

Issue 21

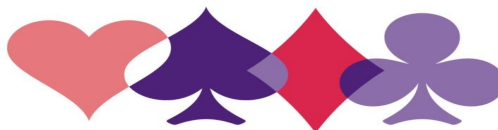
December 2023



BAGWORTH WHISTLESTOP BRIDGE GROUP

Newsletter December

2023



BAGWORTH WHISTLESTOP

BRIDGE GROUP

And here you have it! Yes, it's our new logo. We applied for a grant to Hinckley and Bosworth District Council and were successful. So watch this space, we shall be using it as a header on our documents and for our recruitment leaflets and business cards. You never know it might be your opportunity for sweat shirts, screen pens and may be even some replacement coasters. Our current beer mats are getting a bit tatty.

It has been a little while since our last newsletter but hopefully we have still been keeping

you up to date. The committee, under the leadership of George, our new Chairman, has been very busy this year assembling some new initiatives for you. This newsletter will outline some of them! However, we don't want to be alone in our thinking so if you have a 'light bulb' moment yourself, we are listening. New ideas are always welcome.



Our primary function is as bridge club with respect, care and fun at its roots of sociability. To this end we are also trying to involve more people in running the club but don't necessarily need to be on the committee. We are grateful for the help and support from Steve Fieldhouse in competitions, Neil Stokes for his work on the website and Carol and Andy for their help in directing. Mary Weeks is helping with the Stamford jolly and Simon helps us in both directing and in maintaining the techy element for bridge play which increasingly becomes ever more complex.

Winter cometh!

Bagworth, does get its fair share of snow, ice and fog. Should we consider the weather-risk is too high for your attendance at duplicate or our teaching sessions we shall close the session. Please keep your

eye open on our website if you are in any doubt. You can also check with us by calling 07530364339. Coughs, colds, flu and covid abound in winter so please stay at home if you have symptoms. No need to share



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Thursday 21st December-

Christmas PARTY

Our Finances

All is well and our bank balance is improving as we get income from your table money, the raffle, membership and our teaching. And, again thank you for your prompt payment.

We had over £3,000 at the beginning of December. However, we have purchased two new tables and also some table cloths for when we have refreshments at the bridge table. We are investigating again the purchase and use of a card machine to help those people who do not use internet banking.

We have used 60% of our grant funding in the development of the logo in its various file formats. This

will enable us to have banners, leaflets, business cards, screen pens and may be even some new coasters. All ideas are welcome.



Members Update

We are pleased to welcome some new members to the club, some of whom are already known to us from Ashby. Taking the brave steps into the woods of Bagworth are Robert Missenden, Philip Price and Janet Kirkland. And waiting in the bushes are Laura and Guy Bryant. They seem to be doing rather well and managing to take top place at some of our sessions. Welcome all.



Please speak to us about your first impressions, we welcome the ideas which new members can bring.

We are delighted that Gosia has returned from Poland after looking after her Dad and we are especially delighted at the success of her Derbyshire walk for Alzheimers. Gosia completed the walk and her team raised £3,221, more than the target. Thanks to you all who supported.

Competitions and challenge!

Competitions for 2023/4 are starting with the knock out trophy which again is organized by Steve Fieldhouse. We had 100% participation from members last year which can't really be bettered so let's see if we can manage it again this year.

We shall still run our random pairs in early June and our Swiss Teams

Social event which we are moving to a little earlier ie. in May this year.



George is bringing in two new competitions as he steps into the role of Chair. The first will be an individual winner for a duplicate session. The second will be for simultaneous pairs where you play the same boards and are ranked against other clubs nationally. The event usually raises money for charity and the boards have a commentary from a leading bridge expert!

Save the Date : A grand day out : the final rollcall

It's not too late to join us! We have the opportunity of a visit to Stamford Bridge Club which is near Peterborough. Stamford has one of the leading bridge clubs in the country and they managed to build their own premises. On Fridays they have a relaxed duplicate session and we are welcome to join in. We have requested space for 7 tables of players and we are looking at sometime in early April when the 'cruisers' have returned.

Stamford itself is a beautiful stone built town steeped in history and with a number of good eating places as well as a picnic site by the river. Friday morning just happens to be market day in Stamford as well!

Mary Weeks is organising a coach for us so that we can have the morning in Stamford and the afternoon playing bridge.



Non-playing partners are welcome to join us as they will find plenty to do in Stamford and can be collected after we have finished.

We have 22 signed up already and so have space for more. Sign up now before we offer places to our neighbouring clubs in Ashby and Market Bosworth

More on Competitions : Teams, Most Improved Player

We managed to recruit sufficient people to run two teams for the teams match with Market Bosworth but without sufficient capacity in both clubs to include spares. In the event we had just one team each for the match in November. After a close first half Market Bosworth were just ahead. However, things all change at half

time and after some welcome food. Well motivated by their success in the first half and energized by the delicious sandwiches and cake, Market Bosworth stormed to a well deserved victory in the second half. Hopefully, a return match will take place and our other members will get a chance to play. The committee is also introducing an annual

competition for the most improved player in the club. This will go to the player whose average score in the Thursday duplicate sessions has increased by the most between 2022/3 and 2023/4. The competition will be limited to players whose average last year was under 50% and had played at least 8 times in the year.

Teaching :

The Monday morning improves play session has come to an end and has been replaced by a supervised play session which will finish before Christmas. Both sessions have been well supported.

We are suggesting a new programme targeted at the more able players who are looking to develop new bidding tools by way of differ-

ent conventions. Using these to burgle the oppositions contracts.



Shelagh will be facilitating this programme which is based on an action learning methodology. This means individual participants problem solving their bidding issues and sharing their research with the group. It will require individual work by all so a bit of hard work. There is a sign up form on the website. There is no resemblance to the bridge burglar in our club!

Psst—we have 4 new beginners after Xmas, let Carol and Shelagh know of anyone else





Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

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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

Bridge is a sociable game!

- 5 went to Oxford
 - 2 went to Turkey
 - 8 had a party
- ⇒ And then there were birthdays!!
- ⇒ And join us on Facebook
- ⇒ And then there was Christmas



Thursday 21st December!
Bring a plate of food, please!

Set up 12.00. Lunch start 12.30

