

## Bristol Bridge Club Newsletter - issue 10



### Chair's Message

Hello fellow members!

I'll begin this newsletter with a few general words about Bristol Bridge Club communications. Most members will have seen a copy of the excellent 'What's On' guide which is available online and which still has a few copies in the club building. This was produced by Stuart King, as the first of what is planned as an ongoing series; many members have commented to me to the effect that it is an excellent upgrade in our communications. Some members may feel that the brochure contains too many pictures of the Chair, but have been too tactful to mention that to me.

Although the brochure is an excellent means of communicating what is going on in the club, we have reflected that we need to make sure that news of current developments is also passed on to members; hence, the issue of this Newsletter.

### In Memoriam

One of the sadder aspects of issuing a newsletter is the need to sometimes inform members of the death of a current or past member of the club. There are unfortunately three people whose demise I need to report.

**Bob Gregory** passed away at Christmas. **Charlie Eveleigh** died in February, and several members of the club attended his funeral earlier this month.

**Nedra Paynter** died recently and her funeral is at Westerleigh Crematorium this **Thursday, 31st March, at 11.45.**

I invite anyone who wishes to contribute comments or memories of them to forward such information to me, and I will see that your comments go into the 'In memoriam' section on the club's website.

### Post-lockdown reflections

In common with other trustees and club staff, I was concerned about how many people would return to playing in club sessions once we reopened the club last year. Although numbers of players at most sessions are not up to pre-lockdown levels, it's pleasing to see that numbers have been viable, and most importantly, continue to grow. Of course, there are some members who we have not yet seen at the club since re-opening, and this can be for a wide range of reasons, but it's reassuring to see more and more old friends returning. I hope that this trend continues. One significant change that we made in an attempt to drive up attendances was the introduction of our new...**Friendly Thursdays**

As most people will now know, Thursday evenings at the club have changed. We now invite all members to join us for a FREE meal before play, followed by a fun, handicapped session

of bridge with a prize for the winning pair. These will run every Thursday evening for the foreseeable future. You do not need a partner, just turn up. Food is served from 6.30. Play starts at 7.15 and ends at 10.00pm. The bar is open all evening. If you haven't experienced **Friendly Thursday** yet, come and give it a try!

### Some personal news

I have notified my Trustee colleagues that I will be stepping down as Chair at the club AGM at the end of June. As another outlet for my energy, I have been given the opportunity to teach bridge to beginners, and have been running classes on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Some players from the Wednesday class, who have now completed 20 weeks of lessons, have started to play in club sessions, particularly on Monday evenings and Friday mornings. Clearly, the process of supporting learners through the journey of becoming members and players in the club is essential to the future health of Bristol Bridge Club, and I'm sure that all members will offer these new players every encouragement as they begin to take part.

Thanks for reading so far.... What follows is from other Trustees

### Membership- Subscriptions

Over 250 members have renewed their membership to date. That leaves about 120 members who we would like to encourage to renew before their membership expires at the end of March. There is still time to renew at the reduced rate of £30 if you pay by 31st March. From April 1st it will be £35.

### Bridge

**The Bridge sessions calendar** is on the website and in the New What's On Magazine issued in February, which is also available at the club.

**Teaching: Beginners** lessons continue with Ralph every Tuesday and Wednesday evening.

**Masterclasses:** -Competitive bidding by David Jones starting Thursday 31 March 10am-12noon over three Thursdays

- Planning the Play by Stuart King starting from Saturday 23rd April 2pm-4pm for three weeks

- intermediate Card-play course starting Wednesday the 20th April and running for 10 weeks.

- Slam bidding by David Jones starting Thursday 19 May 10am-12noon over two weeks

-Pairs vs IMPS Tactics by Steve Tomlinson starting Saturday 28 May 2pm-4pm over three weeks

### Club Special events/Socials

-**Italian evening** followed by Bridge - **Thursday 31 March:** come and enjoy italian food. Salads, pudding with a glass of wine – £10 including bridge and a prize for the winning pair.

**-Curtis Cup – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> of May;** it is a fun team competition with prizes for each session winners. The overall winner is presented with the Curtis Cup. This is followed by a sumptuous buffet. This event continues to be sponsored by the departed Bob Curtis £6 including bridge, food and a glass of wine in Bob's memory.

**-Curry Night – Friday 10 June,** followed by bridge: come and enjoy a couple of curry dishes with various Indian appetisers, served with fluffy rice, papadom, naan bread with all the condiments and a glass of wine. £10 including bridge and a prize for the winning pair.

Please note that for all special events, there will be a **sign up sheet on the Notice board**

## 2022 AGM

The club AGM is being held on Thursday 30 June at 6pm at the club. This will be followed by a relaxed free bridge session for all members.

If you would like to stand to be a Trustee or an officer of the club, nominations needs to be submitted by Monday 30 May. Please do come forward," new blood" is always welcome!

## The Trustees need your help

It is time to update the club's image: New logo, new look website, Facebook page....and also a Slight "Face Lift". We have so many members with great talent and experience in different fields. We need graphic designers, branding or advertising gurus, interior designers. Do come forward to discuss possibilities.



This Bulletin was compiled and edited by Hilda Ball, Trustee – 29 March 2022