

Dear All

I hope you are all enjoying the lovely summer we are having at the moment.

It was good to see all the members who attended the AGM on July 5th along with the presentation of the trophies. We don't often get to see the trophies all together and looking so shiny!

A few members have had unpleasant sticky notes left on their car windscreens whilst parked outside of the club during evening sessions. The perpetrator doesn't seem to discriminate between blue badge holders or not. As an alternative we have 3 parking spaces at the back of the club that can be used for the less mobile. If you are more able please leave these spaces for others. Although we don't have official permission to park at the car park at the end of Robert Street behind Arlo and Jacob, nobody has had any problems in recent times.

It's the time of year when we start to organise teams matches in the form of the Yorkshire League and Harrogate and District Bridge League (HDBL). The club is encouraging more people to play and understand more about teams bridge. For those of you who haven't played this format previously, while the game is the same, the tactics are quite different. At pairs you get a better score just by beating as many of the other pairs as you can, even if it's just by 10 points so getting as many tricks as you can is important. Teams scoring is about getting the best aggregate score with your team mates, pushing for that hopeful game bonus and for your teammates, who will play the same board but the opposite direction, defeating that game contract. There will be lists on the noticeboard for those who want to play in the Yorkshire League (teams of 8) and those who are looking for teammates and partners to enter a team in the HDBL (teams of 4).

It takes a lot of work to run a session, through to turning out the lights and locking the door at the end. Please help these volunteers out by returning your tea cups to the dishwasher and bring the scoring tablet and table numbers back the "home table" near the computer. At this time of year if you open a window please remember to close it again at the end of the session.

The playing cards are getting a bit sticky and are being replaced with new ones over the next few weeks. My theory is the chocolate on my biscuit melts at this time of year and it transfers to the cards.... First world problems.

Rob