

WBC News – November 2016

Put it in your Diary

Christmas Cheer (Wellington Region) – Saturday 10 December 2016 at 10 am

All Comers “Fancy Hat” Night - Wednesday 14th December No partner required Rainbow Bridge, a fun final night for all grades with supper provided

Suzanne Duncan Memorial Pairs – the evenings of 27, 28 and 29 December at 7.30 pm

Presidents Corner... Brad Tattersfield

Hi everyone

I'd like to start my first column by thanking my predecessor, Mindy Wu, for the excellent job she did last year. It's great to have her back on the committee, along with returning members and our new members Karl Hayes, Susan Laurenson and Simon Louisson.

It's been an unsettling time lately with world events and, of course, the earthquake here. Fortunately our clubrooms have escaped damage, apart from the Pipitea room clock falling off the wall and its glass cover breaking.

It has also been a turbulent time at NZ Bridge, our national organisation. I wasn't at our recent AGM, but I know that the proposals to restructure NZ Bridge caused considerable debate, prompted by an open letter from Treasurer Alan Turner complaining about the process NZ Bridge has followed.

There was a proposal at the AGM for the club to call a special meeting to discuss the restructuring. The committee appreciates the concerns that many members have about this, and we will convene a special meeting soon. But before that, we want to give NZ Bridge the chance to remedy what has been, to date, a failure of communication on its part.

On behalf of the committee, I've written to NZ Bridge today asking for a clear, transparent statement of the thinking behind the proposed restructuring. This has been singularly lacking. NZ Bridge's statements to date have been opaque and high-level, with little justification beyond the principle of splitting governance and management.

NZ Bridge argues that legal issues around the need to consult with potentially affected staff prevent it from commenting further. We disagree. It is standard corporate practice to clearly and openly state the principles and rationale behind any organisational restructuring intentions before consulting with employees.

Last night we discussed the situation with Allan Joseph, who is a NZ Bridge board member. I can tell you that we “gave him a grilling” though we really appreciated his willingness to meet with us and debate the issues – as one committee member put it, he was among friends! Allan explained that the broad aim of the restructuring was to allow the board to concentrate on governance, freeing up paid and volunteer staff to concentrate more of their efforts on the business of growing the game.

However, we remain unclear as to how the proposed restructuring will achieve that. We have asked that NZ Bridge provide this rationale, and allow clubs to comment, before final decisions are taken. This echoes requests made by other clubs and by the Wellington Regional Committee.

I'll keep you posted on this.

Christmas Raffle



It's that time of year again when we ask for a Christmas grocery item for our raffle, to be drawn on Saturday 10th December. Please leave your items in the box in the lobby.

Annual General Meeting – Friday 4 November



61 members attended the meeting – excellent to see these numbers and to know we are all interested in the year's progress and projections of the Club for 2017. **Mindy Wu** stood down as President and John Wilkinson expressed his thanks with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the committee and members of the club for her excellent leadership this year. Thank you to committee members, **Jocelyn Grainger, Graham Potter and Damian Palmer** who also stood down and particularly our hearty thanks to **Derek Snelling** for his wise counsel as a President and committee member over 10 years. Another

special thank you and bouquet of flowers was presented to Julie Hawkins for her labour of love to organise our new library in the foyer.

The meeting was followed by a tasty dinner – free to meeting attendees – supplied by Mindy's Wu's very capable catering team, and at 7.30pm most of us went on to play in the New Zealand Wide Pairs.

New Zealand Wide Pairs – Friday 4 November.

Congratulations to **Julia Barnett and Nan Wehipeihana** who came **2nd** Nationwide with a field of 998 pairs! **[This bodes very well for the forthcoming Inter-Provincial Teams! Ed]**

Wellington Inter Provincial Teams

Best Wishes to our club members who will be representing the Wellington Region at the Inter-Provincial Finals in Dunedin at the end of the month.

Open Team: Alan Grant, Anthony Ker, Kate Davies & John Patterson
Senior's Team: Tony Lenart, Patrick D'Arcy, Maureen Pratchett & Vivienne Cannell.
Women's Team: Sandra Coleman, Mindy Wu, Joan Waldvogel & Joan McCarthy
Intermediate Team: Nan Wehipeihana, Julia Barnett, Sam Ward & Chris Collins

2017 Programme Book

Our new book is now with the printers and should be available in a couple of weeks. You will note the new Wednesday Afternoon Series which we hope will be well supported next year. Many thanks to our “advertisers” who help to reduce our printing costs. Remember also our “Pay & Play” options. Bridget can easily organise a player/partner for you.

“You've got a lot of old books” – Library News... Julie Hawkins

“Well, Yes, we Have”

In every comprehensive subject collection there is a place for some old books, which reflect the history and the development of the subject. We actually have two books that are over one hundred years old. They were written by the “greats / blades” of their day. We also have a Blackwood with the author's signature in it. Whether it is an original is another matter.

We also have books that are past their use-by date, and some old paperbacks that are about to collapse. Just in case you take one out and it does collapse, don't panic! Just bring it back. Eventually books like this will be weeded out.

The gift of Dougal Mclean's collection gives us an extraordinary resource, to use and build upon. We are only lacking books published in the 21st century. The youngest book we have was published in 2007. Those of you who knew Dougal, will appreciate the comments he has written in some books, where he disagrees with, or can do better than the author! Twelve books from the collection have wandered off. Most of these have not been catalogued. When they wander back please, put them in the returns tray?



Success in Sydney

At the end of October last, six of us ventured to Sydney for the week to play in the Sydney Spring Nationals - **Pam Skogstad, Sue Johnstone, Tereska Knap, Bridget Willcox, Jenny Delany and Susan Laurenson.**

For the record Susan and Jenny won the Ted Chadwick Open Restricted Pairs – a matchpointed Swiss Pairs event of 12 rounds of 10 boards over the two days. On the 11th round Susan and Jenny got 83.82%.

Using Bridgemate over there, the results are out thick and fast. All very well organised and nice friendly directors, one of whom

especially enjoyed the camaraderie and progress of all the kiwi girls! Here's Marilyn Chadwick presenting the trophy to Susan and Jenny.

How to win the Congress Goulash : by Rex Benson

I played in and **won** the Goulash, dragged in at the last minute by Allan, one of the directors, and one who I happen to know.

He came into the bar and fell on his knees before me, pleading for assistance as someone hadn't turned up. He saw me looking longingly at my half empty glass of wine and said "bring it with you! In fact", he said, "you can drink as much as you like at the table!" On hearing this I needed no second bidding, and staggered around to the playing area and sat down opposite a woman I had never met before. System discussion: nil

	Welcome to New Members:			
	Sally Broadhurst	2	Warren Luey	3
	Roland Daysh	1	Wayne Cook	1

Monthly Pairs - Results from October 2016

Tuesday: Tinakori Salver Pairs 1 st Margaret Lindsay & Vivienne Revell 2 nd Margot Booth & Sue Storer	Wednesday: Woe Wilson Handicap Pairs 1 st Mary Slowey & Prafulla Hegde 2 nd Joan McCarthy & Sandra Coleman
Thursday: Stockman Salver Handicap Pairs 1 st Jolene Zink & Paul Devadatta 2 nd Turei Haronga & Kim Tate	Friday afternoon: Spring Pairs 1 st Sylvia Johns & Jan Bennett 2 nd Mary Slowey & Sally McLean

Results from Recent Tournaments - Congratulations

Kapi Mana Intermediate 16 October 1 st Malcolm Greig & George Westermayer	Upper Hutt Multigrade 6 th November 1 st Peter Delahunty & Vivinne Cannell 2 nd Rosa Mishkin & Rosie Bauckham 3 rd Lorraine McArthur & Eleanor Morel Top Intermediate Pair (and 4 th overall) Martyn Newman Hall & Peter Ramsey
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***Reminder Please
Grocery items for the Christmas Raffle***