

December 2021 Newsletter

Hello everyone

Here is our last newsletter for the year and it is packed full of pictures of many of you following the recent tournaments and series! Congratulations to you all.

I hope you all enjoy the Christmas festive season, maybe with family and friends, maybe at home or possibly travelling somewhere throughout our beautiful Aotearoa.

It has been my pleasure bringing the newsletter to you each month and hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as I have writing it.!



President's Message

Kia Ora members:

It has been a challenging year for the Bridge Club and for many members with Covid disrupting bridge and many other things. This has placed some pressure on our bridge club finances. While the club is in a reasonable financial position, income is down due to fewer playing nights, and some costs have increased. We are looking at ways to reduce costs, increase income and improve the playing experience so that we keep our current members and attract more new members to the club.

We are looking at ways to reduce costs. Ideas we have been considering are reducing the number of supper tickets that we hand out and reducing tea breaks on Wednesday and Thursday nights, which will mean we can finish earlier and cut costs. We will also need a bit more of your help from time to time with things like dealing hands for our bridge sessions- this is fairly easy but of course is very important to get right. We are also looking at other types of prizes and recognition that may be more meaningful and provide better value, and other things to improve the playing experience. As always, your feedback and ideas are very welcome.

I know quite a few members have tried out Real Bridge, and we are currently running Sunday night sessions. I know for many, coming down to the Bridge Club is usually preferable as it is more social and for many a better playing experience. However, we believe that online Bridge is something that the club should embrace in addition to our regular club nights. Online Bridge is preferable for some in that we can use non-club nights like Sunday, and it can be played regardless of which traffic light setting we are operating under. We are already getting quite a bit of interest from you as well as members of the Kairangi club. My thanks to those who have been helping organise and direct these sessions. Real Bridge sessions are being run for free, but they do cost the club, and I know the Auckland club charge \$5 per session. We are interested in your thoughts as to your interest and what things we can do to make these sessions something that you would be interested in participating in.

I hope that you all have a good Christmas break and enjoy the tournaments over the next few weeks, for those participating. I'm heading off to Dunedin/Wanaka for a couple of weeks at Christmas time as I have quite a bit of family down there.

Peter Newell

Obituary – John Farrell

It's with great sadness that I have to tell you that my old friend John Farrell died last Friday. John's lungs gave out on him. As many would have noticed he had been getting increasingly breathless. For a man who had been fit this was very frustrating for him, but he never complained. He died at home. His partner Rosemary Fullerton-Smith and his children Sarah and Kahu were with him at the end.

John had a stellar public service career as a diplomat and then as head of the New Zealand Securities Commission. It's hard to believe that he was playing a very sharp game of bridge just 3 weeks ago.

I am sure that the club would like to convey condolences to Rosemary, his children Sarah and Kahu and sister Mary Jane. John will be sorely missed. Paul Herrick.

Regradings

Congratulations to the following members who have been regraded for the 2022 year:-

Ruth Whittle and Wayne Cook from 1 to 2.

Helen and Murray Climo from 2 to 3.

Paul Carson from 3 to 4.

2022 Programme Books

Just a reminder that these have arrived (together with your 2022 invoice 😊) and can be collected from the club during the week Tuesday to Friday up till 3.30pm. Also remember the subs are due by 1 January 2022.

NZ Rep Players

Over the weekend of 11-12th December, a number of our players were selected and played Real Bridge, representing NZ in the Tri-Nations Tournament (NZ, Indonesia, Australia). The results are detailed further on in the newsletter, but it is with great pleasure that we announce that Peter Newell and Martin Reid played in the Open section, Kate Davies and John Patterson in the Mixed and Alan Grant in the Seniors. Being selected is a great achievement in itself, now read on to find out the results!

Suzanne Duncan Tournament

Here is a brief reminder that this tournament, played over three nights, is being held on 27, 28 and 29th December. You can register to play via the NZ Bridge website. Also if you are playing, please remember to come dressed in something bright on the last night in memory of Peter Benham.

More Mobility Parks

The committee has agreed to trial more mobility parks. **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ONLY** from next year, all the parks at the front of the building on Tinakori Road will be designated mobility parks. However if they are not filled by 7.15pm, then anyone is able to park there.

Remember that players are expected to be seated by 7.20pm so you will have to be pretty agile to park and be seated in that five-minute window.

Volunteers needed

We are looking for volunteers for all kinds of things. In particular, we want people to help deal the cards. For this, an attention to detail is helpful, but it is not that tricky.

Teachers wanted

Are there any teachers out there? We want to set up bridge units for school holiday programmes and it would be great if members who actually teach at schools could get involved.

Real Bridge

Don't forget the Wellington Bridge Club's Real Bridge programme on Sunday evenings will run right through the holiday season. It's very easy to use and a lot of fun.

Monthly Club Results and End of Year Club Series

Tuesday Night

Committee Cup Pairs

1st Rosy Moar & Jared Greig

2nd Shirley-Anne Morrow & Ruth Whittle

Hand Trophy Pairs

1st Sharyn Stokes & Vivienne Revell

2nd Shirley-Anne Morrow & Ruth Whittle

B Grade Points Trophy

1st = Ben Thomas & Shirley-Anne Morrow.

Ollly Lenart Trophy for Most Promising New Player

1st Jane Lawless

2nd Denise Clarke

Wednesday Night

Poppy Roberts Final

1st Peter Newell & Martin Reid

2nd Nigel Kearney & Karl Hayes

Poppy Roberts Plate

1st Clive Jepson & Chris Bolland

2nd Isobel Ross Derek Snelling



A Points Trophy

1st Nigel Kearney

2nd Alan Grant

Paul Titcombe Lowe & Co Premier Teams

1st Henry team

Stephen Henry, Annette Henry, Anne-Marie Russell, Stephen Blackstock, Martin Reid & Peter Newell



2nd Kearney team

Nigel Kearney, Karl Hayes, Alan Grant & Anthony Ker

Thursday Night

There are some trophies from events which were interrupted during the year

Bill Joss Memorial Pairs

1st Ruth Brucker & Margaret Curnow

John Fairbairn Cup

1st Ruth Brucker & Christine McKirdy

Bill Te Tau Summer Pairs

1st Helen Climo & Stephanie Smith

2nd Sandie Lepper & Michael Cox

Neal Salver Pairs

1st Helen Climo & Murray Climo

2nd Pauline Murtagh and Mike Murtagh

AR Points Trophy

1st Helen Climo

2nd Pauline Murtagh

Friday

Summer Pairs

1st Jennifer Jenner & Val Cooper

2nd Sophie Atkin & Ross Craig

Visitors Day

N/S Helen Fitzgerald & Jo Rollo

E/W Charlie Cahn & John Wilkinson.



Gladys Taylor Cup Pairs

1st = Tereska Knap & Charlie Cahn, Sylvia Johns & Joan Waldvogel

Friday Points Trophy

1st Ann Tyrie

2nd = Sylvia Johns & Sophie Atkin



Tournament Results

Tri-Nations: Australia – Indonesia – New Zealand

Pair results

Open

3rd Peter Newell & Martin Reid, their team 2nd overall

Mixed

14th Kate Davies & John Patterson, their team 5th overall

Seniors'

13th Alan Grant & John Skipper, their team 5th overall

Open Interprovincial Team Winners



Peter Newell & Martin Reid,

Alan Grant & Anthony Ker,

Nigel Kearney & Karl Hayes (not pictured)

Christmas Cheer Winners



1st Paul Carson & Graham Stronach (pictured left) 2nd Murray McMillian & Anthony Ker (pictured right)
3rd Nigel Kearney & Bridget Willcox 4th Lynda Rigler & Peter Delahunty

2nd placed Intermediate Pair

Caroline Hull & Oliver McCready

Top Intermediate/Junior Pair

Kathy O'Halloran & Ruth Harley (below)



Well I think I have covered everything! Looking forward to catching up with you in the New Year!

Nga mihi

Maureen Sheldon