



TRUMPIT



WINTER 2007

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Wed/Fri (12th Dec) – Play with the experts
Monday Club (17th Dec) - Military bridge

Start time 7pm (for food & drinks), please bring food, along with your party outfit and lots of Christmas cheer! – lists will be available on the board, alternatively a donation would be appreciated.

For 12th Dec party – please bring a raffle prize

CHARITY NIGHT

Our thanks to Norman Gascoyne for his efforts in organising this year's charity evening. Well supported by Monday Club members, but a disappointing turnout overall. £200 has been donated to Helen House; congratulations to all who participated.

The date for this annual event has been moved to better fit the calendar – in future it will be held in March (next year is 12th March 2008). Your Committee is reviewing the format and ask for your support together with recommendations for charities to benefit.

CHILDREN IN NEED

A week, with bridge players and the BGB giving a little to a very worthy cause. The total recorded as collected by the BGB to date is £47,000. You can check ecatsbridge.com for the latest details.

LEN SALMON TROPHY

This is the annual 'Friendly' teams event against Abingdon. 3 teams of 8 did battle; an enjoyable afternoon with Wallingford retaining the trophy. Well done to us!!

BRIGHTON 2007

For those who have never braved the Brighton Congress, if you have the stamina you should give it a go. As well as tough weekend bridge, there are mid-week sessions for all levels.

Competitions such as this give invaluable experience as well as fine-tuning your system (even if it sometimes feels like a good kicking!).

This was not one of our better years. However, it is worth mentioning that 34 members played in the pairs event; an excellent turnout for which we can be proud.

RESULTS

Club Competitions: Congratulations to the winners of:

a) Mixed Pairs

Jean Squires and Norman Gascoyne

b) Pead Plate (Handicap Teams)

Jennie Griffiths, Ron Quainton,
Paula Hopkinson & Peter Russell

Leading the field to date:

Open Pairs: Ron Quainton & Norman Gascoyne

Handicap Pairs: Andrea Brown & Francis Glassborow

Teams: Jennie Griffiths, Ron Quainton,
Paula Hopkinson & Peter Russell

Open Individual: Ron Quainton

Handicap Individual: Beryl McGreevy

Penny Marris 3 session handicap pairs-To be published

Wessex League to date:

Early days, but our D team has played 3 matches, with a total to date of 47/60. Keep it up!!!

Other Results

Peebles Congress Multiple Teams (2nd of 75)

Jean Squires and team mates

Malvern Congress Swiss Pairs (2nd of 135)

Debbie Roberts and Geoff Nicholas

Oxon Men's Pairs (Winners)

Nigel Wilkes and Mike Webley

Llangollen Swiss Teams (2nd of 58)

Debbie Roberts & Geoff Nicholas

Paula Hopkinson & Vic Savage

DIARY DATES

BGB Simultaneous	9 th Jan 2008
National Pairs heat	23 rd Jan 2008
Lanzarote	1 st - 6th Feb 2008
Charity Night	12 th Mar 2008
BGB Simultaneous	9 th Apr 2008
AGM	23 rd Apr 2008
Jersey	25 th Apr – 4 th May 2008

SUPERVISED PLAY

Francis Glassborow will be running supervised play sessions from January 2008 on Thursday afternoons. Please contact Francis if you are interested in attending, or if there is a specific topic you would like covered. Please note Francis' new telephone number is 01865 717797 and not as published in the calendar.

THANKS

Christmas would seem a good time to show a little thanks to a few of our unsung heroes:

Jennie & Roger Griffiths for updating our Honours Board

Tony Burwood-Smith and Arthur Tulip for their efforts with scoring, as well as maintaining handicaps etc.

Philip Simmonds for running Thurs afternoon games

Peter Baxter, Arthur Tulip, Francis Glassborow &

Richard Moore for teaching students

John Barton, working tirelessly behind the scenes

Esme Collins for purchasing catering supplies

Beryl McGreevy & Nancy Parker for managing the Partnership desks

Roger & Isobel Stammers for maintaining our website

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Your Directors

If we had to pay for a Director it would cost about £40 a session. We only have a few members who are willing to carry out this tiresome task; they give their time and energy to enable all of us to play - this is a plea to ask you to appreciate them a bit more.

If he/she asks you/your table to do something please just do as you are asked; don't question the request, or even worse – argue.

If you disagree with a Director's ruling do not vent your frustration – simply request an appeal.

If you are willing to direct/learn to direct, Peter Baxter would be very pleased to hear from you.

Slow Play

Another plea to those who are continually behind – please give a little thought to those around you and make it your New Year's resolution to speed up.

Here again the poor Director is between a rock and a hard place. Occasionally you will be behind when it is not your fault. However, the fact remains that you are behind and the Director has got to deal with the problem. If you are asked not to start another board, or if a board is taken away, please accept it and move on. The Director is only doing his/her job – don't shoot the messenger!

Car parking

On busy evenings please park as close to the neighbouring car as is comfortable. The field cannot be used during winter and the more thought you give to parking, the less people will have to wait around at the end of the evening because they have been blocked in.

Shutting doors

To prevent draughts, please keep the double doors shut during play; access rest rooms through the kitchen.

DUPLIMATE MACHINE

Francis Glassborow has kindly agreed to administer the new machine; dealt hands are now available for Mon, Wed & Fri night games. No shuffling with the added bonus of hand records.

HOST SYSTEM

The Host System appears to be working well. The system relies on members signing up to act as host. The more people who agree to act as Host the better, so please put your name down if you have a free date.

As agreed, we are approaching Monday Club members again, to see if they would like to try the Host system.

A list will be put up for names – please sign up if you think this system would benefit Monday evenings.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Sadly, Peter Baxter will be standing down next year and we will need a new Chairman; please put your thinking caps on. There may be a need to find new Committee members – would you be willing??

PREMISES

The search continues for a viable alternative. Norman Gascoyne leads this search, but his tireless efforts have yet to bear fruit.

EBU – PAY TO PLAY

With falling membership and fears for the future, the EBU wants to raise funds to promote the game. New proposals replace subscriptions to the EBU & OBA with a levy on clubs of about 30p per person per game. All bridge players benefit from the EBU; this change would spread EBU running costs, currently met by EBU & OBA members.

Assuming Clubs increase table money to meet this cost, it will affect non-EBU/OBA members, as well as those who play on more than one evening a week.

For those who may not be aware of the benefits arising from the EBU, a summary is as follows:

- a) A central body, providing uniformity of standards, policy reviews & promotion (with unpaid Board, Chairman & selectors)
- b) Training for teachers & directors
- c) Communication – website, magazine etc
- d) Grading for players, points system admin
- e) Arbitration of disputes
- f) Running of National competitions
- g) Support for England teams

Proposals are still under discussion, see Barry's Blog # 16 at www.ebu.co.uk for further details. If these proposals are instigated your Committee will consider the impact of such changes and approach members, in particular with regard to:

- a) An increase in table money to cover EBU charge
- b) Review of current Club charges. With over 200 members, collection of the annual sub is arduous; is this the time to replace annual subs with an initial entry fee, and a slight increase in table money?



Wee fish ewe a mare egrets moose panda hippo gnu deer

