

Issue 24

September 2024



# BAGWORTH WHISTLESTOP

BRIDGE GROUP



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# Newsletter Sept. 2024

Welcome to our first newsletter of 24/5 with your new committee recently elected, a committee meeting having been held and plans made for the year.

You will probably notice some changes although not too radical, we hope. Firstly we have a new treasurer, Derek, and a new committee member Mandy and an extended team of helpers. Please help them all by your wisdom, guidance and support and most of all talk to us!!

Our plans were outlined in the annual report and approved at the AGM and this

newsletter will cover some of them in more detail.

Firstly, we shall be maintaining our usual round of competitions, - the knockout, the random pairs, the most improved player, the Swiss teams and simultaneous pairs. We hope to manage a return visit to Stamford and we shall certainly have our usual Christmas bridge celebrations.

Our main new activity is in raising standards within the club. To this end we are starting a shared resource base led by Mandy. We are developing a 'Tip of the Week' or nearly weekly led by George. We have a week-

ly supervised play on Monday mornings led by Neil, Carol and Shelagh.

We are also trying to provide a greater experience of playing as teams. So we shall be having an internal club teams match in November. This will be followed by a match in the new year against Market Bosworth with Steve as team captain. One day we might even be crazy enough to enter the league!

We also want to promote RealBridge on Monday evenings and so we shall be having a Swiss pairs match.

As ever we shall be promoting the club.

## Swiss : is it pairs or is it teams?

We had our Swiss teams in June which again was very successful with 12 tables and won again by Steph, Andy and Don but also with newcomer Michael Darling. Now is your chance to practice

**Swiss Pairs For Free** on Monday 9th September 6.45 for 7.00pm in support of the English Bridge Union's Bridge Its A Big Deal. This will be a precursor to an interclub swiss pairs one Sunday afternoon in November,

led by Simon and Shelagh. A date will follow!



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### Monday Sept 9th 2024— Swiss Pairs on Real Bridge



# Our Finances

We are doing well with just over £3000.00 in our account so we are retaining our membership at £5,00 and our table money at £2.00 per session. Our room rental went up a little both for the hall and the meeting room in August but we can accommodate this..

Currently our equipment can support 12 playing tables with a little spare capacity and so we are not planning to make any equipment purchases of significance, except possibly for publicity. However, if you think we either need something new or replacing something, just let us know. We like to be ahead of the game.

Do you recognize this picture?



Yes it's the nine of hearts but it's a bendy card from a stressed bridge player! We are replacing some of the cards in the boards as the magic eye on the dealing machine has trouble recognizing the bar code.

So chill for our dealing machine and .....



Thank you for paying your annual subscription fees so promptly. We have 58 paid up members and another 5 in the pipeline and two to check on. This will be our most successful year

# Members Update

We are pleased to welcome some new members since our AGM, mainly due to word of mouth to members from Ashby coming to join for extra practice and hopefully a good time too! We are pleased to welcome Jane Chilvers who will be partnered by Angela Child. We suspect that Richard has a recruitment strategy all of his own as he mentions Bagworth at the supervised



play on a Wednesday morning at Ashby as we are about to be joined by another four members! Thankyou to you all for making our new members welcome and to our directors for their introductions. Thanks must also go to Mary Weeks, our membership secretary who has a tricky job and prepares our membership packs with club information for new players. And she has a zero **birthday in Sept!**

# Training Update

Normally we should be running a beginners programme this year but we are concentrating on integrating our new players into our Thursday duplicate sessions and providing extra practice. This extra practice comes in the form of a Whats App group on Saturday mornings using BBO. Much entertainment is provided by the sounds emanating

From the different phones—the dog, the Ring doorbell, the shredder etc plus the frequent use of the 'undo' button! Do join us if you can for some supervised play aimed at improvers on a Monday morning 10.00-12.00. We usually play 3 boards of some interest and debate from the Thursday duplicate followed by some free play and bridge etiquette!

You can help our learners by offering to loan books, DVDs and equipment. We are not doing too well on this so far so please let Mandy know your offers.



# Competitions

The Competition roller coaster is on its way for 2024/5 starting with the **Knockout Competition** which Steve is managing. The closing date for the draw is Thursday September xxth with the draw taking place the following week. This year, as a trial run, we shall not be designating a specific date for round one but you can organize your own schedule within the parameters of the year. The dates will be set when we know the number of entries and therefore the number of rounds. In this way you should not lose a duplicate session but let us

know what you think.



Prior to last year's match we said that members who were not in the Bagworth team would have the opportunity of playing teams bridge this year. We will be holding an internal teams-of-eight event on **Tuesday 19th November**, 1.00-4.00pm. George will be captain of the blue team and x (as yet not known) will be captain of the red team. Teams of equal strength will be chosen as this is just a fun event, and to give you experience. If we are oversubscribed, priority will be given to those who did not take part in last year's match against Market Bosworth. Great practise, what's not to enjoy including the food!!

Next on the 'Teams Menu' is the match with Market Bosworth

being held this time in Bagworth on Tuesday January 14th 1.00pm. Here, Steve will be the team captain and as captain he will be approaching some of you to check if you might play. So....



## Come and Try

BBVA = Bagworth and Bosworth Virtual Alliance. This is your opportunity to try face to face bridge online with an alliance of Market Bosworth and Bagworth groups online. We use the RealBridge platform and have lots of fun, home and abroad. You can join us if you have a decent broadband connection and a PC, laptop or

tablet on any Monday evening 6.45 for a 7.00 start. The link is on our website and there's a free go on **Monday September 9th** when we try our **Swiss pairs**. You thought I



was joking re home and abroad.

Here's Louise playing from Barbados. And, here's Caroline playing from her Kenyan safari. Just join wherever you are!



Caroline Winnack

## Publicity

Can you help us?

We are currently approaching parish councils to let us put up our information poster. We are steering clear of neighbouring bridge clubs home turf so if you help we would appreciate it. Our poster could be put in Doctor's surgeries, libraries or given out at community events. We have a stock of business cards

and posters so if you can help in the distribution or have ideas, do let us know. Mandy is leading this initiative.

We all know that word of mouth is the best form of publicity and, you, as our members have won the trophy. Thank you for your work and welcome to all.





## 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.bridgewebs.com/bagworthwhistlestopbridge](http://www.bridgewebs.com/bagworthwhistlestopbridge)**

### **Bridge is a sociable game and a learning Game!**

### **Our members work and play hard and want to learn!!!**

Above all it's a game with people bringing their skills, character and warmth ( we trust!) to the game of bridge and spreading the word. Just creeping in on the back page but as a forefront initiative is our member's bridge profile. We think that people will be interested in your bridge experiences, your priorities and the difference that bridge has made to your life. To this end we

are hoping to develop some profiles to encourage others to take up bridge. This will be a short story based on a series of structured interview/ discussion questions about your bridge over a coffee. Lesley will be leading this initiative and we hope to have about three or four profiles a year. You can either stand by and await the call or volunteer your bridge story. Enjoy the telling the tale and we shall await with baited breath and enjoy the reading!

