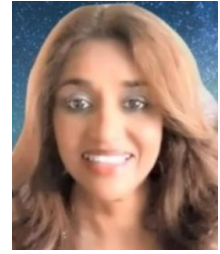




Stirling University
Bridge Club
Bridging the Generation Gap



On July 25th, 2018, Stirling University Bridge Club was officially launched, with a well-attended taster session. The Bridge Club provides a friendly and sociable atmosphere and aims to cater for bridge players of all standards. It was certainly exciting and heart-warming to see the vast difference in age groups in the room, having a wonderful time socialising with each other. It is often not at all easy for different generations to see eye to eye with each other. A game of bridge certainly has the ability to transcend all barriers pertaining to age or background.

Communication is a two-way street and a game of bridge encourages people to actively interact with their partners and make decisions together. Age often serves as a social divider, however if we heed the advice of Desmond Tutu, we can see that it need not be that way, “everyone has something to teach and everyone has something to learn”! Young and old people alike, will both make valuable contributions to our society, forging a great deal of symbiosis between generations, and astutely recognising the fact that each generation is equally as valuable as the other. Social interactive vehicles like a game of bridge could help to dispel age related myths and stereotypes by establishing the importance of different generations getting along and by sharing in the quest for a better and kinder society by a mere change in our mind-set.

I would like to leave you with a quote about the game of bridge “Bridge is a game of skill, but also a game of psychology. Unfortunately some players will try to get under your skin (especially in long tournament matches). Don’t let them do it! Come to the bridge table with thick skin and get them back, by playing your best bridge - rise to the occasion, don’t sink to their level “- Robert S. Todd.

Many thanks for the marvellous support from the following people who have helped to make the Stirling University Bridge Club a huge success - Professor Samantha Punch, Douglas Piper, Liz McGowan, Ronan Valentine, and countless others. A further thanks goes to the Scottish Bridge Union who have provided funding (via the European Bridge League to whom we are also grateful) to enable us to promote the game of bridge in Stirling.

Phuspa Poopalasingam
President
Stirling University Bridge Club