

COUNTY NEWS

For the latest news & events please visit the individual county websites listed at the top of each entry

Avon

www.avoncba.org.uk

IN Crockfords the team led by Peter Shelley (Brian Goalby, Robert Covill & Steve Turner) have reached the 5th round (the last 16).

In the Nicko the Bristol team of Tim Brierley, Graham Hartley, Chris Dixon & David Jones have reached the Quarter Final.

In the Senior Teams Peter Shelley, Brian Goalby, Mike Letts & Andrew Urbanski have reached the semi final .

Bristol Bridge Club represented by Andrew Urbanski, Mike Letts, Graham Hartley, Rob Lawy, Steve Turner, Robert Covill, Trevor Ward & David Jones won the South West Regional Final of the Garden Cities and will play in the 8 team national final in June .

Tim Brierley & Graham Hartley came in 4th in the English Inter County Pairs (Corwen Trophy) in a field of 100 pairs.

Avon ran a very successful new green point weekend held at the University of the West of England over the weekend of 20-21 May with 50 tables in play on each day .The Swiss Pairs saw joint winners with Huw Oliver & Tony Gammon and Cathy & Andy Smith in the tie. In the Swiss Teams the convincing winners with a 90% score were the Gloucestershire team of Wendy & Joe Angseesing , Tony Hill & Martin Garvey.

The County Knock-out has been won by Graham Hartley (Tim Brierley, David Jone's Chris Dixon, Rob Lawy & Trevor Ward) and they will represent Avon in the Pachabo.

County leagues 1 & 2 are not finally decided but Hartley & Page are the favourites to win the respective divisions.

The Knock-out plate has been won by Huw Oliver (Tony Gammon, Brian Goalby, Nelson Stephens, Ceri Pierce & Eric Cummings).

Berks and Bucks

www.bridgewebs.com/bbcba

THE county has set up a new e-group facility that ensures you receive occasional reminders of events and county information via email. You will receive this information automatically if your email is registered in 'My Details' within your EBU Members' area. You can change your email address or unsubscribe by following the simple instructions at the bottom of an email. If you have not registered your email with the EBU but would still like to be added to the B&BCBA list, please email the B&BCBA Membership Secretary, Dave Green: david.green52@ntlworld.com

At the EBU shareholders' meeting in London in May, Colin Simpson was given the Diamond Award in recognition of excellence over a long period for England's international team. Unfortunately, Colin, who is in a nursing home, was unable to be present, but we send our congratulations and best wishes.

Berks & Bucks players featured prominently in the EBU's

Spring Bank Holiday Congress. Tim Rees gained 2nd place in the Championship Pairs A Final. In the Pairs Qualifier, Pat Dowdeswell & Mike Ribbins (4th) and Heather & Matthew Tan (18th) qualified through to the A Final. Heather & Matthew then gained 12th place in the A Final in a very strong field, and followed that with 15th place in the Swiss Teams. Marilyn Murtagh & John Coleman were 9th in the Swiss Pairs and, together with Liz Hayton & Angela Flintoff, were the highest ranked all-B&B team in the Swiss Teams.

Waller Bowl: out of the 314 pairs who competed in 23 heats held in affiliated B&B clubs, 58 pairs qualified to play in the 2016-17 final. Winners were Steve Moss & John Bamberg from South Bucks BC. Runners up were Paul Dolphin & Steve Lynch (Lane End), followed by Marilyn Murtagh & John Coleman (Lane End) in 3rd place. Well done to all.

Dick Davey & Nigel Wolfendale won the Men's Pairs event, with David Owen & Nigel Marlow 2nd, and Anthony Collins & Barry Read 3rd.

Sue Brown & Dick Davey won the Mixed Pairs Cup and Carole & Herb Mueller the Flicht competition. Runners up in the Mixed event were Liz Hayton & Kevin Colling, with Joyce Baldock & Tony Parkinson in 3rd place.

Finally, congratulations to Dick Davey on winning the 2016-17 Victor Ludorum competition for the player who achieves the greatest success in the County's qualifying events over the course of a season.

Cambs and Hunts

www.cambsbridge.org

WE would like to congratulate the Cambs & Hunts League winners - for Division 1, the University 1 Team (Lam, Alishaw, Bowden, Shillitoe, Clark and Panchagnula), for Division 2, the Peterborough 2 Team (Crane, Farquhar, Vajda, Hope, Porter, Evans) and for Division 3, the Ely 3 Team (Lowe, Barnes, Hide, Watson, DasGupta, Newman).

A round of applause also goes to Jon Cooke and Paul Barden for winning the Swiss Pairs, Cambs & Hunts.

The Cambridge Team has emerged victorious and has qualified for the Garden Cities Final.

Channel Islands

www.bridgewebs.com/cicbagnersey – Guernsey

www.bridgewebs.com/cicba – Jersey

COUNTY Mixed Pairs:

1) Dan McIntosh & Susie Farnon, 2) Howard Basden-Smith & Sue Rankin

Jersey District

Ladies' Pairs:

1st, Biddy Waters & Jackie Rumball; 2nd, Sadie O'Brien & Margaret Treacy

Men's Pairs:

1st, Chris Davey & John Honey; 2nd, Howard Basden-

Smith & Chris Hill

Open Pairs:

1st, Chris Hill & Jane Knight; 2nd, David Waters & Graham Boxall

Jersey Club News

Highfield - Pat Grinstead Trophy:

1st, Jane Watts-Wakeham & Harold Walden; 2nd, John & Fiona Honey

Ladies' Pairs:

1st, Patricia Hunter & Jane Lansdell; 2nd, Sue Le Sueur & Sarah Sutton

Men's Pairs:

1st, Mike Newman & Paul Reed; 2nd, John Panter & John Honey

Spring Slams Ladder:

1st equal, Chris Hill & Jane Knight

Victoria - Ladies' Pairs:

1st, Jane Knight & Sue Rankin; 2nd, Sarah Sutton & Ann Burnett

Men's Pairs:

1st, Brian Youd & Harold Walden; 2nd, Howard Basden-Smith & Chris Hill

Open Pairs:

1st, Robert Brouard & Stephen Peck; 2nd, Howard Basden-Smith & Rob Ingram

The Lambourne Jersey Bridge Congress was held at the West Hill Hotel in April. The Swiss Pairs was won by Dan McIntosh & Rune Hauge by a resounding 43VPs and the Swiss Teams by Andrew Thompson, Mike Walsh, Mike Bull & Graham Horscroft.

Other events had multiple winners, Denis & Kathy Talbot won the Pre-Congress Pairs and Midweek Pairs, Gary Hyett & Alan Cooke won the Open Pairs run alongside the Mixed Pairs and teamed up with Brian & Maureen Stairs to win the Multiple Teams and Senior Teams. Chris Taylor & David Wing won the Senior Pairs; David Hole & Roz Bavin the Mixed Pairs; whilst the Consolation Multiple Teams was won by Anne Read, Neville Shorrick, Michael O'Reilly & Doc Lacey.

Cornwall

www.bridgewebs.com/cornwall

WINNERS of the Ladies' Pairs were Elaine Relton & Linda Ashworth, and Jo Bryant & Geoff Smith won the Men's Pairs. Since his arrival from Kent last autumn, Geoff has played in five county events and won . . . all five. We're now ready for him to return to Kent and give the rest of us a chance to win something!

Congratulations to the county C team who, under the captaincy of Brian Relton, won their division of the Western League. By the time you read this, they will have played in the National Finals in Coventry.

Diary dates: 22-24 Sep, Cornwall Green-Pointed Congress, The Falcon Hotel, Bude. Entry form on county website or contact Rob Mabley 01208-814564. 8 Oct, Clarke Winmill Mixed Pairs/AGM Ladock.

Cumbria

www.bridgewebs.com/cumbria/

THE annual Cumbria Congress was a huge success, with a maximum of 40 teams/80 pairs accommodated, thanks to congress secretary Babs Matthews.

Teams winners - Liz Commins & David Stevenson, Adam Aitken & Ian Smith.

Pairs winners - Ms L Bridson & Ms C Thompson.

Consolation Pairs - Mr & Mrs J Wilkins.

Mixed Pairs - Mrs P Lang & Steve Mattinson.

Ladies' Pairs - Bev Godfrey & Nik Cockerill-Smith.

Gents' Pairs - Paul Thornton & Gerry Weston.

Diary dates: 13 Aug, Cumbria v Lancs annual match. 16 Aug, AGM, Barrow BC, 6pm.

Derbyshire

www.bridgewebs.com/derbyshire

WINNERS of the EMBA Plate & Midlands Flitch were John & Irene Auld of our neighbouring County (Notts).

Paul Madden and John Squibb finished a very creditable 7th in the Corwen.

Diary dates: The Summer Swiss teams of four runs to 30 Aug (you can play in any number of the sessions). We have our Individual event on 9 Aug and our Men's and Ladies' pairs event is on 23 Aug. The India Cup (All-play-all Teams of 4) is on 6 Sep and our Green Point event is on 23-24 Sep.

Details of all events scheduled by our county association can be found on <http://www.bridgewebs.com/derbyshire>. This website also contains links to the websites for all affiliated clubs, so if you are looking to play bridge in Derbyshire please visit our website.

Devon

www.devonbridge.co.uk

IN the Jersey Congress, Ruth Edmondson and Brigid McElroy were 2nd in the Swiss Pairs and Mike Walsh was in the winning team in the Swiss Teams.

In the Spring Fours, Gillian & Joe Fawcett were in the team placed 2nd placed in the Punchbowl.

At the Cheltenham Congress, Warner Solomon & Ian Walsh were 5th in the Swiss Pairs.

Diary dates: Entries are due by 7 Oct for the Devon Teams (Western Morning News). The first session of simultaneous pairs for Devon Air Ambulance is on 18 Sep. Devon Winter Pairs restarts on 3 Oct. Full details of all events and results are on the website.

Dorset

www.bridgewebs.com/dorset

HUBERT Phillips Plate:

Congratulations to Jo Norman, Christine Bradley, Phil Norman, Mark Hooper & Krzysztof Ginda on winning the Hubert Phillips Plate.

Jersey Congress:

Helen Ackroyd & Ann Sharples finished 6th in the Swiss Pairs.

Garden Cities Regional Final:

The Allendale team of Miles Cowling, Jeremy Dhondy,

Mike McMorran, David Gill, Alan Wilson, Daphne Philipps, Krzysztof Ginda & Mark Hooper have qualified for the national final.



Dorset's Udall Trophy winners, from left – Tim Dunsby, Peter Mallett, Helen Ackroyd, Andy Kittridge.

Udall Trophy (*see picture above*):

1st, Tim Dunsby, Helen Ackroyd, Andy Kittridge & Peter Mallett; 2nd, James & Shirley Dutton, Geoff Fogg & David Willis; 3rd, Steve Tomlinson, Alan Wilson, Pat Savage & Rosemary Hodder.

Western League:

Dorset won the B league qualifying for the national finals representing the South West. The A and C teams finished 2nd in their leagues.

Dorset Knockout:

Mark Hooper, Krzysztof Ginda, Mike Pownall, Miles Cowling & Rod Marks won the final by defeating Keith Bartlett's team.

EBU Spring Bank Holiday Congress:

Mark Hooper with partner Deborah Berwitz finished 3rd in the Swiss Pairs.

Diary dates: 3 Sep, Chope Salver (Blue-pointed Pairs), Broadmayne Village Hall. 29 Oct, Flemmich Cup (Blue-pointed Swiss Teams), Allendale Bridge Club, Wimborne.

Essex

www.essexbridge.co.uk

EBU Really Easy Weekend Sat Afternoon Pairs:
1st, Sue & Tony French.

EBU Easter Festival:

'B' Flight Swiss Pairs:

2nd, Tony Verran.

Really Easy pairs:

1st, Richard Manning & Mustapha Rahaman.

Lambourne Jersey Festival:

Senior Pairs:

Chris Taylor & partner.

Mid-week Pairs:

3rd, Paul & Val Mollison.

Swiss Teams:

3rd, Chris Taylor, Paul & Val Mollison.

Really Easy Pairs May:

1st, Vinaychandra Gandhi & Amarjeet Singh; 2nd, Jane Pollit & Clive Smith

Scottish Overseas Congress

Pre-congress Pairs: 3rd, Peter Oake & Simon Moorman.

Open Teams:

2nd, Chris Taylor.

Ladies' Pairs: 2nd, Linda Fleet & partner.

Swiss Teams:

1st, Chris Taylor; 3rd, Peter Oake & Simon Moorman.

Corwen Trophy:

5th, Paul Spencer & Marc Chawner.

Eastern Counties League v Norfolk:

A team won 13-7, B team won 11-9, C team won 18-2.

West Essex League:

1st, Waltham Foresters – Tony Verran Stuart Dustan, Phil Mattacks, Andrew Barker; 2nd, Loughton Collier – Peter Scotting, Phil Collier, Sandy Riach, Michael Watson.

South East Essex League:

Div 1 – 1st, Barleylands – Peter Oake, Robert Elliott, Simon Moorman, Steve Cade-Bowyer; 2nd, Academics – Paul Mollison, Val Mollison, Bernie Hunt, Brian Davies.

Switch Cup:

1st, Peter Scotting, Phil Collier, Sandy Riach, Michael Watson; 2nd, Peter Oak, Robert Elliott, Simon Moorman, Steve Cade-Bowyer.

Essex Teams of Four Plate:

1st, Laurie & Stephanie Burt, Sandy Smith, John Sutcliffe, Dennis Valtisaris; 2nd, Chris Megahey, Alaric Cundy, Tony Philpott, Nigel Bardsley, Margaret Curtis.

Eve Goblets:

Val Mollison won the Ladies' and Paul Mollison won the Men's.

Championship Pairs:

1st, Paul & Val Mollison. 2nd, Paul Spencer & Marc Chawner.

'B' Flight Pairs:

1st, John & Ann Davison; 2nd, Marion Beecher & Ken Turner.

Mixed Teams of Four:

1st, Pat Johnson, Peter Scotting, Sandy Riach, Jacek Lapszys; 2nd, Roger & Jill Tattersfield, Alaric Cundy, Chris Megahey.

The Club Pairs was won by Hutton. Overall placing. 1st, Coral Fallon & Jon Ward; 2nd, Marcia Levan-Harris & John McCoy.

Diary dates: 19 Sep, Mentored Swiss Teams, 23rd Herts & Essex Swiss Pairs, 24th Herts & Essex Swiss Teams. 25 Oct, Autumn Seniors.

Gloucestershire

www.gcba.org.uk

THE Cheltenham Congress, held every year over the early May bank holiday, was a great success. Players came from far and wide, and the Green Point Swiss Teams was won by Paul & Fiona Littlewood, and Derek & Celia Oram from Hertfordshire. However, all the other winners were local. David Simons & Ashok Kwatra won the Green Point Swiss Pairs. The Mixed Teams was won by Diana Nettleton & Keith Stanley with Wendy & Joe Angseesing. The Mens', Ladies' and Mixed Pairs were won by John Skjonnemand & Paul Clark, Daphne Smith & Esther Devereaux and Diana Nettleton & Keith Stanley. June Scarlett & Sylvia Desert won the Gentle Pairs; Douglas Quine & Marilyn Jones won the Jones Rolf Garside Trophy.

The GCBA is working on a strategy to guide its direction over the coming years. While there is still work to do on this, we had a useful discussion at the AGM to get our members' reactions. In particular, there was support for the idea that county resources need to support teaching and social bridge, as well as the competitive duplicate bridge which it has always

supported. We also agreed that social players and learners will never travel as much as competitive players will, and for this reason we need our activities to be less Cheltenham-centric.

Hants and IOW

www.bridgewebs.com/hiwcba/

SPRING Bank Holiday Congress:

Champ Pairs A finalist: Jeremy Dhondy; B final: 1st, Bill Taylor.

Staffs and Shrops 1-day GP Swiss Teams:
1st, John Dakin.

Cheltenham 1-day GP Swiss Teams:

Joint 2nd, Adrian Fontes & John Jones, Andrew Bennett & Dave Hinkin.

Richmond Swiss Pairs:

4th, Steve Tearle & Tracey Adams.

Avon 1-day GP Swiss Teams:

4th, Karen Dewar & Adrian Fontes, Pauline Serby & John Moore.

Cahalan Cup (Knock-out teams of 4):

Steve Preston & Dave Huggett, Sonia Zakrzewski & Gareth Birdsall.

League of 4 Div 2:

Lilias Lamont & Yves Lebrec, Mike Kinsey & Tony Truluck.

Philip Graham Teams of 4:

Andy Hughes & Jeremy Dhondy, Steve Preston & Dave Huggett.

Champ Pairs:

Bob McRobert & Miles Cowling.

Petersfield Swiss Pairs:

Beryl Mullins & Marilyn Fine.

Bayer No Fear Sim Pairs:

Betty Elkins & Phil Munday.

Diary dates: 17 Sept, Candover Swiss Teams. 15 Oct, Mixed/Married Pairs. Both at Romsey starting at 2pm. Entries via HIOW website.

Hertfordshire

www.hertsbridge.co.uk

PLEASE note that, following on from the retirement of Mike Minting, the county has a new tournament secretary, Jacqui Collier, who can provide information and take bookings for all HBA events. Contact on hbatournamentsec@gmail.com

Many congratulations to Hitchin BC jumping 12 places to No 42 in the country's list of top clubs (joining Welwyn GC and Sobell in the top 50).

Welwyn GC bridge club is organising a Pairs League as a new event on the 2nd Wed of each month, starting 13 Sep - info on www.bridgewebs.com/welwyngardencity/

Watford BC is hosting Minibrige sessions for children from 26 July to 30 August - info and booking details can be found on www.bridgewebs.com/watford/

Diary dates: 23-24 Sep, HBA September GP event, Ware. www.bridgewebs.com/herts/.

25 Sep, St Albans BC Swiss Pairs – info and booking details can be found on www.bridgewebs.com/stalbans

12 Sep, HBA Seniors Teams, Welwyn GC. info and booking details on www.bridgewebs.com/herts/



Kent Green-pointed Swiss Teams winners from left: Anne Rosen, Ian Draper, Jeremy Willans, Neil Rosen

Kent

www.kcba.org.uk

NORMAN Selway & Nick Irens were part of the winning England team in the Senior Camrose (Teltscher Trophy).

The EBU's Pachabo Cup was won by the Kent team of Mike Hampton, Phil Bailey, Patrick Collins and Peter Law.

The Garden Cities Regional final was won by Tunbridge Wells BC – Colin Wilson, Gerald Soper, Espen & Helen Erichsen, Frances Connell and Steve Barnfield.

Kent's green-pointed Swiss Teams was won by Jeremy Willans and Ian Draper (playing with Neil & Anne Rosen, Middx) *see picture above*.

In Sussex Michael Collins & Keith Ashcroft won the green-pointed Swiss Pairs.

The Phillimore Cup (Swiss Pairs) was won by Kay Preddy & Norman Selway.

The Arnold Cup (County Teams of 4 Knock-out Championship) was won by Nick Irens, Norman Selway, Kay Preddy, Espen & Helen Erichsen. The Arnold Plate was won by Christine Kempton, Norman Inniss, Hugh Llewellyn-Jones & Tony Price.

Kent League winners:

North West Kent Div 1 (Gill Cup) – Team Inniss;

North West Kent Div 2 – Team Gibbons;

East Kent (Dover Cup) – Team Adamson;

South West Kent (Pearson Cup) – not played for;

Mid Kent (Aveling Trophy) – not played for.

The Brook Shield (Kent Area League play-off) was awarded to North West Kent, Team Inniss.

South Eastern Bridge League:

Team Price

Rotter Cup:

Team Price

Broomfield Cup:

Team Smith

West Kent Inter-Schools Bridge Tournament:

Secondary Schools winners:

1st, Tonbridge Girls Grammar School; 2nd, Weald of Kent Grammar;

Primary School winners:

1st & 2nd, Weald Community Primary School

Minibrige:

Radnor House.

Diary dates: 1 Oct, Dyer Smith/Hunter Cup (mixed pairs), TWBC, 11am; 28-29 Oct, KCBA Congress – Saturday blue-pointed Swiss Pairs; Sunday blue-pointed Swiss Teams.

Please see www.kcba.org.uk for up to date results, news of events and entry forms.

Lancashire

www.bridgewebs.com/lancs

CONGRATULATIONS go to Jeff Smith who, together with Irving Blakey, David Barton and Leslie Klein, won the Manchester Teams of Four Higson Cup. Jeff Smith and John Holland also won the Open Pairs at the Northern Easter Festival. Nick and Sue Woodcock were second in the Swiss Pairs and Mike Tomlinson, Linda Smith and Jeff and Ann Wilkins were second in the Swiss Teams.

Madeline Berney Swiss Pairs:

1st, Bernard & Rhona Goldenfield

Blackburn Swiss Pairs:

1st, Jeff Smith and Jackie Pye

Bolton Spring Bank Holiday Swiss Teams:

1st, Raymond Semp, John Hassett, Alan Mould and John Holland.

Diary dates: 6 Aug, Preston Pairs, Preston Bridge Club. 13 Aug, Lancashire v Cumbria, Lytham Bridge Club. 19 Aug, Northern Bridge League, Round 2. 1-3 Sep, Bolton Congress, Bolton Bridge Club. 9 Sep, Northern Bridge League, Round 3. 17 Sep, LCBA Mixed Pairs, Poulton Bridge Club. 7 Oct, Northern Bridge League, Round 4.

Leicestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/leicestershire/

OFFICERS were elected at the 2017 AGM as follows: Chairman – Dave Pollard, Treasurer – Henry Cooklin, General and Membership Secretary – Pat Beasley, League Secretary – John Wilcox, Tournament Secretary – Neil Beasley, Fixtures Secretary – Dick Pathan, Education Liaison Officer – Simon Stokes.

The guest of honour was Irene Krantz, of the Clarendon & County Clubs, who was awarded Life Membership for her services as an officer over the past 22 years. She presented the trophies to the competition winners as listed below.

Inter-Club Teams of Eight League Divisional Winners:

Div 1 - Clarendon; Div 2 – Ashby 'A'; Div 3 – County 'C';

Div 4 – Bradgate 'B'

Gimson Trophy (Pair's Championship):

Dick & Lucy Pathan

Joseph's Bowl (Championship Teams of Four):

Ben Gibson, Angela Abbott, Joan Gibson, Wendy Godley, Mike Osborne & James Spencer

Butterworth Langley Trophy (Josephs Bowl Plate):

Peter Halford, Andy Mackriell, Mick Mahoney, John Milne, Alison Nichols & Richard Smith

Stanley Trophy (Butler Pairs Championship):

Peter Halford & John Milne

Leicestershire Cup (Knock-out Teams of Four – Aggregate):

Garry Whiteman, Mike Ayers, Mike Gould, Duncan Jones, Lucy Pathan & Keith Preston

Leicestershire Cup Plate (KO Teams of Four – Aggregate):

Susan & Paul Bowyer, Duncan & Kerri Happer, Jim Mason & Simon Stokes

Otto & Edith Cups (Mixed Pair's):

Dick & Lucy Pathan

Bucky Cup (Men's Pairs):

Paul Bowyer & Ben Norton

Olga Cup (Ladies's Pairs):

Mary Johnson & Audrey Mount

Joyce Cup (Mixed Pivot Teams):

Susan & Paul Bowyer, Jim Mason & Eric Wilde

Hyman Crammer (Club Nominated Pairs):

Margaret Butterworth & Gary Jones

Samani Silver Salver (Summer KO Teams):

Clarendon North

Samani Silver Plate (Summer KO Teams Plate):

Hinckley

Wilde Cup (Restricted Teams of Four):

Steve Foster, Brian Hughes, John Ruddock & Dennis Vesty

Mercury Trophy (Bridge Students):

Patrick & Anthea Byrne

The Leicestershire Pairs League:

Div 1 – Tim Glover & Peter Neville; Div 2 – Ian Bruce &

Mick Mahoney; Div 3 – Roger Cook & Dave Pollard.

Diary dates: 7 Sep, League Forum, Rothley. 10 Sep, Midland

League v Derbyshire, Greenfields. 20 Sep, League Round 1.

23-24 Sep, Derbyshire Green Point, Spondon. 4 Oct, League

Round 2. 8 Oct, Midland League v Glos, away. 11 Oct, Otto &

Edith Cups Mixed Pairs, County Club.

Lincolnshire

www.lincsbridge.org.uk

THE County Teams title was won by the Scunthorpe team of Glynn Elwick, Keith Stewart, David Redfearn & Terry Fenton. The Veterans Trophy was won by Malcolm Hammond & Peter Childs while the Lincolnshire Gold was won by Brian Smith, Ron Wall, Andrew King and Al Brown.

The City of Lincoln team narrowly missed out on qualification for the National Final of the Garden Cities Trophy when finishing 3rd in the Regional semi-final at Peterborough. With two teams to qualify they were joint 2nd with a round to go but fell just 6 VPs short in the end despite having won their matches against both the two teams who did qualify.

Scunthorpe Bridge Club sadly report the passing of Dave Peachey, a much-valued contributor to the running of their club.

London

www.metrobridge.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to these London members who have done well in national events recently:

At the Easter Festival, David Bakhshi won the Championship Pairs; The Swiss Teams was won by Shahzaad Natt, Kiril Delev, Stefano Tommasini and Szczepan Smoczynski, with Janet De Botton, Thor Erik Hoftaniska and Tom Townsend in third place; the Swiss Pairs A flight was won by Ben Green, with Chris Duckworth and Brian Callaghan third; and Oscar Selby came second in the Under-21 Pairs.

At the Jersey Congress Mike Bull won the Swiss Teams and was second in the Multiple Teams B final and the Seniors Teams, while David Wing won the Seniors Pairs and was third in the Swiss Teams.

At the Spring Foursomes the winners were Andrew Robson, David Bakhshi, David Gold and Mike Bell. The losing semi-finalists included Andrew Black, Gunnar Hallberg and Phil King and quarter-finalists were Janet de Botton, Thor Erik Hoftaniska, Tom Townsend and Nick Sandqvist, along with Marion Robertson and Kieran Dyke. The punchbowl winners included John Matheson, with Brian

Callaghan and Heather Dhondy as runners-up, and in the Hamilton Cup the team of Mary Gordon-Smith, Szczepan Smoczyński and Stefano Tommasini were equal second.

The National Swiss Teams was won by Toby Nonnenmacher and Kieran Dyke, with Ben Green third. At the Spring Bank Holiday Congress the Championship Pairs was won by David Gold, with Shahzaad Natt and Stefano Tommasini third, Richard Bowley was third in the Pairs B final and in the Swiss Teams Heather Bakhshi, Claire Robinson and David Bakhshi were second.

The Fox Shammon Seniors Pairs was won by Christine Tomkin & Peter Saies with Sonia Griffiths & David Muller second and John Stimson & Ben Hackenbroch third.

The sixth Tonsleys Café Bridge event attracted a record 80 pairs and was won by Simon Prager & Dick Jordon, with Jackie Herring and Jennifer Giles second and Lynn Arch & Sue McLaren third. The event raised £2000 for Age UK Wandsworth.

Diary dates: 14 Sep, LMBA AGM, YCBC 7pm. The next Café Bridge event will be in Brook Green on Tuesday 12th September, this time in aid of Mind – the mental health charity. The LMBA Mixed Pairs Championship will be held on Sunday 17 September at 2pm at the YCBC. The Men's and Women's IMP Pairs will be held on Sunday 15 October at 2.00pm at YCBC. All enquiries and entries to lmbaentries@gmail.com.

Manchester

www.manchesterbridge.org.uk

MANCHESTER Bridge Club have qualified for the final of the Garden Cities Trophy after winning the Bradford Regional Final in early May. Congratulations to Alan Mould & Michael Newman, John Holland & Rob Myers, John Hassett & David Debbage, Catherine Draper & Andrew Woodcock.

MCBA Player of the Year for the 2016-17 season was shared between John Holland & Alan Mould in the Expert Category. The Manchester CBA Intermediate Player of the year was awarded to Adam Wiseberg.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 25 May Michael Newman retired as Secretary having served for ten years. The new Secretary will be Alan Mould. Haidee Tattersall retired as Treasurer and will be succeeded by Peter Green. Ken Hassell also retired from the selection committee after several years including a couple as chair. Adam Wiseberg was elected to the selection committee.

Congratulations to Michael Byrne who won three national events in the space of a month – the National Swiss Teams Congress, the Spring Bank Holiday Swiss Teams and finally the Corwen Trophy in which he represented Manchester playing with John Holland. John Holland previously won this event in 1991.

Two teams from Manchester Bridge Club have reached the last eight of the NICKO.

Higson Cup and Plate:

The finals of the Higson Cup and Plate competitions took place at Manchester Bridge Club in early April. The Higson Cup was won by Inverted Minors (Irving Blakey, Jeff Smith, David Barton & Leslie Klein). The Higson Plate was won by The Four Dummies (Barbara Eastabrook, Richard Acaster, Susan McGeechan & Judy Yates).

Goldstone Final:

The Goldstone Trophy (Manchester's qualifier for the Pachabo) has been won by Team Morris (Jeff Morris, John Hassett, Catherine Draper & Andrew Woodcock). They beat Michael Byrne, Michael Newman, John Holland, Gary Hyett, Alan Mould & Rodney Lighton in a closely fought final in May.

John Armstrong Pairs:

Steve Mattinson and Pauline Lang came second in this event held on Merseyside on 21 May.

Diary dates: 23-24 Sep, Premier League, Manchester Bridge Club .

Merseyside/Cheshire

www.mcba.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to David Flacks & Paul Roberts who retained the John Armstrong Trophy (County GP Swiss pairs).

Well done to Stuart Matthews, Julian Merrill, Paul Roberts and Mark Weeks who finished second in the Shropshire Congress teams in mid-April.

Paul Roberts & Julian Merrill also finished a commendable 8th in the Corwen Trophy.

On the weekend of the 27-28 May a County team played the annual match v Dublin (we were the away team this time). Well done to everyone who took part. We won by 673 IMPs to 527.

In the Merseyside League the major winners were Div 1 PSA; Div 2 NWAS; Div 3 New Faces.

Knock-out Cup:

Sutton

Championship Pairs:

1st, Bernard Krasner & Dave Shaw; 2nd, Mike & Denise Reid

Diary dates: 20 Aug, County match v Derbyshire. 12 Sep, Andrew Rosebowl (mixed pairs), LBC. 15 Oct, Chester Bowl (charity pairs), Deva BC.

North East

www.neba.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS go to Frank Springett who has had a most successful season and is the 2017 NEBA Player of the Year.

A new 'Teams of Four' competition is to be introduced for the 2017-18 season. This event, to be called the North East InterClub Knock Out (NEICKO), will be a re-format of the Kempson Cup with the North East League (NEL) being discontinued.

In September (dates to be confirmed) Chris Benneworth is to run two seminars for TDs relating to the changes to take effect by the introduction of the new EBU Law Book.

The 2017 NEBA Congress is again to be held in the splendid bridge facility at the Marriott Metro-Centre Hotel from 3-5 November 2017. Events on all three days will be green-pointed (Friday Open Pairs, Saturday Swiss Pairs and Sunday Swiss Teams).

In an extremely close encounter, the Club Champion Teams event held in mid-May was won on a split tie by Bishop Auckland BC (Audrey Bainbridge, John Dobson, Brian

Myers, Denise Barham-Hall) scoring 87 VPs from Wearside BC (Pat Barton, John Moor, Graham Cox, Alleyn Erskine). In third place on 85 VPs was Brunton BC (David Gold, Irene Sharff, Inga Aiston, Neil Aiston).

Another close result in the Club Champion Pairs in May saw success go to the Hurworth BC pair of Nigel Durie & David Turner. In second place were Frank Springett & Brenda Osborne (Newcastle BC) with third place going to Mary Page and Aileen Cunningham (Cramlington BC). The John Clarke Salver (awarded for the best aggregate performance over the Champion Pairs, Champion Teams and Inter-Club League) was won by only two points by Brunton BC (134 pts). Hurworth BC were second (132 pts) and Morpeth BC were third (127 pts). Congratulations go to all successful players.

Northamptonshire

www.bridgewebs.com/northants/

JIM Deacon & Trevor Thrower finished 24th in the Corwen Trophy. Mike Trask & Mark Tilley finished 50th out of a field of 100 pairs in the EBU national competition.

Diary dates: Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs on 19th August at Stamford Bridge Club

Nottinghamshire

www.bridgewebs.com/nottinghamshire

THE following players represented Nottingham recently:

Keith Rodgers & Lloyd Eagling in the Corwen; Irene & John Auld together with Bill Whalley & Pravin Taylor in the Pachabo. It was an exciting event with the team lying 3rd after the first round and still playing for everything lying 10th with just 15 boards of 75 left. Finally finishing 20th, a good effort all around.

The Fight for Sight Charity event at Nottingham Bridge Club in memory of bridge legend Dinah Mairs raised £580. Thanks to so many for supporting this event.

Nottinghamshire Contract Bridge Association (together with Derbys and Leics CBAs) hosts its two day green pointed event soon. Please attend this cash prize event - easy access at the East Midlands Bridge Centre, Spondon, DE217JR – just five miles off J25 M1. Swiss Pairs (22 July) 1pm. 7 x 7 boards matches. Swiss Teams (23 July) 12 noon. 7 x 7 board matches For information and entry form contact Graham at graham@brindley57.plus.com

Oxfordshire

www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk

Kathy & Denis Talbot won both the Mid-Week Pairs Championship and the Pre-Congress Pairs at the EBU Jersey Lambourne Festival. They were 4th in the Seniors' Multiple Teams.

Congratulations to Ed Jones' team on winning the National Swiss Teams. Ed also had a successful EBU London Easter Festival with 2nd place in the Swiss Pairs A Flight, and 3rd in the Championship Pairs.

At the EBU Spring Bank Holiday Congress, Ed Jones came 5th in the Championship Pairs A Final and Lorna Swadling & Alastair Gidman were 4th in the B Final. In the Swiss Pairs, Rita Todd & Liza Furnival came 2nd.

Congratulations to Aleksandar Lishkov's team on winning the Swiss Teams at the Shropshire Congress.

Diana Nettleton had a successful Cheltenham Congress. She won the Mixed Pairs, came 2nd in the Swiss Pairs with Beryl Kerr, and was 4th in the Swiss Teams, playing with Matthew Covill, Sandra Nicholson & Krys Kazmierczak.

David Flower & David Stead were 5th at the Northamptonshire Swiss Pairs.

At the Avon Swiss Teams, Sandra Nicholson & Krys Kazmierczak's team came 3rd.

At the Yorkshire Congress, Henry Rose, Helen Rose, & Aleksandar Lishkov's team qualified for the main Swiss Teams' final, finishing in 2nd place. Mary-Ann Sheehy & Diana Nettleton's team qualified for the Scarborough Trophy and came 3rd.

Oxford A won the Wessex League Division 1; Oxford B, Division 2; Aylesbury B, Division 3; Wallingford C, Division 4; Bicester B, Division 5.

Debbie Roberts & Geoff Nicholas won the OBA Mixed Pairs with Emily Middleton & Nick Smith in 2nd place.

Ian Angus, Aleksandar Lishkov, Mary-Ann Sheehy & Christopher Whitehouse won the OBA President's Cup.

The OBA Sadler Seniors' Salver was won by Angela Adams & Mike Wenble.

Nick Smith won the OBA Premiership ladder.

Bedfordshire's Iain Roberts, Alan Oddie, Brian Keable & Ron Davis won the Beck Cup.

North-South Winners at the Henley Café Bridge were Richard Brodie & Michael Allen, and East-West winners were Peter Bowles & Ian Hodgkinson.

The OBA Oxford Festival of Bridge is taking place from 4-7 Sep 2017. Further information is on the OBA website.

Somerset

www.bridgewebs.com/somerset

THE Individual Percentage Final played in early May was won by Gillian Toogood with Les Botting second.

The final results of the Pairs League were:

Division 1: David Howard and Roger Sweet

Division 2: =1st Wendy Miller & Mike Smith and Martin Holcombe & Michael Powell

Division 3: Joan Pooley & Nigel Hamlyn

Division 4: John Staite & Katrina Foote

In the Western League match played against Avon in mid-May, A team won 14/6, B lost 8/12 and C won 11/9. Somerset won the A division by one VP ahead of Dorset and qualify to play at Coventry in July against the winners of the other national leagues.

The County League has also been finalised with the winners of the first division being Taunton (Roger Sweet, Sheila Coda, Alan and Jette Bailey, Colin Flood and Rob Lawy). The second division was won by Langport (Alan Atkinson, Simon Brooke, John Staite, Joan Pooley and Chris Hamilton). The third division won by Wilton (Anne Harris, Tony Morgan, Brian Tustian, Olga Belding, Helen Lilly, Sandra Cavaciuti and Lesley Garner).

Diary dates: 29 Sep-1 Oct, West of England Congress, Weston Super Mare. Full details and online entry forms are available on the SCBA website.

Staffs and Shrops

www.staffsandshrops.org.uk

THE SSCBA Ladies' Pairs Championships was won by Alma Richards & Linda Curtis with Kath Adams & Terry May second and Gillian Allsop & Pat Poxon third. Keith Shuttleworth & John Waller won the SSCBA Men's Championship Pairs with Norman Jones & Roger Turner second and James Vickers & Bill Sherman third. The SSCBA Mixed Championship Pairs was won by Colin Draper & Sue Yardley with David Alderson & Elizabeth Clarke second and Pam Booth-Jones & Tony Leech third.

The Shrewsbury Club Mixed Championship Pairs was won by Dominic Wilson & Marion Adams. The Tettenhall Ladies' Pairs was won by Gillian Allsop & Pearl Evans and the Men's Pairs by Albert Nixon & Roger Biddlecombe.

The county team (Dan Crofts, Jason, Justin and Paul Hackett) finished third in the Pachabo.

Suffolk

www.suffolkbridge.co.uk

OUR AGM left the SCBA committee broadly unchanged; all incumbent county officers and committee members being re-elected. Malcolm Pryor joined the committee and was elected as an EBU Shareholder (with Malcolm Carey).

Rick Hanley takes over as county captain from David Price. In his Chairman's address, Jeff Orton thanked David for his tenure as captain during which Suffolk qualified for the Tollemache Final for the first time (and three times in four years). Under his captaincy the Suffolk 'A' team also twice finished top of the Eastern Counties League first division.

Tony Shearman & Robert Green were convincing winners of the 2016-17 Suffolk Pairs Championship. Roger Bacon & Keith Belsey were second, and Din Gudka & Cathy Rowland were third. David Willson & John Heath finished in 4th place but went on to be Suffolk's highest placed pair in The Corwen, finishing 43rd.

In the Winter League Premier Division Hanley (Rick Hanley, Maria Allnutt, Chris Chambers, Peter Gemmill, Debby Sutcliffe, Peter Sutcliffe) were comfortable winners having won all of their six matches. In the second division Harpur (Jo Harpur, Helen Mason, Pamela Pope, David Mathews), had an outstanding first season to be promoted as champions with Edwards (Anne and Phillip Edwards, Paul and Wendy Lefort) promoted as runners-up.

Tony Shearman & Robert Green began the new season with another fine score to take the AGM Pairs. Second were Jan Havard-Davies & Rosemarie Mascal; and third, Jeff Orton & Peter Bushby.

At Suffolk's second 'Bridge with Lunch' held in Somersham players of all experiences from across the county enjoyed a splendid lunch with wine. Lunch was followed by bridge, which was won by Pauline Hanson and Barbara Barker from Ipswich. Phillip Edwards & Anne Edwards came second, with Will Pavry & Angela Pavry third.

Diary dates: 13 Sep, Ladies' & Men's Pairs, 7pm, Lavenham. 30 Sep, Felixstowe Congress Pairs, 1pm, Felixstowe. 1 Oct, Felixstowe Congress Really Easy Pairs, 3pm, Felixstowe. 1 Oct, Felixstowe Congress Teams, 11am, Felixstowe. 15 Oct, Club Teams of Four, 2pm, Colchester. 12 Nov, Club Teams-of-Eight Championship, 2pm, Colchester.

Sussex

www.sccba.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to those who did well at the Spring Congress. Mike Keeping, David Benjamin, Tim Dickinson and Shefton Kaplan won the Swiss Teams and Jill Skinner & Jeremy Willans won the Blue-Pointed Swiss Pairs. The runners-up were Tom Brogan & Sandy Blunt. Tim Dickinson & Shefton Kaplan were third. Also congratulations to Tim Hewson & Sean Cufley who won the Basic Bridge Pairs and to Paul Allen, Rosemary Land, Simon Fishburn and Peter Cattermole who won the Multiple Teams and to Philip Hunt & Lindsay Geddes who won the Mixed Pairs.

Congratulations to Molly Freeman & Claire Weston who won this year's Basic Bridge Pairs at Hastings and the runners-up were Sue Clarke & Pat Barkess.

The Gladys Hakki Trophy is awarded annually to a Sussex member who has given outstanding service to county and club over a number of years. This year's very deserving winner is Ernie Rivett. Ernie has been an enthusiastic member of Worthing Bridge Club for more than twenty years and in his six years as Chairman has shown total commitment, calm leadership and consistent management in leading the club in a remarkable turnaround from a time when the club's fortunes were at a low ebb.

Congratulations to Michael Collins & Keith Ashcroft who won the Green Point Swiss Pairs. The runners-up were Mike Hampton & Michael Prior.

Congratulations to Dave & Jill Armstrong who won the Swiss Pairs and to Stephen Kennedy who was in the team which won the Swiss Teams at the EBU Spring Bank Holiday Congress

Congratulations to Yves Lebrec, Peter Brown, David Telfer and Cliff Vince who won the Blue-Pointed Sussex Candles in early June. In joint second place were Peter Clinch, David Dickson, Oliver Powell and Mike Allen and Alan Setchell, Jane Handley, Terry Fishlock and Guy Davies. The winners of the Non-Expert category were Ian Sanderson, Hazel Beveridge, Brian Kirkdale and David Williams.

Diary dates: 23 Aug, SCCBA Blue-Pointed Midweek Swiss Pairs, Henfield. 21 Sep, SCCBA Golf/Bridge Day, Cooden Beach. More details on the SCCBA website.

Warwickshire

www.warwickshirebridge.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS to Leslie Reece on attaining the rank of Grand Master.

The Goodman Cup has been won by the team of George Cuthbertson, Ian Handley, Darren Evetts, Simon Creasey and Susan Norton.

Nick & Anne Woosnam were victors in the county's Mixed Pairs

The Warwickshire League went down to the wire with three teams in with good chances of lifting the title before playing their last match. When the dust settled Sutton C (Steve Wood, Mike Leese, Jeremy and Elizabeth Fenwick, John Collin and Malcolm Oliver) emerged triumphant. The B, C and D league winners were Moseley B, West Midlands C and Edgbaston Priory respectively. Moseley B have also won the Warwickshire Handicap Cup.

The latest series of the Birmingham Pairs Leagues resulted in wins for John Collin and Steve Wood (Div 1), Sue Cope & Jon Downing (Div 2), Helen & Matthew Brigham (Div 3),

Sandra Squires & Annabel Hampson (Div 4) and Marjke Rodrigo & Gerri Draysey in Division 5.

Wiltshire

www.wcba.co.uk

GREETINGS from Wiltshire – we are a small county with big ambitions. In the last five years we have expanded our competition programme so it really is 'Bridge for All'. There are leagues, knock-outs and Sunday competitions (including dedicated non-expert events) to suit all our members from those who've only just finished their lessons to the Grand Masters we hold so dear. We are all looking forward with relish and renewed vigour to the upcoming 2017-18 season.

Worcestershire

www.bridgewebs.com/worcestershire

WE have an exciting and varied programme on County Nights over the next few weeks. On 14 August we have a Point-a-Board Teams. This proved very popular last summer and so we are repeating it. The ever-popular Grand Prix Teams starts a new season on 4 September and we'd encourage those who haven't played in it before to dip a toe in the water and see how much they enjoy it – there is no obligation to continue if you don't (but we think you will!).

The County Ladies' and Men's Pairs will take place on 11 Sep and the new season of the Inter-Club Teams starts on 22 Sep.

Yorkshire

www.ycba.co.uk/

YCBA has made a key strategic appointment of a Development Officer to support clubs growing their membership. His name is David Guild, and his contact details are on the Who's Who page of the county website. Please get in touch with David if you want to discuss ideas for bridge development in Yorkshire.

Congratulations to the following on their achievements in recent national, county and open club events:

Yorkshire Mixed Pairs:

1st, Carole Kelly & Stuart Davies; 2nd, Gill Copeland & Steve Blackburn; 3rd, Mike Hopkins & Susan Pell.

Improvers Pairs: York & Manchester Simultaneous:

The leading competitors in the York heat were: 2nd, Arnie Mander & Christopher Irvin; 4th, Helen McCormac & Jane Kirk; 5th, Hilary & Tony Swann

Nelson Rose Bowl:

1st, Agnes Baxter, Jill Foggitt, Lesley Bridson & Catherine Thompson

Yorkshire Individual:

1st, Peter Wallace; 2nd, Laurie Lewis; 3rd, Margaret Sewell; 4th, Margaret Sandal; 5th, Andy Quine.

Leeds Swiss Pairs:

1st, Pauline Cooper & Richard Hilton; 2nd, Martin Ott & Terry Read; 3rd, Gill Copeland & Steve Blackburn.

Castle Swiss Pairs:

1st, Fiona Brown & Hugh McGann; 2nd, Carole Kelly & Geoff Kenyon; 3rd, Stuart Barrett & Denis Murphy.

Yorkshire Congress

Mixed Pairs:

1st, Sally Brock & Ollie Burgess

Women's Pairs:

1st, Babs Matthews & Joyce White

Men's Pairs:

1st, Phil Godfrey & Paul Brereton

Improvers' Pairs:

1st, Sheila Dodd & Ralph Thompson; 2nd, Diane Horton & Brian Stephenson; 3rd, Brian Glasby & Mary Gascoigne.

Pairs events, Moortown Cup:

1st, Adrian Kenworthy & Jason Hackett; 2nd, Fiona Brown & Sally Brock; 3rd, John Hayton & Mike Jackson.

York Mount Group Trophy (Pairs):

1st, Nick Woolven & Tom Cohen

Chairman's Plate:

1st, Joy & Irving Blakey.

Teams events, Fell-Vincent Trophy: Jason Hackett, Chris Owen, Nick Woolven & Tom Cohen

John Colley Trophy:

Alan Jarvis, Suzy Lawson, Roz Bavin & John Fitzgerald

Scarborough Trophy:

Liz Commins, David Stevenson, Stuart Matthews & Mark Weeks

Improvers' Teams:

Lynda & Bob Partridge, Pauline Stout & Rowena White

Waddington Shield:

In the final, Bill Townsend, Tony McNiff, Sarah Teshome & Richard Winter defeated Heather Hobson, Roy Garthwaite and Pearl & Denis Murphy.

Yorkshire Trophy:

In the final, Oliver Cowan, Stephen Berson, Mike Levi & Melvyn Cohen defeated Geoff Newman, Adrian Goulding, Ian Johns & John O'Sullivan

Garden Cities Trophy:

Sheffield finished third in the regional heat and narrowly missed out on qualification for the national final.

Diary dates: 22-24 Aug, EBU Northern Midweek Congress; 3 Sep, Huddersfield Rose Bowl (teams); 17 Sep, Garforth Swiss Teams (Collingham).

In Memoriam

MAURICE FREDMAN (London): 1934-2017. Maurice, an accountant by profession, and in the family business for almost 35 years, was one of those larger than life personalities whom, once you met him, you could never forget. His generosity and dedication to friends and family alike was second to none. You could always rely on Maurice to do all in his power to help and advise you, especially on matters to do with politics and bridge!

Maurice's contribution to bridge in North-West London, Middlesex, and Berks & Bucks was enormous. Before the computer took over, he could

Cont/...

match point and cross check at the speed of light and was rarely found to have made an error. He was treasurer for the New Amersham Bridge Club for many years and played in their League of Eight with considerable, but not remarkable success. He became a Life Master over 20 years ago when green points were much harder to come by than now! He was so proud to have been chosen to represent his country in the very first friendly international between England and Holland.

For many years he ran a charity bridge club in Golders Green and holidays in Sandbanks, Eilat, Cannes and Italy and had great followings in his ventures.

His main claim to fame, however, was the bridge club he founded in North-West London, which in its heyday boasted as many as 50 tables every Wednesday and where the cakes and biscuits were always home-made by his adoring wife, Sheila!

Results were announced on a recorded message on the telephone, ending with the famous line 'and there was one other pair'!

Maurice never forgot a face or a name and always welcomed every single person to the club. He will be sadly missed by his many friends and bridge partners.

ROBIN MARDLIN (Devon): It is with great sadness that we report the death of Robin Mardlin. Robin with his wife, Margaret, was a great supporter of bridge in Devon and elsewhere. Our thoughts are with Margaret and family.

PATRICIA SMITH (Derbyshire): Derbyshire Contract Bridge Association and East Midlands Bridge Club are sad to announce the death on 10 May 2017 of Mrs Patricia Smith. Pat was 65 years old. She was a hard working and active member of the DCBA committee for several years. An ardent bridge player, she encouraged new players to attend club nights and helped them to improve their game. Pat will be greatly missed.

BRIDGE BEGINNER'S PRAYER

Learning bridge at an elderly age

Is not so hard if you're a sage.

But for the average man in the street

Achieving success seems quite a feat.

You say one thing and mean another

No wonder the brain gets all in a puther.

Say what you mean and mean what you say

Isn't that the age-old way?



Call a spade a spade -

No that's not right

It may not be, but then it might.

Clubs the lowest of the low

Cloaks much the learner needs to know.

Hearts and diamonds, a lovely red

But that's enough about them said.



The game no doubt is a wondrous thing

But Oh such problems it doth bring.

So Lord grant me a little wish

Let not my brain feel like a sieve.

This mysterious game is here to stay,

Please shine a light and show me the way

To master the problems, a little each day.

By Dorothy Wells

Following her first season of
bridge lessons at Scunthorpe BC!