



## Our New Dealing Machine

Well we finally managed to have the launch of our dealing machine on November 11th.

This came via a 50% grant from Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council with the remainder coming from Club funds.

We were delighted to welcome Councillor Martin Cartwright coming to present this to us and to demonstrate it to all. Cllr Cartwright did us proud and talked for a while and was fascinated by the machine. It was the first time the Council had been asked for such a grant.

Thankyou all for at-

tending, not quite a full house but we did have 7 tables so it was great to celebrate with you all.

We are now able to duplicate four sets of boards which will last

us for the month.

Carol and Shelagh are currently doing the dealing but we are hoping to sort a rota quite soon



## Face to Face Bridge : Where are we Now?

What can we say. We have enjoyed three months of face to face bridge only to be smashed by the latest Omicron outbreak. We apologise for the late notice but feel we took the right decision at the

right time. Obviously we shall be reviewing the situation as it develops to consider a return date. We all want to keep safe to have Christmas with our families or to make it onto the cruise ship should it ever sail.

In the meantime **the committee wish you a Merry and safe Christmas and their good wishes for 2022**

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# Our Finances

We are in credit and our bank balance is still into four figures. As much as anything this is because the centre have not invoiced us yet for our room usage despite repeated request from us. We should now be paying the full rate for the hall but did negotiate a half price use for the Improvers course as the smaller rooms were not available any morning.

The system of online billing seems to be working well despite the extra work required by our treasurer, John. Most people are paying on line and so the extra cost imposed by the banks is not over burdensome. Lets hope we don't get to the stage of having to pay the bank to look after the clubs money!! How-

ever, a **big thankyou to you** for making it work and paying promptly.



In terms of the centre, we have been raising concerns about the

heating situation in the hall and asking for the thermostat to be raised but as yet to no avail. The temperature drops significantly from the foyer to the hall. It is especially difficult when we keep the windows open to aid ventilation and we thank you for your patience.

We understand that a new pre-school group will have priority after Christmas for the use of the rear hall but this has not yet been confirmed and we shall have to be in the front hall. We have requested additional heating should this be happening as we know that the current level is insufficient.

# Members

We are pleased to welcome three new members who joined us in November— Andy Brown and George Strang will be known to many of you especially if you play at Ashby or the County. Dave Wenham joined us following Carol's update in our local community news and despite not having played for some time managed to take 1st and 2nd positions in his three weeks of play.

Well done Dave. There will be no shortage of partners for you.

Sue Allgood is bravely working through her treatment and hope to join as and when we re-open. We shall also be pleased to welcome back members who have not yet made it back to face to face bridge because of Covid and other concerns. We have had some birthday since our last newsletter but none with a zero.

However please accept our warmest birthday wishes—Les Unwin, John Mousley, Ann Brooks and Roger Horsgood!!! Gotha Anne Gurd too!



# Committee, Competitions and challenge!

You can't believe it, can you? What 77.78%. Yes, that was the score from Belinda and Simon at our last face to face session. The week before that it was Dave and Belinda at 71% especially good for Dave with his 3rd week of play. Obviously Simon and Belinda are seasoned 'vets' of the 70% club now!

Your committee have met and

have agreed a random pairs competition in May/June 2022 with a cup presentation at our AGM in June. They have also proposed an annual knock out competition

De Bono's Six Thinking Hats



for the following year 22/23.

Committee minutes are available via the members area of the website. It seems hard to believe but June 22 will be our 4th year and under the terms of the constitution Carol, our current chairman will have to resign although she is happy to continue on the committee so get your thinking hats on members!

# Refreshments

The committee have had some lengthy discussions about refreshments and following a table check out with you we shall be starting refreshments again as soon as it safe to do so when we return. Most bridge clubs are allowing the making of teas and coffees. As previously, we will not have a designated break time but an opportunity for players to make drinks at their convenience. This should ensure that there are a limited number of people in the drinks area at anyone time. However, we shall advise of more details via our updated risk assessment. We shall review this as and when face to face is about to restart. Obviously it will depend

upon Government advice at the time .



# People

Well we did have a special birthday with a zero this time. Barbara Coles is now our second nonagenarian.

Barbara, unfortunately, hasn't been able to attend Bagworth since our reopening but is still a member so Carol went to Ashby to give her a much appreciated plant.

**Happy Birthday Barbara!**



# Bridge Now!

Well, for now, it's ONLINE ONLY until the covid situation improves.

Thursday afternoon will be back on BBO so get out your dollars again.

RealBridge will continue via BBVA on Monday evenings for the time being and there

an extra session for RealBridge with Market Bosworth on Wednesday evening. Both of these sessions will be at 7.00pm and you will be invoiced via the BBVA account. Note BBVA = Bagworth and Bosworth Virtual Alliance, our online playing platform. Join us if you can.

Our improvers course will also run on Monday mornings on BBO, see overleaf.

There is also some interest in a tour of our web site and the play again options so we will set this up in the new year and invite you via zoom.





## Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

E

Email. whistlestopbridge  
inbagworth@gmail.com  
Emergency phone : 07530364339

*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

It's been one step forward and two steps back for the Improvers programme. We contacted those who had booked for the day and with their agreement postponed it until 2022.

In the mean time to fill the gap we arranged four Monday mornings for December and January. We held one of these at the community centre which was attended by 9 players before we had to close face to face bridge because of the current covid situation.

We are now running the sessions on line using BBO on a Monday morning. Any member is welcome to join and there is not charge for the online session. **Join in if you can and just let Carol or Shelagh know**

