



# Newsletter April 22

## A Big Thank You

We can't believe that this is the first newsletter of 2022, so, we hope it has been a good year for you so far. However, we do hear of some ups and downs from you! Our thank you to you all covers many areas. Firstly thank you for your support in both face to face bridge and online. Your support is both generous and warmly given especially when we have had such a stop / start return to bridge given the covid developing situations. Our bridge has seen us through in these turbulent two years. Thank you for your help in our return to

face to face bridge in sorting the set up of the room and in managing refreshments. Thank you again for your generosity and concern for the people of Ukraine with the very generous donation we were able to make on your behalf. Many have seen it both the web site and in press releases and have been very impressed.



The next bit thank you is to Carol Stephens who has been our chair person for the last three years and who will leave this role in line with our constitution at our AGM in June. Carol has sorted us all out and during her time and led us to being a fully equipped, fully functioning bridge group with some considerable local credibility. At the same time she has managed the tournament directing and the teaching role in the three years. We look forward to welcoming our new Chair whoever she/ he is at our AGM. Carol will be a hard act to follow.

## Face to Face Bridge : We are here now!!

Yes we are back on track meeting every Thursday, now in the front hall. We are getting 6 tables regularly but when all the regular players are here, we could have 8 tables which is wonderful.

However, we need to prepare for more and have decided to purchase two additional tablets and up our bridgetab license to 10 when it is renewed in July. You seem to like having your own labelled bidding box and

so we are getting a further set of four and also a left handed one. Perhaps you didn't know there was such a thing. There is and the box looks the same although we shall get one a different colour but the bidding cards are organised differently

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# Our Finances

We are in credit and our bank balance is still into four figures. Finally, we had an invoice for our use of the community centre at the end of February and this has been paid. We have had to use the front hall rather than the rear one in order to accommodate the new pre-school group. Afternoons haven't been too successful for them but they are re-starting the Thursday afternoons after Easter. Our hall usage, now at £30.00 per session is getting quite expensive but with the aid of your table money and the raffle system, we are making ends meet and have some spare to buy or replace our equipment.

The committee don't want to drain members pockets to have lots of



savings in the bank, especially at this time of rising costs. We need to make sure we can cover our running costs and the regular license costs for Bridgetabs, our web site and our teaching EBU

membership plus our insurance costs.

We need to maintain a little surplus for both additional and replacement equipment. Our recent extra equipment will make a bit of a hole in our finances but we should still be in four figures at the end of May when our financial year ends.

John, our treasurer and his able assistant M has agreed to continue on the committee for a further year. So it's a big 'Thankyou' to him as the online payment is quite a bit of extra work. The system of online billing seems to be working well and all bridge clubs are no longer using to cash payments. It is fiddly but we are all getting used to it so thankyou

# Members

We are pleased to welcome Tony Meah to the club as a new member and delighted to see the return of Janet Scarratt who has persuaded Mary Danaher to join us. Excellent news and a warm welcome.

We are also over the moon to see both Diana Light and Sue Allgood return after debilitating illness.

The winter cruisers have returned

either with or without covid. And the rest of us are keeping our wings under wraps!

We have had lots of birthdays—Carol, Lesley, Gary, Shelagh John Baker, Josie, Nora and a special one for Steve Fieldhouse with a zero on the end. He bravely bashed through his covid cruise and was away from our Bagworth session on his birthday. However, **Happy Birthday Steve!**



# Competitions and challenge!

We are pleased to welcome two new people to the 70%, club -Andy Brown and George Stang who had the massive score of 76% in February. They are the only ones to have gained 70% in 2022 so far. Well done Andy and George.

The committee have agreed a trophy for the winners of a random pairs competition on Thursday June 16th



And, No, you don't get one each! We shall have a one winning pair movement with one winning pair trophy and use standard acol basic conventions. No partner is needed and probably we shall have 18 boards. The trophy will be presented at our AGM the following week. May be we should call it the Jubilee trophy

# Our Annual General Meeting

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Well it's not just get involved it's save the date...June 23rd 1.00pm at the Community Centre.

As usual we shall be sending out agendas and minutes from the last meeting and committee nomination forms. The group's annual report will be circulated prior to the meet-

ing so that you can have the opportunity to read and to raise any questions.

We need to elect a new chair in line with our constitution although Carol has agreed to remain on the committee. All the other members are happy to remain on the committee in their current roles. However, committees can easily become stale, keeping to what they know and the tried and tested. We don't want our committee to be like that. We need new blood to energize with fresh ideas. So have a think about it, Is this you?? What could you bring? We could easily use help in social activities, refreshments, competi-

tions for a bit of extra sparkle!



Talking of which we plan to jazz up the AGM with a few snacks and the trophy presentation followed by the usual duplicate bridge so do come along and save the date

# Bridge People and Holidays

We have been on the move again, needless to say. Shelagh, Carol, Belinda and Averil went to Charingworth Manor with bridge Overseas in February. The best bridge hotel yet, so good that we have booked again for November. Four others have already booked so come along if you can. Anne G has been to Grantham with Bernard Magee Bridge with seminars on competi-

tive bidding. It's clearly been very

effective.



It has also been the season of bridge drives. At the Hinckley Golf Club Ladies Section Carol had the highest score gaining the first place prize

At Ashby there were no prizes for Shelagh, Carol, Laura and Kay but a good time was had by all and £700 raised for the Macular society organized by Joan Sims.

# Online Bridge Now!

BBVA—Bagworth and Bosworth Virtual Alliance continues on Monday nights on RealBridge. It's a special thanks to Simon who so calmly and ably directs this. Do join us if you can. No membership required so you can bring a friend. The fee is £1.50 per session which you

can pay on line and usually as an advance payment of £15 for 10 sessions. Simon organises the payment and sends out the link. You can also find this on our web site, so.....





## Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

E

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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)

## Improvers Programme



**IMPROVERS**

Yes, we have finally made it and the planned Improvers Day will be on Saturday May 21st. This will be on bidding and responding to weak twos, bidding to the maximum contract and some additional bits on signals and discards.

It's a 10.00am start until 4.00 with all materials tea and coffee provided but please bring your own picnic lunch and have a good day out.

We are pretty well full but have one or two spaces—fee £10, just let Carol or Shelagh know. You will be most welcome. You don't have to come along with your regular partner but it helps if you can—so do join us.

We ran two short improvers mornings before Christmas but covid put paid to the ones planned for after Christmas.

However, Carol did a couple of weeks of confidence booster sessions following the return to face to face bridge.

We plan to do a beginners programme in the Autumn which will include an introduction to online play. Whilst most of the sessions will be face to face some will be on line. We find a full day start is good and this is likely

to be on a Saturday so encourage your friends and they are welcome to contact either Carol or Shelagh for further information and advice and guidance.

*Beginners*

