Top Table David Burn



When did you start playing bridge?

At school – Steve Burton, a Camrose player, tried unsuccessfully to teach me calculus but more successfully to encourage me to play bridge.

How often / where do you play?

I work at TGRs Bridge Club in London, so I play there during the week and in a number of matches, tournaments and so forth, at weekends.

Do you always play with the same partners / team-mates? What do you expect of them?

I play on Dame Janet de Botton's team (it is a source of great amusement to us that as a Commander of the British Empire she is now qualified to tell Andrew Robson, a mere Officer, what to do). I expect them not to shout at me when I underbid. I am invariably disappointed.

What do you do for a living?

I refer the Honourable Member to the answers I gave a short while ago.

What are your favourite bridge books? *Adventures in Card Play*, and David Bird's

DAVID BURN has won most of the national trophies and has represented England at Camrose as well as at European and World level. David coached Britain to a Bermuda Bowl silver medal in 1987 and, more recently, has been the Coach for the England Women's Team that won gold at the European Championship in Dublin and the World Mind Sports in Lille in 2012.

fiction. I am sometimes confused with him because our names sound similar, and when I am congratulated on the Abbot stories I can truthfully say that I wish I had written them.

What are your hobbies?

Reading, cooking, going to the theatre. But the nature of my work means that I don't have as much time for these as I would like.

What do you like and what would you change in bridge?

It ain't broke. So I wouldn't fix it.

What's the bridge success (so far) closest to your heart?

Coaching the British (not English in those days) team in the 1987 Bermuda Bowl, where they won the silver medal. I suppose technically that counts as a failure, but it was a particularly gallant one. Hoping to go one better at the Venice Cup this year, and proud to have been part of the England Women's team in Lille and in Dublin.