



Wallingford Bridge Club Newsletter Spring 2012

Prize Nights

Thanks to the generosity of Alan and Olivia Woo there will be cash prizes at the club this year. The Committee has agreed the following.

Monday Prize Night

2 prizes will be given: £50 for the pair who finishes overall in first place and £50 for the pair whose score is the closest to 50%. Prize night will be on the last Monday of the month until July when it will be reviewed by the Monday players.

The prizes can only be won by 'regular' Monday night players. In order to win a prize, a member needs to have played on at least one other Monday in the same month *prior to* prize night. (i.e. played at least twice on a Monday each month.)

The proposed Monday dates are:

26 March, 30 April, 28 May, 25 June, 30 July, 27, August, 24 September, 29 October and 26 November.

Wednesday Prize Night

On Wednesday, instead of the 'Mix and Match', a new Butler Scored event will take place. £50 will be given to the pair who finishes overall in first place and £50 to the pair whose score is the closest to zero. Again no person can win the prize in consecutive months.

The Wednesday dates are:

14 March, 30 May, 13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 29 August, 12 September, 31 October and 12 December.

Butler Individual

On the fifth Friday of March, June, August and November, the existing Butler Individual will have the following prizes: £50 for the pair who finishes overall in first place and £50 for the pair whose score is the closest to zero.

The Friday dates (unchanged) are:

30 March, 29 June, 31 August and 30 November.

New members

Welcome to Gaye Kyle, Liz Mackie, Inga and Keith MacKenzie, John Maple, Chris Nagle and Dermot Paddon. We hope you have many enjoyable years playing at the club.

The **V** Word

Our Club provides more opportunities to enjoy playing in one week than most clubs offer in a month. That means that we have a much greater need for members to help in the multitude of small things that lead to smoothly running and enjoyable playing sessions. These range from more technical tasks that require some understanding of the game and the organisation of playing sessions (such as being a director, captaining a team etc.) to mundane routine tasks such as ensuring that all the lights have been put out and the premises are locked at the end of a session. The range of tasks is such that almost every club member can find a way to contribute. Some of the following tasks require training which will be provided but many just require a sense of membership and a willingness to contribute. Volunteers are needed to help with the following:

Directors - training and support will be given.

Friday afternoon 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

Thursday afternoon 2.00pm – 4.30pm Back up

Directors are needed (You will only be called upon when necessary.)

Scorers – training and support will be given.

Friday afternoon 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Thursday afternoon 2.00pm – 4.30pm. Back up scorers are needed. (You will only be called upon when necessary.)

Hosts:

Friday afternoon 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Thursday afternoon 2.00pm – 4.30pm. Back up hosts are needed. (You will only be called upon when necessary.)

Wednesday / Friday host system.

Please sign up for one session.

Kitchen duties:

Help is needed for all playing sessions. (Making coffee, emptying the dishwasher and tidying up at the end of the session.) If we have 24 volunteers for each session, your help will only be needed once every 3 months.

Editor of Trumpit. Call Gillian on (01865) 890616.

Thank you to Esme Collins who has bought the club's catering supplies for the past 4 years. Our thanks go to Pat Swain, who has kindly agreed to take over. We can continue to enjoy our cup of coffee while playing bridge!

Friday Afternoon Bridge

There were 6 tables at the club's first Friday afternoon duplicate pairs on 10 February. We hope this new event will help to meet the needs of bridge players in the area. It will need your support to get it established so please come along if you have a Friday afternoon free.

Members and visitors are very welcome. Come and join us on any Friday from 1.30-4.30pm. Table money is £2.50 and there is a monthly prize of bottles of wine for the winning pair. We are looking for volunteers to act as host and we shall also need directors. Please call Lyn Arnold on 01491-836015 to offer to fill one or more of these positions.

Car Park

Lighting – The Parish Council have supported our request for additional lighting in the car park. An application has been submitted to the planning department at SODC.

Pot holes – Martin Neal has very kindly agreed to supply equipment to fix the pot holes and dig a trench for the electricity cables at the same time – subject to approved planning permission.

No Fear Mix 'N' Match

These events were introduced to give inexperienced players the opportunity to play with a more experienced partner. The first event in January was very popular with 13 tables. The club's 'Pro-Am' takes place on the 3rd Friday evening each month. You don't need to partner a less experienced player to play at these events – **all regular partnerships and club members are very welcome.** If you would like to partner a more experienced player, please contact Gillian on (01865) 890616.

Diary dates

11 April – EBU SIM Pairs – (Table money £2.50)
25 April – Next committee meeting (6.00pm start)
9 May – EBU SIM Pairs (Table money £2.50)
16 May – AGM (7.00pm start – everyone welcome)
19 October – The club will be holding a heat of the County Pairs competition.

Chairman's Chat

If you haven't seen it yet, do look out for this new regular feature from Colin on the club's website, (and the notice board) to keep up to date with what is happening at the club.

Summer BBQ

It has been suggested that the club holds a summer BBQ for its members. The committee will be asking members for their views. More details to follow.



The Next Generation of Bridge Players

Did you know that there are currently 450 children learning to play minibridge in Oxfordshire, Berks and Bucks? Joan Bennett, a member of Wallingford Bridge Club, began the primary schools programme and she has been instrumental in its development and success. Joan will be taking a group of 20 youngsters to the House of Lords to play bridge on 4 July. The following WBC members are involved with running minibridge in local primary schools. Prue Porter and John Edwards, Beryl McGreevy and Tony Taylor, Amanda Potter and Lyn Arnold, Carol Quinton, Peter Finbow, Gillian Lonsdale and Joan Bennett. If you want to get involved, Joan will be delighted to hear from you.

Using the Bridgemates

The Committee have agreed we will continue to enter the opening leads for the time being. Please ensure ALL possible information, including the opening lead, is entered on Bridgemate as dummy goes down. This saves time and everyone is agreed on the board number, contract, declarer, and opening lead before the actual play begins. Please note entering a fictitious opening lead is not acceptable.

Competitions update

Results as at 20 February

Wessex League (20 VPs available per match)

| | | | | |
|--------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| A Team | – Played 5 | Won 4 | Lost 1 | 75 VPs |
| B Team | – Played 3 | Won 1 | Lost 2 | 25 VPs |
| C Team | – Played 4 | Won 2 | Lost 2 | 47 VPs |
| D Team | – Played 7 | Lost 7 | | 21 VPs |

Chiltern League

Played 4. Won 3, Drew 1 – currently in 1st place.

Congratulations to Olivia and Alan Woo and their team mates on winning the Swiss Teams event at the Harrogate Spring Congress on 19 February.

Reminders:

- **Best Behaviour at Bridge** - Be nice to your partner and your opponents. 😊
- The village hall is much improved with the new curtains and carpet. When the car park is muddy, please take a few moments to wipe your feet properly on the mat as you enter the hall.
- At the end of play, **please** push in your chairs, put cups in the dishwasher and leave your table as you would like to find it. **Thank you.**

Enjoy playing bridge at the club