

SCOTLAND

John Matheson and Iain Sime are playing together in the Camrose for the fifth consecutive year, missing only one weekend in that time. Both were also part of the Scotland senior team who won the bronze medal at the European Championships in Dublin. This qualified the team for the World Senior Bowl in Bali in September.

John is a retired GP and an avid follower of cricket. He has over 50 Camrose caps, the first being in 1968. He has sat opposite numerous partners, including many of Scotland's finest.

Iain is a Chartered Tax Adviser in Edinburgh and this will be his thirteenth Camrose weekend, having first played with Derek Sanders in 2004. Away from bridge, he is married with one son, and his other main hobby is watching football.

Phil Stephens and Alex Wilkinson. This is a new partnership and their second Camrose weekend together, Phil making his debut in Belfast in January.

Phil is part of a bridge playing family and has been a regular member of the Scotland junior team in recent years. He has recently been awarded his PhD in physics and is now looking to start a career in finance. He is married and lives in London.

Alex is in his final year as a doctoral student at Lancaster University, researching Surrealism. This will be his will his fifth Camrose weekend with his third partner. He remains the youngest player ever to participate in the event.

Brian Spears and Paul Barton are also a new partnership but they have been teammates for a few years, winning the Scottish Cup in 2011. They have already achieved a win together in the Winter 4's, Scotland's premier team event as well as doing well in trials.

Brian Spears runs a small property business with his wife Frances. He also plays poker semi-professionally. Brian has several Camrose caps and he was a member of the Scottish bridge team which won a gold medal at the Commonwealth games event in New Delhi in 2010.

Paul Barton is in between careers, recently having worked for the Scottish NHS. He has been playing bridge for most of the last 20 odd years, having learnt at the age of 16. This is his first appearance for Scotland.

Mike Ash (NPC) is currently President of the SBU. He has represented Scotland at both Camrose & Senior level and played for his adopted country in the last 2 European Championships.

Mike is semi-retired, being a non-executive director of two public bodies. He has previously run his own company and spent a number of years as a politician.