

Jean Macnair d 1979

Camrose: 1948-1959, 10 matches, 2 wins, 1 tie

Lady Milne: 1958-1977 6 matches

Jean replaced Ronald Manson as Bridge correspondent of 'The Scotsman' in 1958. Her weekly Tuesday column was moved to the 'Weekend Scotsman', and she continued to write until the onset of her illness and death in 1979.

Jean's first Camrose partner was Nigel Ross. Later her main partner was Ronald Manson. Her preferred seat was North at table 4 in the main Melville cardroom, where she sat on her lucky hanky. "At her most formidable when bidding the good cards, at match play Jean can be relied on to slip through many a thin game, especially in the notrump department." (John MacLaren, 1967)

Her first partner was Cath French: "For this week's sketch I take two players together, as I think they are dependent on one another for any prominence they have achieved in Edinburgh bridge. Mrs French is apt to clothe her eagerness in a lackadaisical attitude and a tendency to irrelevant small talk, especially when her opponent has food for thought. But she shows intense concentration when the boot is on the other foot. Miss Macnair realises that nothing she can do will hide her enthusiasm. Her depression when she makes a mistake is also distressingly obvious. Each is inclined to blame the other when things go wrong — and usually they are right." (Peter in EEN

Later Jean played her most successful women's bridge; with Judy Benjamin. This story is almost certainly apocryphal At a Congress in Eire Jean enquired at the hotel desk: "Can you get me a 'Scotsman' in the morning"? Ever anxious to oblige, the nonplussed receptionist replied: "I don't think so... would an Irishman do"?