# **ENGLAND**

### **Andrew Robson & Alexander Allfrev**

Andrew Robson OBE is a former World Junior and European Champion. He has won two US Majors and six Gold Cups. He runs the Andrew Robson Bridge Club in London with over 2000 members, writes daily for The Times and weekly for Country Life and Money Week. When not Bridging Andrew likes to ride his mountain bike, hoping he will stay on! He lives in London with his wife Lorna and two daughters. Alexander Allfrey has been Andrew Robson's regular partner for 7 years and has played in the Camrose twice before - on the winning EBU team in 2009 and on the winning England team in 2012. In 2012 he was also on the winning team for the Gold Cup and Crockfords Cup, and runner-up in the Spring 4s. He also played for England in the World Mind Sports Games in Lille 2012 and in the World Team Championships in Bali 2013.

### **Tony Forrester & David Gold**

Tony Forrester won the European Youth Team Championship in 1978 and the European Team Championship in 1991. The latter win was in partnership with Andrew Robson, with whom he played for seven years. The pair also won the Cap Gemini and the Sunday Times-Macallan.

With 40 caps for England in the Camrose Trophy, Forrester now equals John Armstrong's record. Tony has won the Gold Cup, the premier British teams competition, 12 times eclipsing the record of the late Boris Schapiro. He won the Spring Foursomes in 1983, 1996, 1999 and 2009 and Crockfords Cup on nine occasions.

David Gold is perhaps best known for his partnership with Tom Townsend. They represented England in 3 European championships (qualifying for the Bermuda Bowl in 2004), 1 Bermuda Bowl, 2 World Team Olympiads and countless Camrose matches. For the last couple of years he has been playing with Tony Forrester, and they have already won the Premier League, Crockfords and most recently the Gold Cup. With the other two partnerships playing this weekend, they represented England in the Bermuda Bowl in Bali reaching the quarter-finals. When he is not playing bridge, David enjoys cooking, wining and dining and spending time with friends.

## David Bakhshi & Mike Bell

David is one of the leading bridge professionals in the UK, with numerous successes in domestic and international tournaments. He has represented England at the World Team Olympiad (2004) and the European Team Championships (2012), and has been chosen to represent England in the Bermuda Bowl (2013). David is also an accomplished teacher.

Mike Bell is 30 and lives in London after learning his trade in Manchester. He has just retired from being a very successful Poker professional and now earns his living playing bridge. In his spare time he designs bidding systems and is considered to be one of the country's leading experts on bidding theory, especially by himself.

#### David Burn NPC.

David was born in 1956 in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. He was educated Dulwich College and Caius, Cambridge, and is an IT consultant. He has played for England in 7 Camrose matches, 1 European and 1 Olympiad. He coached Britain to Bermuda Bowl silver medal (1987) and victory in the European championships (1991), has coached the highly successful England Women's team over recent years, and aided the Senior team in their victory in the 2014 European Championships. He has also acted as NPC for recent Camrose teams.

David is divorced with no children or pets("available" - for a small fee) and lives in London. He is a popular bridge journalist, writing his own columns and often ghost writing for Zia Mahmood. His other interests include reading, classical music, going to the theatre, and enjoying beer and curry.

#### **Nick Smith - Asst NPC**

After a brief career as an academic and teacher, Nick turned to publishing and founded Oxford Open Learning 27 years ago, running it to this day. He is a regular Premier League player but has not been selected for England. Nick captained an EBU team on *Eggheads* last year, the team winning £11,000. He is also a veteran of other TV shows like *Mastermind*, *Countdown* and *Only Connect*. Nick is a playwright and the author of *Bridge Literature* and (with Julian Pottage) of *Bridge Behind Bars*. He is married to Amanda with 2 children, Robin and Natasha.