



News

January 2018

Oxfordshire players in the England Women's International Trials

Top of the results table in the 'Lady Milne' trials last weekend was Abbey Smith, who teaches bridge and runs the ever-busier club at Drayton Parslow, playing with Heather Dhondy. Several other Oxfordshire players also took part: Ewa Wiczorek, Emily Middleton, Diana Nettleton and Siyu Ren (playing with Laura Covill, who only recently moved away from the county). Abbey will be representing England in the home internationals in March.

Results

The qualifying round for the County Pairs championship was won by **Dinah and Andrew Lintott**. The final will be on 11th March.

This month all three of the [County teams](#) won their matches against Worcestershire. The County now heads both the second- and third-division league tables.

Events

Abingdon Bridge Club is staging a blue-pointed [Swiss Pairs on Sunday 4th February](#).

The [Harwell Cup](#) event (for teams of 4) will be held on Sunday 11th February 2018 at Roke (Wallingford). Blue points are awarded.

The next [County Seniors Pairs](#) is on Monday, 12th February at Roke (near Wallingford).

A [Junior Bridge and Minibrige Competition](#) for 8 to 18 y.o. players is being held at Wallingford BC on Sunday 25th February.

The County is holding a [fundraiser for the national junior bridge squad](#). The juniors (Oxfordshire players among them) have been doing very well in international competition, including winning places at the World Youth Team Championships in China this summer. It all takes money. The fundraising event will take place at Abingdon BC on Monday 12th March. "The emphasis of the day is on learning and fun," with a tea. Cost £20. It currently looks as though all the expenses will be covered by sponsorship, in which case your entire £20 will be going to support the teams.

Oxford BC has an active programme of seminars, including one by Michael Byrne (international player and writer in the EBU magazine) on 17th March. Check out the [OBC website](#) for full details of the programme.

Festival 2018

Planning for the next Festival is under way. If you would like to help, please [let me know](#). The event does not have a rigidly fixed shape: if you have ideas about different ways in which bridge players can have a fun time, do pitch in with them.

Management Committee

The next Management Committee meeting is on March 8th. You are welcome to be present and listen to the proceedings. One current issue in bridge management circles is the role and purpose of the EBU and its relationships with County organisations, clubs, and players in general. If you would like to find out more or join in the debate to express your views, contact [Robert Procter](#), who represents the County on the regional working group and has a particular interest in this topic.

The County still seeks a **Secretary**. If you think you can help, or would like to take on part of the role in a job-share, do get in touch. Also, Robert Procter, the current **Chairman**, spoke at the County Pairs qualifier about his wish to stand down and focus on sociable bridge. Alison Nicolson will be standing down as **Education Officer**. If you would like to put yourself forward or (with their consent) someone else, we'd love to hear from you.

Feedback please to Lawrence Haines, OBA Comms, obafestival@gmx.co.uk