

Michael McGloughlin R.I.P.



I was very saddened to hear of the passing of one of the great stalwarts of Irish bridge, Michael McGloughlin.

Michael first appeared on the international scene as a junior, winning the Silver medal for Ireland in the European Junior Teams Championships in Copenhagen in 1974, playing with David Scannell on a team which included Adam Mesbur, Nick FitzGibbon, Johnny McKeon and the late Denis O'Donovan.

He next appeared on the Irish Open Team in the World Championships in Salsomaggiore in 1992, playing with Gay Keaveney and team mates Donal Garvey, Micheal O'Briain, David Greenwood and Rex Anderson.

His international career then continued in Mixed Pairs and Team events, playing with his wife Heidi, in many Open events and representing Ireland in European & World events in Ostend and San Remo. In Wroclaw their team mates were Ciara Burns RIP, John Murchan, Anne Fitzpatrick and Harold Curran. Their most recent appearance was in Lisbon in February 2019.

Michael also played for Ireland on a Senior Camrose team in 2011 with Sean O'Lubaigh - this would be pre-Shillelagh Club days for Sean!

Michael won many Irish national titles in his time, with the most recent being the Men's Teams for the Geraldine Trophy in January 2020 with Jim McAndrew, David Ryan & Tomas Roche.

Michael was Convenor of the CBAI International Committee for a number of years, producing excellent reports and keeping the Committee and its tasks running smoothly. He also served on the equivalent Committee at the Irish Bridge Union over roughly the same time span.

As a player, his prowess was well regarded and Michael became one of our select group of Grand Masters only fairly recently, in 2018 and there was never a more modest and unassuming winner of that title. Typical of Michael's generous character was his willingness to actively encourage and support bridge at all levels – club, congress, national and international and not just in name but by actually attending events, in person, in every corner of our country, accompanied by his wife Heidi to whom we extend our heartfelt sympathies. Michael and Heidi have represented Ireland so well over the years that they would be regarded as amongst our leading bridge ambassadors. He will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him and especially the entire Irish bridge community.

Harold Curran
Immediate Past Chairman NIBU