

Dear Member

Nearly There

I thought you might need a gentle reminder that we are re-starting bridge next Monday 13th September. I do hope many of you will feel confident enough to come and join us. Having discreetly canvassed the local clubs most of them are getting going this month and as I am also a member at Everton they started this week and had six tables. And a very jolly evening it was with members really welcoming the opportunity to see one another again.

We will re-start Wednesday bridge on 29th September so I appeal to all those Wednesday players to come and enjoy the company of those you have not seen for such a very long time.

The 'On-Line' Club

We have discussed the option of moving our 'On-Line' club to Thursday but we can only achieve this if we have volunteers to come forward to act as Tournament Directors. This job is nothing like directing at a normal club night but more about having the confidence and experience of using IT. It takes very little time to become familiar with directing at StepBridge and we have Arthur and David who are prepared to train any volunteers. We have the impression that many of you that have regularly played on line would like us to continue this, especially for the winter nights, but we can only keep it going if we have enough support to set up rotas which, to be fair, would only require possibly giving up one night a month to keep the club going. There are obviously other concerns that returning to face-to-face may attract members away from on line because of their preference for playing face-to-face. Alternatively keeping the 'On-Line' club going may reduce the attraction of going out to play especially in the winter and we may not get enough playing face-to-face to make club nights viable. Only time will tell – but first things first we need volunteers. Please give me a call if you think you can help us out.

Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 22nd September @ 5.30 for 6 p.m.

I do hope many of you will make the effort to attend. Preparing for a meeting of this type does involve much planning and soul searching to ensure the agenda and reports are relevant and of benefit to members. So if we have got it wrong it is your time to HAVE YOUR SAY!!! And there will also be a drink and nibbles to provide the dutch courage.

Bridge Lunch at South Lawns – Friday 29th Oct. 12 noon for 12.30 p.m

I have had the quote from South Lawns and, as expected, the costs have increased since we were last there. I do hope this will not be a deterrent as we have almost 30 signed up for the event. I have to say the menu choices are mouth-watering and will be available for next Monday's bridge and the cost will be £27. We

will provide further information about menu choices and how to pay in a week or two. For those of you who might need partners rest assured this is on my 'things to do list'.

A final reminder about subscriptions

We will commence collecting your bridge subscriptions (£6 CASH please) as you arrive at the club on the next two Mondays and at the A.G.M. Please make sure you have your H.C.A membership card with you and if you have not collected it we will make every effort to obtain it from Greystones Membership Secretary.

As we approached the re-opening of the club it has opened my eyes to just how much work we have had to do and how many people we rely on. I do hope our efforts have not been in vain.

Pat Carruthers (Chairman)

10th September 2021

Phone 01425 616312