

BOOKHAM AFTERNOON BRIDGE CLUB

Membership Report AGM 2022

Since our last AGM, we have received the sad news that three members have died: Mary Street, David Golder, and Audrey Randall.

Two very long-standing members, Jean and Peter Higgins, have moved to Dorset to be near family and there has been a number of other resignations. The passing years take their toll and ill health has been the main factor in a number of cases.

However, It is most encouraging to report that in the past year thirteen visitors have successfully pursued membership, taking our total number to 189.

There are 11 applicants completing further visits before they submit their formal application. Currently we have 21 vacancies and no waiting list.

Clearly, we are well down on our pre-pandemic membership of 211 which includes one honorary member, Jean Suckling. Following our last AGM Neil made a huge effort to contact members who rarely attended. As a result, quite a number decided that it was time to reconsider whether they wished to retain their membership. So the current number, 189, is probably a more realistic reflection of our membership base although there remain many members who have not returned since the pandemic.

Since reopening we have had a very encouraging number of visitors, some attending without partners. We are therefore very grateful to those members who have done duty as Spare partner, some several times. At this time of transition for our club we need new members to provide the seed corn for our continued existence. The Spare partner facility is therefore a vital part of our club life.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks for the invaluable help and support which the committee has provided, especially to those who are stepping down after several years' service. I wish them continued enjoyment as members of the Club, free of the duties which they have fulfilled so conscientiously.

Thank you.
Kate Castree