

## UPPERCUT

Uppercut was formed in 2012, consisting of the regular partnership of Chris Hine and Stephen Ward, and the then fairly new partnership of James Sheppard and Michael Wymer. We had a few ideas for team names, including 'Half Cut' (possibly a more appropriate name on some occasions), but eventually settled on Uppercut.

We had a great first year as a team, getting promoted from division 4 to 3 and also winning the Higson Plate – Michael had completed the Great Manchester Run on the same morning and came straight to the Plate final afterwards! We then spent the next three seasons in division 3 with varying results, but now finally getting promoted.

Away from the bridge table, Chris is a Forensic Accountant, James works for a mental health charity, Michael is a Civil Engineer and Stephen is a University Librarian. We'd all play more bridge if we could, but the pressures of work and other commitments usually restrict us to Monday evenings at Manchester Bridge Club, which we all really enjoy.

Finally a big thank you to Linda Williams, a good friend of the team who stepped in at short notice towards the end of the season when one of the team was ill, and helped us on our way to winning the division. Thanks Linda!

We're looking forward to the next season and playing some new teams, but also trying to ensure that we don't come hurtling straight back down to division 3.

*Stephen Ward*