

## **Berwick Bridge Club**

Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> AGM held at the Parish Meeting Room Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

**Present** , President Jean Mole plus 40 members

### **Apologies for absence**

Reg & Diana Drysdale, Christopher Smith, Ros French, Pat McQueen, Kelvin Butler, John Smithson  
Ian McCreath, Mike & Christine Rowell, Jeremy Stone, Kitty Home Robertson, Ian Guthrie, Sandy Moor,

The Minutes of the last AGM were read and approved, proposed by Marion Mead, seconded by Marguerite Robson,

### **President's Report (on file)**

Jean reported a successful season and extended thanks to all those who had given up time to assist in the running of the club. She reported that the club would be using a different website, Pianola, from the start of next season which had many enhanced features. Paul Gipson is helping with the setting up of this. She suggested this would be a good opportunity to update the club's constitution which needs refreshed, before putting on website. The English Bridge Union has a template constitution which could be personalised.

### **Treasurer's report.**

Jane reported a surplus of £597 for the year. We have 80 members. She suggested that subscriptions remain unchanged at £1.00 plus the SBU sub, which is set to increase.

She had been unable to complete the congress accounts as not all the costs were in. However this is estimated to have raised a surplus of approx. £500, 00. This is an increase of £200, largely because of increasing entry fees by £2.00

### **Competition Secretary's report**

Louis expressed some relief that his first year in the role is now behind him. He felt that apart from some problems with mis boarding and slow play, competitions had largely run smoothly. There has been a good attendance, although subsidising SIM events does not seem to make them any more attractive. The Lindsay had gone well and limiting numbers to 28 makes life much simpler. He thanked his fellow directors plus those who helped with the computer.

### **Team Captains Report.**

Jean reported that the A team had performed well and remain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division, a good achievement when one considers that the team was almost defunct.

Christine McCreath reported that the Bears had won Division 5, with 9 wins and one losing draw. Trish Frew is taking on the captaincy for next year.

#### **Election of Office Bearers**

President Jean Mole,

Vice President GarnethEllis

Secretary Trish Frew

Treasurer Jane Smithson

Competition Secretary Louis Moore,

New Committee Members: Christine McCreath and Dorothy Moore.

Auditors GWA were reappointed.

#### **AOCB.**

George Martin made the suggestion that the club should subsidise a Club director's Course. Louis is in communication with Duncan Cursiter and obtaining further details including cost of these.

Morven reported that the handicap sub committee had decided that they would revert back to altering handicaps in increments of 50 rather than 100. The committee will undertake to review the handicap of new members after a period of 3 months.

David King reported that he found the club very noisy during play and also made a suggestion that more copies of the hands should be made as these frequently ran out.

Summer Bridge.

Jean stated that we should be encouraging potential new members to take part and suggested that this should be run under the jurisdiction of Berwick Bridge Club next year in the parish hall. This will require constitutional change as the bridge club season concludes currently at the AGM and reconvenes in September. There was clearly some confusion from the floor as to which organisation is responsible for running it at present.

## Competition Secretary's Report

Having completed my first year I have a few words to say.

The first is Phew!

I've done so many things this year for the first time ever . It's been like being born again.

There have been some problems - misboarding and slow play being the two main ones & by no means a problem at Berwick alone. . We are due to discuss these later.

Otherwise I'm happy with how things have gone.

The competitions have been well attended - our lowest count was 7 tables.

Subsidising the Sims doesn't seem to make them any more attractive & I'm not sure why because they are good fun & achieving a good position in a field of over a thousand is very satisfying. Especially if like Brian & George it is 2<sup>nd</sup> (Charity Challenge out of 1103 pairs from 75 clubs over 6 countries)

There was also a good result for Linda & Ian in the Bobby Allen mixed pairs - 17/232 - The leading pair from Berwick.

I divide our players into Tuesday players & Thursday players with some of each category taking part in the other. I also think that, with our handicap system the competitions are so designed that Tuesday players win Tuesday comps & Thursday Players win Thursdays.

I consider Linda & Ian to be Thursday players or Ams on our Pro/Am chart so the Bobby Allen result is really outstanding as is also that of Jo & Ann in the McDonald cup. Beaten by the merest whisper. Congratulations to both pairs, it gives encouragement to the rest of we juniors.

The Lindsay Individual worked perfectly ( using George's formula of limiting the entry to 28) I intend doing the same next year unless it becomes greatly oversubscribed, then I'll do some more research. As long as everyone who signs up for it attends there is no problem & if I am a Nonplaying director I can accommodate one defaulter. Otherwise it's a writeoff until I learn differently.

I have to thank ,for myself & the club, all the various competition directors. Without them the club wouldn't function. I detected no great enthusiasm on the part of the present group up until quite recently but there does seem to be more confidence as time progresses & there is some interest in a TD course. I have also recently had a volunteer - Jo - better than ten pressed men. Thank you Jo. Anyone else who feels that they could assist in this capacity, please let me know. NOT NECESSARILY THAT THEY WOULD LIKE IT, BUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB, Please!

I have also got a new scorer in Linda & Marilyn is happy to help with the computer for any director who feels that running the event and the computer at the same time is too great a burden. So thanks to them also. Even if we consider ourselves dinosaurs, computers make bridge easier to run, & they're here to stay.

There will be further developments on that front in the coming season involving Paul & our magnificent Spiderman sorry Webmaster John Smithson through the

~~summer. So thanks are due to them.~~

I think I've said enough except to thank everyone else. Those who've put me right when I was going astray, those who pointed out where scores were incorrect & any one from whom I sought & was given advice. Lastly I'd like to thank you all, the members, for your support over the last season.

## Trish Frew

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**From:** Jean Mole <jeansandymole@yahoo.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 May 2015 09:26  
**To:** 'Trish Frew'  
**Cc:** 'Trish Frew'  
**Subject:** PRESIDENTS REPORT 2014.doc

revised edition

### PRESIDENTS REPORT 2014/2015

Another successful year is coming to an end. I feel the club is going very well.

We have had several achievements outside the club.

Ros and Diana were 4<sup>th</sup> in the Scottish Ladies Teams

Reg won the Eastern District individual.....the Faie

Brian and George were 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Charity Challenge Cup, out of 1103 pairs, played in 75 clubs in 6 countries

AND Linda and Ian finished 17<sup>th</sup> out of 478 in the Bobby Allan

In Border Bridge...Brian and George won the Border Pairs, and Reg, Jean, Ros and Diana the Border Teams.

In our own congress, George and Brian won the Pairs, and Reg, Jean, Ros and Diana retained the teams trophy, adding to already winning the Dunbar Congress teams.

The success of this club is down to you all. It relies on good organisation and for this I must thank the committee and several hard working individuals.

Trish and Jane who guide me throughout.

Louis for running so smoothly the competitions, organising the directors, attending to the computer, the list is endless.

All the Directors.

Terry for relentlessly making up the boards

Christine for running the congress, for being partnership secretary, and for being captain of the B team.

John for doing the website.

Morven for the thankless task of attending to the handicaps.

Marguerite for weekly doing the press report.

Janet for taking classes

Marguerite and Gary for patiently encouraging beginners.

Marilyn and Marion for the kitchen duties.

Dorothy for all the unseen work she does when we have all gone home.

I apologise if I have missed anyone.

The timer was introduced at the start of the season. It is a great help to both directors and players.

About 6 weeks ago the decision was made to change our website. Paul is thankfully assisting us with this, and we are greatly indebted to him.

The changeover will take place in the summer months and hopefully will be up and running by September.

Sadly we lost one of the clubs past presidents. Marjorie will be a huge miss to us all, she was one of life's characters.



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## Berwick Bridge Club – Financial Report 2014 -2015

**We have 80 members**

**This year the club has continued to make a small surplus, of just over £500. We spent about £500 on new equipment, mainly on cards and bidding cards. We took the decision to buy the more expensive, but hopefully harder wearing plasticised cards.**

**The opening balance for the year was £8,084 and the closing balance was £8,681, giving a surplus of £596 at the end of the year compared with £ £651 at the end of the last year (£55 less than last year).**

**The new club website will be more expensive than the old one. £150 per year compared with £50 per year.**

**The party made a slight profit of £10. (£40 - £30 room hire = £10)**

**The congress was a big success and made about £500 profit, to be donated to a charity. Last year the congress made £300, but we increased the entrance fee by £2 per person.**

**I can't foresee any other major expenses, so I suggest that we leave the table money unchanged. The annual Subs of £7 was made up of £6 to the SBU and £1 to the club. If the SBU raise their portion of the sub then we may have to increase the annual sub to cover whatever the SBU rise is. So I propose that the Annual sub should be set at whatever the SBU portion is, plus £1 for the club.**

**However, if we find expenses creeping up, particularly if the hall charges increase, then we will have to look at either stopping the subsidising of the SIMS or increasing the table money. I would propose stopping the SIMS subsidy as the first priority. But at present, I propose we leave things unchanged for now.**

**Jane Smithson**

**Treasurer**

# BERWICK UPON TWEED BRIDGE CLUB

## DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15 APRIL 2015

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		2015		2014
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Subscriptions		561		570
Table money		5,693		5,559
Bank interest		37		31
Sundries		149		191
		<u>6,440</u>		<u>6,351</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Room hire	2,205		2,634	
Prizes and engraving	547		603	
Master points and affiliation fees	1,291		1,237	
Equipment purchases	509		458	
Postage and stationery	416		231	
Party expenses and refreshments	254		142	
Sundries	621		395	
		<u>(5,843)</u>		<u>(5,700)</u>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<u><b>597</b></u>		<u><b>651</b></u>
Balance B/Fwd - Royal Bank of Scotland	8,084		7,433	
Surplus for the year	597		651	
		<u>8,681</u>		<u>8,084</u>
Balance C/Fwd - Royal Bank of Scotland		<u>8,681</u>		<u>8,084</u>