

Secretary's Report May 2024

Membership numbers remain steady. We have been pleased to welcome a number of new members to the club. But inevitably there have been resignations too, mainly from members who have not been playing bridge since lockdown and no longer wish to come out at night and have therefore decided to discontinue their membership.

Bridge in the club has continued to grow this year with around 25-30 tables each week. We hope that the numbers will continue to increase and we hope that more members will return to the club over the summer months.

Congratulations to Nuala Mooney and Helen Cole who were winners of the Club Pairs Competition for a second successive year!

Congratulations also to Maeve Markey and Michael Cassidy, winners of this year's Thursday Pairs Competition.

The Club also hosted the NIBU Mr Monty Competition and again ran the NIBU Interclub Pairs Competitions through the year.

Tuesday online bridge remains very popular with a number of non members regularly playing in the competitions. Our thanks to Jim for continuing to give of his time running bridge on BBO – this is a very welcome source of income to the club.

There was a very productive discussion about club finances at the SGM in March, and the proposal to increase the annual subscription to £30 was unanimously approved.

The Committee will continue to examine other ways of increasing club income.

A big thank you to the small group of volunteers who ensure that bridge runs smoothly in the club each week.

Thanks to Jim McGilly and his band – Nuala Lynch, Anne Lonergan, Aileen Cassidy and Geraldine Glover, who ensure that there are set boards for each of the four bridge sessions.

More volunteers are very welcome to help with the board making. This usually takes place on Tuesday afternoons and lasts for around an hour.

Tournament directors

Again a small group of people run the bridge sessions every week.

Tuesday evenings – Peter Fitzpatrick, Jim McGilly and Aileen Cassidy.

Wednesday afternoons – Kate Doherty and Joe Hennessy.

Wednesday evenings – Geraldine Jamison, Frank Young and Una Gordon.

Thursday evenings – Michael Cassidy, Nuala Lynch, Maureen Hunt and Una Gordon.

More volunteers would be very welcome to share this workload too!