

Review comments: Beginners Course

1. Hello Ann,
Just to let you know I have missed just two of your wonderful lessons. I'm really enjoying the course and meeting so many interesting people. Thank you for all the time and effort you put in. Ann and Paul have made learning Bridge so enjoyable while teaching us an enormous new vocabulary of play and exercising our brains. Every lesson has been fun and light-hearted and all the mentors knowledgeable and helpful. A good way to make new similar minded friends.

Stella

1. The Beginners Course has been a very enjoyable way to learn Bridge. Lessons are easy to follow and well-paced in a relaxed atmosphere. There is time for playing hands to illustrate the teaching, with plenty of friendly mentors on hand to give advice and encouragement. I would definitely recommend it.

Sue

1. I highly recommend beginner bridge lessons at Lumb Lane. The club/ teachers are super friendly & very welcoming- and the lessons follow the EBU guide which is perfectly structured for beginners without being overwhelming. I'm loving learning bridge here and would encourage anyone to have a go.

Rachel

1. I joined the 10 week beginners bridge course in January 2023 thinking I would know all about bridge when completed - how wrong was I. The game is fascinating. Ann and the team of tutors have shown patience and clarity in explaining the rules and conventions in a fun and supportive manner. They have given encouragement and ignited a love for the game - you may say it has become a bit of an addiction for me! I look forward to the weekly bridge sessions and seeing how the game develops so will be continuing onto the second year in January 2024. Thank you.

Carol

1. Learning bridge at Bramhall Village Hall has been most enjoyable. Ann & Paul are super teachers, their delivery being very thorough and well planned. Their sense of humour and long years of experience of the game makes what could be a very dry subject great fun. Learners' participation & revision of previous learning ensure we stay focused but much laughter can be heard throughout the afternoon! A regular team of enthusiastic helpers are on hand to answer queries and reassure, and we even get served tea and biscuits halfway through the session. Bridge at Bramhall isn't just about learning a new skill but meeting up with new friends. Five star!

Many, many thanks,
Heather x

1. I initially found it daunting to think of joining the beginner Bridge group, but Ann welcomed us warmly. Bridge must be one of the hardest and most complex games there is. I have not really been a fan of card games, so my motivation was primarily to try and address supporting my memory now that I am retired and before I fall, completely deranged, off my perch, ha ha! The classes were challenging, and I often felt like giving up, as I wondered why I couldn't seem to grasp understanding the system better. However, the team at Bramhall led by Ann have been great, friendly, patient, accommodating, supportive professional and passionate about the game one and all. The very pleasant tea and biscuits at half time are a welcome addition. I am so glad that I didn't give up, as Bridge is actually quite amazing and compulsive. Even a basic understanding of the rudimentary rules can allow you to play and have a sense of accomplishment and interest. Even though I often felt like giving up in the early days I am going to offer my support to the newbies in the next beginner intake as I can remember what it felt like at first, but I am so glad that I persevered as I wouldn't have missed this.

Cathy

1. In the passing of my years, I decided to learn bridge to delay the onset of dementia I could not have done better than to undertake bridge learning classes at Lumb lane Bramhall. The classes at Lumb lane are organised by Ann Thornton and her amazing team of bridge experts. Over a period of 9 months, I have learned so much and can now play bridge to a certain level with some confidence. The classes are extremely popular and are attended each week by about thirty people. Each week there is a specific theme and following the lesson we play bridge based upon the days' topic. The lessons are provided with enormous clarity and the subsequent card playing is supervised each week by at least six other bridge experts and helpers. The teachers are very professional but kind-hearted and there is an abundance of laughter and humour. There is no pressure and the atmosphere is very relaxed. The classes are very popular, and it is very clear everyone is getting better but the atmosphere is harmonious. The classes are continuing and are an excellent advert for bridge learning. My dementia has been delayed for the time being.

Kevin

1. My review is as follows:
I didn't know what to expect from the course as had no prior knowledge of bridge or what it involved other than seeing my fellow lady golfers enjoying playing it!

I found the course to be well-structured around the beginner's book, which meant I was able to read about what we had learnt after the lesson - very helpful as the information often took a while to sink in.

At each lesson there was a chance to practice what we had been taught which reinforced the learning.

Having experienced bridge players as helpers at each table was also invaluable.

Overall, I found the course to be informative, challenging, and enjoyable and I have met some lovely people and made new friends.

Sally