

BRADGATE BRIDGE CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1178398

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-05-16

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CLUB ARE TO OPERATE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT THROUGH:A) THE ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR SPORT BY PROMOTING THE GAME OF DUPLICATE BRIDGE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS OF ROTHLEY AND THE SURROUNDING AREA; B) THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR THE LEARNING, TEACHING AND PLAYING OF BRIDGE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS OF ROTHLEY AND THE SURROUNDING AREA WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF LIFE;

Activities: Bradgate Bridge Club provides the facilities for the local community, in Rothley and the surrounding area, to play Bridge

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Services
- **What:** Amateur Sport
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Leicestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£15,112	£15,046	-	-
2024-08-31	£13,186	£12,162	-	-
2023-08-31	£12,040	£10,944	-	-
2022-08-31	£12,290	£9,337	-	-
2021-08-31	£8,658	£7,542	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Morris	Chair	2023-10-30
GAIL MARY TILLEN		2016-10-31
JULIE JONES		2016-10-31
Michael Ayers		2024-10-28
PETER ARTHUR WILLIAM WELLS		2015-10-26
RAYMOND JOHN NEWMAN		2020-09-26
RICHARD JAMES REES		2010-11-01
STEVEN JAMES WRIGHT		2007-10-31
VALERIE JOAN REES		2013-10-28

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BRADGATE BRIDGE CLUB

Report for annual charity commission return 2025

Charity number 1178398

This has been a very difficult year for the club. As you probably know, we rented the Rothley Centre from Rothley Parish Council who leased it from Charnwood Borough Council. In February the Rothley Parish Council informed us that they were terminating their lease and not accepting any booking beyond 30th November. Then, in March, they told us that they were going to close the Centre for the entire month of May because of caretaker issues. We took this opportunity to try out other venues and then returned to Rothley Centre intending to stay until the end of November. This was not to be. In August they gave us one week's notice to vacate the Centre. Since then, we have, as Steve has so aptly called us, been The Bradgate Bridge Club on Tour. We are currently using the Woodhouse Eaves Village Halls where we play on most Monday nights and Wednesday afternoons, although some Mondays we have to play at County Bridge Club because the George V hall is not available. We have also played bridge at Thrussington Village Hall occasionally on Wednesday afternoons.

It is recognized that the Woodhouse Eaves Halls are not ideal, particularly the Youth and Community Hall used on Wednesday afternoons, which is rather noisy. For a time we also had to make do with some small chairs but these have now been replaced with higher adult-sized chairs. However, we wanted to try to give the club a base whilst on tour and these halls were the best we could find that matched our needs and that could accommodate us on both bridge sessions. Perhaps I should mention that the committee members spent a lot of time trying to source venues. Numerous visits were made to the more promising venues but most of these were either not available on the days we wanted, didn't have parking spaces, bridge tables or have adequate kitchen facilities, were too expensive or were simply too small. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to keep our club running especially to Richard who has liaised tirelessly with The Rothley Centre, local councilors and Charnwood Borough Council, to Steve who has had extra work preparing bridge boards and directing, to Gail who has had to book the various venues, to Jim who has transported a large number of boxes between the sessions each week, to all the committee members who vetted all the venues and to everyone who has pulled together to set up the sessions and clear away the tables and chairs after playing bridge. It is all very much appreciated.

We are hoping that Bradgate on Tour will become The Bradgate Bridge Club again in early 2026. It is our understanding that Charnwood Borough Council wish to re-open the Rothley Centre as soon as possible in January and that the Centre will be run by a voluntary community committee. We have been given a list of likely charges so we are very hopeful that we will be back in our "home" in the New Year, possibly February.

I am pleased to say that, despite our difficulties with venues, we have still managed to get good attendance at both our Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoon sessions. We regularly attract 10 to 12 tables on Monday evenings and the same on

Wednesday afternoons. Both sessions attract players with different experience and ability. It is heartening that there are a large number of players that have joined us that have been taught by the Charnwood Bridge Teaching Group. The influx of new, dare I say it, younger players is essential for ensuring the continuity of the club. So thank you to the Charnwood Bridge Teaching group who give their time so generously to enable this.

During the year we have held numerous competitions ably arranged by our Tournament Secretary, Steve. Thank you, Steve. We have six teams representing Bradgate this year in the LCBA Teams of Four event and many Bradgate players have also won prizes in LCBA competitions. Richard will no doubt comment on these later.

During the year, we sadly lost four members - Jean Smith, Paul Statham, Susie Perrett and John Summerhayes . Also, we note the passing of former members Zena Grady and Eleanor Freshwater. On a more happy note, we had thirteen new members join us last year.

As you will be told, we remain in reasonably good financial order, thanks largely to the income provided by the success of CBT and the fact that we raised the table money £1.00 for each session to cover the increased costs of renting The Rothley Centre. Unless the situation changes we are not intending to raise the cost of table money or your annual subscription.

Bradgate Bridge Club Treasurer's report, October 2025

In the year to 31st August 2025 the club had a (very) small surplus of £65, and again we were dependent on our share of the profits from Charnwood Bridge teachers to show any surplus at all. Subscriptions rose by £5 to £715 (ie net rise in membership of one).

It has been a somewhat turbulent year from a financial point of view, entirely due to the venue problems. In April we were hit by a substantial increase in room hire rates at the Rothley Centre, and then its unavailability in May and from mid-August onwards. We increased table money to compensate, and although we successfully found alternative accommodation there was understandably some reduction in attendance. From April onwards the average Monday attendance dropped by one and a half tables, and Wednesday by one table. Average table numbers for Monday and Wednesday are now almost exactly the same, continuing the trend over the last few years.

The net result of all this was that room hire costs this year have risen by 29% relative to last year, and table money income has risen by just 5%.

Despite the above, I'm happy to report that the club is in excellent financial health. The total of our various bank accounts is close to £20,000. The greater part of that is in a relatively high interest account which last year paid over £500 in interest. The committee have agreed that subscriptions for this coming year shall remain unchanged at £5 – a bargain!

One factor which makes the figures look worse than they really are is that our current landlord, Woodhouse Eaves parish council, require room hire costs paying in advance, so the expenditure in these accounts include the costs for all of September.

Although the future is still slightly uncertain, the expectation is that we will return to the Rothley Centre in January and the charges so far proposed (but not yet confirmed) indicate that the costs will lower than those levied by Rothley PC, although we are going to do our own setting up and packing away.

Away from room hire and table money issues the story is similar to last year. The depreciation of the dealing machine is almost complete, so that will soon disappear from the accounts. The cost of league entry looks higher because payment for both last season and this fell within this accounting year. The 'bridge items' figure includes the purchase of two new laptops.

2024/2025 Accounts for Bradgate Bridge Club as @ 31/08/2025

Bank Balances at 31 August 2024

Community	3244.71
Deposit	3552.86
Money Market	12000.00
Total	18797.57

Dealing machine		purchased	30/10/2022
Cost	2,368.79		
Depreciation	1,451.56		
		917.23	
Assets at	19714.80		
31/08/2024			

		Income	
		2024/2025	2023/2024
Subscriptions		715.00	710.00
no of members	143		
Table Revenue			45.00
	Monday Cash		
	Card	6317.50	6,126.50
	Wednesday Cash		0.00
	Card	4401.00	4,167.00
Bank Interest		597.56	137.80
CBT catering		505.00	0.00
Donations		379.00	0.00
Teaching profit		2000.00	2,000.00
Table money collected from		120.00	
CBC visitors (Mondays)			
Use of dealing machine by LCBA		76.50	
Total Income		15111.56	13,186.30

		Expenditure	
		2024/2025	2023/2024
Room Hire			
	Mondays	5,266.64	4,147.00
	Wednesdays	2,490.80	1,468.00
	room setup	723.00	925.00
	League	0.00	0.00
UM		2,209.46	2,289.66
Zettle charges		209.33	196.22
Bridge Items		675.70	571.88
Training		0.00	120.00
Donations		700.00	220.00
SIM Pairs			
EBU Affiliation Fees		30.00	29.00
Insurance		74.70	74.70
Xmas Party		283.53	461.29
County club charge for Monday visitors		139.78	
Bank Charges		55.00	60.00
Expenses		2.99	0.00
Competition entry fees		180.00	0.00
Catering		753.52	543.12
League Entry/Travel		220.00	50.00
AGM costs		0.00	0.00
Misc		182.40	260.26
Bridgewebs		60.00	60.00
Fixed Assets Depreciation		789.60	789.59
Total Expenditure		15,046.45	12,265.72

less Expenditure 15046.45 12,265.72

Surplus for the Year 65.11 920.58

<u>Reconciliation</u>			
		Total Assets as at 31 August 2024	19,714.80
Bank Balances @ 31-Aug-25		Add	Surplus for the Period
Community	1501.86		65.11
Deposit	5623.38		
Money Market	12527.04		
Total	19652.28		
Dealing machine			
Cost	2,368.79		
Total depreciation	2,241.16		
since 30/10/22			
Residual value	127.63		
(Depreciate over 3 years)			
	19779.91		19,779.91

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Both Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoons are well attended. We regularly attract 11 or 12 tables on Monday evenings (sometimes more) and the same on Wednesday afternoons. Monday players experience an excellent standard of bridge in convivial surroundings while those on Wednesday are able to play bridge in a slightly less competitive manner in a friendly environment facilitated by the excellent host system that operates. Particularly pleasing is the number of new members that have joined the club, about 15 this year, many of whom are graduates from the Charnwood Bridge Teaching Group.

During the year we have held numerous competitions ably arranged by our Tournament Secretary, Steve. Thank you, Steve. We have five teams representing Bradgate this year in the LCBA Teams of Four event and many Bradgate players have also won prizes in LCBA competitions. Richard will no doubt comment on these later.

Earlier in the year we organized a HeartWise demonstration and practical session to equip members with the skills needed to respond to a person having a cardiac arrest. This was well attended and received. Three members, John Dignan, Jim Wilkinson and Ray Newman, have also undergone First Aid Training this year. These add to other members that have already undergone First Aid Training in the past (Andy Satterthwaite and Steve Wright). We are also lucky to have a few retired GPs and nurses who play bridge with us. Hopefully, we will not need to call on their expertise but it is better to be prepared!

In September, we celebrated the EBU week long Festival of Bridge called [*Bridge - It's a Big Deal!*](#) Clubs were asked to promote awareness of the game and, at the same time, raise funds for Cancer Research. The total amount raised across the country was over £100,000. Our club raised £500.00 from two charity events on Monday and Wednesday of that week. An open morning was organized by Gail and Richard, assisted by many of the buddies and teachers in the Charnwood Bridge Teaching Group. This was extremely successful, not only in raising funds, but attracting new students to learn bridge. Our thanks to all involved and hopefully, it will be a recurring event next year.

As you are all aware our Treasurer, David Twells recently passed away very unexpectedly. David had been a much respected member of our club for many years. He had held various positions on the committee, including chairman, before taking on the role as treasurer. We will miss him and also Paula Gordon-Smith who also sadly passed away several months ago. We are very grateful to Gail for stepping in as Temporary Treasurer and to Mike Ayers for taking on the role at short notice. Mike has prepared a report but is unable to be with us tonight. Richard will present it to us on his behalf, thank you. As you will be told, we remain in

reasonably good financial order, thanks largely to the income provided by the success of CBT. For this reason, we have elected to keep the table money and subscriptions to the same levels as previous years.

2023/2024 Accounts for Bradgate Bridge Club as @ 31.08.2024

		Income	
		2023/2024	2022/2023
		to 31/08/2024	
Subscriptions		710.00	660.00
Table Revenue	Monday Cash	45.0	3.00
	Card	6,126.5	5,655.00
	Wednesday Cash	0.0	52.00
	Card	4,167.0	3,690.00
Bank Interest		137.80	100.21
Chicago		0.00	0.00
Donations		0.00	0.00
Teaching profit in 2022/23 Accounts		2,000.00	1,880.00
Profit for 2021/22	750		
for refreshments	255		
Profit for 2022/23	875		
Teaching profit in 2023/24 Accounts			
Profit for 2023/24	2000		
for refreshments	185		
(deducted from			
Catering costs)			
Total Income		13,186.30	12,040.21

		Expenditure	
		2023/2024	2022/2023
		to 31/08/2024	
Room Hire	Mondays	4,147.00	3,861.00
	Wednesdays	1,468.00	1,316.00
	room setup	925.00	700.00
	League	0.00	0.00
UM		2,289.66	2,156.54
Zettle charges		196.22	180.34
Bridge Items		571.88	493.38
Training		120.00	0.00
Donations		220.00	102.00
SIM Pairs			
EBU Affiliation Fees		0.00	0.00
Xmas Party		461.29	312.60
Bank Charges		60.00	60.80
Expenses		0.00	0.00
Gifts		0.00	0.00
Catering		543.12	765.25
League Entry/Travel		50.00	20.40
AGM costs		0.00	24.00
Misc		260.26	101.64
Bridgewebs		60.00	60.00
Fixed Assets Depreciation		789.59	789.60
Total Expenditure		12,162.02	10,943.55

less Expenditure 12,162.02 10,943.55

Surplus for the Year 1,024.28 1,096.66

Balance Sheet
31-Aug-24

Bank Balances

Community	3,244.71
Deposit	3,552.86
Money Market	12,000.00
Total	18,797.57

Dealing machine	
Cost	2,368.79
Less Depreciation	
Brought forward	789.60
	1,579.19
For current year	789.59
2368.79 x 1/3	789.60
(Depreciate over 3 years)	19,587.16

Reconciliation

Total Assets as at 31 August 2023	18,562.88
Add Surplus for the Period	1,024.28
	19,587.16

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Chairman's Report by Ray Newman:

I am pleased to report that your club is in good shape.

On a Monday evening, where we regularly attract 11 or 12 tables (16 last week!), the standard of play remains high, as does the general standard of behavior, which is just as important. Although we have lost a few members compared to pre-Covid times, we have also gained several newcomers from other local clubs who find it a pleasant place to play good quality bridge. Wednesday afternoons have gone from strength to strength, and offer an excellent way for those new to competitive bridge to get started in a slightly gentler environment. It is no surprise that several of the graduates from Charnwood Bridge Teachers have joined Bradgate through the Wednesday sessions, but it is nice to see how many are also now playing on a Monday.

In addition, Richard will tell you that we have a healthy number of teams representing Bradgate in the LCBA Teams of Four event, and several of our members have done well in LCBA or EBU tournaments.

As you will hear later from the Treasurer, Bradgate BC also remains in reasonably good financial order. To a large extent this is due to income from CBT, which has proved to be highly successful in teaching novice players to improve, and we should be grateful that Bradgate is one of the beneficiaries of this success. Our financial strength has allowed us, at least for the moment, to keep our table money and subscriptions to the same levels as previous years.

This evening marks the end of my spell as Chairman, and it just remains for me to thank all those on the committee who have helped me get through the last three years. The club is very lucky to have such a talented and dedicated committee, because clubs don't run themselves. Perhaps one or two of you might consider putting yourselves up for election in future years, because Bradgate needs new ideas, new energy, and sometimes new direction.

It has been a very interesting three years, and I wish the new Chair every success, the very best of luck, and no pandemics!
Thank you.

Treasurer's Report by David Twells:

In the year to 31 August 2023 the Club reported a Surplus, that is total income less total expenditure, of £1,097 (adjusted for depreciation). We purchased a new dealing machine early in the financial year and, anticipating that this will not need replacing again for three years (and hopefully a lot longer), the cost is being charged to

expenditure over a three-year period. If there had been a £790 depreciation charge in last year's accounts, this would have reduced the Surplus for that year from £2,953 to £2,163, so roughly twice the current year Surplus. The reduction in the Surplus was to be expected, as there had been significant increases in the room hire charges from the Parish Council and the Committee had decided not to increase table money to cover the extra expense. Monday evening table numbers are on average around two tables less than in pre-Covid times, whereas Wednesday afternoons are proving to be increasingly popular, with tables numbers on average now approaching those for Monday evenings.

Trying to compare individual items of income and expenditure between the current year and last year would be a rather pointless exercise as the early part of last year was online rather than face-to-face. I would, however, comment on the following items:

Teaching profit, the Club's share of the surplus made by Charnwood Bridge Teachers, was £1,880, of which £255 was for the reimbursement of estimated refreshment costs. Without this valuable contribution Bradgate would have suffered a Deficit for the current year.

The expense 'UM' is the charge per person per session levied by EBU.

Bridge Items consist of scoring software, playing cards, suitcases, travellers and scorecards.

Turning to the next financial year, there are a number of factors which are likely to play a part in making for a potentially difficult year financially:

Teaching profits are likely to be significantly lower than the year just gone, as that year included two years of Charnwood Bridge Teachers profits, rather than one.

Inflationary pressures are likely to remain with us over the next twelve months, and in particular, we might anticipate further increases in room hire charges at some point. To help mitigate potential increases in expenditure, £12,000 from our bank balances has been placed in a twelve month notice Money Market account with HSBC, and this will increase the bank interest received for next year.

Owing to the above, it is likely that the Club will break even, at best, over the next twelve months and perhaps a small Deficit might be anticipated. Despite this, the Committee has decided not to increase table money for the time being, as we have sufficient cash reserves built up over a number of years to cover any shortfall. The Committee are also proposing that membership subs stay at £5 for the year ahead.

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Bank Balances

Community Deposit 2,517.64
14,415.06

Total 16,932.70

Fixed Assets Dealing machine Cost 2,368.79

Less Depreciation 2368.79 x 12/36 789.60

Depreciate over 3 years 1,579.19

18,511.89

Reconciliation

Total Assets as at 31 August 2022 17,415.23

Add Surplus for the Year 1,096.66

18,511.89

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(DRAFT 2)

BRADGATE BRIDGE CLUB

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting Held on Monday 31st October 2022 at 7.00 pm at Rothley Centre

51 members were present.

1. **Apologies** were received from: Mike Ayers, Margaret Butterworth, Sarah Gilbert, Judith Hill, June Hummel, Monica Lucas, Vickie McCloy, Tony Middleditch, Anne Morris, Sheila Stockdale, Kish Trivedi and Jim Wilkinson.

2. **Minutes of the last AGM.**

The minutes of the AGM held on Zoom on 10th November 2021 were agreed.

- 3 **Matters arising** There were no matters arising.

4. **Chairman's Report by Ray Newman:**

To start with I would just like to mention the sad loss of Geoff Shaw, who was a leading light in Loughborough BC, and who some members will remember. Geoff passed away last week. Details of his funeral are on the Loughborough BC website if anyone would like to go.

It does seem like a long journey that the club has been on. In March 2020 we faced the prospect of indefinite closure, with nobody knowing if the club would survive. But then online bridge began, first on Wednesdays then on Monday evenings, and for nearly two years our members could enjoy playing bridge at home without the risks associated with going out and meeting other people during the pandemic. Then, just as the vaccines made it safe to leave our homes, along comes Charnwood Borough Council to refurbish the Rothley Centre, which meant another three months until we could get back to F2F.

But finally on May 30th this year, we reopened, and what a relief to everyone. Of course we have lost a few players, and may never get back to the heady days of 18 or 19 tables on a Monday night, but at 10-12 tables on Mondays and 7 or 8 on Wednesdays we can justifiably claim to have weathered the storm. And we still keep our friendly reputation, and still attract some high quality players, so long may that last.

The Committee has had a busy couple of years. Those of you not involved won't know how many small (and not so small) decisions have had to be made. Fortunately we have a committee containing some very talented people, and this has helped the club survive a very tricky time. Being a relative newcomer to running a bridge club I've been lucky to be surrounded by so much knowledge and experience, which is invaluable when times get tough. Unfortunately, one of our longest serving committee members, Gail Tillen, is going to stand down from her position as Treasurer after this meeting. Gail has looked after our finances for eight years, (and before that her late husband Lawrie held the position for another six), which is an amazing record. We will certainly miss her acumen and judgment. The good news is (a) we have another experienced hand waiting to step into the

breach, and (b) Gail herself is willing to remain on the committee, albeit without the demanding job of Treasurer. Both of these subject to the club's agreement, of course.

A quick word about money. From a financial point of view, the club had a "good lockdown". Thanks to the deal negotiated with Oliver Cowan, our online TD, we made money from online bridge. We have also benefited greatly from the success of Charnwood Bridge Teachers, who generously divide their considerable profits between the three clubs that provide their teaching staff. You will no doubt all have seen the accounts that Gail circulated, and noted that we have, as a result, accumulated a healthy surplus.

I would like to conclude on an optimistic note. At a time when some of our local clubs have had to cease operating, we have survived. We are now seeing a slow but steady stream of new club members coming from a number of directions, especially from Charnwood Bridge Teachers. I know you will all make these newcomers welcome. I'm sure there will be a few challenges ahead, but if we are to continue to prosper as a club we need to maintain the standards we have established, of integrity and friendliness. We want people who play here to know they are going to have an afternoon (or an evening) of bridge that is demanding, but also enjoyable. Thank you.

5. **Treasurer's Report by Gail Tillen:**

Our accounts this year are less straight forward than the previous two years.

We started the financial year last September still playing only online but we very soon started our face-to-face sessions. These started in early September and operated with small table numbers - mainly because we did not have access to our normal venue - the Rothley Centre undergoing refurbishment.

In terms of membership it has again been difficult to be definitive about our numbers but we did re-instate subscriptions at the end of last year and subs have been paid by 135 people. We have welcomed a number of new members recently who were not charged subs as it was close to the end of the year. Some players who did not play at all these last two and a half years have been pending awaiting their decision when subs become due again in November.

I have not attempted to analyse table numbers this year as it has not been meaningful running face-to-face and online in parallel. However, you should be aware that even with the smaller table numbers we have at the moment compared to pre-pandemic levels we are not running at a loss.

So let us look at the figures for the financial year ending 31 August 2022.

Income

1. Subs of £675 from 135 members
2. Face-to-face bridge - as you know we have moved away from cash this year so of the £4708 table money collected, only £12 was in cash.
3. Online Bridge ran right through until the end of May and produced income from the BBO fees of £5392.63. For your interest, this is 70% of the fees you pay adjusted for the exchange rate.

4. We have received £1500 income from the teaching enterprise.

Expenditure

1. Room hire has entered the expenses again with charges at the same level as previous years – however this will not remain the case as we go forward. Also, the Rothley Centre is now charging for setting up the room. It is £10 per session but we felt it the right thing for our members to pay this charge. There is also a charge of £1260 paid the County Club at St. Oswald's for the use of their facilities from 21st September through to 22nd May inclusive. I should add that County were very amenable to a cost structure – negotiated by Steve- that meant that whatever the table numbers, we would not operate at a loss.
2. Universal membership (was known as pay-to-play) payable to the EBU has been £2528.62. That was running at 48p per person per session but from April was 50p per person per session.
3. We continued to use an EBU director for all our online sessions and the cost of that is £40 per session. Total for the year was £3057.20. Well spotted – this figure is not divisible by 40. As with face-to-face not to run at a loss so Steve negotiated a deal which meant that this would not happen.
4. The Bridge items purchased are new cards.
5. Donations- we made one donation of £40 to the Ukraine appeal from a Sim pairs event.
6. The miscellaneous item refers to new cups purchased for the Summer pairs event and the engraving of other cups.
7. Expenses covered the purchase of hand sanitiser and keys for the new cupboards and stamps.
8. The AGM cost is there because we ran a free online session following the AGM but BBO still charged us.
9. There is an extra expenditure this year – bank charges - £57. HSBC started charging us back in November 2021. There is a monthly charge of £5 per month plus 40p per cheque paid in and 4% on cash deposits. This is despite the fact that we are a charity. We may look into changing banks in the future to avoid this charge. For this reason we will be asking that you make a bank transfer for your subs this year if you can.
10. I think most other expenditure is self explanatory.

iZettle figures

I have shown on the income side the monies payable from subs and table money in full. But where they are paid by card through the iZettle card readers there is a charge of 1.75%. I have shown these as iZettle charges in the expenditure. It is just under £87 for the year.

Also there are some additional items that need some explanation- on the income side we show an income of £44.25 which represents 15 payments test by myself and other money elves in order to test out our phones (where the app is used) both through wifi and through our phone networks. 75p was taken by iZettle as their charge. These 15 transactions were then credited to the elves either through a bank transfer (£24) or through free table money sessions (£21), the latter does not show in the accounts.

So we end the year with a surplus of £2953, half of which has come from the teaching activities.

The Rothley Centre have just increased their charges by 10% and we fear they may rise again this winter when the energy price increases start to bite.

We have just over £17k in the bank. We are in the process of purchasing a new dealing machine which will cost us around £2500 to £3000k.

The committee are proposing that we retain subs this year at £5 per person.

6. **Resolution**

The Committee proposed that the subscription fee for the year 2022/23 be £5. This was agreed.

7. **Tournament Secretary's Report by Steve Wright.**

At the last AGM we reported that we just started F2F bridge based at the County Bridge Club, due to the imminent refurbishment of the Rothley Centre, alongside continuing the online bridge on BBO.

The plan was for Bradgate to run the Monday night F2F and County to run the Wednesday afternoon F2F. However the Wednesday numbers were too low and that session was abandoned in October 2021.

Due to various delays with the Rothley Centre, that arrangement stretched from an expected few months all the way until the end of May.

The County Bridge Club were very good landlords to us. We had good facilities, with a per-head charge (which meant we would not lose money) and they were very supportive of us. We left them with a viable Monday evening session, which County have continued to run as "County and Friends" whilst Westcotes unmothballed their club. It is expected to become "Westcotes and Friends" in the New Year once various Westcotes' members have completed their Tournament Director course. Whilst running a Monday F2F session and a BBO online session at the same time, we produced hybrid results. These were for curiosity only, as we treated the two sessions as independent when uploading to the EBU for NGS and Masterpoint purposes. But it was important as a statement that although we split between playing online and F2F, we are still one club.

One of the knock-on effects of running two sessions was what to do with competitions. If the two sessions played the same number of boards then it would be reasonable to run an online heat and a F2F heat and combine the results. But with the online players playing 20 boards compared to the F2F players 27 boards, the disparity was too much. It is much easier to get 60% when playing 20 boards than it is when playing 27 boards. It was considered too unfair to the F2F players to combine results. So we took the decision that the major multi-week competitions (Bradgate Plate, Tyler Trophy and Hercock Trophy) would be played once we are back at Rothley.

This issue did not affect the Wednesday Winter Pairs as that was purely online.

It was also impossible to play the teams competitions online as BBO does not support multiple teams.

To fill the gap, we did run a BBO Casual Swiss Pairs over the winter. This was won by Irene Krantz and Jonathan Hughes.

We started back at the Rothley Centre at the end of May. The table numbers are in line with what other local clubs have experienced, which is being

about one-third down on pre-pandemic levels. Within those numbers, we have seen a number of new faces from graduates of Charnwood Bridge Teachers plus some experienced pairs from other clubs.

We did manage to shoehorn most of the competitions into the remaining competition season. We failed to find space for the Charity Pairs. We did plan to run the Jubilee Teams, but at the last moment it clashed with Queen's Funeral and the Rothley Centre was closed. There was insufficient time to reschedule.

We have introduced computer dealt boards on Wednesday afternoons. The plan is to introduce Bridgemates in the New Year.

We are looking for people who are willing to be a Tournament Director. We are particularly exposed on a Monday evening where we have very few people who are qualified. The club is willing to pay for the course.

8. **League Representative's Report by Richard Rees**

The LCBA committee has met regularly through the year, almost always by Zoom. During the 2021/22 season, we held a number of competitions, both face-to-face and online. Bradgate members have done well -

- **Steve & Anne Wright, Phil Watts & Linda Stone** lost in the final of the Josephs Bowl (the county's top team trophy) to a team which included two international players.
- **Lucy Pathan, Anne Wright, Duncan Jones, Anne Morris and Ben & Joan Gibson** all did well in Leicestershire competitions.

There is a more limited competition programme for 2022/23; Leicestershire runs many more county-wide competitions than other counties and numbers had been falling even before the government restrictions in 2020; the full calendar is on the LCBA website and I hope to be able to report lots of Bradgate members as winners next year.

Leicestershire has also fielded teams in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 of the Midlands Counties League; these teams have included many Bradgate members - too numerous to mention. However, worthy of mention is that Phil Watts, Linda Stone and Anne Wright comprised half of the Leicestershire team in the Pachabo Trophy, England's national Teams of 4 County Championship.

The LCBA has also resurrected the winter inter-club league, as teams of 4 rather than teams of 8, which officially gets under way next Wednesday. There are 30 teams in all, 5 of them from Bradgate.

9. **Election of officers**

1. David Twells had been nominated by the committee to the position of Treasurer and being unopposed was elected unanimously.
2. Gail Tillen had been nominated to serve as a committee member and being unopposed was elected unanimously.

10. **Presentation of Trophies** (see table below)

Terry Stephenson, a member since the 1980s, gave an amusing address before presenting the trophies.

11. **Any Other Business**

There was a vote of thanks to Gail Tillen to thank her for her 8 years of service as Treasurer.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their presence.

The meeting closed at 7.32 pm and was followed by a free session of Bridge.

<u>BRADGATE BRIDGE CLUB</u> <u>TROPHIES 2021-2022</u>	
BRADGATE PLATE	AUDREY MOUNT & MARY JOHNSON
CHARITY CUP	NOT PLAYED
DAVIS TROPHY	BARRY SMITH & RICHARD REES
ADA ROBSON TROPHY	ANNE MORRIS & LUCY PATHAN
HERCOCK TROPHY	ANNE WRIGHT & STEVE WRIGHT
JUBILEE TROPHY	NOT PLAYED
TYLER TROPHY	ANNE WRIGHT & STEVE WRIGHT
PATTISON POTS	ANNE WRIGHT & STEVE WRIGHT
ROGER BIRD TROPHY	PAUL ANDERSON & SUSIE PERRETT SANDRA MIDDLEDITCH & TRACY JARVIS
THOMPSON TROPHY	JIM WIKINSON & PAULA GORDON-SMITH

CHICAGO KNOCKOUT	NOT PLAYED
WEDNESDAY WINTER PAIRS	JIM WILKINSON & PAULA GORDON-SMITH
WEDNESDAY SUMMER PAIRS	PAUL ANDERSON & RUTH JOHNSON
BRADGATE CUP	KEITH RIMMER
HOWARD STEVENS BOWL	STEVE WRIGHT

2021/2022 Accounts for Bradgate Bridge Club as @31/08/22

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

Community Account	4,232.77
Deposit Account	9,812.17
Total Bank Balances	14,044.94
Debtor (BBO)	611.44
Creditor (UM)	- 194.40
Net Assets	-
Assets at 31 August 2021	14,461.98

		Income		Expenditure	
		2021/22	2020/2021	2021/22	2020/2021
Subscriptions		675.00		Room Hire	
				Mondays	1,001.00
				Wednesdays	299.00
				room setup	230.00
				League	-
Table Revenue	Monday Cash	12.00	-	County (St Oswalds) Room Hire	1,260.00
	Card	4,034.50	-	Univeral Membership (EBU)	2,528.62
	Wednesday Cash	-	-	BBO Directors	3,057.20
	Card	661.50	-	iZettle charges	86.97
BBO income		5,392.63	8,297.37	Bridge Items	209.60
Tutorials			-	Training	- 232.00
Izettle test		11.80	32.45	iZettle tests credit	24.00
Bank Interest		2.68	0.98	Donations	40.00
				SIM Pairs	-
Chicago			-	EBU Affiliation Fees	27.00
				Insurance	74.70
Donations			-	Xmas Party	-
Misc		-	10.00	Training	-
Teaching profit		1,500.00		Bank Charges	57.00
				Expenses	103.27
				Gifts	40.95
				Catering	178.90
				League Costs	80.00
				AGM costs	42.15
				Misc	168.50
				Bridgewebs	60.00
				iZettle Equipment	-
					199.20
				Total Expenditure	<u>9,336.86</u>
					<u>7,533.09</u>

Total Income	<u>12,290.11</u>	<u>8,340.80</u>
less Expenditure	<u>9,336.86</u>	<u>7,533.09</u>
Surplus for the Year	<u>2,953.25</u>	<u>807.71</u>

Bank Balances at 31 August 2022

Community	3,100.38
Deposit	14,314.85
Total	<u>17,415.23</u>

Reconciliation:

Net assets at 31 August 2021	14,461.98
Surplus for the year	2,953.25
Net assets at 31 August 2022	<u>17,415.23</u>

BRADGATE BRIDGE CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1178398

Accounts

Bradgate Bridge Club AGM, November 10th 2021

Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to this year's AGM.

To say this has been an extraordinary year for the committee is something of an understatement. We have all been thrown into a situation which to use that well-worn word, can only be described as unprecedented. Members who have not been involved in resolving some of the issues which have arisen during the pandemic may not appreciate just how much work the committee has put in, but I am sure you would all join me in thanking the committee members for volunteering their time and effort to keep our bridge club running successfully.

After transitioning during the summer of 2020 from no bridge at all during lockdown 1, to online sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays, we were faced in the Spring of 2021 with calls for a return to Face to Face bridge. This was to prove an even bigger challenge than going online in the first place.

By July there was a definite feeling that the worst of the pandemic was over. Vaccination had given people confidence, and many clubs were gearing up for a return to proper bridge at a table rather than on the internet. Unfortunately for us, it was at this time that the Rothley Centre decided it was going ahead with a much-needed refurbishment, which would take it out of action for three months. We were faced with a decision either to find alternative local premises or accept an offer to play at County Bridge Club's brand new facility at St Oswald's. We decided on the latter, and I would like to say how grateful we are to Ian Walkerdine and his committee who have made it possible for us to re-start Face to Face bridge at their club.

We have now been told that the Rothley Centre refurbishment work will start later this month. If this proves correct, and if it is completed within the expected time scale of 3 months, this means we should be able to get back to playing at the Rothley Centre sometime in March or April 2022. However there are a lot of hurdles to be crossed before this happens so nobody is holding his breath.

The pandemic has not completely gone away, and opinion is divided on whether to play online or Face to Face. For the moment the club will continue to offer both versions on a Monday night, and is one of the few clubs to offer hybrid results where the two are merged together. Monday nights have proved very successful, on occasion exceeding in total the number of tables we used to get on a Monday at the Rothley Centre.

Wednesday afternoons F2F has proved less popular, and after a slow start with very little support from Bradgate members, County decided to suspend this session. We hope to reinstate the Wednesday afternoon session once we are back at the Rothley Centre.

Whatever type of bridge you prefer, we want Bradgate to continue to be regarded as a club which offers a high level of bridge but which welcomes in newcomers of all standards, and treats everyone with friendship, courtesy and respect. We always need new members, and although some have arrived via Charnwood Bridge Teachers (jointly founded by members from Bradgate BC and Loughborough BC) we must put in extra effort next year to recruit even more.

Without doubt the year ahead will offer further challenges. We know that there is a demand for online bridge, and this is likely to continue, but we really hope that most members will feel confident enough to return eventually to Face to Face at the Rothley Centre.

Ray Newman
Chairman, Bradgate BC
November 9th 2021

