August 2021

Newsletter Aug ⋖

All in the Balance

We consulted, we listened and we chatted and you are not quite ready to return to Face to Face bridge (F2F). Concerns were expressed about the rising rate of infection owing to the Delta virus together with possible family and holiday commitments over the summer risking potential isolation. Things are beginning to open up in the bridge world. The EBU summer congress is taking place, the first Leicestershire club has started and you will find it difficult to book a UK based bridge holiday.

It's all then a question of balance of risk for

you and it's you who will need to assess your personal risk in terms of participating in F2F bridge.

We cannot think of any further measures we can take to make our playing environment safer. Having played at Harrogate for four days in July our environment is much safer with greater space and ventilation. With young people now being offered vaccination and infection rates reducing we pose the question if not now when? With this in mind we think mid September would be a good start time but participation is your decision and you will be welcomed with open arms...not literally!



On Line Bridge: To be or not to be?

Our current offering of BBO on Thursday afternoon will not be possible at this time following the start of F2F bridge in Mid September. We now know that Market Bosworth will be restarting their F2F

Bridge on Wednesday October 5th. This means that our Real Bridge session on a Wednesday evening will cease at the end of September. With this in mind DO NOT buy lots of BBO dollars in advance or pay extra

the online account for Real Bridge beyond the end of September. Like most bridge clubs we think online bridge is here to stay and we shall be consulting with you as to which platform and when we should play.

Inside this issue:

Our Finances	2
Membership	2
Competitions and challenge	2
Our AGM	3
Special Thanks	3
It's here : Dealing machine	3
Teaching and Learning	4



Our Finances

We are in credit and our bank balance stands at £ 884.78 following our payments for on ine bridge and subscriptions. Our finances, up until the end of May, were approved at our AGM and we started our new financial year on June 1st. Since then, we have purchased two



bridge carriers for transporting boards to our session and holding the sets of boards separately.

At our AGM we agreed that no payment for the 2020 subscriptions would be payable and that the membership subscription for the club would remain at £10.00 for the year beginning June 1st 2021.

We have had approximately 20 payments so far but your payment is now due if you haven't paid already. If you have forgotten the details of how to pay, just let us know. The paying in book is ready and we don't want to trouble you with reminders so let us know if you do not wish to

join.

As we restart F2F bridge our weekly expenditure will increase so we need your help so pay now and enjoy!



Members

.Well, aren't we lucky, we are having three new members joining us for F2F bridge so please welcome Pat and Terry Herrett and Carolyn Owen. They are already known to many of you and extend them a warm welcome to our club on the hills of Bagworth!

We have had some birthdays but none with a zero so no flowers etc recently. However, there was nowhere for Belinda to hide when hers fell on a double session of RealBridge where many opportunities for singing and bringing in the services of Alexa took place. The of course some people celebrated in style at



Bettys!



Competitions and challenge!

70%+

Well, we have two new arrivals on the scene for the 70% club since our last newsletter. They are **Belinda and Bob** achieving 73.61% on August 5th . There are some who are now are consolidating their positions. Yet again Carol and Averil secured their positions along with John and Josie with another 70%+

We need to think of some more competitions for our club, perhaps a pairs or a teams knock out. Watch this space, your committee is thinking!!!!
Please help them!



Page 2 NEWSLETTER AUG 2021

Our Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting took place in 2021 as planned with on line voting and real voting via zoom so we think we covered all bases. Our zoom meeting was well attended with 50% of members on line. The minutes are available along



with the Annual Report on the web site so do take the opportunity to review.

We are really looking forward to a time when we can have our AGM in the centre again and take time to be with one another to agree a way forward. Let's hope for 2022!

Our four key priorities were:

- to build our finances,
- engage new members
- get started again in F2F bridge
- organize the dealing machine

We are delighted to welcome **Anne Gurd** to the commit-

Following the AGM. Both she and Roger have many talents to support the Chair, Treasurer and secretary in their efforts.

However, we remind all, that help is needed next year when the chair has to change but more to follow on this through the year!! There's no escape!



Our Special thanks

I am not quite sure how we manage to achieve or deserve such generosity from our members but it is with heart felt thanks that we have received another donation from one of our members. The donor wishes to remain anonymous which we will respect and given in a note of respect, thanks and kindness...not a dry eye in the place -



It's here!! - -

The Dealing Machine

We have dealt hands, demonstrated it to ourselves with the committee and to others and it all works. We found a place to get it serviced which is required after it has done 90,000 deals but we are bit off that yet.

Here it is in all its glory with a dealt board and resting on its glam travel case. We are struggling with the tablets which might need a reset but we are on the case ready for our start on F2F. If you ever want to help, you can but we expect dealing to take place from homes due to lack of safe storage at the community centre.



ISSUE 13 Page 3



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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

Teaching and Learning

Our Improvers Course still hasn't happened but it will soon when you are ready and comfortable. We still intend to deliver this face to face at the Community Centre. The main theme is managing and opening weak two bid and some general principles of card play.

There is also a new magazine available from EBED subsidiary of the English Bridge Union via their newly formed English Bridge School. Do join in this is a useful development. But only available on line.

We want to attract new members and the best way to do this is via a new beginners course or by word of mouth. So if you know any interested people, let us know. We are thinking of an October start and with some online learning as well as face to face

