

Sandra Landy

Bridge player who represented Great Britain and became a popular 'ambassador' for the game

SANDRA LANDY, who has died aged 78, was a multiple World and European championship-winning bridge player, representing Great Britain in 11 World championships (winning in 1981 and 1985) and 16 European championships (winning five times); she also played for England twice in the Camrose (open Home International) championship and 11 times in the Lady Milne (women's Home International).

The daughter of a banker, she was born Sandra Ogilvie on June 19 1938 at Croydon, Surrey. After the family moved to the Sussex coast, she was educated at Hove County Grammar school for girls, read Mathematics at Oxford and then took a postgraduate diploma in numerical analysis and automatic computing at Cambridge.

Afterwards she taught a variety of computer systems topics at what is now Brighton university. In 1967 she married Peter Landy, a civil servant.

Like many of her generation, Sandra Landy's inspiration to learn bridge came from her parents, both of whom were county players. Her mother died when she was 18 and it was around this time Landy started playing bridge because her father did not have a

partner and was a game she could enjoy whatever the weather.

In addition to her international successes, Landy won all three main domestic knock-out competitions, the Gold Cup (in 1984), Crockfords (in 1976) and the Hubert Philips (in 1994). She was also a regular player at the Avenue Bridge Club in Hove, represented Sussex on numerous occasions and joined the Freddie North bridge cruise team.

After retiring from teaching, she joined the [English Bridge Union](#), taking a lead role in developing the "Bridge for All" teaching materials, much of which is still in use today. Having retired for a second time, Sandra moved back to Hove and became a parish councillor in her local village, producing the village

newsletter.

A woman of great charm, Sandra Landy was a quiet ambassador for the game of bridge. Congenial and

convivial, she would always accept the captain's decisions and results from the other table with good grace.

Typically, in the final of the 1986 Tollemache (for county teams of eight), when her foursome in the Sussex team achieved a big enough positive score to win the event, there was not a word of complaint when the other quartet achieved an almost equally big minus score, thereby resulting in third place overall. Sally Brock, her most famous partner in international events recalled that initially Landy could be critical of mistakes, but would always apologise if she was too fierce. Landy's contribution to bridge theory is the "Landy game try": bid game and then try to make it.

Sandra Landy's husband died in 2005. She is survived by her son and daughter.

Sandra Landy, born June 19 1938, died January 4 2017



Sandra Landy: promoted 'Bridge for All'

MR BRIDGE

