

Hadley Wood Bridge Club

The pandemic and the first Lockdown in March 2019 hit both bridge clubs hard and shut us down completely. We turned to the internet to try and get our "Bridge FIX" with many of the on-line games on offer. It was not until October last year that two of our members set up with a new provider called RealBridge. This was just what we needed, a platform that exactly copied a live face to face event. We could see and speak to all four people, our partner and opponents and play the hands just like a regular Duplicate game.

Our Tuesday and Friday sessions have run ever since the start and has bought us all together to enjoy this great game with our friends. We set the £1 per game charge for playing we were soon joined by many visitors and we have run events with as many as 18 Or 19 Tables. Members of both clubs joining in as a single club at all events.

For the last year we have been acting as one club so it was logical that we consider merging Tuesday and Friday clubs as one. Last night we held our first meeting to approve the new Constitution and elect a new committee and the club will start on the 1st January 2022. In the interim our On- line games continue.

There had to be changes as we plan to offer on-line games as well as live social bridge to all our members in future. The HWA have provided us with premises and facilities since our first beginnings in 1965 and a very special relationship has evolved over the years. It is thanks to that relationship and the help provided by the HWA current Trustees and committee that this was possible. We are extremely grateful.

After a survey of our members it was decided that the big change, probably due to the advancing years of many of our players, would be seasonal play. We will from now on play face to face social bridge from March to October each year. The cold and dark winter months November to February will be On- Line only.

The plans we have will expand our club and we hope to attract more members from Hadley Wood

to our two sessions on a Tuesday or Friday. If you are interested as a player then visit our website

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/hadleywood/> and read all about us and who to contact.

We will make you welcome. We are also planning to add teaching beginners so if you want to learn how to play this brilliant game. Watch this space.

Robin Nunn

Chair. Hadley Wood Bridge Club