

February 2023 Newsletter

President's Message

Kia Ora

I hope you all had a good Xmas break and have kept safe and well.

I am aware that there has been quite a bit of Covid in Wellington and that some members have got Covid over the holiday after playing in our recent tournaments. Please take all the usual precautions for yourself, but also for other members' sakes.

This year your committee will focus on five priorities:

- * the long term viability of our current premises;
- * improving our online bridge;
- * improving experiences for all members;
- * seeking to grow membership and
- * supporting youth bridge.

For all of these we need your help and feedback. In terms of the long term viability of our current premises, the committee has a strong preference to stay in our current premises. We think it is a good place, great location, but we are aware there are some improvements we would like to make. In order for us to be able to stay long term at the current premises we either need to share premises with another club/group, or we need to raise sufficient capital in order to earthquake strengthen the building, replace the roof, and maintain our facilities to a good standard.

At present we don't have a suitable group/club to share our premises with so we are considering options in terms of raising capital to undertake the work that is needed. One option we are considering is some kind of debenture offering to members. This would take the form of a loan from members who have the means and inclination to do so. Otago Bridge Club has done this successfully and I am aware of golf clubs that have also done this. The committee would be interested in your views on this idea, particularly those that may be prepared to consider this.

Another area of emphasis this year is encouraging more kids to be interested in playing bridge. Barbara Tumilowicz has kindly agreed to lead a Wellington programme aimed at promoting the game among children and teenagers. Barbara will be reaching out to some schools shortly, and in the future will be looking for some help after school and Saturday mornings from time to time. If you can spare some time teaching, training or assisting at the table and would like to be involved, please contact Barbara or myself.

Thanks to all of you who made donations recently, and to those who have had the capacity to offer to help the club with the many jobs that need doing, and hopefully taking a bit of pressure off Bridget.

I hope that you all have a good year and keep safe, and that we have less disruption from covid this year.

Best wishes

Peter



New Members:

The club welcomes the following new members:

Helen Ritson, Sheila Bridge, Lawrence Chiu, Cindy Johnson, Klaus Dorbecker, Valerie Cranfield and Carol Cornelius.

We do hope that you have a successful and enjoyable time at our club.

Subscriptions:

Subs were due on January 1. There are four methods of paying:

- On-line direct credit to the Bridge club account
- EFT POS
- Cash
- Direct Debit; there is a form to sign in the office or email wellingtonbridge@gmail.com

Bridge Lessons:

Bridge Lessons begin on 14 February. Flyers are available to publicise this in your work place, supermarket, or anywhere else where new players might be interested. Flyers are available in the lobby or they can be downloaded from the club's website.

Interclub:

I just want to urge you all to consider forming a team and playing in the Interclub competition, starting on 14 March and playing once a month on Friday nights. It is great fun and really nice to meet players from other clubs.

Handicap Results for Club Series:

We will be publishing handicap results as well as raw scores this year, starting with the Thelma Wylde Pairs on Tuesday 14 March. This will be for all Pairs events (but does not include Swiss or Teams events).

Upcoming Tournaments:

There are two events in March:

4-5 March North Island Pairs, a 20A event. People will be coming from all over the country for this event and we will need plenty of helpers over the two days. Please let Bridget know if you can assist.

11 March are the Junior and the Intermediate Tournaments. We will also be needing assistant with these events.

Library:

New Arrivals in Bridge Library January 2023

Gifted from the libraries of the late Peter Benham and new member Laurence Chiu, are several classic titles that had not yet been in our library and some very popular titles that we have added to the collection.

Want to brush up on your Losing Trick Count or Lebensohl Convention? Or understand ACOL better? These books and others are processed ready for borrowing and on display on the New Arrivals shelf.

A marvellous collection of the Bridge World (US) magazine (edited by Edgar Kaplan) has been gifted to us by Laurence Chiu. Delve into interesting articles of the day, quizzes and bridge puzzles and pieces from the experts.

The monthly issues from January 1967 to December 1990 are now available to borrow.

Look for the red bound volumes on the shelves.

All books and periodicals are available for borrowing, and we request that you return them after about 6 months. The Issues Book is by the Returns Box.

Janet Dobbie, Club Librarian

Monthly Results Club Series January

Monday

Summer Handicap Pairs

1st Elisa & John Mendzela

2nd Dougal Watson & Babs-Merel deVisser

Tuesday

Watts Jug Ladder

1st Anne Gaskell

2nd Rupert Rokeby Johnson

Wednesday

Young Cup Pairs

1st Alan Grant & Karl Hayes

2nd Isobel Ross & John Luoni

Thursday

Alder Cup Ladder

1st Dianne Tredger

2nd Wayne Stechman

Recent Tournament Successes December 2022 & January 2023 Results from Near and Far

NZ Bridge Online Teams 17/18 December

1st Alan Grant, Anthony Ker, Peter Newell & Martin Reid

2nd Mindy Wu & Kate Terry, John & Jane Skipper

Suzanne Duncan Tournament 27-29 December 2022

1st Alan Grant & Russell Dive

2nd Debbie McLeod & Greg Aldridge

3rd Nigel Kearney & Karl Hayes

4th Brian Cleaver & Pavla Fenwick

Alexandra Holiday Pairs 7 January

2nd Anne-Marie Russell & Moss Wylie

Otago Southland Regional Swiss Pairs 14 January

1st Anne-Marie Russell & Moss Wylie

Top of the South Teams 28/29 January

2nd Sandy McKirdy, Graham Stronach Kate Davies & John Patterson

Waikanae Open Tournament 5th February

1st Johnny Davidson & Leon Meier

2nd Anthony Ker & John Donbavand

Congratulations

Certificate of proficiency: Julie Martin (pictured with Roger Harvey – Tuesday Grade Captain)



Junior interclub winners

From left to right: Lorraine Joslin, Kathryn Brown, Peter Flanagan, Christine Wilson, Monique Percy



A very special Congratulations to Mindy Wu and Mariusz Tumilowicz for making the NZ Bridge Mixed Team to go to Marrakech. (refer to NZBridge website for details). Mindy and Mariusz are a relatively new pair and to make the New Zealand team at their first trial is indeed impressive. Well Done!



From your editor

It is great to be back at bridge and seeing all your friendly faces and to sense your delight at being able to play face to face. We have been having a wonderful summer in Wellington and I hope that it portends that such luck continues all year.

Happy bridging, good health and plenty more blue skies

Margie Michael

Editor