

## The Wimpenny Trophy



In September 1984, Huddersfield Bridge Club held a team-of-four competition to celebrate the EBU's National Bridge Week. The aim was to introduce rubber bridge players to the duplicate game. The club chairman, Mr Noel Wimpenny, donated a trophy for an annual competition in this event.

Noel Wimpenny was a director of Wimpenny Construction Group. This family business is known for the construction of various prominent buildings in Huddersfield and the surrounding area.

During the Second World War he served as a Captain in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in France. In 1943 he was mentioned in dispatches for services in North Africa. In 1944 he was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in the Battle of Anzio. In the 1950s he was a councillor for the Almondbury ward on Huddersfield Town Council, where he was deputy chairman of the waterworks committee.

Mr Wimpenny retired in 1985 and moved to Norfolk, where he died in 1996 at the age of 75.

# BRIDGE: Geoffrey Sharpe

THE English Bridge Union is making a concerted effort to raise the profile of bridge in the country.

Members should by now have received the first issue of a redesigned magazine which in future will be circulated six times a year instead of four as previously.

This will include news and features of interest to players of all ages and abilities and is one of a number of benefits which are being introduced for members.

Membership of the national association is only about 25,000 out of an estimated number of over 1m bridge enthusiasts.

This compares unfavourably with most other countries that are affiliated to the World Bridge Federation and, in an attempt to remedy this situation, a National Bridge Week is being held from September 17-23 with the aim of stimulating interest in organised bridge, encouraging those who already enjoy the game to join bridge clubs and non-players to learn the game.

During the week a wide variety of events are being staged by county associations and clubs. Huddersfield Bridge Club are organising a team-of-four competition to be held at 4 Cambridge Road, on Wednesday, September 19 (7.00), for which there will be an entry fee of £6 per team to cover refreshments and prizes.

Mr N Wimpenny has kindly donated a trophy for annual competition in this event

for teams which must include at least two rubber bridge players and one duplicate player.

Clearly the aim is to introduce rubber bridge players to the fascination of the duplicate game and the club is hoping for a good turnout on this occasion. Partners will be found for any rubber bridge player wishing to compete.

Free copies of an EBU leaflet "An Introduction to Duplicate Bridge" are available from Mrs J A Singleton at the club.

There will also be an open house at Huddersfield Bridge Club on Thursday, September 20, for anyone wishing to come along and watch duplicate bridge being played.

This hand produced a game swing in a European Championship match between Great Britain and Denmark. It features a point that is often overlooked by defenders and I will give it first as a defensive problem.

West is the dealer with EW vulnerable and you are South holding:

S A 3  
H 10 7  
D K 9 8 6 4 2  
C 10 5 2

In both rooms West opened 1H and eventually reached a contract of 4H, North, your partner, having overcalled 1S on the first round.

North leads the ace of diamonds and continues with the five of diamonds to your king, dummy having tabled

S K J 10 7  
H J 9 5 2  
D Q J 7  
C Q J

What card do you lead at trick 3? Give yourself full marks if you led the ace of spades. The reason becomes obvious when you see declarer's hand but it is not quite so obvious at the table. This was the full layout:

♠ Q 9 8 6 5 2		♠ K J 10 7
♥ Q 8		♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A 5		♦ Q J 7
♣ 9 6 3		♣ Q J

♠ 4		♠ A 3
♥ A K 6 4 3		♥ 10 7
♦ 10 3		♦ K 9 8 6 4 2
♣ A K 8 7 4		♣ 10 5 2

	N	E
W	S	

Clearly you must return a diamond giving your partner the chance to ruff or, perhaps, if declarer ruffs high, promoting a trump trick for him. But, if you don't cash the ace of spades first, West will have the opportunity of discarding his spade on the third diamond—a neat loser-on-loser play.

If you think about it North is unlikely to hold seven spades, for then he might well have pre-empted over 1H at the favourable vulnerability, but he is quite likely to have a six-card suit for his overcall in which case declarer would have a singleton.

The Danish defender returned a diamond at Trick 3 and the contract was made but Boris Schapiro, for England, made no mistake. He led the ace of spades first for a swing of 720 points.

### Huddersfield Bridge Club results:

Monday: NS—C Bottomley and G D Sharpe +540, Mrs A E Booth and Mrs M Milner -290; EW—M C D Knapton and S J Broadhead +3240, Mrs S Ellam and C W Scholes +2830.

Tues: NS—G Holmes and Mrs B Allison 303MP, M Lunn and B Allison 279MP; EW—Mrs M Plucker and Miss M Kilner 271MP, Mrs B Thornton and Mrs M Wall 262MP.

Wed: Mr and Mrs H Castle 56MP, J Howard and M C D Knapton 54MP.

Thurs: J Howard and Mrs P Henning 160MP, J Dickson and C Bottomley 144MP, R Garthwaite and Mrs J B Hobson 142MP.

Fri: NS—J Howard and P Footitt 319MP, Mrs E Sykes and Mrs D Brierley 266MP; EW—Mrs H Castle and Mrs N Pearson 265MP, Mrs M Wall and Mrs B Thornton 257MP.

30 August 1984



Huddersfield Contract Bridge Club celebrated National Bridge Week last night with a special competition at their Cambridge Road headquarters and chairman Mr Noel Wimpenny (right) shows off the trophy he presented to the winners. Pictured (from left) are Brian Holdsworth, Yorkshire chairman Hubert Castle, Mrs Jessie Simpson, Donald Goodyear, Mrs John Singleton (Huddersfield secretary, YCBA), Hubert Lewthwaite, Malcolm Lunn, and secretary Roy Etchells

20 September 1984

There was no mention of the "Wimpenny Trophy" at the 1985 AGM, but Mr Wimpenny was still the club chairman. This was likely his last year in the position. When the team event was played in 1987, the Wednesday results show it was then known as the "Noel Wimpenny Trophy".

AT the annual meeting of the Huddersfield CBA and Club the officers for the past year, chairman N Wimpenny, secretary R Etchells, and treasurer Mrs J Howell, were returned unopposed and B Allison, D H Goodyear and M Lunn were elected to fill the vacancies on the committee.

The secretary reported a small increase in the number of members to 182, largely due to an influx from the beginners' class, and the absence of any major maintenance expenditure during the past year enabled the treasurer to report a satisfactory financial outcome.

The prizes for the leading performances on the various club nights were presented to the following:

Monday: Div I—1 G D Sharpe, 2 W H Gibson, 3 H C Hoyle. Div II—1 S J Broadhead, 2 F Luty and J Howard.

Tuesday: Div I (Gibson Trophy)—1 Mrs B Allison, 2 B Allison, 3 M Lunn. Div II—1 A Ashford, 2 Mrs B Beevers, 3 Mrs R Lewis.

Wednesday: (Castle Trophy)—1 J Kowalski, 2 H Castle, 3 Mrs H Castle.

Thursday: Div I (Ellam Trophy)—1 Mrs B Fell, 2 Miss A McNair, 3 Mrs N Pearson. Div II—1 Mrs P Slater, 2 Mrs B Allison, 3 B K Holdsworth.

Friday: Div I (Kaye Trophy)—1 R Garthwaite and Mrs J B Hobson, 3 J Kowalski and R Q Hoyle. Div II—1 S J Broadhead, 2 M Knapton, 3 Mrs M Wall.

13 June 1985

## CONTRACT BRIDGE: Mark Knapton

First in our Contract Bridge series by a new columnist

THE trouble with giving bridge hands as problems is that the more astute bridge player will realise that the answer is not that which is immediately obvious, since otherwise the hand would not be set as a problem.

In fact there are certain bridge players who are expert at problem solving, but not nearly so good at it at the bridge table, where it counts.

Today's hand comes from a recent inter-city first division match involving Huddersfield, where a defensive slip gave declarer a chance to succeed by careful play.

<p>♠ K 5 ♥ K Q J 5 ♦ A 8 6 4 ♣ A J 9</p>	<p>♠ A 9 6 3 ♥ 7 6 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ K Q 6 4</p>										
<p>♠ Q J 10 7 4 ♥ 8 4 ♦ Q J 9 5 ♣ 5 3</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td><td>E</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>W</td><td> </td><td>S</td><td> </td></tr> </table> <p>♠ 8 2 ♥ A 10 9 3 2 ♦ K 3 ♣ 10 8 7 2</p>		N		E			W		S	
	N		E								
	W		S								

At game all, with East as dealer the bidding was:

N	E	S	W
Double	Pass	Pass	1 Spade
4 Hearts	2 No-trumps	3 Hearts	Pass
	Pass	Pass	Pass

East's 2 no-trump bid was standard Acol showing a good raise to 3 spades. The opening lead was SQ covered by SK, SA and the S2 from declarer.

East returned S3 to West's S10 and West switched to DQ. Declarer won with DK, cashed DA and then ruffed a diamond high. Only then were two rounds of trumps cashed ending in dummy, and a second diamond was ruffed by declarer. Now a club to dummy's C9 end-played East into either giving a ruff and discard or leading a club round to dummy's CAJ ten ace.

Declarer was careful to give himself that extra chance of hearts breaking 2-2 so that an elimination was possible. Although a club switch by west and trick 3 would have beaten the contract, provided trumps broke 2-2 and diamonds did not break 7-0 or 6-1, an elimination would guarantee the contract.

This was despite West's opening bid, which suggested that all least one club honour was right. It is not unknown for people (even vulnerable) to open third in hand on tram tickets. If hearts had not broken 2-2, declarer would have still had the chance to fall back on the double club finesse.

### Huddersfield Bridge Club Competition Results

**Monday:** North-South—1 Mrs H J Hobson and R Garthwaite; 2 Mrs J West and F Luty; 3 Mrs S Ellam and H Castle. East-West—1 W H Gibson and J Kowalski; 2 L Ralph and N Turner; 3 H Knight and R J Sykes.

**Tuesday:** North-South—1 B Allison and L Ralph; 2 G Bates and D Kaye; 3 R Ellis and E Shaw. East-West—1 Mrs B Thornton and Mrs M Wall; 2 Mrs S Bancroft and Mrs D Thwaite; 3 Mrs P Cooper and Mrs P Townsend.

**Wednesday:** A team event for the Noel Wimpenny Trophy was played. The winning team was Mrs M Cocking, Mrs C Styling, Mrs Schofield and Mrs Steen.

**Thursday:** 1 Mrs P Haigh and Mrs L Hobson; 2 J Begg and G K Turner, Mrs G Boothroyd and R Q Hoyle.

**Friday:** Because of a very large attendance, two competitions were played on Friday evening. Results of one competition were: 1 R Q Hoyle and J Kowalski; 2 Mr and Mrs D Murphy; 3 Mrs M Baily and H Lewthwaite.

Results of the second competition were: North-South—1 Mrs P Slater and W Stainthorpe; P Henning and L Ralph. East-West—Mrs B Fell and Mrs J West; Mrs L Hobson and Mrs M Price.

7 December 1987

### Lieut. Noel Wimpenny Mentioned in Dispatches

Lieut. Noel Wimpenny, Duke of Wellington's Regiment, has been mentioned in dispatches for "gallant and distinguished services in North Africa." Lieut. Wimpenny's wife lives at Fenay Court, Almondbury. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wimpenny, Boa Vista, Milnsbridge, and a member of the firm of Messrs. J. Wimpenny and Co., builders and contractors, Linthwaite.



Lieut. Wimpenny has been on active service since the outbreak of war, and was previously a member of the Territorial Army. He has served in France, and has been in the Middle East since February last.

6 November 1943

### M.C. for Captain N. Wimpenny

The award of the Military Cross for gallantry in fighting at the Anzio beach-head has been awarded to Captain Noel Wimpenny. Capt. Wimpenny, whose wife lives at Fenay Court, Almondbury, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wimpenny, Boa Vista, Milnsbridge.



He was mentioned in dispatches in November last year for "gallant and

distinguished service in North Africa." Capt. Wimpenny, who was a member of the Territorials, has been on active service since the beginning of the war, having served in France and the Middle East. He has been abroad for over fourteen months.

Educated at the Huddersfield College, he was a member of the firm of Messrs. J. Wimpenny and Co., builders and contractors, Linthwaite.

15 April 1944

### Almondbury Ward

## Mr. N. Wimpenny Adopted by Conservatives

THE new price schedules for coal, introduced yesterday, were described last evening by the prospective Conservative candidate for Huddersfield East (Mr. J. Woods Smith) as "one of the most serious things that has happened to the trade since coal was nationalised." He was speaking at Almondbury Church School when Mr. Noel Wimpenny (secretary of the Almondbury Young Conservatives Branch) was adopted to contest the by-election caused in the Almondbury ward by the elevation on the Town Council of Alderman J. F. C. Cole.

Most of the speakers paid tribute to the work of the Young Conservatives in the recent elections and, as Mr. Woods Smith said, it was "the Young Conservatives' night." Mr. Wimpenny's adoption was, he said, a fitting tribute to the work of the Young Conservatives, many of whom were present at the meeting, during the last few years.

Commenting on Mr. Wimpenny's election address, Ald. H. A. Bennie Grey said he was impressed by the fact that Mr. Wimpenny had been honest about it. He had told them he did not know anything about Corporation work, but he was prepared to learn.

Mr. W. E. Whittaker, chairman of the Huddersfield Conservative Association, said the Young Conservatives were "longing for a fight," and if there was a contest he was sure they would "go into it and give the Socialists such a drubbing as they had never had before." Ald. J. F. Sykes presided. The "fit and proper person" resolution was moved by Mr. J. A. Sykes and seconded by Mrs. A. N. Hanson.

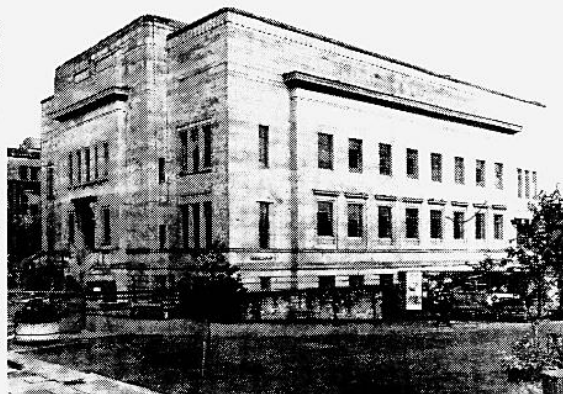
31 May 1949

# Wimpenny's winning ways



In the drawing-office at Wimpenny group's Spurn Point headquarters are directors Mr Harry Wimpenny (left) and Mr Noel Wimpenny.

Right: Some of the Huddersfield buildings from the Wimpenny file (from top)—the ABC, formerly the Ritz; and the Technical College



**WIMPENNY** Construction Group have come a long way since Joseph Wimpenny hired an army of Irish navvies to help him build mile upon mile of dry stone walling across the wild Saddleworth moors.

The Linthwaite-based firm, currently celebrating 100 years and with a staff and labour force of 270, has just announced four new contracts totalling £3m to two of its main operating divisions and this brings their order flow tally since January to around £92m.

## Four generations

Four generations of Wimpenny's have played a part in the growth of the enterprise which great-grandfather Joseph founded, and the hallmark for quality workmanship which he carved from the outset continues to be ever zealously maintained.

Some of Huddersfield's finest public buildings figure on the Wimpenny file—the public library, two phases of

the town's civic centre development, the police headquarters and Kirklees Council's recently-built High Street administration block to mention a few.

Wimpenny's expertise with local stone was an integral feature of the former Ritz Cinema (later the ABC) in Market Street, and again when Huddersfield Corporation hit upon the excellent idea of converting the old Royal Infirmary site in New North Road into a new "home" for the Technical College.

The fact that in spite of the construction industry's painfully slow emergence from the recession Wimpenny's are shaping up for a record turnover this year says much for the group's steadfast pursuit of high standards.

Mr Harry Wimpenny, grandson of the founder (his brother, Mr George Wimpenny, is group chairman), tells me there have been some signs of improvement in the building climate overall in recent months. "But for the good contracts which come around there is tremendous competition," he hastened to add.

"We have to be constantly on our

toes, reliable and efficient in everything we undertake and aggressive in selling ourselves."

The latest contract plums to come Wimpenny's way include a £1.6m scheme for the design, management and construction of a new NEGAS combined service centre in Bradford, similar to ones which they have done in Huddersfield and Pontefract and on which they are currently engaged in Halifax.

Wimpenny has also won the £280,000 contract for the design and construction of Heywood Williams' Eird Royd plant extensions at Brig-house, and work has already started on that project.

## Contract

Farnell Electronic Components Ltd, of Leeds, have turned to Wimpenny for the construction of their new £1m warehouse in Armley and the group is to handle refurbishment work within the chemical engineering complex of Manchester University. This is the third such scheme undertaken for the university. Wimpenny's were also responsible for both phases of a bio-engineering laboratory refurbishment in 1980-81.



31 July 1984

## War hero dies in hospital

**WAR HERO** Noel Wimpenny has died in hospital at the age of 75.

He earned the Military Cross in Anzio, Italy, in March, 1944, when fighting with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

For more than 30 years Huddersfield-born Mr Wimpenny was a director of Linthwaite building firm J Wimpenny and Co.

In the 1950s he served as a Conservative councillor for Almondbury on the old Huddersfield Town Council.

A former member of Rotary, Woodsome Hall Golf Club and Huddersfield Bridge Club, he moved to Norfolk after retiring in 1985.

He died in a Great Yarmouth hospital after a brief illness.

21 August 1996