

OXFORDSHIRE BRIDGE

Newsletter of the Oxfordshire Bridge Association

Number 21 June 2013

Pocket full of Posies

Did you enter Quiz 20 to win a meal at **The Seven Stars in Dinton** or flowers from **Babylon, Cuxham**? See update at www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk after the OBA AGM on 11 June - *David Bygott*

Ring a ring o' roses

Prize-winning novelist **Sally Nicholls** is new to bridge but keen as mustard. In Oxford this June (E/W vul) N passed. E bid 1♥. Sitting S, **Sally** held: ♠QT8654 ♥8 ♦2 ♣AQ742. Did she go quietly and pass? What, Sally... a wimp?

N	E	S	W
P	1♥	3♠	5♦
5♠	P	P	P

At trick 1, West led ♦A...

North			
♠AK73	♥T932	♦Q8	♣T65
West		East	
♠2	♠J9	♥KQ654	♦KT
♥AJ7	♥KQ654	♦KT	♣K983
♦AJ976543	♦KT	♣K983	
♣J			
South (Sally)			
♠QT8654	♥8	♦2	♣AQ742

West's ♦A won trick 1. Next came ♣J. Can you guess how **Sally** made her 5♠ contract?



1 June 2013 at Babylon Plants (photo: ed)

If at first you don't succeed...

"How do you feel?" *your ed* asked two aces.

"Well, it's about time," said Wilkes. And Webley explained, "Been trying for 30 years."

What had W/W just won? See next page.

All Fall Down

Bridge over, **Sally Nicholls** lunched in Oxford's **Spice Lounge** and signed copies of **All Fall Down** (for teens and up). Its feisty narrator Isabel lives in a village near an abbey close to York. It's 1349. A plague that will kill half the population of Europe is heading her way...

All Fall Down is about life and death but also love and gender issues. Isabel wrestles too with a question raised in 1945 after the Holocaust: what God could allow this?

Your ed, aware of a real Isabel, born c.1336 in Settrington, not far from Kirkham Abbey and York, asked **Sally** if she'd based her story on a real village, if not Settrington maybe Stockton-on-the-Forest, even closer to York?

"No," said **Sally**, "I did a lot of research but the characters in **All Fall Down** are mine, acting for themselves in the situations they face."

To win a signed **Sally Nicholls'** novel see our quiz on p. 2.

Two aces succeed at last

Congratulations to the winners of the OBA's **2013 Pairs Championship**, coming through a club heat and qualifying from a tough semi-final, then leading all the way in the final.

1. **Mike Webley & Nigel Wilkes**
2. Kathy Talbot & Denis Talbot
3. Jeremy Bygott & David Bygott

For more results visit...

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk

Bridge to your taste?

For details of these (and more) visit:

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk

And note the site's *Social Bridge* section.

- Alongside our **annual 2-day Congress** (this year in **Woodstock on 15-16 June**) there will be a separate 'social bridge' programme.
- **2nd Monday** of every month sees the OBA Seniors daytime ladder comp at Wallingford BC, Roke.
NB: younger folk may play without standing.
- Eat, chat & play with Oxford BC's amiable **Lunch Bunch**. Motto: "Do come with a partner if you wish, but be prepared to play with others."
- **Cafe Bridge** in the Thame area on Thurs 12 Sept.
- A pivot teams **play-with-an-expert** evening run by the **Menagerie Club** on June 24.

Second hand Rose

Beginners tips don't always work. Say North (playing a strong NT) opens 1♠.

♠A8653 ♥AJ8 ♦KQ9 ♣74

As East you risk a frisky 2♥ overcall.

♠Q92
♥QT954
♦63
♣AK3

It goes: 1♠ (2♥) 2NT (p); 3NT. West duly leads ♥6. Dummy plays ♥8, you ♥9, South ♥K. Then it's over to N's ♦K and back off table with ♣7.

You (E) are 2nd player – so play low? **No!** Plainly, declarer has ♣Q but not spades. So rise with ♣A – and dig for victory. Push a spade.

If S's ♣Q makes, 3NT will roll home.

Declarer (S) has: ♠7 ♥K73 ♦AJT42 ♣QJ85.

Partner (E) has ♠KJT4 ♥K62 ♦875 ♣T962.

Winnie Ling (1913-2013)

OBA members owe a great debt to Winnie Ling, shown (*right*) at Oxford BC with long-time friend and fellow bridge teacher Esme Alden. Read a tribute to Winnie in the current issue of **English Bridge**. Read more in our forthcoming *Oxfordshire newsletter update*.

(photo: courtesy of E. Alden)



Prize Quiz 21



Great Western Arms, Aynho, OX17 3BP (photo: ed)

Only 30 mins from Oxford this friendly, award-winning inn at Aynho Quay offers great food (& rooms) plus walks along the Oxford Canal. To win a **meal for two** at the **Great Western Arms** – or a signed copy of Sally Nicholls' powerful novel **All Fall Down**, just...

answer 3 questions.

1. Victor Mollo's fictional bridge ace 'HH' was...
Hapless Hare - Hideous Hog - Hearty Horse
2. The *Red Lion in Chalgrove* is owned by...
a church - a nature reserve - Noah King
3. Drive from Chalgrove to Aynho in about...
40 mins - 2 hours - 3 hours

Your 3 answers (& EBU no) by Fri 28 June to the Editor or to the OBA membership secretary:

emilysmiddleton@gmail.com

