

The Trustees of the **Clyde Bridge Centre** together with the existing Presidents/Chairs of the Buchanan, Glasgow Bridge Centre and St Andrew clubs and Implementation Group, are delighted to advise you that it is anticipated that the new **Clyde Bridge Centre** will be open for tournaments in the middle of May this year.

The club will be a centre of excellence for bridge players and learners from all over the West of Scotland and for bridge players from further afield.

Tournaments will be offered to suit all standards of players ranging from beginners to advanced. The **Clyde Bridge Centre** will be home to an Academy which will have two main aspects:

- 1. The provision of lessons and seminars for beginners, intermediate and advanced players, and
- 2. A program of "outreach" to schools and universities acknowledging that unless a younger generation learn to play and love bridge as much as current players, it will become a dwindling sport. It is intended to come up with new ideas to reverse that trend.

The centre will include a café area where members can sit and relax and chat about their games both past and future whilst enjoying coffees, teas, soft drinks, cakes and biscuits at advertised times. Although the club itself will not be providing any other food, hot and cold food is available from catering vans adjacent to the club and members will be able to purchase snacks, breakfast or lunch from early morning until approximately 3.30pm and bring it into the cafe area.

Parking will not be a problem as the club has private parking for 33 cars, including designated disabled spaces, plus a bike park, as well as extensive free on street parking adjacent to the building. There are also two railway stations, Hillington East and West, within a 10 minute walk of the club as well as bus services which pass the building.

Initially the club will offer a range of tournaments most days of the week at different times and will vary the times and days until there is a complete understanding of what members are most interested in attending. Coffee, tea and biscuits will be available in the tournament rooms as part of the table money.

The initial subscription will be £40 (plus SBU fee of £12) which will cover the period from joining until the end of June **2026**. You can apply online by clicking HERE or by downloading a paper application form. These forms will also be available at the Buchanan and GBC clubs. As with all clubs, members must be formally accepted by the club trustees and have paid their subscription before being enrolled.

There will be an EGM held at the beginning of June 2025 at which a new Board of Trustees will be elected by the membership. The current trustees will stand down at the EGM but will be eligible to stand for election to the new Board.

However, most importantly, further trustees are required. For information, to stand for election as a trustee the following conditions apply.

- A member must be proposed and seconded in writing by two paid up Members,
- · Must themselves be a paid up Member
- · Must agree in writing to the nomination and
- Must supply details in writing of the qualities/experience that he or she could bring to the Board.

In accordance with the Constitution (which can be found on the **Clyde Bridge Centre website**) documents in relation to the above must be lodged not later than seven days before any meeting at which an election is to take place. Members who may wish to be a trustee are encouraged to join the club as soon as possible so that they can be kept up to date and informed of all developments.

The proposed Board structure of the new club is as below:

Chair

Trustees with specific responsibility for:
Finance
Legal
Academy & Education
Facilities
Marketing & Communication

Bridge/Tournament Operations

Trustees would have subgroups reporting directly to their sphere of responsibility. An Organisational chart explaining further can be found here. The Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Secretary would all report to an identified Trustee.

The undersigned all hope that you will be enthusiastic about the potential of the new club to provide a wide range of opportunities for Bridge players, old and new, and apply to join as soon as possible.

Clyde Bridge Centre Trustees: Bobby Dickson Ann Bell Stephanie Silverstone Buchanan President Alan Stewart St Andrew President Kevin Strathern GBC Chair Stephanie Silverstone

24th January 2025