

On the afternoon of **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January**, the monthly duplicate was a high-scoring affair because there were five tables, so lots of International Match Points (IMPs) to be won. That day we welcomed three new players Carolyn, Angela, and Janet who is the latest new member to the group. For me personally, my partner Paul and I had an amazing afternoon; one of those when everything went well. Paul only became a u3a member on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023, after taking early retirement, and came for a crash-course in the latest bidding systems for the game, having initially learnt many years ago, even before he and Kath (manager at the new Coop) were married. And how things have changed since then with lots of new bidding techniques to get to grips with. His natural flair and skill soon shone through, and it was not long before I needed to introduce him to Northampton Bridge Club, where he is now making a name for himself on more than one day a week. So, he really has the bridge bug and, still being so young – compared to me anyway, he will go a long way in the game at the highest level.

I cannot review the results below without mentioning Tim and Sheila who secured a very creditable second place against some very good opposition.

	IMPS	%		Tops	Joint Tops
1 <sup>st</sup>	101	78.9	Brian Collett & Paul Jarvis	6	2
2 <sup>nd</sup>	78	60.9	Tim Smith & Sheila Jones	4	1
3 <sup>rd</sup>	71	55.5	Jim Wardle & Judy Peck	0	2
4 <sup>th</sup>	63	49.2	Carolyn Bennett & Angela Reed	2	1
4 <sup>th</sup>	63	49.2	Kathy Morgan & Paula Jones	3	2
6 <sup>th</sup>	60	46.9	Janet Reader & Fay Duckmanton	2	0
7 <sup>th</sup>	54	42.2	Ruby Cole & Chris Williams	1	1
8 <sup>th</sup>	52	40.6	Helen Coghill & Carol Phillips	3	0
9 <sup>th</sup>	50	39.1	Anne Weddle & Chris Russell	0	1
10 <sup>th</sup>	48	37.5	Del Smith & Jane Davis	3	0

Both bridge groups meet at the Heritage Centre every week, with there being one session each month for duplicate bridge. Friday afternoon's being on the third Friday each month. For all of the other days of the month, the members can relax and enjoy Chicago scoring bridge – so no pressure, but very good for practising and improving skills.

We meet on Fridays at 1.30 pm.

#### FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2024

	IMPS	%		Tops	JointTops
1st	86	67.2	Paul Jarvis & Brian Collett	4	2
2nd	81	63.3	Tony Nixon & Katie Lindenbaum	5	2
3rd	75	58.6	Ruby Cole & Carolyn Bennett	2	2
4th	72	56.3	Hazel Barr & Lynda Stevenson	2	1
5th	63	49.2	Belinda Collett & Sheila Jones	1	2
6th	61	47.7	Ann Maynard & Judy Peck	0	2
7th	59	46.1	Carol Phillips & Helen Coghill	3	1
8th	56	43.8	Jane Davis & Del Smith	2	1
9th	46	35.9	Chris Russell & Anne Weddle	0	0
10th	41	32.0	Maeve & Paul Taylor	0	1

