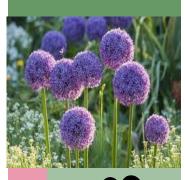
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May 2023



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Newsletter May

A Message from the Chair

It is really heart warming to see new members integrating into the Club and to now have 7 tables of players regularly on a Thursday afternoon. It also means that we can play 21 boards. However, to achieve this, without putting too much pressure on the pace of play, a prompt start is needed. For everyone to be seated in the room by 12.45 enables the Director to organise the order of play for the afternoon.

Occasionally a member may encounter an unavoidable delay. Should it be that you intend to play but experience a difficulty, please ring Shelagh's mobile on07530364339 and leave a message if necessary. (Perhaps you would put this number in

your mobile phone if you don't already have it). Once the Director has set up the order of play on the computer, just after 12.45pm, it is quite a task to have to change it. Our Directors do an excellent job in facilitating the playing sessions. Please help by ensuring your arrival by 12.45pm or clear notification in advance. Your co-operation makes such a difference, thanks

After two years on the Committee and in the role of Chair for the last year, it is time for me to stand aside at the AGM in June. I shall continue to enjoy playing regularly. I am grateful to all our members for creating such a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere in the Club, whilst holding that competitive edge too. Now that the

Club has purchased a projector, we have the joy - or not! - of seeing our progress during the afternoon- or not!

Each member of the Committee brings his/her energy, talent and enthusiasm in making the Club the success that you experience. I wish to thank each of them for all their work and support over the last year and look forward to enjoying the next year of growth and develop-



Charitable Donations



The committee spent some time at the last meeting discussing charitable donations and agreed that they would

continue to support

charities with specific funding activities as and when appropriate. Where the club funds were to be used to kick start an appeal they would consult with members and would adhere to the majority of members wishes.

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You are invited. Thursday June 29th

Our Finances



All seems well and our account is showing a healthy £2,250. Our income is from the weekly table money, the raffle, teaching and the provision of RealBrdige on line.

Our expenditure is really running costs—room rental, refreshments. licences and insurance so our fi-

nances are not complicated.

What is a credit to us all is the fact that we started off five years ago with absolutely nothing and so far have assets amounting to over £8000. We have, of course, been the beneficiaries of a grant towards equipment as well and donations from members

In line with this we have reviewed our insurance cover and increased the cover to match our assets. Obviously this will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Our aim financially is not to have a huge amount of money in the bank but sufficient to cover any unexpected expenditure and



equipment costs either as replacement or to match growth in our membership.

Our latest purchase is a digital projector which is quite an expensive fragile bit of equipment. Up until now we have borrowed one for teaching and other purposes. We shall be using it at the Swiss teams.

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 Mick and Ros Legg and Ken Gilbert.

Our learners Richard Smyth, Val Phillips and Pauline Hayward have all joined us on a Thursday afternoon. The learners have dipped their toe in the water at playing on a



Thursday but will also continue with the supervised play on a Thursday. We wish them all a warm welcome.

Come on in and enjoy!

Competitions and challenge!

Well it's all over with for 2023 now and the trophies are with the engravers.

The knockout, organised by Steve and our first year with it went well and George and Andy triumphed through several rounds and emeged as cup winners for 2023.

We held the random pairs cup in May which was great fun and George and Diana scored well with clear water between them and the second pair. Well done George and Diana. It's especially warming in that this is the first bridge cup which Diana has won



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Annual General Meeting / Committee

It is our AGM on June 29th and we do hope that you will join us. We try to have a bit of fun and provide a nibble and a drink as well as make it a speedy affair!

Nomination forms for the committee will be out shortly. As you know we do not want to have a stagnant committee and welcome new people joining us. We have about three meetings a year and usually via zoom so this is not onerous. However, we do like people to have a role.

This year we are in particular need to fill a skills gap. Our treasurer John will only be able to stand for another year and so someone with some finance/ banking or business experience would be helpful.

Shelagh will also be standing down next year as secretary and communications person. So if you have good organisational and communication skills especially using digital/electronic communications do step up to the plate.

Our chair, Anne Gurd, is stepping down from the committee this year and so we need a new chairman. Again this is not too onerous involving managing meetings, keeping the committee to task and giving support to members. We do not want a rearrangement of the deck chairs in the committee and welcome new blood which always brings new ideas.

Obviously the rationale for raising this at this time is to get people

trained up for new roles the following year. The current committee are all willing to stand again in their current role with the exception of Anne

Make a Difference... Join a Committee!



Swiss Teams

All is going well and we have 10 teams already registered so just two tables left. Please pass the word around if you can although quite a number of people are away and so we might have to rethink the timing if we run another.

We have been working hard with

the technology and thanks to Simon and George things seem to be working well.

Mary has been organizing volunteers and contributions for food so thank you all for your help.

We shall be having a raffle on the day in order to raise money for the designated charity so bring a little cash.

And just in case you have forgotten, our weekly raffle prize of wine to the value of £10.00 can also be £10 cash if you are a non drinker and you can opt

in or out.!



Training



We are not planning a beginners course this year but we are looking to improve standards within or existing players. We shall be in touch with you to ask for any specific needs. However, we think there is scope for improvement in card play and so will focus on elements of card play but inevitably bidding will come into this. The training will be on a Monday morning probably starting in September

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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