

WBC News – December 2014

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

Visitors' Day this Friday, 12 December at 1 pm
All Welcome!

If you are playing, please bring a Plate.
Cash bar after play.
Carparking... please be mindful of limited
parking... car pool if you can... or bus please.



Season's Greetings

Suzanne Duncan Memorial Tournament sponsored by Morrison Kent Lawyers

Evenings – 7.30 pm start on 27, 28 and 29 December 2013.

You can play one, two or all three nights. \$25 for 3 nights, otherwise \$10 per night.

This is a very popular and relaxed tournament and we are host to quite a few visitors holidaying in Wellington over Christmas. Supper is served on the last evening. The bar of course is open every evening.

PS: It is a huge help to us if you can please pay on line before the office closes on 19 December but we will check online registrations for the later ones.

Presidents Corner... Kevin Walker

I hope you have all enjoyed your bridge through the year. A special thanks to all those who have helped with the running of the club through another successful year. Have an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break and remember if you have withdrawal symptoms there is always the Suzanne Duncan Memorial tournament on 27/28 and 29 December.



Poppy Roberts Trophy - Congratulations to the winners

1st Martin Reid and Peter Newell
(pictured left in case you really don't know them by now!)
2nd John Davidson & Bruce Hemmons

Grade Captains for 2015

Our Grade captains this year deserve front page mention and our hearty thanks for their commitment and enthusiasm. We do appreciate you!

Mindy Wu on Wednesday and **Tanya Wynn** on Thursday are happy to continue for 2015. That's

excellent news, thank you. **Paul Gold** and **Johnny Bell** will share grade captaincy on Tuesday nights, and many thanks to **Anna Locker-Lampson**, our Tuesday grade captain this year.



Christmas Cheer – Saturday 22 November

Players taking part in the Christmas Cheer tournament walked into a main playing room decorated with gold and purple balloons. The director's gold top hat and red bow tie and the santa hats, reindeer ears, sparkling lights and Christmas baubles worn as accessories by many of the participants further added to the festive atmosphere. In the foyer, a table laden with attractively ribboned gift baskets, caught the eye. These contained the prizes for the lucky winners.

This very pleasant and enjoyable event, conducted in true Christmas spirit, provided the opportunity for players of all grades to mingle together. Amongst the fifty three pairs who took part were a number of novice and junior players

who performed very creditably against their more experienced competition. As usual, the skilful directing of Allan Joseph ensured that everything ran very smoothly.

At the end of play the regional cups were presented and the raffles drawn. Eleanor Morel was the lucky winner of the main raffle, a large basket full of goodies donated by club members. Then we were treated to a veritable feast. Mindy Wu and her catering team, who have gained a reputation for the quality of their catering, did not disappoint. The salmon pie, stuffed chicken breasts, ham off the bone and array of delicious salads was followed by a selection of equally delicious desserts.

Then it was on to the prize-giving. Last year's winners of this event, Judy Johnson and Joan Waldvogel made it two in a row and walked off with the first prize again. They were closely followed by Bridget Willcox and Jo Rollo in second place, and David May and Isobel Ross as third place-getters. **Joan Waldvogel**

Prizewinners as follows:

1st	Joan Waldvogel & Judith Johnson	Top intermediate Pair:	Annette Black & Nancy Cooney
2nd	Jo Rollo & Bridget Willcox	Top Junior/Novice Pair:	Anne Gaskell & Terry Neal
3rd	Isobel Ross & David May	Top Open/other Pair:	Eleanor Morel & Lorraine McArthur
4th	Peter Benham & John Davidson	Top Intermediate/Junior Pair	Pauline Murtagh & Jan Bennett.
5th	Peter Delahunty & Lynda Rigler		

Message from the tournament committee : “Many thanks for the fabulous support of our members who contributed a small gift for the very popular raffles. Thank you too to **Mindy Wu and Asiana** for their lovely raffle hamper. **Janet McMenamin** does a fantastic job organising the wrapping of our Christmas hampers and the raffle prizes. This is very much appreciated, Janet, and thank you.”

Congratulations to our 2014 Inter-Club Winners



OPEN WELLINGTON 2 First Place
**G.Aldridge, D McLeod, K.Hayes,
J.Davidson, B.Cleaver, P.Benham**

OPEN WELLINGTON 1 Second Place
**A.Henry S.Henry, P.Newell, M.Reid,
N.Kearney, C.Cahn**

OPEN RESTRICTED WELLINGTON 1
First Place **P.Cushnie, B.Willcox,
T.Knap, J.Rollo, D.Gilchrist**

OPEN WELLINGTON 3 Second Place
**D.Upchurch, J.Zink, J.Lucas,
K.Eriksen, S.Brown, K.Massey**

NOVICE Wellington 1 First Place
**J.Ballance, T.Neal, E.Stephen-Smith,
K.Moar**

Photos:

***Top : Peter Benham, Greg Aldridge,
John Davidson, Debbie McLeod***

***Left: Bridget Willcox, Paul Cushnie,
Tereska Knap, Darren Gilchrist***



2014 Interprovincials in Auckland 29, 30 November, 1 December

Congratulations to our **Wellington Team** who came 3rd overall.

The **Open Team** placed 2nd and our **Seniors Team** came 3rd..

Sorry we have no report on the weekend, however, we did hear how well our Wellington Club worked last year in comparison, with our having two rooms on the one level for players and team get togethers.

Playing on the world stage - NZ/Australia in China ... Liam Milne

Michael Whibley and I recently travelled to Sanya, China to play in the Bridge World Series. I partnered Nye Griffiths and Mike played with Sartaj Hans, two top Australian players. Our teammates for the Rosenblum Cup (teams) were a top German pair, Alex Smirnov-Josef Piekarek, and all three pairs would also contest the World Open Pairs.

We knew the bridge was going to be very tough, and it did not disappoint. I have a vivid memory of walking into the MGM Grand on day 1 and seeing Eric Rodwell surrounded by fans all taking photographs with him! Nevertheless, we had a great tournament, making the round of 32 in the Rosenblum (out of 123 teams), while Nye and I managed to come 9th in the World Pairs, Australia's second best result in this tournament ever.

There were lots of interesting bidding decisions in the Pairs, but the most interesting card-play hands were in the teams event. Try this one on:

♠ K J 3
♥ 7 6 2
♦ 6 4 3
♣ A J T 7



♠ A T 8
♥ A K J
♦ J
♣ K 9 8 4 3 2

You open 1♣ (16+ any) with the South cards and West overcalls 1♦. Partner bids 2♦, you bid 3♣, partner bids 3♦, you have to bid 4♣ and partner raises you to 5♣. West leads the Ace of diamonds and follows with the King. You ruff and play a club to the Ace, everyone following. Your play?

I claimed! This hand looks like it is straight out of a textbook. There is no need to risk the heart finesse or guess the spades. You can just ruff another diamond to hand, eliminating the suit, then draw the last trump. Now you can play Ace, King and another heart and whoever wins will be endplayed. The heart Queen was offside so good luck guessing the spades if you played differently!

We had a great time over in China, playing some great bridge against the best in the world. GeO Tislevoll from NZ was also over there playing on a multi-national team. It was a totally different experience playing against tough opponents every round – I wouldn't have missed it for the world. We'll be back next time!

[Many thanks Liam, congratulations and good luck for 2015 from your fans over here. Ed]



Welcome to New Members

Dona Wijewardane; Don Mather

2015 Subscriptions. Please collect your subscription envelope on club nights this week. To date 122 members paid (28%). Any invoices left in the lobby at the end of the week will be posted to members.

Results from November 2014

Tuesday - Thorndon Trophy Handicap 1 st Terry Neal and Ann Gaskell 2 nd Sue Scott and Catherine Pike	Wednesday - Poppy Roberts Final 1 st Martin Reid and Peter Newell 2 nd John Davidson and Bruce Hemmons
Thursday - Robson Cup Teams 1 st Anthea Black Jane Windle Derek Snelling and Maureen Pratchett 2 nd Donna Upchurch, Jolene Zink, Vivienne Cannell and Susan Brown	Poppy Roberts Plate 1 st Graham Stronach & Sandy McKirdy 2 nd Matt Sutherland and Damian Palmer
	Friday - Summer Pairs 1 st Russell Delahunty and Michael Stride 2 nd Sally McLean and Joan McCarthy

Wanted! Directors Directors Directors Directors Directors

Our chief director, Maureen Pratchett, is doing her best to encourage new directors coming through the ranks, and there's training for you in February 2015. Details on the Notice Board. If this sounds like you – you don't have to be a top bridge player – but if you enjoy working with people, please have a chat to Maureen or you can email her on maureen.pratchett@paradise.net.nz

Remember you can buy a book of Playing Tickets - \$70 for 10 tickets.

– handy little idea for birthday and Christmas presents too. Ask the director on the night please.

Beginners Lessons – our lessons start mid-February – so please spread the word to family and friends so they can register with us.

Suzanne Duncan Memorial Tournament reminder.

Please pay online if you possibly can. Wellington Bridge Club 03 0518 0093731 00



Happy Christmas and Safe Travelling.

A very sincere thank you to all our patient directors over the year who have willingly spent their evenings making our nights of bridge so enjoyable.