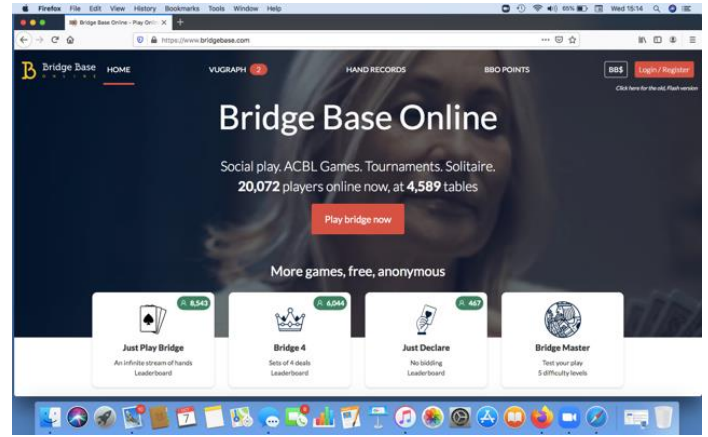


# PROS AND CONS OF PLAYING IN A VIRTUAL CLUB



## PROS

- ♠ You do not have to travel, saving on fuel, wear and tear of car etc.
- ♥ You can play at any time of the day or night
- ♣ You can easily find a partner or find somewhere to play with your normal partner
- ♦ There are no worries about car parking.
- ♠ You don't have to worry about putting out tables
- ♥ Boards do not have to be prepared.
- ♣ Ladies in particular do not have to worry about make-up, hair or dressing up.
- ♦ You can have a coffee or a glass of wine or a G&T whenever you want
- ♠ You can play with a partner anywhere in the world.
- ♥ The benefit of going virtual is that club members can play safely at home without going against restrictions.
- ♠ It doesn't matter where in the world you are. You can play bridge or join in zoom meetings on your phone or tablet or desktop computer.
- ♥ You can participate mostly for free.
- ♣ You can replay your games to improve your skills

## CONS

- ♠ You miss the social interaction of meeting friends and chatting and the 'craic' and the 'banter.'
- ♥ Virtual communication relies on software, machines and the Internet, which can malfunction at any time. **(The Internet in Newcastle is very erratic!)**
- ♦ We miss our Prize Nights, Charity Night, dinners and social occasions

We hope that our clubs will emerge in good shape when the current crisis is over but I believe that some of us will get a taste for online bridge that will continue. Perhaps it will make sense for some clubs to run regular virtual bridge sessions.

**Rosemary Cunningham (Sec)**