

## WBC News – August 2017

### PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ....

Sunday 3 September - Wellington Intermediate 5B / Junior Tournament 3B

Friday 13 October at 6 pm - 83<sup>rd</sup> AGM – followed by Dinner and Bridge – see notes following

28-29 October – 10A Main Centre Teams

3 November – NZ Wide Pairs (venue to be advised)

### Presidents Corner... Brad Tattersfield

Our new touch-screen Tablet scorers are almost here – we will be using them in place of the current Bridgepads from Tuesday 30 August. A really big thank-you goes to our Chief Director, Maureen Pratchett, who has put in a huge amount of work sourcing the Tablets and setting them up. She will be on hand to explain how to use them each club night during the week they are introduced. Rest assured that it won't take long to adapt to the Tablets, they are very straightforward to operate.

Advance warning that grade captains will be asking players to volunteer as "Tablet Monitors" on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Their job will be to collect the Tablets at the end of each night's play and plug them into the storage/charge unit by the main playing room door. The idea is to make sure none of the Tablets goes astray and that they are all charged up for the next playing session.

We will hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year on **Friday 13 October**. The format will be similar to recent years – a short formal meeting followed by dinner and bridge. More detail to come in next month's newsletter.

We do want to give advance notice that we are considering holding table money at \$7 for direct debits and pre-paid vouchers, but raising it to \$8 for cash payments only. The aim is to encourage everyone to move to cashless payment, as this reduces both our administration costs and the risk of holding significant amounts of cash at the club. This proposal will be considered as a remit at the AGM.

We talked at last night's committee about playing numbers – Wednesday nights are holding up very well, and are now the highest in five years, and Friday afternoon numbers are also good, but both Tuesday and Thursday nights are down a little. Unfortunately our Wednesday afternoon sessions haven't taken off, with only two or three tables most days, so these will be discontinued next year.

Finally, we strongly encourage our intermediate and junior players to take part in our Intermediate/Junior tournament on **Sunday 3 September**. If you're in this category, this really is the one you should play! The intensity of tournament play is one of the best ways to improve your bridge, and we would really like to see this event well-supported this year.

### *Thursday Night's Lesson – 3 August .....*

A big thank you to **Russell Dive** for his lesson "Think like a Grand Master". Russell circulated a 3 page Glossary of everything Bridge... hand shape description, opening values, competing values, to name a few... There were no examples of hands but we didn't need them; we only needed to soak up Russell's thoughts on "Preparation"; "Bidding"; and "Playing the Hand". We learned how to develop a plan while keeping the opponents in the dark; we learned how to be creative; and we also learned it's okay to psych every now and then! Many thanks Russell – can we lock you in for another lesson next year please?

## **Recent workshop – card play and defence**

Alan Grant ran a course on card play and defence for "intermediate" players on 7th Aug. We were accompanied by the dulcet voices of the Wellington City Chorus in the next room, which made for a pleasant evening. Alan started with how you go about setting objectives, depending on whether you're playing a pairs or teams event, as well as special considerations for slam contracts. This was followed by a detailed session on signalling. While many players already signal attitude, Alan gave several examples of how signalling count can be crucial. A couple of the practice hands bore out this principle. Alan recommended using consistent systems for signalling, i.e., if you use reverse attitude, then use reverse count, and preferably a similar system for discards. Having only ever played standard leads, the next session on some advanced leads was most enlightening, e.g., in a NT contract, a lead of K or 10 is strong, and asks partner to unblock the suit by playing his or her honour (if any). Another interesting option is for third hand to show attitude if the lead is an Ace, but show count if the lead is a King. Alan gave us a mnemonic for this: A for Attitude, K for Kount (but I suspect Alan is struggling with his spelling). All in all, we learned several useful new techniques. Watch out all you "open" grade players; here we come. **Paul Devadatta**

## **Congratulations to our Wellington Club!**

### **Wellington Regional Committee:** "Cambridge 6's"

The Wellington Regional Centre recently introduced for the first time a Top Club Regional Teams' Playoff based on the Cambridge 6's format, where 2 players from each grade formed a team of 6 to represent their club. A total of 10 out of the 12 Wellington region clubs participated in the competition in July held at the Victoria Bridge Club, with our club represented by:

**Russell Dive and Greg Aldridge** - Open Grade; **Jeremy Morley and Denise Barnett** - Intermediate Grade  
**Grace Millar and Eirlys Hunter** - Junior Grade

Our first round against the South Wairarapa Club started off on a slightly testy note with Russell and Greg having a bit of a "set to" with the opps in the first round.. Diplomatic intervention by me as team captain smoothed the waters somewhat.. After that the team then concentrated on playing competitive and steady bridge for the next eight rounds, interrupted only by my itinerant and unjustifiable impoliteness to my long suffering bridge partner, Denise. Meanwhile our junior pair of Grace and Eirlys performed amazingly, despite Grace's regular assurance at the end of each round that they always seemed to be in the wrong contract. Nonetheless that was not reflected on the scorecard, as they delivered a stunning result of 7 wins and 2 losses to finish second overall amongst the 30 pairs. Russell and Greg did not have to play any more of the Morley siblings and delivered 8 wins and 1 loss to finish third overall, whilst Denise and I accumulated 5 wins and 4 (small) losses to finish fourth overall.

**Our combined team result saw us as comfortable overall winners** of this inaugural event and our (and my) thanks (and apologies) go out to all our team members and to Tony Sutich and his committee and helpers for organising the day. The Centre is currently reviewing the format of the event but it is clear that it will become a regular on the Wellington bridge calendar. In the future it would be ideal when we come to defend our title if we can attract new team members to represent our club. Thanks again to all involved. **Jeremy Morley**

## **Tinakori Pairs, Friday 4 August 2017 – 3 x 1<sup>st</sup> North / South**

3	1=	SHIRLEY GREEN/ANN TYRIE	239/432	55.32%	26
8	1=	VAL COOPER/MICHAEL STRIDE	239/432	55.32%	26
7	1=	LORRAINE INGLIS/SOPHIE ATKIN	239/432	55.32%	26

**83<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting** - Friday 13 October at 6 pm

As this is the last newsletter before the date Remits are required, please note the following:  
12 September 2017 for any remits to the Secretary with a proposer and seconder.  
Nominations close for Office Holders and Committee on 28 September 2017.

***A light Dinner will be served at the conclusion of the meeting, prior to a Bridge evening commencing approximately 7.30 pm. Please check the Notice Board for details.***

## Library News



### We Make Progress

**Gift** Maureen Pratchett has presented the Library with a large bag of books, she no longer needs. Great excitement! There are seven books we do not have and they are joining the collection. They include: Paul Mendelson's, 'Winning Ways to Play Your Cards', 'Somehow we landed in Six Notrump', David Bird.

**Recycling** There is also a selection in the recycling box. So please help yourselves. A few of the McLean paperbacks are collapsing and cannot be repaired. Rather than withdraw these completely, they will also go in the recycling box, probably with a rubber band around them. Don't panic if you see books in the box that look perfectly good. In some instances we have three copies of a title. The extra one will go in the recycling box.

**And**, I have proof that two people actually read the library notes! One person has recommended a book for purchase, and that is in the pipeline. The second is interested in one of the 'missing' books.

**2017 Rules** Of course everyone is dying to see these! If you want to check them out we have a copy in the library. It is sitting next to the catalogue folder, so those in a rush can find it easily! It is **"For Reference Only"**. Please don't walk away with it.

## Rex Benson aka Kropotkin: He has a way with words (3, 6)



Here's Rex Benson (on the right) thinking about his next clue.....at our recent "Cocktail Capers"...with Paul Maxwell and John Miller

Courtesy Nicholas Jones, Political reporter, NZ Herald, 2 August 2017

Here's an extract.... If you don't know Rex... he's a very established Wednesday night player here.

**Rex Benson - also known as Kropotkin, 'your tormentor' and a 'headache in 9 letters' - today publishes his 1000th puzzle in the Weekend Herald. Nicholas Jones meets the man behind the clues.**

Kiwis brave enough to attempt Rex Benson's cryptic crosswords often end up

with conflicting feelings about the man they know as Kropotkin. Some are so strong they need expressing. Benson, 74, sits in the office below the home in Wellington's Northland he shares with his wife Judith, and double clicks a folder named FANS. *"I love your crosswords as much as I hate them," reads one 2010 email. "I have solved three correctly since I started doing them. I am really proud of that but when I mention it to friends they don't know what I am talking about. You are brilliant."* Sandra writes to say she always looks forward to her Saturday "treat", despite it sometimes taking her days to figure out. "That's the joy of it." Another fan posts Benson photocopies of his crosswords with the answers filled in, like a teacher's pet displaying homework....

It's been almost 20 years of composing *Weekend Herald* puzzles. The passing of time has thrown up something of a surprise - Benson says he's finding it easier than ever to compose crosswords. "And I can't really explain that, maybe it's just getting the knack of seeing a word. I just wish I'd started this 10 years earlier. Anyway..." Still, there's comfort in knowing headaches will be delivered from beyond the grave - he's currently setting crossword 1029.

"It's a funny thought that when I am underground that people will be still enjoying my crosswords, six months afterwards." [http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=11894986](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11894986)



## 2017 Bridge Laws ... Maureen Pratchett, Chief Director

This is the second of a set of articles to explain what will change with the 2017 laws. I will give you the summary of the 2017 law and then explain how it differs from the 2007 law.

### BID OUT OF TURN

The first part of this law does not change – the bid can be accepted and if it is accepted, there is no further rectification. When the bid is not accepted and it was made at right-hand opponent's (RHO) turn to call

If RHO passes, the offender must repeat the bid out of rotation.

If RHO makes a legal bid, double or redouble the offender can make any legal call <sup>1</sup>

- When the call is a comparable call, there is no further rectification.
- When the call is not a comparable call, offender's partner must pass at his next turn to call.

When the bid is not accepted and it was made at Partner's or left –hand opponents (LHO) turn to call <sup>2</sup>

Offender's partner may make any legal call at his turn (but the offender's bid out of rotation is unauthorised information to their partner).

The offender may make any legal call at his proper turn

- When the call is a comparable call, there is no further rectification.
- When the call is not a comparable call, offender's partner must pass at his next turn to call.

*Under the 2007 laws:*

<sup>1</sup>

*If the offender replaces the call with a bid of the same denomination (or if the call was artificial, with a call that has the same meaning), offender's partner is required to pass at their next turn. If the offender replaces the call with a call of a different denomination, offender's partner is required to pass for the rest of the auction.*

<sup>2</sup>

*Offenders partner is required to pass for the rest of the auction.*

If you want more information, here is a link which has downloads of the new 2017 lawbook and revision-marked copy of the old lawbook. <http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/2017-laws-of-duplicate-bridge/>

## **Welcome to New Members:**

Tahlia Crabtree 2 (Youth member) ; Bruce Carey 1

## **Monthly Pairs - Results from July 2017**

<b>Tuesday - Morton Salver Pairs</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Greta Keur & Jenny Norris 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ruth Whittle & Wayne Nicol	<b>Wednesday - United Nations Cup Pairs</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> John Patterson & John Luoni 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alan Grant & Ross Quayle
<b>Thursday- Blomeyer Cup "BTF" Team Pairs</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Brad Tattersfield, Jo Rollo, Malcolm Grieg & Michael Revell 2 <sup>nd</sup> Karen Eriksen, Jude Lucas, Susan Brown & Keith Massey	<b>Friday - Pipitea Pairs</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Julia Barnett & Gary Hanna 2 <sup>nd</sup> Val Cooper & Margo Davenport

## **Results from Recent Tournaments - Congratulations**

<b>Levin Open 23 July</b> 1st Anthony Ker /Charles Ker 2nd Lynda Rigler / Peter Delahunty 3rd Lorraine Inglis / Judy Plimmer	<b><u>Wellington Open – 30 July</u></b> 1st Alan Grant / Anthony Ker 2nd Graeme Norman / Patrick D'arcy 3rd Brian Cleaver / Mindy Wu
<b>North Island Pairs 20A 5/6<sup>th</sup> August</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anthony Ker & Charles Ker 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chris Bolland & Peter Delahunty	<b>Hutt Intermediate 13<sup>th</sup> August</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Graham Potter & Denise Barnett
<b>TOTS 10A 12/13 August</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Kate Davies & John Patterson	



## **Office / work room available - Wellington Bridge Club**

Due to our long term tenants vacating our upstairs room, we will shortly have a room to rent.

If you or anyone you know is interested in leasing some office space please contact Bridget for further details: [wnbridge@paradise.net.nz](mailto:wnbridge@paradise.net.nz)