

WBC News – May 2012

Welcome to New Members ...
Anna Herries; Perry Loader

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

Casual bridge starting Tuesday 22 May – gather up your erstwhile retired bridge friends!

Interprovincial Trials at Victoria Bridge Club – 27 May

Sunday 17 June – Wellington area clubs' playoff for NZ Club Championships.

Youth weekend Friday 3 August – Sunday 5 August – Billets needed please.

Presidents Corner... Derek Snelling

Success brings its own problems and last month saw another all time high for player nights in April. This is great and I'm proud to be part of such an active and vibrant bridge community.

However with the increased numbers of players we are seeing, particularly on Wednesday and Thursday nights, there are a few problems that can arise if we don't plan carefully.

Parking in and around the building is in limited supply. The area underneath the building, whilst a great asset, needs to be managed well to be effective. There are areas that have been marked as No Parking areas (at the entrance end of the "garage") so that cars parked up the middle can get out at the end of the evening without damage to their car or the cars parked at the end. Please respect these restrictions and remember that if you are parked up the middle, then it is your responsibility to move your car at the end of the evening so others can leave at a reasonable hour. Parking in the driveways may not appear to be an issue if it is very late but these access ways are required to be clear in case of an emergency, particularly ambulance access! This is a problem that isn't going to go away so please consider where else you may park if you are late arriving. There are a number of parks down on Thorndon Quay which never get blocked in! There's also a pathway up to Tinakori Road for your convenience.

100 people in a relatively small space can create quite a din. Please be mindful of this when the Grade Captains are giving out the notices and the Directors are trying to set up the room. It also becomes more difficult to move smoothly round the room without interfering with others' space. Please be patient and respectful to your club mates. Good Bridge!

The next set of beginners' lessons with Alan Grant ...

commence Tuesday 19 June. This is the last opportunity to take a course of beginners' lessons for 2012 so now is the time to tell your friends/colleagues/neighbours/family the good news. Life will never be boring for them again! Details on the website.

Why it's teams not pairs...Interprovincial Trials

We've had several inquiries here as to the change in format for selection of our Wellington IP teams. The Regional Committee informs us they have several options for the method of selection. The previous two years have been a pair's competition with the three top placed pairs in each grade going through to represent Wellington in the National Congress held in Hamilton. This year the trials will be in a team's format. Historically Wellington achieves better results with this selection process. So here's hoping! Best wishes to all those who have entered.

Casual bridge – first night Tuesday 22 May

Following good expressions of interest, the Club will start “casual Tuesday night” bridge sessions on 22 May, and every fortnight after that. We’re offering this as an alternative, more relaxed playing and learning format to people looking for something a bit different to the normal club nights. Play will start at **7 pm**, finishing at around 9 pm. A senior player will stay afterwards to review the boards and discuss optimal contracts for those who are interested. If this might interest you, or someone you know, please contact Brad Tattersfield at bradandjill@xtra.co.nz, or just come along on the night.

Youth weekend –Friday 3 August – Sunday 5 August

The 2012 Youth Weekend will be held at our club on the above dates and it’s a weekend we really do need our members to help in various ways please.

- **Billets** – *at present there are 20 students who will need a bed for both Friday and Saturday nights. There may well be up to 30 we are told.*
- **Catering** – *some help in the kitchen for lunches on Saturday and Sunday*
- **“Play with an Expert”** – *this will be on Saturday evening 4 August. Wednesday and Thursday night players please diary this date to play an evening session with one of the youth members. Last time we hosted the Youth Weekend, the Saturday night session was so much fun and all our members thoroughly enjoyed it.*

In the meantime, please keep this weekend in mind – we won’t ask for your help until the beginning of July. Many thanks!

National Club Championships

Can we win again? Of course we can...

Thank you to those members who have expressed an interest to play. In making the teams’ selection, the Committee will take into account a variety of factors including longevity of partnerships, rating points and club results. The competition between clubs in the Wellington area is set down for Sunday 17 June to determine which club will represent the area for the NZ Club Championships to be held in Hamilton in September.



Reminder Reminder

Thank you “smokers” for observing our request to have your pre-session smoke on the kitchen balcony and/or delaying your after play smoke until most players have departed the main entrance.

**Courtesy “Jude”,
Bulletin 24, 2012 Spring NABC**

Gossip/Chat

“Music is a Conversation” .a quote by Brian May, guitarist, rock group Queen

“Bridge is a Conversation” a book by Gerard Cohen

Gerard Cohen (1940-2012). Gerard, the North, the South, the East and West of this site, has apparently died of a heart attack. I'm not quite sure he's dead, and one of the more interesting aspects of his character is how easily one can imagine him staging his own death, for the pleasure of reading his own eulogy. I hope he's reading this one. Gerard was reputed to have other accomplishments -- languages, piano -- but by far his favorite pursuit was bridge. For twenty years Gerard played bridge online (BBO) nearly every day, for several hours at a crack, to an audience of at least fifty and often a hundred or more, among whom I was perhaps the most faithful. To speak of the Cult of Gee is no exaggeration. More people probably spent more time watching him play bridge than anyone in history. [Godofthemachine.com]

+++ The Kill Point

From 1974 until 1994 the world's experts submitted tips to BOLS, the Dutch Distillery, and each year a panel of IBPA members voted on the very best of these tips. One of the many entries came from Jens Auken of Denmark. He wrote:

"It is often stated that the best a bridge player can do is always play in an even tempo. That statement is wrong. We have all tried playing in an even tempo and a trick too late realised that at the trick before we should have stopped to think. Instead we made a mistake. We are beyond the point of no return now, and there is no way to recover. My belief is that on almost every bridge hand there is a point of time when the action of a bridge player is decisive for the fate of the contract. The spotlight is on him or her. What he or she is doing the rest of the time is not decisive. I call that point the "kill point". If you are clever at spotting kill points you are a strong player and you will gain yet more strength from being able to relax the rest of the time." [courtesy of BBO News]

+++ *"Being defeated is often temporary but giving up is permanent"* Marilyn vos Savant...

[1985, *Guinness Book of World Records* accepted vos Savant's IQ score of 190 and gave her the record for "Highest IQ (Women)." She was listed in that category from 1986 to 1989. She was inducted into the *Guinness Book of World Records Hall of Fame* in 1988. Guinness retired the category of "Highest IQ" in 1990, after concluding that IQ tests are not reliable enough to designate a single world record holder.]

+++ **“A man’s idea in a game of cards is war, cruel, devastating, and pitiless.**

A lady’s idea of it is a combination of larceny, embezzlement, and burglary. “ — Finley Peter Dunne

[.. and who is he?] *Finley Peter Dunne* (July 10, 1867 — April 24, 1936) was an American humorist and writer from Chicago.



**Mutter mutter... no comparison to
The Palace Kingsgate in Hamilton!**

The Italian Open Teams Championships were played earlier this month. One of the commentators said: *“the palace where we play is a very artistic place”*.

Salsomaggiore Terme (near Parma)

UK Bridge Magazine – April issue

There's a 4 page article on the successful "DownUnder Team" (**Martin Reid & Peter Newell**) who won the 2012 NEC Cup. We will load it on our website for a few weeks so you can read up on some of the hands they played.

Results from Recent Tournaments

2012 Taranaki Congress Swiss Pairs
2nd Michael Gibson, Janet Woodfield

Kapimana Multigrade

1st Steven Coulter & Heath Tolley
2nd Anthea Black & Angela Gattsche

Kairangi Multigrade last Sunday

1st Overall - Becker Team – Anne and Mary Becker Sushila Kumar and Bridget Willcox
1st Team with no Open Players Brucker Team- Ruth Brucker, Nan Wehipeihana Sue Johnstone and Julia Barnett

Karori Mixed Pairs – 22 April.

1st Johnny Davidson & Judy Johnson
2nd Graeme Norman & Sandra Prichard
3rd Peter Delahunty & Lynda Rigler

Upper Hutt Open

1st Russell Dive & Anthony Kerr
2nd Ray Gruschow & Graeme Norman



Winners of Presidents Cup Teams, Thursdays during April 2012: Brad Tattersfield; Robyn Steele; Michael Revell; Malcolm Greig



Post Mortems by Candlelight

Not to be outdone by the regular Wednesday night "wine & cheese tastings" those gentlemen enjoy and always with a bundle of goodies from the delicatessen, a select group of ladies baked an equally delicious looking array of sweet things. They set the table, brought out the candles and enjoyed the atmosphere. Was fun. Do it again, specially near Table 13 so we can lick the crumbs!

Congratulations to Liam Milne

who is a member of the Under 26 Australian Youth Team to contest the 14th World Youth Team Championships to be held in Taicang, China from 25 July to 4 August 2012.

Playing Numbers: The following are comparative figures for the calendar year to date:

April	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Total
2005	644	1274	1566	306	3790
2006	518	1382	1586	340	3826
2007	690	1308	1430	308	3736
2008	714	1438	1276	444	3872
2009	966	1400	1384	432	4182
2010	886	1410	1340	416	4052
2011	824	1482	1466	486	4258
2012	698	1582	1564	512	4356

It is with sadness we note the passing of Gillian Lewes on 4th May 2012.

[We have a nice photo of Gillian as part of our winning Wellington Team in the NZ Top Club 2009. Ed]

Results from Club Nights

Tuesday - Morley Bennett Ladder

1st Paul Devadatta

2nd Pauline Murtagh

Thursday – President Cup Teams

1st M Greig, M Revell,

B Tattersfield & R Steele

2nd B Allen, L Borland

S Kumar & J Windle

Wednesday - Jubilee Cup

1st Stephen Blackstock & Stephen Henry

2nd Annette Henry & Anthony Ker

Friday - Autumn Pairs

1st Helen Fitzgerald & Michael Stride

2nd Barbara Allen & Paula Jenner