

Robbie Robinson (1907-1992)

Ronald Woodford Robinson was born 25 November 1907 in Raunds in Northamptonshire, the son of John Henry Woodford & Fanny Eugenie, nee Palmer, Robinson. In the 1921 census Ronald was recorded with his parents and three sisters in Bedford, his father John was a solicitor.

Robbie married Dulcie Gwendolyn Doreen Bate on 25 April 1935 at St George, Hanover Square in London. At the time of the marriage he was living in Bedford & working in insurance. Dulcie was born 30 December 1903 in Chiswick. In September 1939 when the national register was compiled Dulcie was living at 4 St Stephens Road in Canterbury but Robbie was not recorded as he was probably serving in the armed forces and they were not included in the register.

Robbie had a long association with bridge in Kent, he was one of the original members of KCBA. His earliest organisational success was the arranging of a match between a Kent team & the team representing Great Britain in the 1956 European Championships.

He played in some KCBA competitions & was part of the team that won the Arnold Plate in 1968. He also won the George Griffiths Cup in 1965 partnering J Saffery and was part of the winning Aveling trophy team in 1961.

Robbie was elected to the KCBA committee no later than 1958 & stood down at the 1964 AGM. He returned to the committee in 1972 and then stood down at the 1986 AGM. He served as area secretary for the Medway towns for many years. He also undertook the full range of executive duties on his local club committee. In addition, he taught the game to a variety of eager pupils for fifteen years.

He was awarded the Dimmie Fleming award for services to both his club & KCBA in October 1991. Sadly, he passed away soon after receiving the award but he derived a great deal of pleasure from receiving such an accolade. He died on 4 March 1992 at which time he was living at Higham, a large village on the Hoo peninsula between Rochester & Gravesend.