My Moseley Journey

I had always kind of flirted with bridge, but it wasn’t till the late 70s that I found there were clubs where one could play.

I started out with my friend Vic Ward at Quinborne BC and we soon learned there was a sort of hierarchy of clubs in the City.

Heathercroft then meeting in Bishopsgate Street and Moseley where the crème de la crème would clash were the next steps but there were also the Business Houses League and the Invitation Pairs and the Restricted Pairs where one could play.

Bridge abounded in the City. I had partnered with a lady called Nanette at Quinborne and we decided to try the game at Heathercroft where we found we could hold our own at that level.

The best player there by far was called John Powell; he always won and was held in awe by everyone. He was famous not only for his skills (mostly partnering Joan Satterthwaite) but also for his total of Green Points, mostly accrued with one David Hulston. John was a great player but would always encourage the rest of us and give us a game from time to time; he was also a dedicated smoker, often to be seen with a cigarette in his mouth, another in his fingers and a third in his ashtray! Sadly, he quit the game as soon as the EBU imposed its smoking ban never to be seen again.

Other stalwarts of those days were Janice Fine and Penny Brotherton whom happily we still see playing at Northfield.