

OXFORDSHIRE BRIDGE

Newsletter of the Oxfordshire Bridge Association

Number 30 May 2015

Big changes to our County scene

A fresh challenge?

For decades the OBA ran a weekly County Night at Oxford BC. Following a review of attendance this is now twice a month, with hopes to promote a 'tough game' at a wider range of venues in the county. Would you be up for that?

Dates for your diary

Sun 10 May OBA Mixed Pairs at Oxford BC
1.45 for 2 pm at Oxford Bridge Club, *info from...*
<http://www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk/joomla>

Sun 17 May Blue Point Swiss Pairs in Islip,
info from Summertown BC, profits to Footsteps,
an Oxon-based charity supporting children and young
adults with cerebral palsy and similar conditions

Congratulations

In a 20-strong field at Oxford BC CIO on 26 April the winners of this year's OBA County Pairs (not for the first time) were **Dinah & Andrew Lintott**, nearly 3 % ahead of second place.

Lower down, a similar 3 % covered nine of the main pack, from place 4 to place 12.

The top one-third of the field...

1	Dinah Lintott & Andrew Lintott	62.87 %
2	John Williams & Chris Wilson	60.09 %
3	Helen Lawton-Smith & John Slater	57.75 %
4	Keith Robbins & John Gunn	53.80%
5	Lorna Swadling & Rita Todd	53.65 %
6	Liza Furnival & Nigel Birks	53.22 %
7=	Cathy Rowland & Aleksandar Lishkov	52.34 %
7=	Trevor Dawe & David Willard	52.34 %

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Key change at OBA

Some key OBA vacancies need to be filled
Most critically (see p. 3) the OBA needs a new
County Secretary.

Could **you** play this role? Or... know someone?

Read about our *barnstorming*
OBA teams of 8 (on p. 2)

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More dates for you

26-28 May national **GreenPoint** Midweek Congress
Oxford Belfry, Milton Common OX9 2JW

Wed 10 June *Charity Cafe Bridge*
played in Summertown restaurants
organised by Oxford BC CIO in aid of **Rosy**
for info <mailto:susansmith373@gmail.com>

13-14 June OBA's popular annual **GP** Congress
Sat Swiss Pairs (Sandra Landy Trophy to top N-E)
Sun Swiss Teams Chief TD: Stephen Brown
info: <http://www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk/joomla>
entries to: Claire MacDonagh <mailto:obacom@gmail.com>

photos: editor



Is the idyllic Cotswold pub below situated in...
Croydon, Crawley, Cholsey or Chelsea?



The Lamb Inn tel: 01993 708792 (see p. 2)

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Sandy Constable, DFM

(1919-2015)

The **Oxford Times** headline to Nick Smith's bridge column had it right...

Sad loss of one of Oxford's finest
Tributes at Sandy's funeral reminded the many present of his bravery in their battle to defeat Hitler's forces, as well as his contributions to bridge in Oxon as honoured by the EBU's Dimmie Fleming award. Sandy's partners included Krishan Jalie, Eric Bowtell, Earl of Macclesfield, Amit Badiani and in recent years *your Ed*. OBA chairman Robert Procter recalled partnering Sandy for the OBA under Rene Beck. (Are you as sharp as Sandy at 95? Try the test on p. 3.)



A new bridge club

is now open to members & visitors, centrally situated twixt Burford & Aylesbury, midway between Woodstock and Oxford town hall:

Central Yarnton BC

OBA and EBU-affiliated, and with a car park, **CYBC** welcomes players of all standards and (with *your Ed* as chairman) aims to play bridge in the right way and also fundraise.

Already **CYBC** has linked up with the bridge-playing **Night of the Stars** in London (adding £205 to the £51,500 raised) and has donated to Yarnton village's defibrillator appeal.

For info re **Central Yarnton BC** ...

<http://www.bridgewebs.com/centralyarnton>

Social bridge in Henley

In April, 120 pairs enjoyed a day's Cafe Bridge in Henley. **David Jones & Mike Northwood** were top N/S pair on 63.03 %. The E/W winners with 66.34 % were **Howard Arnes & Miriam Seaver**. The event raised £500 for The Children Centre, which gives support to Thames Valley children and young adults with disabilities.

OBA folk in Stratford on Avon

Most OBA entrants to this month's tough Schapiro Spring Foursomes were knocked out of the main event by Sunday and entered the consolation Punchbowl. Among those still battling in Round 4 were Ed Jones, James Paul, Alex Roberts and Phil Stephens. We wish all our OBA players luck.

Racing through open Dawes

After a slow start to the Midland League season all OBA's teams (A, B, C) galloped, in the end beating Warks by a head in the Dawes and Porter divisions and headed only by Warks in the Markham. Not the clean sweep hoped for in issue 29, but a fine finish, especially to win the Dawes **twice** in 3 years. Well done to captain **Alan Wilson** and his squad.

Next challenge? Assuming the OBA sends off £180 per team on time, A & B play at Coventry BC on Sun 28 June to win green points and kudos and prize money in the National Inter-County finals.

Meanwhile you could catch up on reports of their earlier exploits, including our A team's roller-coaster final stanza against Warwickshire A.

Look for **County Team** match reports via...

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

Page 2 Quiz

The Lamb Inn

Steep Hill, Crawley,
Witney OX29 9TW

www.lambcrawley.co.uk



Two tables from *your Ed* a couple were cooing over their sweet. Says *your Ed*, "Mm, polish off my fish, then I'll have the same. Wow... chocolate fondant!"

If **you** would like to win **a meal for 2**

at **The Lamb** (see photo p. 1)

just complete these 3 posers.

1. Charles & Mary ... retold Shakespeare's plays.

Lamb - Lambe - Lampard

2. Ben Jonson called William Shakespeare

"sweet ... of Avon".

duck - goose - mutton - swan

3. Shakespeare: "The fox barks not when he would steal the..."

contract - crown - lamb - trick

OBA members are invited to send your 3 answers, with *your EBU* no, by Fri 29 May **to the Editor or** to the Summertown BC secretary by email:

<Blisses@waitrose.com>

The whole hand (part 1)

I last visited my bridge partner Sandy, aged 95, on the day of the 2015 University Boat Race (recalls *your Ed*). I gave him a problem from a bulletin about an event in China, 1st prize: \$150,000.00. “No pressure, sit North, dealer, red v green, play Ricco van Prooijen’s cards...”

♠ J6
♥ 976432
♦ J76
♣ J8

It was a teams match. Like van Prooijen, Sandy passed initially. The actual auction went...

West	North	East	South
	van P		
	P	P	1NT
2♠	P	P	2NT (<i>both minors</i>)
P	3♣	3♠	all pass

Sandy (like van Prooijen) led ♣J and saw the dummy.

♠ A72
♥ KJ5
♦ Q832
♣ 643

The ♣J held the trick, so ♣8 was continued, overtaken by partner (South) who played a third winning club.

Question: What do you imagine 2011 world champion Ricco van Prooijen discarded on his partner’s third club?

Think: Before van Prooijen played to trick 3 he knew the defence needed two more tricks after trick 3. If partner (S) held both red aces; they would win. Even ♦A with ♦K should suffice. But what if S held only ♦K plus ♥A?

Problem: S’s ♥A could win, but S couldn’t lead out ♦K and win a trick. Yet there was no time to lose, because declarer would establish hearts for a diamond discard. Hm, well what if S held ♥A plus ♦KT *and* the lead could come from N? Except... how could N get on lead?

Solution: At once van Prooijen saw that trick 3 wasn’t the time for an idle discard. Instead he “discarded” a trump. Yes, he broke an old “rule” and ruffed his partner’s winner! Wow, North was on lead again! Now he led his ♦J through dummy’s ♦Q. Declarer was helpless, he went one off. (At the other table, on the same lead, 3♠ was made.)

Sandy’s view: When Sandy faced this problem, I showed him only N and E’s cards. Still the problem was quickly solved. “Trouble with most players,” Sandy said, “play each suit separately, don’t ‘see’ the whole hand.”

Your County Needs YOU

At our AGM on Tues 9 June **OBA Secretary** Sandra Nicholson is standing down after 6 years. Could **you** be the OBA member to step in? Note-taking skills would help, but also ability to set agenda, track action points and give advice to the chairman and other officers. Like to know more? Just ask. **Sandra** will gladly give you her take on the fun bits and on other qualities that may come in handy.

Volunteers are also sought to administer some of our **competitions**, e.g. the ever popular Wessex League. Could **you** help? Yes, we’d all prefer just to play, but the truth is that **no one will play** unless some folk help with organisation.

Fond farewell

In March, **St Michaels** in Upper Wolvercote and then its reception hall (*once home to Summertown BC*) were packed to remember **Krishan Jalie**. Many of the mourners were ‘bridgies’ recalling the large role Krishan played in the bridge life of Oxford as well as the County, for whom he directed and played. His partners included **Sandy Constable** (*see below and on p. 2*) and *your Ed* recalled how one wintry night they gamely drove to Banbury as last-gasp reserves to complete an Oxford A team in a Wessex League match that had already begun. Pressure? What pressure? And, yes, their team won.

Stop press... Stop press...

Following the news of **Central Yarnton** (*see p. 2*) watch out for exciting new bridge developments in the pretty village of **Kings Sutton**, to the north of our county near Aynho’s **Great Western Arms**.

The whole hand (part 2)

Bd 5, vul N/S
Dealer: N

♠ J6
♥ 976432
♦ J76
♣ J8

♠ KQ9543
♥ QT
♦ A5
♣ T52

♠ A72
♥ KJ5
♦ Q832
♣ 643

♠ T8
♥ A8
♦ KT94
♣ AKQ97