

# Worcestershire Bridge News

## July 2023

Summer is now upon us and we have an opportunity to take advantage of some events that are taking place outside the normal competitive playing season. See more below!

### Worcestershire Success

It's always a pleasure to report successes by Worcestershire Teams and this one is particularly pleasing. The team from Bromsgrove Bridge Club that was selected to play in the Midlands Counties Bowl against representative teams from counties across the Midlands finished with an IMP score that was almost double that of the runners-up (100 IMPs v 52 IMPs). Congratulations to Keith Collins, Clive Finney, Martin Gill and Paul Slater. You're an inspiration to the County members and we look forward to you repeating this feat next year.



*Paul Slater, Keith Collins, Clive Finney and Martin Gill*

### County Events

There are two events taking place on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July. The Midland Counties Mixed Teams is open to teams consisting of two mixed pairs from any of the Midlands Counties and it will be held on RealBridge.

The Chairman's Cup is intended for a different group of players – those who have been playing bridge for five years or less and it will be played at Ombersley Memorial Hall.

Details of both competitions can be found on the Worcestershire CBA website and we would encourage all our members to consider entering for whichever of these events are appropriate for them.

### Learning Bridge

There is a considerable amount of bridge teaching across the county. The "Learn Bridge in a Weekend" course that was held in March attracted a good attendance and those players are continuing to learn in a variety of ways that are appropriate to their needs and circumstances. Elsewhere, a number of clubs, including Bewdley BC, Stourbridge BC and Worcester BC (please pardon any omissions!) are supporting continuing learning to ensure that we have the steady stream of new and enthusiastic players that is vital for the continuing success of our clubs and our game.

Further Beginners' courses are planned so if you know anyone who may be interested in learning our fascinating game, please ask them to get in touch with me (contact details are at the bottom of this newsletter) and we will try to direct them to the most appropriate place.

### Malvern Congress – Save the Date!

Following the successful resumption of face to face play at the Malvern Congress last year, it will once again be held at the Royal Grammar School Grange site, just North of Worcester. It will be on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October so please put the date in your diaries, save it and get an early entry in (the details and entry forms are on the County website).

### Café Bridge – Save the Date!

After a break of four years over the Covid period, Café Bridge is returning to Barnt Green. This event is organised by Bromsgrove Bridge Club and the charity to benefit will be the Blue Cross Bromsgrove Rehoming Centre. Details of the event, which will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October, will shortly be on the Bromsgrove Bridge Club website. It is always a popular event so please put the date in your diaries now and start to look forward to a day of bridge and good food!

Worcester Bridge Club are also planning a Café Bridge event – keep an eye on the WBC website for news!

### County Phillipps Pairs

The County Phillipps Pairs has undergone a revamp and, from September, will be held at the following bridge clubs round the County: Bromsgrove, Droitwich, Malvern, Stourbridge and Worcester and those competing will be encouraged to play at these clubs in order to enhance their chances of doing well in the event. The sessions at these clubs will not change in any way but scores will count towards the County Phillipps Trophy. This is a great opportunity to visit a variety of clubs across the County. Full details and dates of sessions will shortly be published on the WCBA website.

### The National Teams League

Two teams from Worcestershire have joined the newly-introduced National Teams League and have achieved some degree of success – but also some disappointments! It is played online on RealBridge and we would encourage other teams from the County to consider joining the League.

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