

March 2018 Newsletter



"Notice anything strange, Eunice?" "Yes, the 5-0 trump split."

President's Corner... Brad Tattersfield

Hi everyone

Thanks to everyone who responded to our recent tea break poll. It seems most of you enjoy your mid-match cuppa. There was strong support for keeping the tea break on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, so there will be no change for those sessions. A very small majority voted for getting rid of the break on Wednesday nights – not enough to justify a complete change, but as a compromise we will stop the tea break for a longer period next summer, starting well before Christmas and extending beyond January. We'll see what the mood for change on Wednesdays is like after that.

New Zealand Bridge has recently approved a request from our club to run a new multi-grade tournament next March. We've decided on this because our calendar is normally relatively clear until around late April and we don't currently offer a multi-grade event, as many clubs are now doing. The format will be "Cambridge six" teams – each team of six will have an open, intermediate and junior pair. The open pairs in each team will be eligible for three A points, with five Bs up for grabs for the intermediates and three Bs for the juniors.

A couple of wee housekeeping reminders. First, if you arrive a bit late and are parked in the middle, please remember to write your name and rego number on the white board in the foyer. This is important, not just for tracking down late stayers blocking others in – last month we had a medical emergency during play but couldn't quickly identify the owner of a car that needed to move.

Second, when you're leaving, please pick up all glasses and cups etc from your table and put them on the kitchen servery bench. Most of you are considerate about this, but some seem to forget. I was amazed to hear of a Wednesday player who recently refused to take his glass out when asked, saying: "the club has people who do that." No it doesn't! We are the club.

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

Extended Wellington Congress, April 21-25, All Grades

This is the premier event on the Wellington bridge calendar with something for everyone. We will need lots of helpers from participants and non-participants. If you can lend a hand, even for an hour or so, contact Susan Laurenson or Toni Izzard. Open teams play on Saturday and Sunday and then Open pairs play Sunday night and Monday. Junior and Intermediate play Pairs Saturday and Teams on Sunday. Tuesday is a fun day – a walk-up pairs especially to encourage those who haven't previously had a taste of tournament play. Wednesday is a Swiss Pairs open to all. Entries close April 17. Note there is no regular Wednesday night play that night.

Black Friday, July 13



Quiz night

Prove your brain extends beyond the bridge table. Get a team together and help the club raise some money to raise our standards – a coffee machine. Our social convenors promise further exciting entertainment after the victorious team has been decided.

Club series

Epic Journeys Premier Teams (Prelim), Open, starts April 11

Morley-Bennett Ladder, Junior, starts April 2

Presidents Cup Teams, Intermediate, starts April 5 (give Bridget your team names before then)

Jubilee Pairs, Open, starts April 18

Autumn Pairs, Friday, starts April 6



Tournaments

Wellington Regional Mixed Sex Open/Multi, Easter Monday at Karori

South Wairarapa Intermediate/Junior, Sunday, April 15 at Greytown

Upper Hutt Open, Sunday, April 29

Improver lessons with Alan Grant

Lift your game with cunning and inventive new plays from one of the country's best, Alan Grant. Saturday, April 7th, \$50. Inquiries to Bridget



Welcome to new member

Welcome to: Hannah Revell.

Recent Triumphs

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| <p>Tournaments</p> <p>North Island Teams 2-3 March 2018 1st Peter Newell, Martin Reid with Teammates Michael Ware & Geo Tislevoll 3rd Alan Grant with team-mates Jane Lennon, Jeter Liu & George Sun</p> <p>Hutt Multi-Grade Pairs 2nd Brad Tattersfield & Malcolm Greig 3rd Phil Revell & Maciej Szczesny</p> | |
| <p>Club Nights</p> <p>Tuesday Martin Jug Pairs 1st Tahlia Crabtree & Miriam Tankersley 2nd Diane Horton & Sue Storer</p> <p>Wednesday Charles Wilson Memorial Pairs 1st Ray Gruschow & David MacDonald 2nd Charles Cahn & Nigel Kearney</p> <p>Thursday Brian Willis Memorial Pairs 1st Alistair Young & Lee Miller 2nd Julie Hawkins & Sandie Lepper</p> <p>Friday Afternoon Duplicate Ladder 1st Sophie Atkin 2nd Graham Potter</p> | |

Gold Coasting report (Johnny Davidson)

The 2018 Gold Coast was a very enjoyable event marred somewhat by the inclement weather for the latter part of the week and though I much preferred the old days at the A.N.A when we started play at 1.30/2pm and 7.30/8pm and had the mornings free for road trips and adventures and beach walks and there was a central bar downstairs where everyone congregated and there was always a party to afterwards even in the early days of Broadbeach when we stayed at La Grande and had BBQ's around the pool in the evening before the night session seemed preferable to me. But some people said it was one of their best ever so guess I am in the minority.

There were few memorable performances by Wellington Club members but in the open pairs Brian Cleaver and Debbie McLeod and Susan Laurenson and Jenny Delany did very well to make the open A and open B finals though the both went on to collect the wooden spoon. In the open teams, the best performance came from Kate Davies (who celebrated a special birthday) with John Patterson by finishing a credible 12th in the teams and John and Kate were in the top 10 on individual datums. Ex Wellington club member Fraser Rew finished 4th in the open teams and narrowly failed to win his knockout match.

NZ Bridge News

NZB chair Allan Morris tells us what NZB does

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?shva=1#label/bridge/161da10cf2d8f5ba?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1>

Jane Stearns tells us what she's been doing in her year on the NZB board.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?shva=1#label/bridge/161d9cdf58a019b?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1>

Even the best occasionally come unstuck

My team, had the fortune, or misfortune, to meet the highly rated Cahn team in the first round of the Andrew Thomson Memorial Teams. My partner Jo Rollo and I faced Peter Newell and Martin Reid. Having already successfully bid two slams, for the last board they reached what seemed a very reasonable contract of 7NT, given they held all the aces, three kings and had two long, strong suits. Here's the hand with Peter's commentary:

| Wellington Bridge Club - Andrew Thomson Memorial Teams | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|---|----|
| Round: 1 | | | | | |
| Board: 11 | | | | | |
| Dealer: S | | | | | |
| Vul: None | | | | | |
| | ♠ | ♦ | ♥ | ♣ | NT |
| | ♠: A | | | | |
| | ♥: AT72 | | | | |
| | ♦: AKQJT | | | | |
| | ♣: T75 | | | | |
| ♠: 3 | | ♠: T7652 | | | |
| ♥: 853 | | ♥: KJ4 | | | |
| ♦: 98542 | | ♦: 63 | | | |
| ♣: QJ84 | | ♣: 632 | | | |
| | ♠: KQJ984 | | | | |
| | ♥: Q96 | | | | |
| | ♦: 7 | | | | |
| | ♣: AK9 | | | | |
| N | 4 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| S | 4 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| E | - | - | - | - | - |
| W | - | - | - | - | - |

The auction involved lots of relays with south opening a 14+ 1 club and north describing 1453 shape 10+ points by 3D...

- 1c. 1nt (10+ hearts and minor)
- 2c. 2h (4 hearts and 5+ diamonds)
- 2s. 2nt (short spades)
- 3c. 3D (1453)
- 3h. 4h (7 controls - 3 aces and 1 king, or 2 aces and 3 kings)
- 4s. 4nt (either AKQ of diamonds or none of them)
- 5c. 5h (one or 2 of top 3 hearts and none or 3 in clubs)
- 5s. 5nt (top spade honour)
- 7S. 7nt

So from south's point of view he knew I had:

A
Axxx
AKQxx
xxx

So if spades broke reasonably he could count 6 spades, 2 clubs, 1 heart, 3 diamonds = 12 tricks - but I might have the jack of diamonds, or the 10 would help too, or if not, he could ruff 1 diamond which would set up north's 5th diamond if they broke 4-3. In addition it was possible I had the jack of clubs, or jack of hearts which would give extra chances, plus good squeeze chances as well. So 7S was a sound bid, as it would usually make.

Now from my point of view, I had the jack and 10 of diamonds partner didn't know about - when he bid 7S and I had only 1 spade, so clearly he wasn't looking to ruff anything in my hand so these were potentially extra tricks which might make 7nt better if there was a bad spade break as there might be enough tricks outside spades.

In terms of the play in 7nt, this can and should be made. Either one can play for a spade heart squeeze against east, or a heart club squeeze against west. The first option works, as east holds the king and jack of hearts and the spades (Option 2 would work if the king and jack of hearts and the club length were in the other hand). Once east shows up with 5 spades it is close as to what to choose, but once east shows 2 diamonds as well, Option 1 is more likely. So to make, win ace of spades, go over to ace of clubs, cash king of spades, find the bad break, then cash 5 diamonds throwing 1 spade, 1 club and 2 hearts from dummy, followed by a club to the king and east has to keep 1 spade, and has to throw the jack of hearts (coming down to Singleton king) so then play queen of hearts to the ace and the 10 of hearts wins trick 13. I played option 2 so went down. 7nt and 7S can both only be made by north, as a heart lead prematurely knocking out the ace of hearts means that 7 can't be made by south. 7S by north is trickier to make...

SL - None of the five N-Ss that had the courage and the correct bidding formats to bid 7nt, made it. And for the record, despite our partners scoring heavily on that hand after achieving their conservatively bid 6nt contract, the Cahn team prevailed in the rubber with 14.55 VPs. It could have been much worse.