

May 2018 Newsletter

Welcome to our newest potential member – Eden Rose Tankersley



Miriam and Simon Tankersley improved on the usual apology dished up by committee members for not attending the monthly meeting.

Setting an example that some of our politicians may soon have to follow, Miriam Tankersley went into labour just five hours after finishing bridge on Tuesday.

Like bring home a tricky slam contract, it wasn't at all plain sailing until Eden Rose was delivered at 2.31am on Thursday by emergency c-section.

Congratulations to the Tankersley family and we look forward to Eden's early enrolment.

Presidents Corner... Brad Tattersfield

Hi everyone

A huge thank you to the many members who stepped up and helped with Congress last month. Along with the Wellington Regional Committee, we did an amazing job running so many events across five days, including hosting 40 teams in the Open Pairs on the weekend - that surely must be close to a club record (the "old hands" out there might be able to confirm or correct?). The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, just a couple of "constructive" suggestions to take on board next year. Thanks again to all who gave their time in some way, and of course special thanks to Bridget and to Susan Laurenson along with the WRC for your organisational efforts.



I have to put on my "Mr Grumpy" face for a bit this month. We love that our Wednesday nights are so popular, but the large numbers are making it difficult for directors to get seating organised and play started on time. This is not helped by people arriving late – and the late-comers are often repeat offenders.

The club rules say everyone should be seated in the playing room by 7.20pm. I want to be clear that directors who decide to enforce that deadline and close the doors to late-comers will be fully supported by the club committee. You have been warned! Also, if seating isn't pre-allocated, please use up the lower-numbered tables first, as this helps avoid having to shift people around.



The other "hardy annual" problem is car parking, which is also causing causing more difficulty with some sessions, particularly on Wednesdays this year. If you arrive after about five past seven, I strongly recommend not even trying to get a basement park as it's generally full by then – better to use one of the angle parks on Thorndon Quay, just two minutes' walk away. If you are parked in the middle, you must write your name and rego on the whiteboard in the foyer and you must shift your car within a few minutes of play finishing. Also, no parking in the driveway at any time if your car is blocking passage. We need to get better at this, and in future we will be following up with repeat offenders.

Calling fun-loving, lounge lizard nerds and others



Our Quiz night on Black Friday, July 13, will be jazzed up with a Late Night Lounge party after the brain gymnastics are completed.

Social convener Susan Laurenson is organising some young musicians from the Laura'a Studio to liven up our big bridge club social event of the year.

Get your 6-8 person super team together or contact Bridget to join a sub's bench team.

Prizes to the team and individual that dresses most imaginatively for Black Friday.

Maestro quizmaster Deal Sole will set the brain teasers and Eric Frykberg will MC.

Tickets for the fund raiser will cost \$25 each, which includes finger food and the music will start around 9.30pm.

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY

Club series

Tuesday/Junior – Neal Trophy Pairs – starts June 5

Thursday/Intermediate – Bill Joss Memorial Pairs – starts June 14

Wednesday/Open – Suzanne Duncan Cup Swiss Pairs - starts June 23

Friday Afternoon – Winter Pairs – starts June 1

Tournaments

Hutt Open/Junior - May 20

Paraparaumu Intermediate - May 20

Otaki Multi-grade Pairs – May 27

Queen's Birthday Weekend Hawke's Bay Congress – All grades June 1-4

Victoria Club Swiss Pairs , Open – June 10

Karori Junior Pairs – June 10

KapiMana Open Pairs – June 24

Wellington Main Regional Teams – June 30-July 1 (flier with more info on Notice Board)

Improver lessons Part 2 with Alan Grant – June 9

Most of the well-attended Improvers Class with Alan Grant are coming back for Part 2 on June 9. Having mastered transfers and better raises, Alan will focus on unique better bidding conventions including Michaels, Unusual 2 NTs; slam bidding, splinters, and some card techniques including best percentage plays.

Cost: \$50 including the "Competitive Bridge for Improving Players" booklet, or \$42 if already you have booklet and don't wish to purchase an extra copy (retail value \$20). Light lunch included.

Wellington Inter Provincial Team 2018

Congratulations to those who trialled last weekend, the 2018 team is as follows;

Open Karl Hayes, Nigel Kearney, Alan Grant & Anthony Ker (uncontested)

Senior Peter Benham, Patrick D'Arcy, John Davidson & Ross Quayle

Women Lorraine Inglis, Janet McMenamin, Pam Bannatyne & Lynn Hall

Intermediate Simon Louisson, Turei Haronga, Margaret Dick & Graeme Dick

WELLINGTON CONGRESS

21-25 April 2018 Results

OPEN PAIRS

- 1 Jane Lennon / Alan Grant
- 2 Gary Chen / Jeter Liu
- 3 Moss Wylie / Russell Dive
- 4 George Sun / Geo Tislevoll
- 5 Murat Genc / John Patterson

INTERMEDIATE/JUNIOR PAIRS

- 1 Andrew Cushnie / Martyn Rew
- 2 MACIEJ SZCZESNY / Andeana Pilalis
- 3 Edmund Stephen-Smith / Kevin Moar



Open Pairs winners Jane Lennon and Alan Grant!

OPEN TEAMS

- 1 Geo Tislevoll, Tom Jacob, Michael Ware & Peter Newell
- 2 Bob Hurley, Evelyn Hurley, Grant Jarvis & Pamela Livingston
- 3 Kathy Yule, Carol Richardson, Andi Boughey & Lorraine Stachurski
- 4 Murray McMillan, Kathy Ker, Anthony Ker & Charles Ker
- 5 Peter Benham, Brian Cleaver, Stephen Henry & Annette Henry

Top Team below 999 combined RP (and no GM)

Ruth Brucker, Phil Revell, Nan Wehipeihana & Tani Blackburn

SWISS PAIRS

- 1 Nelson Procter/John Donbavand
- 2 Andrew Janisz/Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin
- 3 Sandy McKirdy/Graham Stronach
- 4 Graeme Norman/Ray Gruschow
- 5 Bruce Hoffeins/Phyllis Hoffeins

INTERMEDIATE/JUNIOR TEAMS

- 1 Mary Dravitzki Yvonne Fisher
Susan Brown & Keith Massey
Marcus Smith Edward May, Jim Brough
Margot Brough
- 3 Lesley Knight, Sandie Lepper, Martyn Rew
Kim Tate.



Novice Team members Rosie Moar, Tahlia Crabtree and Miriam Tankersley (Simon Tankersley was the fourth member)

Recent Tournament Results

KAPI MANA MULTIGRADE 6 May

2nd Vivienne Cannell & Peter Delahunty

TAUPO 5A 5 May

3rd Nan Wehipeihana & Tani Blackburn

AKAROA MULTIGRADE 5 May

2nd Carolyn Black & Bridget Willcox

UPPER HUTT OPEN 29 April

1st Anthony Ker & Kathy Ker

2nd Nigel Kearney & Alan Grant

MARLBROUGH PAIRS 15 April

1st Kate Davies & Mindy Wu

Club Night Results

Tuesday- Morley Bennett Ladder

1st Jenny Norris

2nd Jeremy Gogan

Wednesday Jubilee Cup Pairs

1st Murray McMillian & Russell Dive

2nd Lynda Rigler & Mindy Wu

Thursday Presidents Cup Teams

1st Christine McKirdy, Dennis McKinlay, Jocelyn Grainger & Berni Marwick

2nd Barbara Allen, Sushila Kumar, Michael Cox & George Westermayer

Friday Autumn Pairs

1st Patricia Knight / Eileen Gray

2nd Sandie Lepper / Cheryl Scott

Pay and play

Bridget needs someone for a Tuesday player in June under our play and pay scheme – where a less experienced player pays the table money of an experienced player to play with them and teach them some tricks of their trade.

Spare garage space?

Ross Quayle would like to borrow/hire space in a garage for a construction project, expected to take 6-8 weeks. If you are able to help contact Ross at rossquayle@slingshot.co.nz or 027 6668805.

Hand of the Century?

By Ana Roth

Some years ago, Norway's Geir Helgemo was playing in the US with Edgar Kaplan and made a seemingly impossible contract through a sensational piece of card reading. His play was declared by some bridge journalists as the Hand of the Century.



Geir Helgemo, Norway

Dealer: W ; Vul: All

Dealer: W		North			
Vul: All		♠ 973			
		♥ 9762			
		♦ K1086			
		♣ 92		East	
West	♠ 84				♠ QJ105
	♥ KQJ84				♥ A1053
	♦ 5				♦ 3
	♣ K10753	South	♠ AK62		♣ QJ64
			♥ —		
			♦ AQJ9742		
			♣ A8		
West	North	East	South		
	<i>Kaplan</i>		<i>Helgemo</i>		
2♥ ¹	Pass	4♥	6♦		
All Pass					

2♥ Weak 2, 6-10 HCP

West lead the heart king, which Helgemo ruffed. He drew the outstanding trumps with the Ace. He needed three spade tricks to make his contract but after the preempt he didn't want to bank on a 3-3 spade break by playing the AK. Instead he advanced the ♠2, West followed with the ♠4 and dummy's ♠7 drew the ♠J from East, who immediately returned the ♠5, which Helgemo ducked around to dummy's 9. He could now discard dummy's losing club on the long spade in his hand. Had East not returned a spade, Helgemo was planning to cross to dummy and run the ♠9.

How did Helgemo come up with this play? When the first round of spades was played, West played low without thought. Holding, say 10xx, he would at least have momentarily considered taking the trick. Secondly, East won the trick with the Jack. Helgemo correctly assumed East had the ten from West's play so why would East try to false card with a holding of J10x? It was more likely that he in fact held QJ10x and that a declarer of Helgemo's ability would get the hand right.

Thirdly, why did East return a spade instead of a club, with those two rags in dummy – because he wanted Helgemo to make a decision about the spade suit immediately.

Commentators at the time said Helgemo displayed three important talents necessary to play the spade suit the right way on this hand – imagination, psychology and guts!