

## **Great Yarmouth Bridge Club Chair Report 2022**

During my report at the last AGM I thanked those of you who had returned to playing face to face bridge and that the club would continue to see more people return. I will now commence this report by repeating those thanks to all of you who continue to support this club whether it be existing members, people returning to the club or new members.

The club has currently 24 members registered, with a further 6 to join after the AGM, and I am pleased to report we continue to see a good turnout at each Monday evening session. On average we have a core attendance of 5 tables. Despite other clubs in the area struggling to run events on a regular basis, we should be proud that this is not the case at this club.

So, I thank you all once again by coming back and ensuring the long-term future of Great Yarmouth Bridge Club.

One of the hopes from my previous report was that we would run a few more competitions. On a limited basis this was achieved in that we were able to reinstate the Overall Pairs Master Points Competition and the club played for the Kempton Mitchell Cup. The winners will be acknowledged later at this meeting. Again, I would like to see us participate in a few more events in the next 12 months. Indeed, we have got off to an encouraging start with the ECATS UNICEF Children in Ukraine event being played earlier this month.

Our financial position is very healthy, which was helped by the very generous donation from the Ormesby Bridge Club membership once the club decided to fold. Tom, our Treasurer, will provide his report shortly which summaries the club's finances.

The fact that we have such a smoothly run club is thanks to so many of our members. Thank you to all of you who help at the end putting away boards, tables, and everything else required during the evening. We also owe a big vote of thanks to Rob Richardson who ensures we have pre dealt boards ready for every session. Thank you, Rob. Thank you also to

Paul Whittle & Rob Richardson for giving up their time to support me by taking their turn in the role of Tournament Director throughout the year.

The Christmas party held on 12<sup>th</sup> December was very well received, judging by the number of positive comments made to me & members of the committee. This could not have been achieved without Cheryl's hard work in liaising with the caterer's and organising the prizes and gifts. Thank you, Cheryl.

This now only leaves me to pass on my biggest vote of thanks and that is to your committee. We have been so lucky to have had such a stable committee since our return to face-to-face bridge and they all work so hard setting up the sessions, collecting your table monies and clearing up afterwards. More importantly they have acted as a team supporting me and I am extremely grateful to them all. We shall be coming onto the election of officers later, but I should like to take this opportunity to personally thank Cheryl (Secretary), Tom (Treasurer), Lesley, Anne & Nick for all their hard work. Thank you.

I am sure that I will have failed to mention someone who I should have highlighted and thanked so if I have, I apologise – no slight was intended. I shall finish by once again thanking you all for coming back to play at the Gorleston Golf Club and ensuring that Great Yarmouth Bridge Club continues to flourish and finally to thank you all for maintaining the reputation of the club as "a club which continues to be somewhere people want to come because they can have a good game of bridge, played according to EBU rules in a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere".

Steve Harris

30<sup>th</sup> January 2023