



The 2023 Camrose Trophy

(Weekend 2)

hosted by the

**Contract Bridge Association of
Ireland**



C O N T R A C T
B R I D G E
A S S O C I A T I O N
O F I R E L A N D
S I N C E • 1 9 3 2

**CityNorth Hotel,
Gormanstown
3-5 March, 2023**

2023 Camrose Trophy, Weekend 2

The Contract Bridge Association of Ireland extends a very warm welcome to all the teams participating in The Camrose Trophy, Weekend 2.

Officials

Match Manager	Dermot O'Brien
Assistant Match Managers	Fran Ronan/Siobhan Canty/Eimir Beirne
Director in Charge	Fearghal O'Boyle
Assistant Director	Mairéad Basquille

RealBridge Broadcasting Team

Eamon Galligan (Organiser), Shireen Mohandes and Andy Bowles (RealBridge), and a cast of volunteers.

Refreshments

Refreshments for players and officials will be served in the Mornington Restaurant at the following times:

Friday	17:30 Buffet Meal
Saturday	14:35 Light Lunch
	20:30 Dinner
Sunday	14:35 Light Lunch
	20:00 Reception and Dinner

The Camrose Trophy

A Brief History



The Home International Bridge Tournament for England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (then called the Irish Free State) was launched in 1937. Lord Camrose, at that time proprietor of the Daily Telegraph, donated the trophy in 1938. The original trophy has been lost but a replacement is competed for annually.

The 1939 series was not completed due to war. The Camrose re-started in 1946. The 2022 series was the 79th (the 1939 series was incomplete and is excluded from records) which makes the Camrose the most-played international bridge series in the world. The European Championships which began in 1932 has recently only been played in alternate years.

The South of Ireland dropped out in 1951 but re-joined as the Republic of Ireland in December 1998. The format from then until 2005 was head-to-head matches played over five weekends, with a different country sitting out each weekend, as in the former Five Nations Rugby. Each weekend was divided into three stanzas of 30 boards victory-pointed separately.

From January 2005 the format was changed to match the Lady Milne but over two weekends. All five countries met at the same venue playing a full round robin each weekend with two matches in play at a time and one country sitting out each stanza. The Republic of Ireland won the first match under the new format in 2005.

The sit-out combined with six-player teams meant some players sat out half the weekend. This led to calls for a sixth team to be added and this was implemented for the first time in January 2007. The sixth team was called "The Holders" which meant the Federation winning in 2006 fielded two teams in 2007. The holders (by chance, the same six players who represented Republic of Ireland throughout 2006) won again for the Republic of Ireland. Hence, the Republic of Ireland again fielded two teams in 2008. This time the trophy went to England who thereby would have two teams in 2009, when by chance England was host for the second weekend.

The representation of the sixth team was amended so that nowadays the host for the second weekend fields two teams on both weekends. One team is called by the name of the country and the other by the name of the Federation (e.g. England and EBU, Ireland and CBAI etc)

The victors over 79 years are as follows:

- England 56 times with 2 wins for the EBU in 2009 and 2019
- Scotland 12 times with most recent win in 1998
- England and Scotland have drawn three times in 1961, 1972 and 1973
- The Republic of Ireland 7 times with most recent win in 2017
- Wales once in 2011
- Northern Ireland has yet to win the trophy.

Standings after Weekend 1

Team	VP Total
England	81.47
Wales	60.87
CBAI	58.06
Ireland	48.70
Scotland	25.86
Northern Ireland	25.04

Team Home Rooms for Weekend 2

Team	Room
England	Whitewood 2 (ground floor)
Wales	Whitewood 3 (ground floor)
CBAI	Bellview 1 (first floor)
Ireland	Bellview 2 (first floor)
Scotland	Blackcastle 1 (first floor)
Northern Ireland	Blackcastle 2 (first floor)
TDs/Organisers	Blackcastle 3 (first floor)
NPCs/Vugraph	Dunsany Room (first floor)

2023 CAMROSE TROPHY

MATCH SCHEDULE WEEKEND 2

FRIDAY				
17:30	Dinner			
19:00-21.10	Match 1A	N Ireland v	Wales v	Ireland v
		Scotland	England	CBAI
21:25-23:35	Match 1B	N Ireland v	Wales v	Ireland v
		Scotland	England	CBAI
SATURDAY				
10.00 - 12.10	Match 2A	Scotland v	England v	CBAI v
		Wales	Ireland	N Ireland
12.25 - 14.35	Match 2B	Scotland v	England v	CBAI v
		Wales	Ireland	N Ireland
14:35	Lunch			
15:20-17:30	Match 3A	N Ireland v	CBAI v	Scotland v
		Wales	England v	Ireland
17:45-19:55	Match 3B	N Ireland v	CBAI v	Scotland v
		Wales	England v	Ireland
20:30	Dinner			
SUNDAY				
10.00 - 12.10	Match 4A	Ireland v	Scotland v	Wales v
		N Ireland	England	CBAI
12.25 - 14.35	Match 4B	Ireland v	Scotland v	Wales v
		N Ireland	England	CBAI
14:35	Lunch			
15:20-17:30	Match 5A	CBAI v	Wales v	England v
		Scotland	Ireland	N Ireland
17:45-19:55	Match 5B	CBAI v	Wales v	England v
		Scotland	Ireland	N Ireland
20:30	Reception & Dinner			

Each team has its own room and seats its N/S Pair there throughout. The E/W Pairs move to the room of their opponents for each match.

In the first stanza, the captain of the second-named team nominates their line-up first; in the second stanza the first-named captain nominates first.

THE CAMROSE TROPHY

Format

The Camrose Trophy comprises six teams, the sixth team being fielded, in rotation, by the country hosting the final weekend. In 2023 Ireland fields two teams, one as “Ireland” the other as “CBAI”.

Each weekend sees five head-to-head matches of 32 boards in 16-board stanzas, the 2 teams from Ireland playing against each other in the first match.

Teams consist of a maximum of 6 players. Seating rights alternate between the two teams. In the first stanza the captain of the second-named team nominates their line-up first; in the second stanza the first-named captain nominates first.

Public Presentation

In any one session, three matches are in progress. The play in each match is broadcast on the internet via RealBridge. Entry to the Closed Room is prohibited. The Closed Rooms will be clearly marked on the doors to each room.

Smoking and Alcohol

Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere in the hotel. In addition the consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing areas.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and electronic devices capable of communication must be switched off in the playing area and be visible at the table at all times. Any player leaving the playing table prior to completion of the session must leave his mobile phone and electronic devices at the table. Spectators in the Vugraph theatre are requested to ensure that mobile phones are switched off.

Regulations for Open Room Spectators

You may watch the players live in the Open Room (Open Rooms will be clearly marked on the doors of each room) provided you observe the following rules:

- A spectator may not enter the Open Room while play is in progress. This also applies even if a match has started before the advertised starting time.
- If a spectator leaves the Open Room while play is in progress, they may not return until the play session (i.e. the match) has been completed.
- During play in the Open Room spectators must refrain from mannerisms or remarks and must not converse with a player or display any reaction to bidding or play.
- Spectators are permitted to observe the cards of one player only.
- A spectator should be seated behind a single player and may not get up to walk round the table or seek to look at the cards of any other player.
- Spectators are not permitted to sit where they can see the screen of the BBO operator covering the match on the internet.
- Spectators may not draw attention to any irregularity or mistake nor speak on any question except by request of the Director.
- The Director in Charge and/or the Match Manager is empowered to control the presence of spectators, individually or collectively.
- Under no circumstances may a member of the audience enter the Closed Room.



Northern Ireland

**Ian Hamilton & Ian Lindsay
Diane & David Greenwood;
Michael Coffey & Fergal O'Shea
NPC Michael McFaul**

Ian Hamilton and Ian Lindsay



Ian Hamilton is a retired GP and Occupational Physician living in Belfast. As well as bridge he enjoys cricket being Fixture Secretary for his club and a League Secretary in the Northern Cricket Union. He has watched England home and away in all Test countries, bar Bangladesh and Zimbabwe. He is responsible for running the NIBU Simultaneous Pairs competitions and has other NIBU duties. Ian has played with several partners in both the Teltscher and Camrose over 25 years. This is his 3rd Camrose partnering Ian Lindsay.



Ian Lindsay has represented the Northern Ireland with six different partners. He is a retired chartered accountant who now acts as Treasurer for six charities connected with music, the visual arts, health and the disabled. Ian is a past Secretary, Chairman, Selector, and Congress Organiser of the NIBU, a past President of the Irish Bridge Union and the examining accountant of BGB.

Diane & David Greenwood



Diane has played in many Lady Milnes and has previously played in the Camrose with both her husband David and the late Martin Devlin. She has represented Ireland in six Europeans and also World Championships. As a bridge instructor she has travelled on cruises to Antarctica and The Falklands, sailed down the Amazon, among many other places. As well as bridge and animals, the other main love in her life is gardening, having undertaken a horticultural diploma and now grows her own plants and vegetables and does voluntary work at Antrim Castle Gardens. Her group there were recently awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.



David is a retired Financial Adviser. He has represented Ireland on many occasions and has already played in 5 Camrose matches with his wife Diane. His partnership with Rex Anderson has been the bedrock of the Northern Ireland Camrose team for many years. He is the only member of the team to have won the Camrose (albeit playing for England at the time!).

Michael Coffey & Fergal O'Shea



Michael recently retired from AIB Group after 47 years' service where he spent most of his career in IT. A native of Kenmare County Kerry he studied at Trinity College Dublin and also has a Master's Degree from University of Ulster. He moved to Northern Ireland in the late 1970's where he became interested in the game of Bridge thanks to a former bank colleague Aiden Fitzgerald (RIP). He claims to be the only "Kerryman" to represent Northern Ireland in the Camrose, (or any other sport) which he has done on numerous occasions primarily with John Lavery (The Bishop) and more recently with Fergal O'Shea from Co Cork. Michael is also a keen Golfer and is a member of Belvoir Park Golf Club Belfast. He has a keen interest in all sports, Gaelic Football and Rugby to mention a few.



Fergal is currently working as a Tech Lead with a company in Belfast. He is a relative newcomer to the team, with this weekend being his third Camrose cap. His time outside work is usually fully occupied by a family, including 2 teenagers, a dog and a cat. In addition to bridge, he also enjoys football, rugby, GAA and anything to do with 20th century history.

Michael McFaul NPC



Michael has been Secretary of the Northern Ireland Bridge Union since 2013. He has been writing (mostly humorous) articles and anecdotes for the Irish Bridge press since the late 1970s. Michael has been NPC to the Camrose and Teltscher teams on numerous occasions as well as playing in both events. His proudest moment was playing on the team that beat England 18-2 in the 2014 Commonwealth Games.



Ireland

Mark Moran & John Carroll
Tom Hanlon & Conor Boland
Adam Mesbur & Tommy Garvey
NPC Gráinne Barton

Mark Moran & John Carroll



Mark, originally from Offaly, represented Ireland at junior level, but for a long period after that bridge took something of a back seat to a very successful business career. On returning to the game more seriously, it didn't take him long to re-establish himself, being part of the 2005 Camrose winning team in partnership with Peter Pigot. Playing initially with Rory Boland and more recently with John Carroll, he has been a regular on the Irish panel since 2013, and has been part of many successful teams, winning the Camrose in 2015 and 2017, as well as the Gold Cup in 2020. He has also been non-playing captain of several Irish teams, including the first Irish team to win the Camrose in 2000.



John is an executive in the software industry, based in Dublin, and is part of an Irish bridge dynasty, with both his mother and his wife having represented us internationally. He has been a member of the Irish team for the best part of two decades, and was part of the European silver medal winning team in 2006, the fourth-placed team in the World Teams championships in 2012. He has won multiple Camrose and Lederer trophies, and recently added the Gold Cup to his CV. During covid, John did his bit to ensure that the dynasty continues for another generation, teaching his two sons to play bridge.

Tom Hanlon & Conor Boland



Tom, originally from Rochfortbridge, Co Westmeath, but based in Dublin, Tom (aka "Kinder" – you can ask him where he got the nickname) has been a fixture on Irish bridge teams for three decades, moving straight from the Junior to the Open team in 1994. Now a full-time bridge professional, he plays, and wins, extensively in Europe and the USA. Aside from more than 50 national championships, Tom is a multiple winner of both the Camrose and the Lederer, and a European Team silver medallist in 2006, Tom is also a successful high-stakes poker player.



Conor is a former junior international who is making his senior debut and his first Camrose appearance this year. He already has a home international title under his belt, however, having been a member of Ireland's (only) Peggy Bayer winning team in 2016. In partnership with Karel De Raeymaeker, he has won several national titles in the past few years. Recently graduated from Dublin City University, Conor has embarked on a career in the world of accounting and taxation.

Adam Mesbur & Tommy Garvey



Adam is retired from a number of senior positions in the world of finance. Playing on this occasion with Tommy Garvey, he is best known for his long partnership with Nick FitzGibbon, which dates back to the early 70s, and established them as one of the leading pairs in Europe. Their many achievements include multiple victories in the Camrose, silver in the Junior European Teams in 1974, bronze in the European Teams in 1979, silver in the Common Market Pairs in 1980, silver in the European Teams in 2006, and a fourth-place finish in the World Teams championships in 2012.



Tommy As part of another Irish bridge dynasty, Tommy, with his father Donal, makes up Ireland's only father-son grandmaster pairing. He has been a member of the Irish team for the best part of two decades, and was part of the European silver medal winning team in 2006, the fourth-placed team in the World Teams championships in 2012. He has won multiple Camrose and Lederer trophies, and recently added the Gold Cup to his CV. This will be his first Camrose appearance in his new partnership with Adam Mesbur. Tommy works in investment management in London, and his young family occupies most of his non-bridge time. In case you fail to recognise him at the Camrose, he now has conspicuously less hair than in his official EBL picture.



Gráinne Barton NPC

Gráinne has been the NPC of this Irish Team for the best part of ten years now, guiding them to many successes, including in the Camrose. The team are always quick to acknowledge the key role that Gráinne's organisation and motivation plays in their success. Perhaps less well known is that her playing credentials are also impeccable – she is an international medal-winner in her own right, and has represented Ireland in both the Camrose and the Lady Milne.



CBAI

Martin Brady & David Dunne
Paul Delaney & Tomás Roche
Peter Pigot & Karel De Raeymaeker
NPC Derek O'Gorman

Martin Brady & David Dunne



Martin learned his bridge at Durham and Bristol Universities in the 1990s, before the lure of an actual paying job drew him to move to Dublin in 2001. Though he's a native Englishman (with Geordie origins), he and England have grown in different directions in the last 20 years, and he now considers himself a fully assimilated Irishman - except when England are playing in the World Cup, of course. He's a long-time member of the Bankers club in Dublin and joint Secretary of the Irish Bridge Union. In his working life, he is a university lecturer in Latin language, literature, and culture, and is currently Head of the School of Classics at University College Dublin.



David is a recently retired accountant living in Dublin with his wife Sheila, whom he met playing bridge. He has had two significant bridge playing phases, one in the late-1980's to mid-1990's and then recommenced in early 2012 and has been very active since. David has achieved a number of wins and high placings in Irish major competitions over the last number of years.

His interests include listening to music, travelling and generally getting plenty of exercise. David is a FIDE chess master and former Irish chess champion, representing Ireland on numerous occasions many years ago. This is David's first time to play in the Camrose.

Paul Delaney & Tomás Roche



Paul is a former Irish Chess Champion who graduated to bridge. This is Paul's first Camrose appearance. He is a two-time winner of the Irish National Pairs Championship (Davidson Cup) and several National Teams championships. Paul is a Life Master and was NPC/Coach to the Irish Lady Milne Team in 2004 when they finished second. Now retired after a busy career in Finance/IT Paul has recently taken on a role as a bridge coach.



Tomás began playing bridge during his university years and was soon selected to play for Ireland at junior level. He went on to represent Ireland on several occasions at European/EU Team championships (winning a silver medal in Montechoro, Portugal, in 1993) and in Camrose events. His proudest moment amongst his many victories in CBAI and IBU titles was winning the national Mixed Pairs (Spiro Cup) in partnership with his wife Mary in 1995. Tomás has also taken part in the administration of the game, serving on a variety of CBAI committees and as Joint Secretary of the IBU. Originally from County Wexford, he has recently retired from a career in IT. He enjoys travel and many sports especially hurling and gaelic football

Peter Pigot & Karel De Raeymaeker



Peter is yet another representative of an Irish bridge dynasty. The Pigot family have been part of Irish bridge since the 1930s, and both Peter's father and grandfather represented Ireland. Peter, with Mark Moran, was on the Camrose winning side from 2006. He has won numerous national titles and has represented Ireland on many occasions, starting with the Europeans in Malmo with Padraig O'Briain in 2004. A keen golfer, Peter is a widely-respected bridge teacher and coach, and ensures that the Pigot name remains at the forefront of Irish bridge.



Karel has won all the major Irish national titles, many of them in a particularly successful partnership with Anna Onishuk, and has represented Ireland on several previous occasions. A teacher by profession, Karel has been involved in junior bridge for many years, and has devoted countless hours to young players in his role as very popular and dedicated coach to the Irish juniors.

Derek O'Gorman NPC



Derek works part time as a HR Consultant having spent many years in the public service as a HR Director. He played with Hugh McGann in his early international career and, in latter years, in many national and international events with Terry Walsh. With Terry he has enjoyed many successes including several national event wins and playing in the European Open Championships. Derek has also acted as NPC for the Irish Senior Team in several Teltscher, European and World Championships. Derek has also played and captained at previous Camrose events, including Teltscher victory.



Wales

Julian Pottage & Tony Ratcliff
John Salisbury & Tim Rees
Gwynn Davis & Sue Ingham
NPC Paul Denning

Tony Ratcliff and Julian Pottage

The partnership of Tony Ratcliff and Julian Pottage formed soon after Julian moved to Porthcawl in 2005. In recent years they have won a number of domestic events, including the Welsh Premier League, the Welsh Cup, the Welsh National Pairs, the Welsh Camrose Trial and the last three Geoff Evans online leagues. Internationally, they played together in the 2016 European Championships in Budapest and in the 2022 European Championships in Madeira, in the Camrose for each of the last four years and in the 2021 European Bridge League qualifier.



Tony lives in Barry and works as an Accountant for a group of Companies in Cardiff. He leads the all-time Master Point List in Wales and was part of the team that brought home the Gold Medal for Wales in the 2014 Commonwealth Nations Championships in Glasgow. In his spare time, Tony spends time selling collectibles on eBay and also enjoys gardening.



Julian lives with his family in Porthcawl. He is Bridge Correspondent for the Daily Telegraph and is the host of the Bridge Questions Forum for Bernard Magee Bridge. He contributes to several bridge magazines, at home and abroad, and has written over 25 books on the game. Julian's other business interests are dog breeding (golden retrievers) and stock photography (mainly landscapes and general scenes). Julian is also an avid genealogist, managing DNA results for several of his relatives.

Tim Rees and John Salisbury



Tim has represented Wales in over forty Camrose weekends and several European Championships, in partnership with Peter Goodman, Filip Kurbalija and Gary Jones. This is Tim's seventh Camrose weekend playing with John. Tim topped the EBU's Gold Point rankings for most of the 2000s. He has won the majority of the major UK domestic competitions, including the Gold Cup twice, Crockfords and Spring Fours, and also the Welsh and Scottish Cups. Tim is a former chairman of the Laws and Ethics Committee of the EBU and still serves on the committee. He is approaching retirement from his role in road research at TRL, studying ways to make our roads work better.



John played his first Camrose match for Wales against Scotland in 1974 in his home town of Wrexham. Since then John has represented Wales in the Junior Camrose, Camrose, Seniors Camrose, European Open and Seniors and Commonwealth Nations, when Wales (including John, Tim, Gary and Mike) won the Gold Medal. He also won a bronze medal representing Great Britain in the Mixed Teams in the Common Market Championships. It is somewhat unusual that in all that time and in all those events John has only had four partners – Jessie Newton, Robert Upton, Mike Tedd and for the past three seasons Tim Rees. He has also undertaken some of the most thankless tasks in bridge - Chairman of the WBU's Selectors and NPC. John has also found time to have a career in Social Services and

Gwynn Davis & Sue Ingham



Gwynn was Professor of Socio-Legal Studies, Bristol University Law School, but is happily retired. He lives with Sue in Cardiff and enjoys hill-walking and scribbling.



Sue is Clerk to the Tribunal Service in Cardiff. She enjoys partnering her daughter, Charlotte, at the bridge table, playing the piano, solving mathematical puzzles, reading crime novels and, when no escape, hill-walking.

Paul Denning NPC



Paul Since his debut in 1978 at the tender age of 22 years old Paul has played numerous Camrose weekends and European Championships. Last year he may have produced a first in being a player in the first Camrose weekend, an NPC in the second Camrose weekend and then an NPC in the Lady Milne. He's looking forward to catching up with some old friends again this weekend.



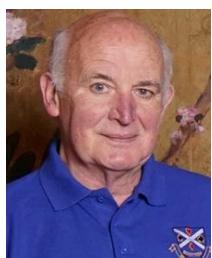
Scotland

Alan Goodman & Brian Short
Derek Sanders & Gints Freimanis
Sam Punch & Stephen Peterkin
NPC Alex Adamson

Alan Goodman & Brian Short



Alan has played in several Camrose, Teltscher and European events over the years. Although he is now officially retired, he has always spent a lot of my time in various charity ventures, the current one being chair of the SBU Board. In these difficult post-Covid days this has been quite a challenge, but he and the SBU clubs are delighted to be back playing live bridge once again. Alan is married with three grown up daughters and one grandson. His spare time is taken up playing golf and following the resurgent Newcastle United.



Brian played bridge for Great Britain on three occasions before Scotland got international autonomy, with long-time partner Sandy Duncan. This weekend will be his 58th Camrose cap for Scotland having played with five different partners; he has enjoyed three series wins. He has also played six times in the senior Camrose and has made multiple European and Olympiad appearances for Scotland in Open, Senior and mixed events. He won the Gold Cup in 2006 and has multiple wins in every major Scottish event, including the Scottish Cup on 14 occasions. Two sons, a daughter and six grandchildren keep him busy and as elder son lives in Melbourne and younger son in Switzerland, Kate and he have plenty of excuses to travel.

Derek Sanders & Gints Freimanis



Derek was born in Kingston, Jamaica. A long experience of bridge started in Fiji when he represented the islands in a friendly against Ron Klinger's team who were visiting Suva on a cruise ship in 1980. He has played 11 Camroses, a few European championships and a couple of Commonwealth games. Employed by The City of Edinburgh council adult education programme, runs the bridge classes and also has a small live and online bridge club. www.bridgewebs.com/dereksanders



Gints has been playing bridge internationally at a youngster/junior level since 2011, first for his home country of Latvia up until 2014, before debuting for Scotland in the 2016 Junior Camrose. He made his first international appearance at a non-junior level in the 2022 European Championships, playing in the Mixed Teams with Liz McGowan. Gints has been the NPC of Scottish teams on four occasions, with the most successful one being the 2022 Lay Milne where the team won the event by less than 1 VP. He will be looking forward to repeating this in April 2023, though he is by no means set on having such a tight margin.

Sam Punch & Stephen Peterkin



Sam has played in the Scottish women's team since 2008, winning seven Lady Milnes. She is researching the Sociology of Bridge and leads the project - Bridge: A Mind Sport for All (BAMSA). Her book, 'Bridge at the Top: Behind the Screens', based on interviews with top USA and UK players, won the 2021 IBPA Book of the Year award. She also won the IBPA of the Year award 2021 for her BAMSA Personality work.



Stephen and Sam formed a partnership 13 years ago and were on the winning team for the Commonwealth's transnational teams in Glasgow. This is their eighth Camrose together. Stephen is a regular BBO operator and a classically trained pianist but more recently was teaching English to students from across Europe until Covid hit. Stephen and Sam, along with NPC Alex, won the Alan Truscott Award and the Lazard Sportsmanship award for being part of Team Scotland when there was a boycott at the European Qualifiers in 2021.

Alex Adamson (NPC)



Alex works in heritage, at Historic Environment Scotland. He has played in and captained Scotland teams on a number of occasions. A captaining highlight was captaining the Women's team (including Sam Punch) in the Venice Cup in Wuhan in the autumn of 2019 – an event which he returned from with a corona virus. Playing highlights so far have been European Championships and the World Bridge Games. When the time allows, Alex writes about history and bridge.



England

Janet de Botton & Artur Malinowski
Thor Erik Hoftaniska & Espen Erichsen
David Bakhshi & Tom Townsend
NPC Peter Hasenson

Janet de Botton & Artur Malinowski



Janet has been (sort of) playing for almost 20 years. She has won all the major tournaments at least once and usually gets asked by her ‘friends’ if she played (m)any of the boards, even when she won two European bronze medals in the Mixed Teams playing a team of four. She is joint columnist of the Spectator bridge column where she can wreak a bitter revenge on the trolls. She can also thank all the players who have been incredibly kind and supportive of which this Camrose team is most certainly an example.



Artur was born in Poland, moved to Norway and then to England where he is now a full-time bridge professional. He won the silver medal at the 2007 European Pairs in Antalya, and was in the England Open team that took the silver medal in the World Mind Sport Games in Beijing in 2008. He also has two bronze medals in the European Mixed Teams, and has won Crockfords as well as the Gold Cup. Artur’s involvement with the game started by chance: he read a bridge book together with a friend from football at the age of 17, and has not stopped learning and playing since. When in Norway, he worked for the Norwegian Bridge Federation and for a while was the editor of the national bridge magazine. This was a welcome change from the odd jobs he had to do for the first few years after leaving Poland with very little money – and proof that an ear for languages helps in all walks of life. Artur is fairly fluent in seven languages and sports a proud Polish accent in all of them. Artur was part of the European Open Team in 2018 and Bermuda Bowl team in 2019.

Thor Erik Hoftaniska & Espen Erichsen



Thor Erik, a Norwegian bridge professional, has been a core member of the de Botton team for some years and was instrumental in a number of victories including the Spring Fours in 2013. He was in the Middlesex team that won the 2015 Tollemache and in 2019 he and Espen Erichsen won the open pairs in the Reykjavik Bridge Festival. Thor-Erik has four Norwegian titles to his name and in 2021 won the EBL Champions Cup.



Espen is Norwegian and moved to London in 1997 to play high stakes rubber bridge. His bridge career began in the Norwegian army. He progressed quickly and was selected for the Norwegian junior team which won the European Juniors in 1996 and came second in the World Juniors in 1997. Later successes include winning the European Mixed Teams in 2005 partnering his wife, Helen, and winning the Nordic Championships in 2009 representing Norway. He lives in Tunbridge Wells with his family. Espen's other passion is tennis. He was the 8th ranked junior player in Norway but now has to content himself with playing in the over-45 team for Kent. He also enjoys a bad game of golf.

David Bakhshi & Tom Townsend



David is one of the leading bridge professionals in the UK, with numerous successes in domestic and international tournaments. Over the last 20 years, he has represented England and Britain at both Junior and Open levels of competition. His recent achievements include a 2nd place finish at the Europeans Teams Championships, and 4th and 5th place finishes at the Bermuda Bowl. David is part of one of the best-known bridge playing families in the UK - Heather (his wife), and Liam and Jasmine have all represented England in different teams. As part of his professional life, David has taught bridge for 20 years and has helped thousands of students over that time.



Tom is 52, a professional bridge player, and lives in Shepherd's Bush with Ewa and their son Max, 13. Tom was part of Raymond Brock's Junior team in the mid-90s, that won the European and World Championships. The highlights of Tom's Open career to date have been an appearance in the 2008 Olympiad final, bronze in the 2005 European Pairs, and three Bermuda Bowl appearances. Last year on the de Botton team, he won his sixth EBU or BBL Premier League. 2023 will be Tom's 18th Camrose series. Tom is Daily and Sunday Telegraph bridge columnist.

Peter Hasenson (NPC)



Peter is 57 and lives in North London where he works as a property consultant advising clients on the high-end residential markets of North West and Central London. Peter is the immediate past Chairman of Middlesex County Bridge Association, an EBU Shareholder and a member of the EBU Laws & Ethics committee. He has previously served two terms on the EBU's Selection Committee. A member of the International Bridge Press Association, Peter was the editor of the 2004 British Bridge Almanack and has had photographs published widely by World, Zonal, National and County bridge organisations as well as by *The Daily Telegraph*. Peter has won various County and National events including the EBU National Pairs in 2016

VP SCALE (32 BOARDS)

IMPs	VPs	IMPs	VPs	IMPs	VPs
0	10.00 - 10.00	29	15.10 - 4.90	58	18.21 - 1.79
1	10.22 - 9.78	30	15.24 - 4.76	59	18.29 - 1.71
2	10.44 - 9.56	31	15.37 - 4.63	60	18.37 - 1.63
3	10.65 - 9.35	32	15.50 - 4.50	61	18.45 - 1.55
4	10.86 - 9.14	33	15.63 - 4.37	62	18.53 - 1.47
5	11.07 - 8.93	34	15.76 - 4.24	63	18.61 - 1.39
6	11.27 - 8.73	35	15.88 - 4.12	64	18.69 - 1.31
7	11.47 - 8.53	36	16.00 - 4.00	65	18.76 - 1.24
8	11.67 - 8.33	37	16.12 - 3.88	66	18.83 - 1.17
9	11.86 - 8.14	38	16.24 - 3.76	67	18.90 - 1.10
10	12.05 - 7.95	39	16.35 - 3.65	68	18.97 - 1.03
11	12.24 - 7.76	40	16.46 - 3.54	69	19.04 - 0.96
12	12.42 - 7.58	41	16.57 - 3.43	70	19.11 - 0.89
13	12.60 - 7.40	42	16.68 - 3.32	71	19.18 - 0.82
14	12.78 - 7.22	43	16.79 - 3.21	72	19.25 - 0.75
15	12.95 - 7.05	44	16.90 - 3.10	73	19.32 - 0.68
16	13.12 - 6.88	45	17.01 - 2.99	74	19.38 - 0.62
17	13.29 - 6.71	46	17.11 - 2.89	75	19.44 - 0.56
18	13.46 - 6.54	47	17.21 - 2.79	76	19.50 - 0.50
19	13.62 - 6.38	48	17.31 - 2.69	77	19.56 - 0.44
20	13.78 - 6.22	49	17.41 - 2.59	78	19.62 - 0.38
21	13.94 - 6.06	50	17.51 - 2.49	79	19.68 - 0.32
22	14.09 - 5.91	51	17.60 - 2.40	80	19.74 - 0.26
23	14.24 - 5.76	52	17.69 - 2.31	81	19.80 - 0.20
24	14.39 - 5.61	53	17.78 - 2.22	82	19.85 - 0.15
25	14.54 - 5.46	54	17.87 - 2.13	83	19.90 - 0.10
26	14.68 - 5.32	55	17.96 - 2.04	84	19.95 - 0.05
27	14.82 - 5.18	56	18.05 - 1.95		
28	14.96 - 5.04	57	18.13 - 1.87		

International Match Point Scale

Points difference		IMPs	
0	- 10	=	0
20	- 40	=	1
50	- 80	=	2
90	- 120	=	3
130	- 160	=	4
170	- 210	=	5
220	- 260	=	6
270	- 310	=	7
320	- 360	=	8
370	- 420	=	9
430	- 490	=	10
500	- 590	=	11
600	- 740	=	12

Points difference		IMPs	
750	- 890	=	13
900	- 1090	=	14
1100	- 1290	=	15
1300	- 1490	=	16
1500	- 1740	=	17
1750	- 1990	=	18
2000	- 2240	=	19
2250	- 2490	=	20
2500	- 2990	=	21
3000	- 3490	=	22
3500	- 3990	=	23
4000 and above		=	24