

LCBA Chairman's brief

As a new Chair-person, I thought I would introduce myself to bridge members via a quick one-page brief.

It can't have escaped bridge players notice that numbers at most bridge clubs have been falling for many years now. This has been further exacerbated by the effects of Covid. At least two Leicestershire bridge clubs have had to close altogether since the corona virus outbreak started; what a shame!

As well as providing competitions and leagues for the more experienced player, the LCBA Committee is doing what it can to try and revive bridge. The Education Committee is working closely with clubs to try and bring new people in to the game. Several clubs (notably Ashby, Charnwood, County and Grantham) have very active teaching programmes and these programmes are vital if clubs are to survive.

How each and every member can help:

You can help by:

- introducing bridge to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends and neighbours
- putting notices up in your local library, golf club, bowls club, tennis club, village hall etc (if there isn't already one there) telling people about bridge learning opportunities in your local area. If you would like me to e mail you a poster or deliver some to you, please let me know.
- putting a notice on your own face-book page and tweeting about it (if you use such things)
- encouraging people who you know who play bridge socially to join a club. Many clubs now have a more 'social' session that newcomers can be introduced to where they can learn competitive bridge in a gradual, relaxed way
- volunteering to teach bridge or be an assistant bridge teacher (particularly for school children, University undergraduates and College students)
- encourage your regular club members to attend sessions aimed for them, such as Peter Halford's lessons on 'improve your card play' (Please see County Bridge club website for details)
- working together with other clubs to promote bridge; we should only see other clubs as competitors when it comes to the league, in all other respects we should collaborate to promote bridge in Leicestershire and promote each other's sessions to members (See the list on the LCBA website)
- providing any further ideas you have to me

If we all work together we can do what we can to reduce the trend of declining bridge players in clubs

Bridge holiday

If you are interested in attending a bridge holiday, no partner is required and you will receive a very friendly welcome from a range of holiday companies, including Bernard Magee Bridge, First For Bridge and bridge overseas to name a few.

Our past Chair, Dean Benton, is attending a holiday in Turkey in November and would welcome your company. I am attending a holiday in the Algarve and Majorca in April and you are very welcome to join me. Just ask if you would like further details.

Finally.....Do contact me if you have further ideas for the LCBA Committee to consider at this stage

Anne Wright, Tel. 078 6616 8843, annewrightuk@gmail.com