

Board Games Group - report by Kate Bailey

Week by week the group is welcoming new members and, in May, nine players gathered in the Old Well. The group split into two for the warm-up games of Bananagrams. These are always fast and furious rounds but also cheerful, even though one or two people, who admit to being good at Scrabble, crosswords or other word games, inevitably complete their puzzles ahead of the rest of us.

The newcomers amongst us were then introduced to the complexities of Carcassone. It's a good-natured game of building a landscape with small tiles and claiming territories with meeples (little characters). Tiles have to be laid to connect along roads and between farms, monasteries and citadels. The game is full of choices, whether to add to your own territories or prevent your opponents from expanding theirs, and quite puzzling at first. The beginners amongst us were generously guided through the first round by the more experienced players but it seemed that only one player could remember the complicated scoring system at the end !

Towards the end of the session we were happy to return to the more familiar Bananagrams for a few more rounds. Each half of the group took it in turns to play Peach Snaps, which is a real test of speed and recognition. Players are dealt a pile of cards with one card turned face-up on the table. Everyone plays at the same time, matching colours, numbers and shapes of peaches on the cards. It's fast, noisy and great fun, and it's a relief that the pub landlord seems to welcome our Monday afternoon jollity !

If you're interested in learning new Board games and playing some of the old favourites, do come along and join us on the second Monday of the month. For more information contact the Convenor.

