

# OXFORDSHIRE BRIDGE

Newsletter of the Oxfordshire Bridge Association

Number 28 November 2014

## *A game for all age groups?*

The amazing **Boris Schapiro** (b. 1909, d. 2002 nr Aylesbury) played at 10 and won his final World Championship title in Lille in 1998, **aged 89!** Britain's great Austrian-born world champion, **Rixi Markus**, got into bridge before her teens, as did OBA's **Abbey Smith**, a member of the England team that won the 1999 European Women's Championship. Next month, in Lille, the OBA's **James Paul** represents England (in an Under 25 Open) along with OBA's **Laura Coville** (U25 women) and **Freddie Illingworth** (Juniors).

Last month, at the closing events of the World Series Championships in the lush Chinese setting of Sanya, the *average* age of the Open Pairs medallists (gold, silver, bronze) was just **33**.

Dutch star **Marion Michielsen** (b. 1985) shone doubly brightly in Sanya, but what of **Michal Klukowski** in Poland's new world championship Team, crushing **Monaco** 131-80 to take the Rosenblum Cup, **aged 18?**

Yes, bridge is a game for all ages! — *David Bygott*

## **Remember, remember...**

On 5 Nov our OBA President, **Evan Harris**, former MP for Oxford West & Abingdon, helped the House of Commons team to win the annual **Lords v Commons** bridge match. You can see a report on the English Bridge Union website.

<http://www.ebu.co.uk/>

## **OBA events coming soon**

**Seniors Pairs (55+)** monthly ladder  
second Monday at **Wallingford BC**  
Roke and Berrick Salome Village Hall  
**OX10 6JJ**

[www.bridgewebs.com/wallingford](http://www.bridgewebs.com/wallingford)

Current leaders: Derek Patterson & Andrea Smith

**OBA Management committee on 17 Nov**  
at **Holton** village hall

**Step Up Bridge** in Central Yarnton at 7 pm  
on **Thurs 27 Nov** (details: Jonathan Price)  
Mob: 07766 621710

<mailto:dhpgjonprice@hotmail.com>

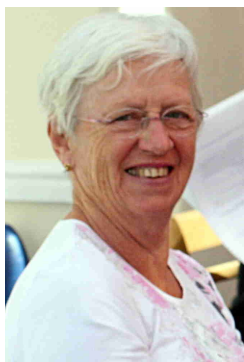
**OBA Swiss Pairs** Championship on **Sun 30 Nov**  
at Oxford Bridge Club. For details see:

<http://www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk/joomla>

## **Don't miss our December issue...**

with a doubly tasty **prize quiz**

## **Well done, Oxford BC CIO**



A charitable incorporated organisation now, not a member-owned club, Oxford BC CIO showed its mettle on 28 Sept when **Pat Lewis** and her team ran a cake-and-coffee bridge event that raised £700 for **Macmillan Cancer Research**.

*Photo: the editor*

### *Highest scores...*

- |   |                                 |         |
|---|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Miriam Seaver & Virginia Baines | 63.67 % |
| 2 | Tunde Scott & Kathy Talbot      | 64.35 % |
| 3 | Suzanne & Peter Litchfield      | 60.16 % |

Like other clubs in the county Oxford BC CIO also ran a November Sim Pairs heat in aid of

### **Children in Need.**

- |   |                                     |         |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Kathy Talbot & Denis Talbot         | 67.36 % |
| 2 | Peter Owen-Smith & Peter Stevenson  | 64.35 % |
| 3 | Miriam Seaver & Virginia Baines     | 62.50 % |
| 4 | Sandra Nicholson & Krys Kazmierczak | 59.95 % |

Meanwhile the **Wessex League** season has begun. and **Oxford B** have taken an early lead in Division 1. Who will catch them?

**Stop press...** For more info re the country-wide bridge education initiative EBED, whose Simon Barb is following OBA's **Step Up** trials with interest, see... <http://www.ebedcio.org.uk/>

## Congratulations

Our 2014-15 **OBA Women's Pairs** champions, **Mary-Ann & Cathy**, have often done it before but what a huge winning margin. Well done!

1	Mary-Ann Sheehy & Cathy Rowland	64.58 %
2	Clare Lim & Ruth Jones	54.86 %
3	Beryl Kerr & Kathy Talbot	54.17 %
4=	Ameena Ahmad & Sheila Robinson	52.78 %
4=	Val Constable & Emily Middleton	52.78 %

In the **OBA Men's Pairs** (with a scoring error corrected) it was a rather closer affair.

1	John Williams & Michael Robinson	55.56 %
2=	Denis Talbot & Rob Dixon	54.17 %
2=	Mike Webley & Nigel Wilkes	54.17 %
4=	David Bygott & Michiel Cottaar	51.85 %
4=	Alan Wilson & Nick Smith	51.85 %

You can read a typically generous account of both events (by a slightly rueful columnist) in the **Oxford Times of 6 Nov**. The featured deal (#18, rotated) helped both winning pairs on their way. It gave the columnist a crucial bottom.

(For a key deal from a different event, see **Seniors Moment**, below right.)

## Inter-County Teams

On 12 Oct all three teams (A, B, C) achieved a rare clean sweep against **Gloucestershire**, winning 11-9, 11-9, 20-0. Well done!

On 16 Nov the OBA takes on **Worcestershire** (venue: **Wallingford BC**) with the welcome addition to our squad of Venice Cup player and former European Champion **Abbey Smith**, whose relatively young bridge club to the east of our county is already proving very successful.

## Good luck to our team

Our OBA team selected to **qualify** for the **Tollemache Cup** on Nov 22-23 is:

**Alan Wilson (C) & Nick Smith**  
**Chris Cooper & Ed Jones**  
**Kathy Talbot & Denis Talbot**  
**Robert Procter & Michael Robinson**  
**Sandra Claridge & John Williams**

Over several decades the OBA's qualifying record hasn't been great. But this time... ?

## Buy an ace present here?

Over bridge we often meet players with talents we're unaware of. Take **Maggie Wheeler**, preparing a craft market for **15-16 November** at **Little Milton OX44 7QP**. Maggie makes jewellery and pottery, all her takings going to *Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research*. Among others at this fair are Jane Hanson, ceramics, Rosie Redhead, woodcarver and John Hailstone, digital photography. The **craft market** has free entry, parking, refreshments.

<http://leukaemialymphomaresearch.org.uk/event/little-milton-craft-market>

## Sunday afternoon Junior Bridge Club

plays at Summertown Church Hall,  
Banbury Road, Oxford, 2.30 – 4.30 pm (£3.00).  
"Bridge benefits concentration, memory, arithmetic, reasoning and judgement," says chief organiser Holly Kilpatrick, "and it's fun!"



## Red Queen shows the way

Could other clubs take tips from Wallingford BC on how to take bridge to the general public?

## A Seniors Moment (part 1)

Near the end of a tiring **Seniors Swiss Teams** you sit South. West deals and bids 1NT (12-14). The brief auction goes: 1NT – 2♣; 2♦ - 3NT. So it's 3NT by West - and North leads ♥ 8.

Dummy (East) goes down...

♠ K 9 8 6  
♥ T 7 2  
♦ K 9 6 2  
♣ A K

This is **your moment**. Get this right and you might win the tournament. Take South's cards, as second defender.

♠ 7532 ♥ AK953 ♦ QJ5 ♣ 8

Do you see any chance to defeat W's 3NT?