



# Tables Arrive

It was at the beginning of setting up our bridge group that we knew that the purchase of tables would be our biggest financial outlay. AND we have not been disappointed!!

After both a financially successful Improvers bridge day and the high subscription level agreed by our members, we were able to afford to buy the Go Pak games table. These look very smart in our bridge room overlooking the bowls green.

Having had experience of both buying tables and setting them up and storing, these seemed to be the most robust,

having no screws! They are not the easiest to store but let's see how they do.

They are cheaper if you buy batches of five so we shall have to grow a bit more in order to secure the next round!

It's a big thank you again to those of you who have loaned or donated tables. You really got us started.



# Bridge Tuition

It was a fast start to 2019 for Carol and Shelagh with one birthday down - Carol's and one to go they were kept them on their toes in January. However, those were small in comparison to the preparations for the Improvers day at the Community

Saturday 19th July. Some 15 people attended both our regular players and some non members from Ashby. Learners brought their own packed lunch and we provided the coffee and tea all day along with the tuition. No headache pills

were required but the teachers collapsed to their respective sofas with a gin and tonic or two and slept through most of the BBC 4 Nordic drama!

*More inside*

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## Bridge Tuition ...continued

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The Improvers day drew in people from Castle Donnington, Tamworth, Melbourne ( Not the Australian one), Ashby and more local people from neighbouring villages.

Aspects covered included quite a bit on card play in No Trumps amongst other things with prepared hands and various exercises along with some tools for better play. These included the ' Rule of Seven' and the ' Rule of 11'. If any of you would like a copy of those handouts, please let Shelagh and Carol know.

We took £150 in course fees for the day which left us a significant margin for the table purchase after we had met running costs of refreshment and photocopying etc



## Beginners Bridge

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A weekend bridge ( Saturday and Sunday) training programme following latest English Bridge Union guidelines was offered by Shelagh and Carol at the Club in February. Promotion was through local village news and was therefore more limited but the intention was to draw in more local people. All looked good on the previous Satur-

day with 12 projected learners but unfortunately only 3 came on the day. However, disappointment did not reign long as three potentially really good players joined and being able to cancel day 2 of the centre hire meant that a financial loss for the group was not incurred

*The real test of a bridge player  
isn't in keeping out of  
trouble, but in escaping once  
he's in it.  
-Alfred Sheinwold*

## Our Finances

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We think we are doing quite well in covering our costs. So far we have bought table clothes, bidding boxes, tables, travellers and playing cards. Other expenditure includes refreshments and ,you do enjoy the biscuits, together with printing and photocopying and centre hire.

As yet we have not opened a bank account as the money goes straight

to meet required expenditure but we shall soon start to need one. A balance sheet outlining our activity will be given at the AGM. The next target will be a small lap top ( unsophisticated) to hold club data and scoring

# Annual General Meeting : AGM

This will be at the Community Centre on **Thursday June 20th** 1.00–4.00pm. Given that this will be the anniversary of our first bridge session, a birthday celebration seems in order. This will take the form of the formal meeting, followed by a bridge drive and afternoon tea. A few talented cooking members might be required to assist, so don't hide your expertise, you Master Chefs! Remember *'bridge is a sociable game but unfortunately attracts a number of antisocial people'* as Alan Truscott said! So don't be a party pooper and miss the occasion



## Why an AGM???

Well, firstly there is a matter of approving and reviewing our constitution and other policy documents. You have had these but no amendments have been suggested.

Secondly it's quite a good idea if other people help to make decisions and therefore a committee structure needs to be implemented. It is not a good idea to leave it all to Shelagh and Carol.....democracy might

Brexit! If you are good at figures and can do a balance sheet/ prepare a financial statement or are good at IT, we need you!!

We need to make decisions about club future independence or not and about other matters including insurance. So lots to do before the party!

Please

# HELP !



## Your Holidays

We always advise those new to learning bridge that it is not just a game changer but a Life Changer. Who amongst us has not met new people been out to play bridge with them and with a little wine or the like? Who has not been on holiday or for a bridge weekend and not met new people?

We have had photos from the Six Diamonds and the Four Aces on their bridge jollies. If you are thinking of booking

anything, ask around. There will be someone who has been there before!

We are pleased to welcome back the Cruisers...Marilyn and John; John and Josie., AND, the river cruisers Margaret and Steve. Carol, Shelagh, Averil and Belinda have done bridge weekends and have another planned. Ann and Margaret have also done a Mr Bridge week as have Janet and Phina. Soon we can start our own Trip Adviser Forum \*\*\*\*\*



It's not too late to tell us when your birthday is on your membership form and then we can celebrate it



## Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

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*Never Knowingly Underplayed!*

*Our Mission is to share and spread the game of bridge to local people for their enjoyment, health and well being in a friendly, safe and comfortable environment*



**We are on the web**

**[www.bagworthwhistlestopbridge@btck.co.uk](mailto:www.bagworthwhistlestopbridge@btck.co.uk)**

## Big Thank You

Carol and Shelagh want to say a big thank you to you all. You are coming now very regularly, and they no longer panic about whether there are sufficient numbers to cover the operational costs and make a contribution to capital costs which in year one have been substantial.

Almost a four figure sum has been spent on capital costs which is substantial so again it is a Big Thank You. Being on a more even keel gives the opportunity to consider whether to go for a new web site, possibly pianola rather than bridge webs which will enable the results to be available on line rather than being emailed out.

It's also a Big Thank You to members who help regularly set up and put away equipment. It is done me-

thodically and carefully. Another Big Thank You must go to Marilyn and John who help so regularly, do the scoring and also cover for when either Shelagh or Carol are away. Again this brings much comfort and more sleep to Shelagh and Carol.

We do have a request though, which is while we start at 1.00pm , play can be delayed by those who come in a little too close to 1.00pm and we have to change set up or arrange partners. We know all bridge players have busy lives and tight schedules but if you could make it for about 12.50pm it would enable us to make a 1.00pm start .

