



## Our Christmas Bridge : Thank You!

2020 Greetings to all you happy whistlestoppers. We are hoping to see you all back again on Thursday January 9th 2020 after our two week break. We hope you have had a good time, celebrated well and in good health and spirits. We have missed you all and raised the odd glass or two to you!

Thank you so much for all your raffle contributions at our last Christmas meeting where many of you were successful winners!

This was matched by your lovely plates of food which we all enjoyed and probably

took us through until the next day without further nourishment. The earlier start time was welcomed . We made the assumption that people like to eat after they play bridge

and this perhaps got a bit later than we thought so next year we shall check your preferences but no sticky fingers on the cards!

We raised a glass to Betty in Derby Royal.



## Bridge Tuition : Your turn now

Unfortunately we did not have sufficient numbers to run our course for beginners but we have one or two on a waiting list.

Our efforts will be on **Improvers on Saturday April 4th**

We are thinking of Focussing on MOVING THE BIDDING ON and opening WEAK TWOS and RE-SPONSES which is now the ACOL/ EBU norm. We have cho-

sen these topics as ones which may best suit the group but do let us know your thoughts.. We can't do complicat-

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# Our Finances

Well done again John, our banking is done regularly now we can actually take cash to Market Bosworth on a regular basis.

We can also purchase on line which makes things considerably easier rather than having to repay individuals who purchase for us.

This month we agreed to purchase another table, cloth and bidding boxes as we only have sufficient for 6 and we seem to be squeezing in 7 tables sometimes. We might be out in the corridor next! However, we do have an option to move into the hall but this would double our room hire costs and we know that many of you prefer our existing room.

At the moment we are well in the black but this will take a hammering very shortly as we are at the stage of purchasing the bridge

scoring equipment and we may yet need to get some more boards



# Members

We have had three new members joining the club since the last news letter. You have all been extremely welcoming to Janet and John Bagley and John Mousley and we hope that they are finding it comfortable and friendly in Bagworth.

Unfortunately Betty Voss is still in Derby Royal but getting a bit stronger and awaiting further directions from the medics. Thank you

to those of you who have been to see her. We know that it cheers her considerably to hear from or see



**hospital**

you. Betty remains positive and proactive.

Janet Scarratt is also positive and determined to be full steam ahead with her replacement knee. Her bridge table and cards are at her side! She is recovering well but still has the other knee to be done so may not be at Bagworth for a little while

# Competitions and challenge!

## 70+

Our first committee meeting took place in December and whilst the major item on the agenda was scoring equipment we did discuss other things. These minutes will be available in the members area of the web site under documents. We agreed a

new system to organise a roll of honour for those who scored more than 70%. Yes, there is a prize...A WEEK WITHOUT TABLE MON- EY the next time they play.

You were worried when you read 70+ but it's your

**%**



# Scoring Equipment

The major item at our committee meeting was to make a decision about our scoring equipment, as we now have sufficient funds to purchase. It wasn't an easy meeting and it's been a painful decision.

However, we came down on the side of the tablet format rather than bridgemates. The latter are ideal for larger clubs who need more robust equipment. Our concerns with the tablets was whether we could get good support and we have made friends with a man in Oxfordshire who is always prepared to help us out. Market Bosworth members do have some IT know—how and have offered us help so we are now con-

fident on this score.

The other concern was of on-going license costs and upgrades. We know that the on-going licence is approximately £8.50 per tablet per annum which is the same as our fee for our web site and we have been assured of no charge for upgrades

On the plus side of the tablets is the significant reduction in cost, along with easier accessibility. The screens and considerably clearer with the back light, coloured and larger icons. The tablet can also be used in teaching to load multiple choice quiz questions.

The technology is increasing at a

fast pace and so if worse came to worst we would still have scoring tablet which could be configured to another programme. WE hope that you will give your full support in using them. We have done a lot of research and been congratulated by outsiders on this but we have enjoyed it. The system we chose was BRIDGETABS not ARC which you used as this one is cheaper and better!



## The web Site

We have gone with the Bridge Webs web site which we have populated with all our information and agreed documents.

This will be the place where your results are published each week from now on although we shall take steps to ensure that those without access to the web are kept up to date on all matters. If you google Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge the

web site should come up. Sometimes the old BT web site comes up which just has the BT information on it. This will disappear in time so focus on Bridgewebs

If you have any ideas for the web site or have some good IT skills, just let us know. WE can't promise to implement all as we are still at skill set level one = trial and error!

[bridgewebs.com/bagworthwhistlestopbridge/home.html](http://bridgewebs.com/bagworthwhistlestopbridge/home.html)



## Your Holidays

Well these bridge holiday companies are STILL doing well out of us!

Marilyn and John have been to Grantham again with Mr Bridge, Anne and Mary did the Christmas market cruise with Mr Bridge coming back penniless and exhausted. Mary also made it to Telford with Bridge Overseas at New Year. Carol, Averil, Belinda and Shelagh had

a DIY bridge three days in Southwold. Should anyone think of doing this, Shelagh had an excellent full sized



folding card table which fits in the car boot and is available to any members. Poor holiday planning on the part of us has resulted in Marilyn and John, Shelagh and Carol with Anne and Mary, and John and Josie all being away the last week of February and first week of March. WE might be calling for help then.



## Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

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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)

## It might be getting lighter but it's still winter!



Remember roads can be slippery in the winter so don't forget to check on the weather in Bagworth and use the emergency number above. Should there be any cancellations we shall do our best to contact you and we will put information on the web site but you can ring us.



**Don't forget road works approaching Bagworth at various times during the winter**

The roundabout has been completed at the bottom of Station Road in Bagworth so no current closures but some traffic lights!

