

July 2026

News

It is with deep sadness we report that Allan Ward passed away last Friday July 24th. Allan had been an active member of the club for over 60 years and continued to play up to his final days. In fact, along with Michael Sallis, he won the Café Bridge Trophy in 2024 and 2025.

Our thoughts are with his family. Details of funeral arrangements will be posted on our home page.

Pro-am competition held on 14th May was well attended and it has been decided to hold it annually. We would like to thank all the Pro's as it wouldn't be possible without your help. The Am's confirmed that they found it very enjoyable once the nerves died down. The Winning Pair were Suzanne Gray and Martin Jones.

Congratulations to Ian Henson who gained Master Point promotion in June to Advanced Master

The Winners of the last series of the Coventry Pairs League were: -

Division 1	Mike Meakin and Jon Downing
Division 2	Giles and Gabriel Ip
Division 3	John Baxter and Mike Butler

Another Year - another resounding success for **Café Bridge**, which took place on 23rd June in five venues around the Belgrade Plaza in Coventry. We were made most welcome, and enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Telegraph Hotel, Bella Italia, Pizza Express and the Belgrade Theatre, whilst the Premier Inn hosted two tables all day for very little return as they don't serve lunch! A great day was enjoyed by all, despite the blistering heat, as all the venues were air conditioned.

The overall winners were Mary Taylor and Robert Zara with a score of 63.33%, whilst Val and Andy Waugh came a very close second with 62.22%. In fact it was very close at the top with 6 pairs achieving a score over 60%. It was appropriate that Mary should win as it was her birthday! Sue O'Gorman and Paul Sutton won the prize for closest to 50% with a score of 51.33%.

A Big thankyou goes to Sue O'Gorman for organising the Venues, Graham Cope for organising the play and working out the results plus Ann and Jac who made sure all the Venues were paid

UPCOMING EVENTS

Swiss Pairs – Yes, it is this Sunday 2nd August, starting at 13:00 and finishing around 18:00. There will be a fabulous Afternoon Tea (organised by Sue O'Gorman) part-way through the session. There will also be a Raffle with plenty of prizes to raise money for British Heart Foundation - so please don't forget to bring cash to buy the raffle tickets

In case you did not update your diary/calendar or phone I am repeating the following dates:

3 Spires - Starts on Sunday 27th September. This is a teams competition, but you can register as a pair and we will attempt to find you teammates. A whole number of tables is essential. The sessions are on a Sunday evening– If you are eating it is normally a 17:00 start, with the bridge starting at 18:00.

27th September; 25th October; 22nd November; 13th December; 24th January; 28th February; 21st March and 25th April.

Coventry Pairs League (CPL) starts again this autumn, with a slightly altered format. Sessions will be played on the first Thursday of the month from October to May, with the first session on Thursday 1st October – Flyers giving more information about this event will be handed out at Swiss Pairs on Sunday as the entry form will go live on our website on 3rd August.

County Mentored Novice Pivot Teams – Next Year Coventry are hosting this event on Sunday 18th April – so please put this date in your diary/calendar/phone if you have less than 4 years bridge experience, or if you are willing to act as a mentor. We would like to enter more than one team this time. Apart from needing players we will require volunteers to help hosting.

Saturday Host Rota – please don't sigh – it is me that is sighing even louder and I will have to keep bringing the subject up as the rota still has plenty of gaps. Talk to your partner find out the dates they cannot come and put your name down as host for those Saturdays – if transport is the problem let me know and I will sort it.

Bridge Etiquette – Slow Play - This is a constant problem in bridge. In order to maintain the timing of our events e.g. Monday Afternoon 13:00 – 16:00 Tuesday Evening 19:00 – 22:00 and Saturday Morning 10:00 13:00 our TD's will move on slow players and take away boards if necessary.

Please arrive at the club at least 10 minutes before the scheduled time of our sessions – it makes the job of the TD much harder if players arrive at the last minute. If you are running late please advise the TD by putting a message on the WhatsApp chat.

Teaching & Recruitment

I hope you have taken one of the flyers announcing Bridge Lessons for beginners. If not you can still mention it to your circle of friends – Book One lessons start on Monday 14th September 19:00 – The first lesson is FREE

Book 2 lessons will run on Friday mornings starting on 18th September. Please let Ann know if you are interested in joining – all welcome.

Last but not least Stuart Beamish has taken on the role of **Health & Safety Manager** for the Club. Thank you Stuart.