

**KELVIN MALONE BRIDGE CENTRE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023: 7.00 pm**

Present

Joan Baird, Mary Bayliss, David Boyle, Robin Burns, Betty Burnett, Robert Caves, Brenda Clingen, Helen Cole, John Conlon, Hilary Ferguson, John Forsythe, Diane Greenwood, Helen Hall, Gerry Henry, Alan Hill, Heather Hill, Ken Irwin, Norma Irwin, Mary Johnston, P. Johnston, Calvin Jones, Margaret Kelly, Rosemary Kilpatrick, Eric Lesage, David Leeman, Ian Lindsay, Geraldine McCormick, John A. McCormick, Freda McDonald, Irene McQueen, Lyn Morrison, Moranne Noad, Irene Orr, Diana Patterson, Valerie Russell, Bill Scott, Toni Sproule, Garth Taylor-Winter, Clare Watson, Elizabeth Whittall, Joan Whiteside,.

Apologies

Christine Adams, Lesley Agar, Geoff Booth, Heather Booth, Pat Braden, May Brennan, Derek Cannell, Rosemary Cannell, Kate Cassidy, Barbara Ewart, John Ferguson, Ian Hamilton, Jill Houston, Stephanie Irwin, Colin Jeffries, Suzy Jeffries, Barbara Johnston, Eleanor Jones, Michael McFaul, Alan McKay, Catherine McKay, Jeff Millership, Sandie Millership, Ian Montgomery, Joy Montgomery, Maureen Montgomery, Nuala Mooney, Lyn Morrison, Sandra Muldrew, Ian Noad, Liz Scott, Sally Stevenson, Jean White.

Welcome

Welcome everyone to our AGM. It is good to see you all and we will keep business as brief as possible so that bridge starts on time.

I ask you to reflect for a few moments on the members who have passed on during the year. I will not name them all but I have written to the bereaved families and attended funerals when possible. However, I will mention one lady, Dr Mary Bew who was 101 when she died a couple of months ago. She was playing bridge at Kelvin well into her 90s, something we all can aim for.

There is an apology from Sarah Witchell, our company secretary who is on holiday but has received the Directors' report and financial statements and is satisfied that all is in order.

Minutes of the 2022 AGM

These had been posted on the Club website and spare copies were available at the AGM for those who had not previously accessed them. They were agreed as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting (proposed by Brenda Clingen, seconded by Calvin Jones) and duly signed off as such.

CHAIR'S REPORT

I will repeat my welcome to you and thank you for the support you have given to KM over the past year. Although we are not back to the numbers we had playing before lock down, the trend is upwards and this is encouraging. We now have F2F sessions on Monday evenings, Wednesday and Friday afternoons and Friday mornings. Starting in October, October 3rd to be precise, we are planning to restart our Tuesday evening sessions, so book your partners and come along on Tuesday 3rd. We will continue to run the BBO events on Tuesday and Saturday evenings because we have many playing on these nights who are not Kelvin members, some not even from N. I. This gives a small but steady income to boost our finances. The increase in sessions means we will need 7 TDs / tablet operators each week. Mary, Penny and Barbara have joined our scoring team, thanks ladies, but we could do with a few more volunteers to learn the systems. Roberta Madill and Mary Crawford continue to provide several afternoon BBO sessions and we appreciate this.

Over the year we ran a few social events. In November we had a hurriedly planned "Children in Need" Friday. Soup and sandwich lunch which raised money for this Charity. In December, rather than the Christmas party, we had a week of "Mulled Wine and Mince Pies", enjoyed before each bridge session. More recently we held the Summer BBQ, attended by 46 members and friends. The weather was kind to us and the food was excellent, an evening enjoyed by all. In July the NIBU ran the Ciara Burns competition at KM. Our renowned catering team headed by Joan served lunch that day which was greatly appreciated.

Diana Patterson, our capable Competition Secretary, managed to fit in a few Club competitions. In February the Noreen Jack was supported by 11 pairs of Intermediate players. Mary Johnston and Jean White were the winners. The club was closed for 2 weeks at the beginning of April due to Covid, and this delayed the start of our new club competition, the Doreen Spence Trophy. This trophy was presented to us by Holywood B.C. It was played F2F on 4 alternate Thursday evenings. Clare Watson was the overall winner of the trophy and a generous prize donated by Irene Orr and her

family, all siblings of Doreen Spence. Congratulations to all those winners. Diana has a fuller competition programme planned for this season so please make an effort to support at least one of these events. Gerry Henry continues to up date our website and keep us well informed of events and Club news, so no excuses for not joining in. Thank you both, Diana and Gerry.

I have already mentioned that we need more IT helpers. The Dealing Team, headed by Colin and David, keep us supplied with the dealt cards for each session, they operate one afternoon every third week and assistance there would be welcomed. David Leeman keeps a record of all master points awarded on a weekly basis. He needs someone with knowledge of spreadsheets to take over this duty. He will give lessons, free of charge, to the willing volunteer.

All our computer work has been made so much easier, thanks to Colin Jeffries and his son Barum who have managed to have internet installed throughout the club. We also have a new provider and new laptops, all working perfectly. The Buildings committee, Colin, David and Derek Cannell ensure that all is safe on our premises.

Thank you David, Colin and Derek for all you do for Kelvin. I always feel content knowing that our Club is in the safe hands of the 3 Musketeers!

I must also thank Hilary and John Ferguson for teaching bridge classes each week. Hilary is here this evening if anyone would like to find out more about these bridge lessons.

There is a lot going on behind the scenes to keep Kelvin up to date and functioning smoothly. I thank all those already helping and, again, encourage a few more to volunteer.

The election of Board members will follow shortly. One member, Janet Knipe resigned during the year so this will be officially recorded this evening. Alan Hill has kindly agreed to serve on the Board. Alan has been a Board member many years ago so it is good to have him back again. I must sincerely thank all the Board members for their work and support over the year. They have been actively involved throughout the year and their input has been invaluable. Thanks to Rosemary for all her secretarial work and for recording our minutes accurately. Thanks to Joan for looking after our finances efficiently. Joan will give us her report shortly. I would also like to

congratulate one of the Board, Diane Greenwood, on her election to Vice Chair of the NIBU.

And a final thanks, as always, to my husband Ken, soup maker and BBQ chef extraordinaire, for keeping us all well fed.

I will now hand over to Joan for her report

Treasurer's Report

It is good to record a positive result for the financial year ended 31st March 2023. Unexpected income came from Holywood Bridge Club who decided to close the club following a drop in membership and a reluctance from remaining members to resume Face to Face sessions (£5214). We also received an additional payment from our insurers relating to our Business interruption claim in 2020-2021 (£792). Unfortunately, nearly all our outgoings increased over this financial year, notably Insurance (up 17.5% and up again for the current year 12.9%), Heat Light & Water (up 242% costs have dropped for the current year and monthly direct debits overpaid so lower costs will be recorded for the current year)

Membership numbers remain a concern for the committee. We had 211 paid up members at 31st March 2023. To date 174 members have subscribed for the current year. Its worth noting that at 31st March 2020 the club had 291 paid up members.

I would like to thank Ian Lindsay for once again drawing up our Financial Statements which he has done for many years on a voluntary basis. Thank you, Ian, and I hope that you are prepared to continue to provide this valuable service to the club.

Thank you for listening. If you have any questions or would like clarification on information in the financial reports please feel free to ask now.

Election of Officers and Trustees

There being no questions regarding the financial statements the meeting proceeded with the election of the officer and trustees conducted by Norma Irwin.

Board Members

Ten board members (Norma Irwin, Joan Baird, Rosemary Kilpatrick, Diana Patterson, John Forsythe, Diane Greenwood, Mary Johnston, Alan McKay, Jean White and Rosemary Whittell,) were willing to stand for re-election with one member (Janet Knipe) indicating her wish to stand down.

The Constitution allows for all members of the Board to be proposed and seconded as a group. The election of all the remaining Board members was proposed by Helen Hall and seconded by Margaret Kelly.

Alan Hill (who had agreed to stand for election to the Board) was proposed by Diane Greenwood and seconded by Garth Taylor-Winter.

Officers

The holders of all three honorary posts, Chair (Norma Irwin), Treasurer (Joan Baird), and Secretary (Rosemary Kilpatrick), were willing to stand for re-election. All three have already served the maximum of eight consecutive years but it was considered to be in the interests of the Club for them to stand for a further term. There being no objections to this and no other nominations for their positions all three were considered as a group and re-elected. (Proposed by Robin Burns and seconded by Ian Lindsay)

Appointment of Independent Examiner

Ian Lindsay was appointed as the Independent Examiner. Proposed by Alan Hill and seconded by John Conlon.

Any Other Business

The Chair invited questions or comments from the floor. There being none the meeting closed at 7.30 pm.

Signed: _____
Date: _____