



Happy New Year

Greeting to you all in our first newsletter of 2023. It's all been a bit hectic so far for many of us with playing bridge often, getting covid, taking holidays and the general busiment. So let's get going on our update. Firstly welcome back to our Chair person, Anne Gurd. Anne is now back at the helm after a period of absence to care for family health needs. She is back and raring to go.

Firstly a big 'thankyou' to you all for both your comments and generous donations to the Disaster Emergency Committee for relief in the recent earthquake in



Turkey. What a huge trauma and shock it must have been for so many. You generously managed to send us £240.00 which we sent on to the committee. Some people had already given to the fund

through other sources.

Thank you also for your varied comments. These were really useful and the committee will be considering policies on 'Giving' as currently we don't have one so we shall be consulting.

LCBA Update

Yes, we can hear you saying it... who? The LCBA = The Leicestershire County Bridge Association. It is the link between local clubs and the national organization of the English Bridge Un-

They organise local and inter county competitions and have responsibility for helping to raise standards. One of the things they are offering is to train new bridge teachers. This is usually on two week-ends and four days in

Leicester at the County club. The LCBA will pay your course fees. Both Carol and Shelagh have done this and enjoyed it and would obviously be supportive of another joining them. Contact Shelagh or Carol if you are interested.

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Our Finances



We continue to do very well and have just over £1800 in the bank which is after we have just bought two new tables. Our raffle has generated a profit of approximately £400 this financial year so far, our teaching and learning about £48 per month and our Monday evening

RealBridge about £58.00 per month which makes a happy treasurer!

We have purchased 2 new sets of 32 boards to give us more options for movements with 8 or more tables or for special events. We also have two additional-board carrying bags as Roger kindly does the dealing at home and brings the boards in each month. This is a system which works really well. Taking about 75 minutes to deal 3 sets of boards. Thank you Roger

For our learners we plan to get a new flip chart stand on wheels. The current one we use belongs to the centre and is in a weary

way

Our new clothes /coat rack has had many favourable comments and seems to be working well rushing around the hall on its little wheels!

Our system of invoicing you for play each month operates well and people seem to like it. We are also managing the cash and cheque arrangements as and where necessary . Currently we are incurring bank charges of around £5.00 pcm and so your co-operation in these arrangements is much appreciated.



Members

Our membership continues to grow through both our networking and through our learners group. Since our last news letter we have been joined by Trish Gallop, an experienced player from Ashby who is also a Mr Bridge helper. Chris West and Janey Dagley from our learners group are also attending the Thursday afternoon along with Neil and Sadhana.



Our members haven't always enjoyed the best of health with cases of pneumonia, shingles and covid.

However, this hasn't hampered members' appetite with the weekly dash for the caramel marshmallows kindly donated by John and Marilyn.

Bridge holidays also take place regular with the 'intrepid four' going to the Bedford in St Annes and Mary's visit to Lanzarote.

Competitions and challenge!

The knockout competition is back on schedule after a series of delays for illness etc. There is one more match to play before the final with Diana and Lesley playing George and Andy. The winner of that match will be playing Janet and Mary in the final. Anne is searching for an appropriate trophy which will be presented at our AGM which will

be on **Thursday June 29th**



Swiss Party Time : save the date Saturday June 10th

No need to wear your lader hosen or come in yodelling but join us for our informal swiss teams of 4 event on Saturday June 10th 1.00-5.00 with an afternoon tea at half time!



You can blame Bernard Magee for this as we enjoyed it so much with lots of fun and laughter at a Grantham weekend we wanted you to enjoy the experience as well.

Think of it as a bit like a bridge drive with a table of four of your friends who will be your playing team. Therefore you will need to buy a playing table with 4 afternoons teas!!! Cost £48.00 a table payable to the club. From this we hope to make a little profit to enable us to make a donation to a local charity.

In a swiss teams event your north/ south pair play an east west pair from another table for a small number of hands. The joy of it is that you play a team of similar abilities. Then after the first round the winning team play the second winning team and so on down the line.

The fun is when you return to your home table and explain to your team mates how

you all did in comparison as we all play the same hands!!

The movement and the scoring is a bit complicated but we are hoping to use our current tablets and scoring system and there are plenty of people who are used to playing in teams to support in this.

Its really just a fun duplicate. We are hoping to bring in some of your friends from Ashby and Market Bosworth. So you can have a mixed inter club team. Please regard it as an informal, fun afternoon rather than a competition to be won. There will be prizes for the winners (not a cup) but no EBU points should anyone ask!

Special thanks are due to George Strang who has worked tirelessly to get the mechanics of everything sorted.

More details and a form to secure yourselves a table will follow but save the date.

Volunteers : Party Food

Well, we know how you all love your food. So as well as players we need some helpers and some chefs to assist in our afternoon tea preparation. That is not an EITHER / OR by the way you can try it all and do it all!

Mary Danahar is going to take the lead in organizing the tea as it

will be provided rather than asking you to bring things. We are quite a small club but we know you all and your abilities and specialisms pretty well so watch out your card may already be marked!!

The important thing is to come along and enjoy the fun in or out of the kitchen!



AGM

Our AGM is a little bit later this year in June on Thursday June 29. We usually prepare an annual report and circulate this before the meeting. The meeting usually only lasts half an hour or so and then we play our usual duplicate session.

This year will be our fifth AGM and so if you could give it a bit of thought before June it would be

appreciated. We like to hear of people's skills outside of bridge so if you have anything to offer we would love to hear from you. You might even want to come on to the committee. It is also your opportunity to give us ideas on how to change or improve. So come on in and work on the committee and enjoy another party.





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

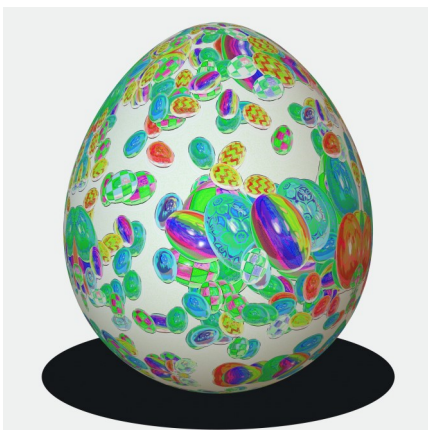


We are on the web

www.bridgewebs.com/bagworthwhistlestopbridge

Extensions

The Easter weekend is 9th April and many stay at home at Easter so we will run our Thursday sessions on the 6th and the 13th April. However, we will check your availability nearer the time so that the numbers are viable. The café is unlikely to be open so lunch not available



Skills Ideas



Are you a desk top dabbler? We could use some help in maintaining our website. What about your artistic skills? We could use some help in designing logo, business cards and promotional material. Could you be our club photographer or our official red coat? These are just a few ideas but we are sure you have many others as well.



Information

Do google Swiss Teams for more information. Two good ones are from the EBU and bridgewebs