

The Oxfordshire Bridge Association would like to propose Bill McCarthy for the Dimmie Fleming award.

Geoff Nicholas writes:

Bill has been Thame Club secretary for over seventeen years and has only stepped down due to ill health. Very sadly, he is currently undergoing treatment for a very serious form of cancer which he has been told is terminal.

Bill also captained one of the Thame club teams for many years. Additionally, when Thame lost its premises several years ago (because Thame Football Club went into liquidation) Bill was the person who, with Freda, his wife, found and sorted-out the club's present base in Thame.

He has also been on the committee of Aylesbury Club for I would say at least ten years but possibly far longer. Until the last few weeks he was "sole scorer" for Aylesbury Club (*except when he was away*) and before Bridgewebs came into being several years ago, he set up his own website to show the Aylesbury Club results and ladders. He is also the stand-in scorer for Thame Club.

He duplicates boards for both Aylesbury Bridge Club and Thame Bridge Club, as well as for OBA home county matches; directs at both Aylesbury Club and Thame Club, and has taken on responsibility for movement cards: Pivot Teams and Individual movement cards in particular.

He regularly directs and/or scores various charity events (Aylesbury, Haddenham and Towersey are just three examples).

For the County, he has scored the OBA Senior Event since its inception four or five years ago, and maintains the ladder for it. He ran the OBA county championship for at least two years, possibly longer, and was an active member of the OBA Tournament Committee for several years. He arranged for the provision of, and himself ferried, the Thame Club tables to Benson when the OBA Congress was first re-instated several years ago.

Last, but by no means least, he has maintained the websites for the results of all the County league competitions (involving five divisions of the Wessex League, the Presidents Cup and the Chester Cup) in exemplary fashion. This is quite time consuming as it involves raising Excel Spreadsheets and linked HTML records to include changes of teams in each division; dates of all matches; and "averages" where matches are unplayed (defaulted).