



The Good News!!

In February we put a grant application to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council for their Parish and Community Fund.

This was for a dealing machine which is helpful in itself but also raises standards by displaying the hands on our web site.

It looks likely something Willy Wonker might have created but it's a sophisticated bit of kit and it works. We can programme the machine so that it deals the

required boards for the table, so no passing cards between tables, a real bonus at this time. We shall have to buy more boards, however.

There are conditions attached to the grant of £1700 which covers half the costs, its expensive for sure.

We have to match the funding and we are about 60% of the way. However,

members of the committee have agreed an interest free loan to ensure we get it. Ideally the machine should be purchased by February 2021 but we have negotiated an extension. However we do need to raise some money in the meantime.



What's happening at the Centre?

The short answer is not a lot for Bagworth Community Centre! Technically the centre can be opened for existing groups but few have been able to return because of social distancing requirements. The pre-school play

group has had to be abandoned because of finance. The café continues but on a take away service only. An outside market for fish, fruit, vegetables and cake has also been set up on Tuesday mornings.

The community centre

takes its advice from ACRE (Action with Rural Communities England). We have had a meeting with Dave Morgan who organizes bookings and reserved our slot. It will be in the rear hall to maintain social distancing. This has underfloor heating and our costs will be the same!

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Special points of interest:

Keeping up with Bridge in 2020 during our lock down.

Follow Bernard Magee and Andrew Robson on You Tube

Play in our BBO teams

More Good news! Duplicate on Line

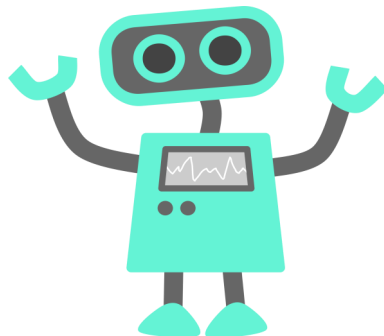
Your committee have been working hard to identify strategies to keep bridge alive in our club and to keep you all in touch with one another and willing to return!!

We approached both the EBU and Bridgebase on Line (BBO) to set ourselves up and we could do this without the cost of a joining fee to the EBU and on a short term basis for a virtual club.

However, given our close proximity to Ashby and knowing how their BBO sys-

tem works the committee felt it worth exploring this option. Ashby has kindly agree that we can use their platform and will relay any fee income from it. This is good news. So do join in for Thursday Relaxed duplicate 1.00.

Remember:



- you must register with BBO and let us know your user name.
- You must have a partner
- You must have some BBO \$ to register for the tournament (3 \$ per session).
- You must keep to time
- You must self alert.

As we haven't sufficient members we shall have to use the **robots** where we haven't an even number of players. Watch out, they are fast and play a different system!!

Playing Bridge at all?

We think many of you are now getting familiar with using Bridgebase on line. Basically this is the only way you are going to play at the moment. Although some of us sat in the garden clutching our ipads and laptops and sitting 2 m apart under a sunshade. So silly it took us 3 hours to play 16

rounds although it did involve some refreshment!

You are probably playing some social bridge on line which is free and some of you are subscribing to clubs and playing for EBU master points. As an unaffiliated club this option is not open to us hence our liaison with Ashby and we are not sure

that we shall have sufficient interest to justify a private duplicate club on BBO.

What we could do, without incurring any costs is arrange some **mini tournaments**. These would involve a series of 8 players playing in teams (random ones) which would enable you to meet up with others. Le us know!

Punters Wanted!

Yes...we are talking about you. Do let us know what you think about a Tournament ' Get Together' using Bridgebase on line.

For those of you who have not registered we can run a telephone line chat support and then arrange a little playing so

that you get used to it. step 2 email for support, step 3 tell us your user name and that you are interested. WE need more players for on line duplicate and so you can bring in a regular partner and we are inviting both Ashby and Market Bosworth members to join us on Thursdays



Our Members : Cake update!

Well we've all been a bit quiet in the last few months but we still have some notable decade birthdays. The mere 'pup' John celebrated his 70th in March, Janet, her 80th in August, Betty her 90th in May—featured in our last news - and the very latest Dorothy bless her, 90 in October. We did take Dorothy and Janet flowers. Dorothy isn't wearing them!!



'A party without cake is really just a meeting' - Julia Child.

So friends we shall celebrate on your return.

And who will forget those delicious cakes which Gosia brought..but sadly ...no more!

Gosia and John have moved to

Derbyshire. Our loss is Spondon's gain and we wish them all the very best but we shall miss them both. At least they got a holiday in Cornwall and with the new dog!



What Next??

Do not worry...you are still members of the club! The committee agreed that when we return we shall ask for your membership subscription. So no rush now. You can pay this via cash, cheque or on line. when we get back together again.

Whilst we approved the vouch-

er system at the AGM, we want to check this out with you nearer our return..so no panic yet!



When we do return. We shall all be quite cautious. We shall be updating our risk assessment but there is no point yet until further guidance is received. Our steps will include a reduction in card and cash handling and the usual social distancing and hand sanitising. Do share any of your concerns and expertise!

Another On-Line Opportunity!!

We haven't run any competitions as yet in our group. We have no 'Cups' but we can usually rustle up a glass! How about it?? We could easily arrange an on-line knockout competition with BBO and it doesn't cost anything to set up or play.

We are not advocating challenging your partner or opposition to a physical fighting match, as illustrated, but gentle on line card play.... develop your skills. Let us know so that can gauge your interest and justify its set up





Organization

Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

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Never knowingly under played

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)

Just some thoughts

' Let them eat Cake!'...guess who?



Bagworth Community Centre

Still closed at the moment with Office staff working from home and the Whistlestop café doing outside deliveries.

As soon as is possible we shall re-open our bridge sessions when we are allowed and it is safe to do so.

It is tricky, however, when handing cards which every one else has to do. Hence, it will be with caution when we do so. So, it's.....

ON LINE ONLY

KEEP SAFE, STAY ALERT (there may be a bridge player about)
AND keep WELL!