

OXFORD BRIDGE

Newsletter of the Oxfordshire Bridge Association

Number Eight

December 2009

EDITORIAL

As yet another year passes, I wish all members of the Oxfordshire Bridge Association a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. It is with great regret that I must announce my retirement as Editor of the OBA Newsletter. Although I have enjoyed the experience immensely, my remoteness from the “sharp end” of Oxfordshire bridge has been a bit of a handicap and the effect of my lack of serious bridge on my overall aptitude is beginning to tell. Age has also started to play tricks with my memory!

After an initial period of enthusiasm, I have been disappointed with the subsequent lack of input from rank and file members, leaving me to compose most of the contents of the Newsletter on my own. I do trust and hope that there is a younger person out there with the enthusiasm to take over the torch from me and carry on and improve the good (?) work that I have started.

Malcolm Simpson

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 6 Dec: SWISS PAIRS
1.45 for 2.00 pm (Oxford BC)

Sun 24 Jan 2010: HARWELL CUP
The OBA Teams of Four Championship
1.45 for 2.00 pm (Oxford BC)

This event is also the qualifier for the Beck Cup final, held in April

Tues 26 Jan 2010: PRO-AM TOURNAMENT
7.15 for 7.30 pm (Oxford BC)

“Ams” with less than 5000 master points will be paired with more experienced partners, to be drawn on the day

Sun 21 Feb and Sun 7 March: COUNTY PAIRS SEMI-FINALS
Qualifiers will be notified in advance
1.45 for 2.00 pm (Oxford BC)

Entries for all events to Alan Grunwald,
1 Elm Tree Cottage, Grove Rd, Wantage, Oxon OX12 7BS
e-mail: AlanG@nurdglaw.demon.co.uk
Tel: 01235 760488

HOW MANY COMBINED POINTS DO YOU NEED TO MAKE A GRAND SLAM?

Love all
Dealer East

NORTH
♠ J10853
♥ -
♦ 109765432
♣ -

WEST
♠ K
♥ KQ108643
♦ AK
♣ AQJ

EAST
♠ Q
♥ AJ9752
♦ QJ8
♣ K97

SOUTH
♠ A97642
♥ -
♦ -
♣ 10865432

Members who used to read my articles in the South Oxfordshire Herald will know that I always featured the most bizarre deals at Christmas time (along with a few “*double entendre*” limericks!). The deal above features in Nick Smith’s excellent book “Bridge Literature” (*Cadogan*) and shows the answer to the above question to be FIVE.

Nick actually contrives an Auction to reach the contract of Seven Spades by North/South (doubled of course), but readers will have to buy the book to find out such details!

On the Ace of Diamonds lead declarer merely has to ruff, draw trumps with the Ace of Spades and cross ruff to establish the diamond suit.

AROUND THE CLUBS – 7 Summertown

Summertown Bridge Club is one of the “younger” clubs in the County, having been in existence only for some 15 years. Since its inception it has moved venue several times and its Monday evening duplicates now enjoy comfortable surroundings at the Maison Française, just north of central Oxford.

The club enters three teams in the Wessex League, runs a Handicap Pairs once a quarter and takes part in several

Simultaneous Pairs events every year, including the Children in Need Sims in November, where for the last two years it has raised more funds for the charity than any other club in England.

Membership has grown to over 100 and is now capped, with a waiting list: however, visitors are welcome to play on ordinary club evenings up to 5 times in any one year. An effective host system ensures that a partner can always be found.

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Following Malcolm’s retirement, would anyone interested in filling the post of Editor please contact the county secretary Sandra Nicholson (sandra@krys.net), Tel: 01865 842204.

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