

## December 2018 Newsletter

### President's corner....

Hi everyone

Well here we are at the end of another year, into our last playing week and depending on what else is happening in our lives, most of us will be either slowing down or will have stress levels building up as we prepare for Christmas.

Your committee has finished the year on a strong note with clear plans for addressing the main issue we are facing in terms of club numbers – that of falling player numbers on Thursday nights. There is no clear solution to this problem, but we have a number of approaches we are looking at, including an analysis of where those who used to play have gone – ie are they playing on Wednesdays, have they moved from Wellington, or perhaps from our club or have they stopped playing bridge altogether (hard to imagine I know but I believe it does happen occasionally!). Depending on what our analysis shows we will implement appropriate strategies.

Thank you to all of you who have talked to me about your thoughts and ideas for growing our club. I am looking forward to 2019 and am optimistic we will see our numbers increase

Margaret



### Congratulations to our teams



Big ups for our successful inter-provincial team, comprised mainly of Wellington Club members, who retained the Inter-Provincial Trophy for the third successive year. Wellington, with 32 points, beat Canterbury by four points, with Auckland another four points back in third.

Played this year at the Auckland Bridge Club, Wellington was led by a very strong Open team comprised of New Zealand representative players Nigel Kearney, Alan Grant and Anthony Ker together with Karl Hayes. Against some strong opponents, they won all 12 of their matches.

The Intermediate team of Margaret and Graeme Dick, Turei Haronga and Simon Louisson won with a match in hand. The Wellington Seniors team of John Davidson, Peter Benham, Patrick D'Arcy and Ross Quayle finished third after a sluggish start, while the Women's team of Tereska Knap, Bridget Hannaway-Willcox, Lynn Hall and Pam Bannatyne played their part, coming sixth. Many thanks to Nigel, who doubled as player and team leader.

Turei Haronga with silverware



The IP team (minus the women's team which had to leave early). Right: Undefeated Open team, Nigel, Anthony, and Alan (Karl Hayes absent)

## Welcome to new member

Welcome Martyn Dowman.

## More encouragement for youth players

In a move to further encourage younger players, the committee agreed at Monday's meeting to reduce table money to \$2 for players aged below 22. The more young players we have, the more secure the club's future is.

Tegan Bennik has been selected to represent Aotearoa NZ in a youth test. Because we have so many international representatives (six), the committee also agreed to increase the allocated travel subsidy budget to assist these players to travel to their events.

## Turn your passion into a job

Victoria Bridge Club's Secretary is retiring after 10 years in the role and recruitment for a replacement is underway. If you think might be interested in the part time role (25 hours) as the VBC club manager, please free feel to approach Derek Gill, the VBC President, on 0294415983 or [derek.gill@hotmail.com](mailto:derek.gill@hotmail.com) Send your application in by Monday January 7.

## Volunteer of the month – Julie Hawkins

Julie Hawkins has been selected as our Volunteer of the month. Julie is stepping down as our librarian. Julie set up our quite comprehensive library, organising it in such a way that has made it much more accessible and the borrowing more organised. J.E.H., as she preferred to be known in her role, also contributed lively and interesting reviews about new additions to the library. Many thanks Julie – it's people like you who not only make our club tick, but help make it special. We are now looking for a volunteer to take over the role.

## Many thanks to Paul Titcombe of Lowe & Co

Thanks to Paul Titcombe of Lowe & Co for not only generously donating to raffles to support the Christmas Cheer and National Teams events but has agreed to sponsor our Premier Teams event next year.



**Paul Titcombe 0800 677 767**

## PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ....

### Tournaments

A highlight of the year is the Suzanne Duncan three night Open Pairs event on December 27-29. For those who choose to stay in Welly over Xmas-New Year, this is a great, well attended event. You can play just one night or all three. All welcome.

### Club series

**Tuesday/Junior – Watts Jug Ladder** - starts Jan 8

**Thursday/Intermediate – Alder Cup Ladder** – starts Jan 10

**Wednesday/Open –Young Cup Pairs** – starts Jan 9

**Friday Afternoon –Duplicate Ladder** – starts Jan 18

### Recent triumphs

#### Club Series

##### Tuesday- Thorndon Trophy Handicap Pairs

1st Jenny Norris & Judy Mallilieu

2nd Rosy Moar & Margot Booth

##### Wednesday- Poppy Roberts Plate

1st Alison O’Dea & Allan Joseph

2nd Pryor Rowland & Bob Ure

##### Poppy Roberts Finals

1st Peter Newell & Martin Reid

2 nd Nigel Kearney & Karl Hayes

##### Thursday- Robson Cup Teams

1st Tegan Bennik Denise Barnett Mike Cox & George Westermayer

2nd Julie Hawkins Sandie Lepper Lee Miller & Martyn Rew.

##### Friday- Summer Pairs

1st Denise Barnett / Peter Benham

2nd Patricia Knight / Dinnie Hall

##### Gladys Taylor Cup

1st Ross Quayle / Rex Benson (pictured)

2nd Sophie Atkin / Peter Benham

##### Friday Afternoon Points Cup

1 st Sophie Atkin (pictured below)

2 nd Peter Benham



##### Visitors Day

N/S Dinnie Hall & Robyn Freeman-Greene

E/W Mary Wilson & Lesley Gilhooly

## Tournaments

### National 15A Teams – 17/18 November

1<sup>st</sup> Jonathon Westoby Kenneth Yule Kathy Yule & Malcolm Meyer

2<sup>nd</sup> Peter Newell Martin Reid Jan Alabaster & Pam Livingston

3<sup>rd</sup> Anthony Ker Alan Grant Blair Fisher & George Masters

4<sup>th</sup> Peter Benham Charles Ker Sandra Calvert & Colin Carryer

5<sup>th</sup> Mindy Wu Jane Lennon Jane Skipper & John Skipper

### **Top Team with less than 750 RP**

Sophie Atkin Helen Fitzgerald Maciej Szczensy & Mariusz Tumilowicz

### **Masterton Multi-Grade –18 November**

Top Open/Junior Pair Rosa Mishkin & Hilda Burgess

Top Intermediate Pair Graeme Dick & Margaret Dick

### **Palmerston North Christmas Cheer – 1 December**

4<sup>th</sup> Anthony Ker & Charles Ker



### **Wellington Christmas Cheer- 8 December**

1<sup>st</sup> Graham Stronach & Sandy McKirdy

(Pictured above right with President Margaret Curnow)

2<sup>nd</sup> Dale Lacey & Robyn Freeman-Greene

3<sup>rd</sup> Nigel Kearney & Gary Hanna

4<sup>th</sup> Tereska Knap & Peter Benham

5<sup>th</sup> Gail Tippett & Paul Maxwell

6<sup>th</sup> Anthony Ker & Kathy Ker

Top Junior Pair

Maciej Szczensy & Mariusz Tumilowicz

(pictured right with President Margaret Curnow)

### **Top Intermediate Pair**

Katherine Gough & Martin Connelly

### **Top Open-Junior Pair**

Ruth Brucker & Deidre Gunn

### **Top Open-Intermediate**

Graham Potter & Johan Black



## Upgrades

Congratulations to the players have been promoted within the Club for the 2019 year, as follows:

### **Grade 2 (from Grade 1)**

Louise Collins

Rosy Moar

Shirley-Anne Morrow

Glenda Van Zijl

### **Grade3 (from Grade2)**

Julie Ballance

Sean O'Connor

Lee Walker

### **Grade 4 (from Grade3 )**

John Donbavand

Lorraine McArthur

Jenny Delany