stockholm but then went off by himself for Norway, the Arctic Circle and Lapland. He slept anywhere he could find for example, garages, woodpiles and ditches. Over the next five years there were five trips around Europe.

His father introduced him to the Lake District and he loved walking. By 1992 he had climbed all the Wainwrights. Many holidays then taking his son and family and friends followed. Also, many holidays saw him up mountains in Wales and Scotland.

After graduating Terry started working in youth and community work. He was persuaded at work to play at the West Kent bridge club and this was the start of his long association with bridge in Tunbridge Wells.

Terry played with many partners at the West Kent but by the late 1970s he was playing regularly with Mike Kingsland and they won two Kent cups in 1978, the Owl Cup and the Phillimore Cup. These were the first of 37 Kent cups he won over the years, as listed below.

He was also keen to play in national competitions and played regularly in the Gold Cup and Crockfords for over 40 years. One of the first teams in which he played was partnering Gerald Soper together with Colin Thame and Geoff Cronin. In 1990 they reached the Silver Plate final which they narrowly lost. A few years later he started playing with Gerald and partnering John Short and Rod Oakford and they reached the Gold Cup final as an unseeded team in 1998 where they lost to a team including Boris Schapiro. A few months later they finished as runners up in the Crockfords final.

Terry also played regularly in EBU congresses in the 1980s & 1990s. He won the Two Star pairs in the Autumn Congress in 1987 playing with Gerald Soper. He also had many other high finishes, for example third place in the Brighton Bowl at the Summer Congress in 1987 playing with Jeremy Willans along with Derek Patterson and Mark Stickings. In the following year he finished third in the Corwen playing with Derek Patterson. If it was possible Terry was very happy to camp while playing in these competitions, at any time of the year from Leeds in January in the snow until Llangollen in November. He persuaded Derek Patterson to join him in his tent one weekend.

In 1979 Terry started a new job in the paper industry working with Tony Price, one of his bridge partners. He worked with him for many years before leaving and setting up his own company in the same line which he kept running until his retirement.

Terry's love of music saw him in 2011 help set up the Little Rabbit Barn concerts which are held monthly in a venue near Colchester. The musicians who perform are some of finest Americana, country and roots artists from USA, Canada and UK. Terry and Vicki were both heavily involved, they put up many musicians who played at LRB.

Another passion of Terry's involved the natural world. He was interested in amphibians and in later years organised the Goodley Stock Road Toad Patrol in Westerham which involves catching toads and carrying them across a busy road from their hibernation site to their breeding ponds. Toads like moving best in the dark and when it is raining so this involved many wet nights in February and March.

Terry was a husband to Vicki, dad, stepdad, brother and granddad. He was very supportive of his children and grandchildren, especially taking them camping, walking and involving them in the outdoor activities he loved. Playing games, chess and card games were all part of their lives with him.

Sadly, he was diagnosed with Pancreatic cancer in February 2025 and he died 26 June 2025 at home with his family with him.

Over the years Terry won 37 KCBA Cups with a number of partners although his main partners over the years were initially Mike Kingsland then Tony Price and in later years Gerald Soper. A list of the cups won by Terry including the years & his partners as set out below.

1978	Owl Cup	Mike Kingsland	Tony Price	Mary Betts
1978	Phillimore Cup	Mike Kingsland		
1982	Arnold Cup	Mike Kingland	Colin Wilson	Jeremy Willans
1982	Birkle Bowl	Mike Kingland	Colin Wilson	Gerald Soper
1983	Arnold Plate	Mike Kingsland	Colin Wilson	Jeremy Willans Gerald Soper
1983	Hunter Homines	Mike Kingsland		
1984	Phillimore Cup	Gerald Soper		
1985	Brook Cup	Mike Kingsland	Colin Wilson	Jeremy Willans
1985	Phillimore Cup	Gerald Soper		
1986	Arnold Cup	John Cullingworth	Denis O'Donovan & 3 others	
1986	Gill Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Nesom & 3 others	
1986	Brook Cup	Tony Price	Gerald Tredinnick & 3 others	
1987	Arnold Cup	John Cullingworth	Denis O'Donovan & 3 others	
1987	Gill Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Nesom & 3 others	
1987	Brook Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Doye Derek Patterson	
1988	Gill Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Nesom & 3 others	
1988	Brook Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Doye Valerie Moore	
1988	Larsky Cup	Derek Patterson		
1988	Paul Spurway Bowl	Gerald Soper		
1989	Gill Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Nesom & 3 others	
1989	Arnold Cup	Andrew Doye	Denis O'Donovan & 3 others	
1989	Owl Cup	Gerald Soper	Mike Kingsland	Jeremy Willans
1990	Arnold Plate	Gerald Soper	Colin Thame	Gary Rogerson
1990	Gill Cup	Tony Price	Andrew Nesom & 3 others	
1992	Owl Cup	Gerald Soper	Paul Roberts	Davis Stretton
1993	Corbett Cup	Gerald Soper	with 6 others for West Kent	
1994	Larsky Cup	Gerald Soper		
1997	Larsky Cup	Gerald Soper		
1997	Corbett Cup	Gerald Soper	with 6 others for West Kent	
2000	Arnold Cup	Gerald Soper	Rod Oakford	John Short John Murrell
2005	Corbett Cup	Gerald Soper	with 6 others for West Kent	
2008	Lukey Cup	Gerald Soper	Brian Ransley	Brian McGuire
2010	Larsky Cup	Gerald Soper		
2012	Owl Cup	Gerald Soper	Brian Ransley	Brian McGuire
2014	Arnold Plate	Gerald Soper	Colin Wilson	Diana Avis
2016	Arnold Cup	Gerald Soper	Colin Wilson & 3 others	
2016	Owl Cup	Gerald Soper	Brian Ransley	Brian McGuire