



OBITUARY PAGE

Philip (Phil) Jones 2020

Phil passed away on Saturday 1 February 2020 following a period of poor health.

A regular Wednesday afternoon player, and a strong supporter of the Club, Phil was a regular Tournament Director, a member of the Duplimating team and attended regular Bridge Committee meetings. His sad loss will be felt throughout the Club.

Roy Moore 1922 - 2019



Roy passed away suddenly on Saturday 16 November 2019, having been admitted into hospital the previous day.

A Life Member of West Midlands Bridge Club, Roy not only spent many hours playing bridge at the Club, but was also very active in its administration. Roy joined the Board of Directors in 1992, then again in 2001, and was elected Chairman from 2003 until 2008. In 2008, in recognition of his services to the Club, Roy was elected an Honorary Life Member. Roy played a pivotal role in a number of major developments of the Club. In 2010, owing to the poor health of the then serving Life President, Roy was asked to become Joint President of

the Club, which he duly did, and continued as President of the Club until he retired in November 2015.

An excellent bridge player Roy, who still played a great game into his 97th year - and kept us all on our toes – will be sorely missed by his friends and family, and our sincere condolences go to them all at this sad time. As Roy takes his seat at the Eternal Bridge Table we say to him in the immortal words of the Royal Air Force:

Per Ardua ad Astra “Through Adversity to the Stars”.

Claude Weale 2019

Claude passed away peacefully on Tuesday 3 September 2019, surrounded by his family.

A long-standing member of the Club, Claude spent many hours at the Club enjoying his bridge for over 30 years, and will be greatly missed by his many friends and bridge partners.

Carlo Charlesworth 1942 – 2019

Carlo passed away on Sunday 2 June, following a stroke.

A long-standing member of the Club, Carlo played regularly on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday afternoons. In addition to playing at those sessions, Carlo would always offer his services to TD when needed, which was greatly appreciated.

Carlo will be sorely missed by his family and friends at the Club, as will his jovial demeanour and cheeky grin.

Sheila Stansbie 1939 - 2019

Sheila passed away suddenly on Monday 20 May, following a fall.

A longstanding member of our club, Sheila was a member of the duplimating team, and spent many hours supporting the Club in dealing the boards on a weekly basis, along with supporting the sessions she attended. A delightful lady, Sheila will be sorely missed by her friends and fellow team members.

John Mobberley 1921 - 2018

John died peacefully in Warwick hospital on the 22 September 2018.

Patrick Wells wrote of John:

John was introduced to me by Norman Lawrenson when I joined the club in 2000. We played regularly thereafter, becoming firm friends. His health had been declining since the beginning of the year, and in April he moved into Mockley Manor care home in Ullenhall.

Originally from the Rhymney valley in South Wales, John was one of four children and he always spoke lovingly of his childhood in a mining community. The family moved to Birmingham before the second world war. John served in the RAF throughout the war and later founded a successful insurance broking business. He was married to Edna for nearly 70 years. She predeceased him.

John had a lifelong passion for golf at which he excelled and his bridge wasn't all that bad!

Derek Andrews – 20 August 2018



Derek passed away at his home on Monday 20 August 2018, following a fall.

He was best known for his unswerving support of his late wife, Yvonne, who devoted over thirty years of service to Bridge in Warwickshire; was a Life Member of the County, and a Dimmie Fleming Award Winner. Derek, with Yvonne, were dedicated supporters of local events long after Yvonne retired from Office, attending almost every event in the Warwickshire calendar.

Following Yvonne's death in 2016, it was clear to those who knew Derek well, that the loss of his wife and bridge partner was profound, and left a huge

chasm in his life. Even so, Derek continued to support the West Midlands E team in Division 3/4 of the Warwickshire league.

Derek continued to play bridge and made some new friends. He was a very thoughtful player, and was always happy to help others through the medium of giving regular lessons. He greatly missed being across the table from, and at times sparring with, Yvonne – even when he was in trouble – but now, taking his seat opposite his beloved Yvonne at the Eternal Bridge Table, their bridge will finally be in perfect harmony with each other for all eternity.

Philip Moseley – 23 December 2017

We are sad to announce the death of Philip Moseley. A long standing member of West Midlands Bridge Club, Philip passed quietly away at 5.30am on Saturday 23rd December 2017. Philip will be sadly missed by his many friends at the Club.

Peter Court – 31 October 2017

Sadly, after many years of illness, Peter Court passed away on 31st October in Heartlands Hospital.

A member of the West Midlands Bridge Club Board of Directors and Management Committee Peter was heavily involved with the 2006 Club renovation project - his efforts cemented the Club's sound financial footing that enabled the 2006 extension project to go ahead. Linked to this, Peter was co-organiser of the Club's first Loan Note Scheme, which was set up to support the costs of the project. Peter became chairman of the Management Committee in 2007 and guided the Club Management and Working Committees through a restructuring process to form the new management structure of the Club, which is still in operation today. In 2008 Peter became Company Secretary, and Finance Director, until he stood down in 2011 as a result of ill health.

Graham Sherlock-Brown – 20 March 2017

After a long and difficult fight against a condition he had battled with for many years Graham passed peacefully away at 2.45pm on Monday 20 March 2017.

Until recently, when his condition prevented him from so doing, Graham played bridge regularly at the Club, and represented the Club in competition on many occasions. He was a member of the Bridge Committee and team of Tournament Directors.

Betty Eden – 21 December 2016

Unexpectedly but peacefully Betty passed away on 21 December 2016 at Heartlands Hospital aged 84 years. She had been married to her husband, Jan, for 60 plus years and will be missed by daughter Julia, granddaughters Steffani and Philippa and her family and friends.

Betty will be best known for Tournament Directing Thursday morning and Wednesday afternoon sessions and for issuing the old style paperbased masterpoints, which took a great deal of time, and patience, to hand write. Betty also served on the Bridge Committee.

Larry Sayer – 18 October 2016

We are sad to announce the death of Larry Sayer who passed away on Wednesday 19 October 2016. Larry, a founder member of West Midlands Bridge Club, was a member of the inaugural Committee in 1966 and one of the first Directors, in 1976, of West Midlands Bridge Club Limited.

Larry served on the Committee, then Board, of the Club numerous times between 1966 and 2006, holding a number of offices including that of Chairman. In 2015, in recognition of many years of service to the Club, Larry was awarded Honorary Life Membership of West Midlands Bridge Club Limited.

It was Larry's wish that after his death his body be donated to the Cancer Research department at Keele University.

Yvonne Andrews 8 June 2016



We are sad to announce that Yvonne Andrews passed away on Wednesday 8 June 2016. Yvonne, a Life Member of Warwickshire CBA, devoted over thirty years of service to bridge administration and development in Warwickshire. Yvonne was a member of the Warwickshire Council until 1970, when she joined the Executive Committee, and then went on to hold a number of offices including, Minutes Secretary, Chairman, Shareholder, Midland Counties Congress Committee Member/Chairman and, until her retirement from bridge administration in 2000, General Secretary. Yvonne was awarded the English Bridge Union's Dimmie Fleming Award for services to bridge at County level, and Life Membership of Warwickshire CBA and the Midland Counties Congress, in recognition of her dedication and commitment. Although Yvonne had not enjoyed good health recently, she still managed to play some bridge, and maintain a keen interest in the affairs of the County. Yvonne will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Michael Fisher (President) – 18 May 2015

Due to failing health Michael had not attended the Club for some time, but prior to his illness he was a great presence at the Club, and played bridge regularly. Michael joined the Club in 1972 and became a Board Member in 1978. Elected Chairman of the Board in 1983, Michael led the Club through its first major development scheme, and was proud to see his hard work rewarded when the then new extension was opened.

In July 1994 Michael organised a full week of events to celebrate 100 years of Bridge, including a match against an International Team, which was Vu-

Graphed to the World. In 1998 Michael played a major role in steering the Club through its second major development scheme.

In 2003, in recognition of his service to the Club, Michael was made Life President and an Honorary Life Member of the Club.

Although we have not had the pleasure of seeing Michael for some time he has been in our thoughts and Carolyn has kept us informed. We are confident that Michael will always have West Midlands Bridge Club in his thoughts as he now watches over us from the eternal bridge table in the sky.

Michael's charm and charisma will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Norman Lawrenson – 25 March 2015

Norman was a Founder Member of the Club and had served on the Board and various Committees over many years. In 2011, in recognition of his work, Norman was made a Life Member.

Hylde Townsend – 13 November 2014



Hylde was a doyenne of bridge who, until recent times, was a keen and active bridge player, as well as being a committed and capable bridge administrator.

At National level, Hylde became a Vice President of the English Bridge Union in 1997; was the recipient of a Dimmie Fleming award in 1993, and had been a long serving Member of the English Bridge Union Tournament Committee.

At County level, Hylde served as Chairman and a Shareholder of Warwickshire Contract Bridge Association, being made a Life Member for her services to the County in 2009. Hylde always kept a keen eye on the affairs of the County, and

over many years Chairmen have found her insight and support extremely valuable.

At Club level, Hylda was a Founder Member, Life Member, and President (1979-1981), of Moseley Bridge Club. She was also a Life Member of North Birmingham Bridge Club where she was instrumental in helping the Club to acquire its premises. A Life Member of West Midlands Bridge Club, Hylda was heavily involved in many aspects of the Club's management and, well into her nineties, ran an assisted play session, from which a number of enthusiastic bridge players emerged.

Hylda, unfortunately, stopped playing bridge a few years ago, but will now be taking her seat at the Eternal Bridge Table where all her finesses, endplays and squeezes will be fruitful, and where during the bidding she will always be on the same wavelength as her partner.

Hylda's personality, sense of humour, and all-round presence, will remain forever in the hearts of all those who knew her.

Mike Sellis – 10 March 2013

Mike passed away on Sunday 10th March, his family were with him.

A longstanding and respected member of West Midlands Bridge Club, Mike will be greatly missed by his many friends at the Club, especially those at the Monday, Thursday and Saturday sessions. Mike was also a member of our Club's duplimating team.

Betty Scholes – 18 March 2012

Betty was a Founder Member, and Life Member, of the club and members will particularly remember her because of her fondness for sitting North at table 2. She was always there early in order to secure her favourite seat. Betty was Vice-President at Silhill Bridge Club and always showed an active interest in the affairs of West Midland Bridge Club.

Norman Selwyn – November 2010

Norman was a Life Member of West Midlands Bridge Club and his service to the club dates back many years.

WMBC and the Warwickshire County Bridge Association have benefitted from his wise counsel for many years.

Norman will be sorely missed by his friends.

Steve Byrne - May 2010

Steve's cheerful presence in all county and national events added to the value of all events he took part in. There was never a time in which he was not both a graceful opponent and partner. Such players are hard to replace and we would all do well to try and emulate his behaviour at the table. He will be missed.

Jack Davies – 19 January 2010

Jack died peacefully in his sleep after a period of illness. He was 103 years old.

Jack was made an Honorary Life Member of the West Midland Bridge Club in recognition of his service to the club. He was a founder member and a member of the Board of Directors for many years, taking full responsibility for repairs and maintenance of the club premises. Over that period Jack provided the club with furnishings, staircase banisters and made the serving hatches from specially imported timbers.

Jack played regularly, latterly on Wednesday afternoons until last year. He will be missed by his many friends.