

## CASTLES, GARDENS AND BRIDGE AT WARWICK 15<sup>TH</sup> – 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009-05-29

The 57<sup>th</sup> Bridge Weekend held by the Sobell Bridge Club took place from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 when 38 members and two visitors enjoyed ninety four hands of bridge as well as the excellent facilities and fare of The Hilton Hotel at Warwick where the Club made our fourth visit. The arrangements for bridge at this hotel are first class.



Charlote Suite – the Bridge Room

Margaret and Carl showed excellent form with first place in both the duplicate competition on Friday evening – with a magnificent 65.66% - as North/South and an equally impressive first place in the marathon (38 boards) Howell duplicate competition on Saturday afternoon and evening when they scored a mere 58.78%. The Howell movement ensured that every pair present met and played against every other pair whilst at the same time ensuring that during the afternoon session pairs were required to 'sit out' for only two rather than four boards.

Jane and Len, a successful pairing at the Club's normal Monday sessions, marked their first appearance on a Club weekend by finishing second with 58.02% in the Saturday event just behind Margaret and Carl but went even better in the Stanley Nicholls Memorial Team event on Sunday when paired with Elaine and Howard – their team were ante-post favourites – they won at the first time of asking with the excellent score of 91 Imps – beating the holders Dot and George paired on this occasion with Ruby and Ken into second place with 46 Imps. This was Elaine and Howard's second success in this competition. Teams are decided by lot for this event.

The Stanley Nicholls Cup presented to the Club by son, Andrew Nicholls marks the tremendous contribution made to the Club by Stan as our first chairman and particularly in the Weekend setting because of his fostering and organisation of the Weekends for some ten years.

The tradition of the Weekends is that no pair may win more than one prize. All Club 'officers' present being prize winners the awards were presented by Pat Graham the longest serving member present. After prize giving thanks were expressed to Doug (in his absence) for his organisation of the Weekend, to Martin for dealing with the internal administration of the event, to George for directing the event and to Dot and Michael for their general help at Warwick.

In down time – play did not commence until 3.15 in the afternoon - members enjoyed visiting friends and relatives living nearby, Warwick Castle, Warwick itself, the nearby Charlote House and Grounds (NT) and Kenilworth Castle the latter being particularly interesting due to the recent recreation of an Elizabethan Garden originally created by the Earl of Dudley for a visit by Queen Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> whom he hoped to woo and impress.

Our charity will have benefitted by some £500+

**Honours Board: -**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Mitchell duplicate



1<sup>st</sup> E/W Adrienne and Joanna 57.78%



2<sup>nd</sup> N/S Susan and Neil 58.89%

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Howell duplicate



5<sup>th</sup> Betty and Joan 53.44%



4<sup>th</sup> Martin and Freda 55.80%



3<sup>rd</sup> Mark and Helen 57.76%



1<sup>st</sup> Carl and Margaret 58.65%  
also 1<sup>st</sup> N/S Friday 65.66%

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Stanley Nicholls Memorial Cup for Teams



2<sup>nd</sup> George Dot, Ruby and Ken 46 IMPs



1<sup>st</sup> – with the spoils – Elaine, Howard, Jane & Len 91 IMPs