

OXFORDSHIRE BRIDGE

Newsletter of the Oxfordshire Bridge Association

Number 24 February 2014

Oxfordshire blue

Rain upon rain and awful flooding made us all feel **blue**. Some feared the End of the World unless our OBA teams somehow managed another good inter-county win. Well, be of good cheer! The snowdrops are out, **blue sky** has been spotted and in the Feb 16 match v Lincolnshire the OBA's A, B and C teams all won. Enjoy your bridge. — *David Bygott*

New social teams of four

As some Oxon roads began to dry, **Blewbury BC** hosted a *new* OBA event (*at most one* advanced player per team). Eight teams competed and Richard Sills' team came first, but the point was to enjoy. Enjoy bridge? Mm, great idea!

Handsome win in The Winnie

Claire MacDonagh & Peter Sherry left **blue water** twixt themselves and the field to win Oxford BC's **Winnie Ling Trophy** for mixed pairs. Previous winners Cathy Rowland & Christopher Whitehouse were a close third behind Diana Nettleton & Dave Dobson after bad luck on this hand. It was declared in 3NT at the others' tables but in 4♥ by CR/CW (N) going one off on ♦T lead.

	♠ J ♥ Q9876 ♦ AQ654 ♣ K6		
♠ K87532	N		♠ AQ
♥ J4	W E		♥ KT2
♦ J7			♦ T9832
♣ J73			♣ Q42
	♠ T964 ♥ A53 ♦ K ♣ AT985		

Seeing **all** the cards, can you make 4♥ by N?

Coming soon...

- Sat 23 Mar Portland Pairs, mixed (various venues)
- Sun 30 Mar County Pairs Final (1.45 pm at Oxford BC)
- Sun 13 April Beck Cup.(see OBA brochure)
- Tue 22 April social **cafe bridge** around **Henley**
- Sun 18 May **Oxford Times Cup** (for novices)



photo: the editor

Wallingford BC's fun Christmas party featured a **Flag-a-Board** bridge event. The team of **Marion, Kath & Roy** won, aided by a magic tie made by a Christmas tree fairy on a nearby hill farm.

Abingdon Blue

In a field of 40 John Clifford & Clive Keep (93/120) won Abingdon BC's first **Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs**. Top-placing non-experts, Diane Bell & Stephen Quinn of **Blewbury** and **Oxford's** Ruth Kim & Howard Arnes tied on 67. Well done, everyone!

Those two hands in issue 23

In the deal on page 1 the winning line on the day as so often was to play low. (*Your Ed* **blew** it.)

Page 2 featured a real blockbuster.

West has: ♠AJ64 ♥KQJ9863 ♦ - ♣QJ
East has: ♠975 ♥A ♦A8632 ♣AK94

W opens.

How would *you* bid with your fave pard?

On the day, a newish pair rested in 4♠, going off. John Deech & Diana Nettleton fared better.

Their auction was brief: 1♥-2♦, 4♥-6♥.

John explained to *your Ed* that for him his partner's 4♥ rebid was key. "Diana opened 1♥ and I responded 2♦. After her 4♥ I looked at all my controls. I took the view that, if Diana could bid 4♥ without even the ace of hearts, she must have a very good heart suit."

Indeed, on the day, it was possible to make all 13 tricks.

Chase the blues away

For info about **Cafe Bridge** and other social events contact Barbara Jordan or check the dedicated **social** area of our new website

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk/joomla

Bridge for golfers

On Sun 16 Feb ten **foursomes** representing six golf clubs, took part in a lively bridge event at Frilford Heath GC won by **Buckingham C** (Mick & Patricia Ellis, Ian & Hilary Thomas) a **fair way** ahead of runners-up **Wychwood** (Gerald Owen, David Cooper, Peter Bramley & John Blondeau).

Ever popular Pro/Am Pairs

Our annual **Pro/Am** saw 26 'pros' partnering 26 'ams' with two doyens of the county scene book-ending the rankings. **Evergreen, ever elegant** Esme Alden with Gwen Turner won, pressed hard by runners-up Val Constable & Annabel Wade in second and Ameena Ahmad & Christina Hardymant third. Well done, all pairs!

Sun 9 March, Roke, Junior Open Day

A tip for adults accompanying players to this event: **Roke** village hall is easily located along the road from the charming **Chequers Inn**.

www.chequersberricksalome.co.uk

Book early... Islip Blue, 18 May

Summertown BC's **Blue-Pointed Swiss Pairs** welcomes you to **Islip** village hall (any profits to the Samaritans). See: <http://www.summerbridge.org.uk/>



Islip's ancient **St Nicholas** watches over fragrant rows of **blue lavender** in **Jacobs Field** (photo: J. Ross)



Flooding in central Oxford, February 2014, photo by **Air Experiences**, Birmingham (who offer flying lessons as well as viewing flights from Oxon airfields, e.g. as a birthday treat). www.airexperiences.co.uk

Quiz 24 for OBA members

To win a **print** of the stunning aerial pic above or a taste of **Oxford Blue** cheese or (to 4 more winners) a trio of **Ben & Jacob's Oxon**-made gourmet sauces, answer these 4 questions.

1. The bridge across the centre of the aerial photo above is called ... Bridge.

Eiffel - Islip - Magdalen - Larsporsena

2. Nickname of Birmingham City FC is The...

Lavenders - Owls - Tigers - Blues

3. King Edward the Confessor was born in...

Ruislip - Islip - Cowslip - Oxlip

4. Oxford man Frederick Langbridge wrote,

"Two men look out through prison bars,
One sees the mud, and one ..."

a vase - cars - planet Mars - the stars

Your 4 answers, *with your EBU no*, by Friday 21 March to the Editor or to the

OBA membership secretary:

emilysmiddleton@gmail.com

OBA Members' other interests (No. 1)

Our quiz prize meal for two at **Brotherton's** in Woodstock was won by Krys Kazmierczak, whose interests outside bridge include birds. Check out: www.orientalbirdimages.org

Now please mark your diary for June...

Sun 8 June OBA **mixed** pairs (1.45 pm at Oxford BC)
14-15 June **Oxfordshire Congress** (see Brochure)