

ROBERT H NORTHAGE (Sept 1938 to Dec 2021)

Robert was raised in Quorn , Leicestershire where his father was the very first clerk to the local council in 1935, a position he held for 40 years.

After university he had a career teaching physics in Bath and when he then retired through ill health in the early 1990s he returned to Leicestershire to live in Quorn.

As well as his interest in bridge he was a very strong chess player and returned to captain the Loughborough club where he had played whilst still at school. For a while he wrote a regular chess and bridge column for the Loughborough Echo.

Robert played in the LCBA League for Loughborough, Magazine, County and Glenfield clubs at various times. He also represented the county in the Midland League teams , normally partnered by John Wilcox.

He had successes in county competitions in teams in the Wilde Cup, Josephs Bowl and the Butterworth Trophy (as it was then called).

Robert joined the LCBA Committee as General Secretary in 1995 and served in this post for 20 years. In this time he expanded the role of the General Secretary so that it is at the heart of bridge activities in the county. Robert took on an enormous workload on behalf of the Association. In addition to his support for our various sub-committees he had a particular interest in laws and ethics, along with acting as a Competition Controller of some of our county bridge competitions. He trained as a county level director in 1995 and had been one of a select panel who directed county pairs and teams events consistently until a couple of years ago.

The fact the Leicestershire runs a Green Point weekend featuring pairs and teams events is due to Robert's efforts in resurrecting and organising the events. That this is a successful venture is due largely to Robert's efforts.

Robert was also an EBU Shareholder on behalf of the county whilst Secretary and played an active role in Shareholder meetings.

Robert was made a Life member of the LCBA in 2011 and given an EBU Dimmie Fleming award in 2014 for his services to the Association.