

May 2019 Newsletter

President's corner

Hi everyone

Well here we are almost half way through the year – and still having some lovely sunny days, even if not quite as warm as they were. Long may it last! Your committee is busy with a couple of social events in the planning stages as well as some small renovations being looked at. More about both of those later. The April Congress was a great success with a number of players saying it was the best one ever and last Sunday we hosted the IP trials which were really well organized and ran very smoothly. Huge thanks go to Bridget for her organizing/administrative role in both events and to Nebosja who directed the IPs and managed to direct four different events at the same time in the same room with both calmness and competence.

The new format of the Thursday night President Cup teams' event was very popular with 24 teams entered. We want to keep up this momentum and so are adding a slight twist to the upcoming Bill Joss Memorial Swiss Pairs event in June. We are inviting pairs from other clubs to come and play for the 3 weeks. If you have friends in other clubs do talk to them and invite them along.

Keep on enjoying your bridge and of course talk to any of the committee members if you have concerns or suggestions.
Margaret

Congress builds on its success

As Margaret Curnow says above, the 12th Wellington Region Congress, run by the Wellington Region Bridge Committee in conjunction with the Wellington Bridge Club, was another outstanding success. This year's event put the emphasis on holding events for players of all ability. Held over four days, starting with the Swiss Pairs on ANZAC Day, the event was sponsored by George Masters Motors.

Friday featured the Open Pairs and things really got into action in the weekend with the Open Teams, plus the Intermediate/ Junior and Novice Grades playing. We had over 200 players on the Saturday. With a great turnout for the Novice Pairs on the Saturday afternoon, showing the game is alive and growing. There was excellent food ably supplied by Mindy Wu

of Asiana Catering. A big thanks to Izzy Laurenson (pictured left along with Hilary Patton and Glenda van Zijl) who stepped up to organise the after-play nibbles each day. Special thanks also to Turei Haronga for cleaning the fans in the Tinakori Room before Congress. Many thanks to all the other volunteers who helped make this event such a success. Next year will be bigger and better!



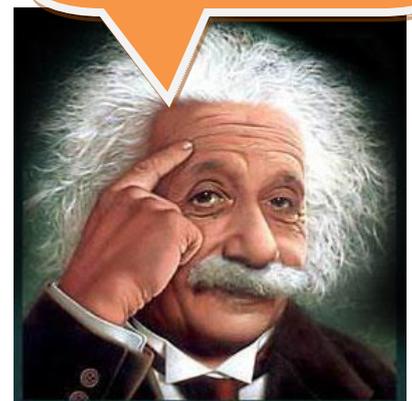
Be seated by 7.20pm or you may miss out

You are required to be seated by 7.20pm on clubs nights. Don't be surprised or complain if you are excluded when you are late. Our directors have a hard enough job sorting things out at the start without players suddenly showing up after 7.20pm to change the seating numbers. This is particularly apt for Wednesday nights, especially for popular events like Poppy Roberts where we have to use both rooms. Also, when you arrive, please fill the lower number tables and the Pipitea room first.

Welcome to new members

Welcome to Anne Marie Russell and Tina Sims, new members to the club.

Funny how some of the best card counters can be the worst time keepers



PUT IT YOUR DIARY

Wellington Region Tournaments

Paraparaumu Intermediate 5B - Sunday May 19
Hutt Open/Junior 5A/3B – Sunday May 19
Otaki Multigrade 8B – Sunday May 26
Karori Junior Pairs 3B – Sunday June 9
Victoria Open Swiss Pairs 5A – Sunday June 9
Masterton Intermediate/Junior 5B/3B– Sunday June 23
Kapi Mana Open 5A – Sunday June 23
Wellington Regional Teams 10A – Sunday June 29-30

Club series

Tuesday/Junior – Neal Trophy Pairs – starts June 4
Thursday/Intermediate – May Malloy Salver - starts May 16
Thursday/Intermediate – Bill Joss Memorial Swiss Pairs - starts June 13
Wednesday/Open – Suzanne Duncan Swiss Pairs – starts May 22
Wednesday/Open – United Nationals Cup – starts June 26
Friday – Winter Pairs – starts May 31

Recent triumphs

Club Series

Tuesday

Morley Bennett Ladder

1st Helen Climo
2nd Louise Logan

Wednesday

Jubilee Cup Pairs

1st Anthony Ker (pictured right) & Kathy Ker
2nd Tegan Bennik & Peter Newell

Thursday

President Cup Teams

1st Graham Potter, Suzanne Duncan, Maciej Szczesny & Mariusz Tumilowicz
2nd Pam Hancox, Colin Haywood, Warwick Tiller & Tani Blackburn

Friday

Autumn Pairs

1st Sandie Lepper & Cheryl Scott
2nd Peter Benham & Sylvia Johns

Tournaments

Levin Multi-grade 20 April 2019

1st Mindy Wu & John Wilkinson (pictured right [on right] with 2nd placed Donna Upchurch & Nebosja Djorovic)

Karori Mixed Sex Pairs

1st Nigel Kearney & Joan McCarthy
2nd Peter Delahunty & Lynda Rigler
3rd Susan Laurenson & John Davidson



Wellington Congress

Swiss Pairs

1st Kathy Ker & Anthony Ker

Open Teams

1st Brian Cleaver, Peter Benham, Nigel Kearney & Karl Hayes

Intermediate Teams

1st Jim Brough, Keith Massey, Susan Brown & Jude Lucas (pictured right)
2nd Lesley Knight, Sandie Lepper, Kim Tate & Martyn Rew

Novice Teams

1st Chris Taylor, Ruth Harley, Denise McElwain & Jacqui Cummack

Intermediate Pairs

2nd Pauline Murtagh & Mike Murtagh
3rd Andrew Cushnie & Martyn Rew

Junior Pairs

1st Helen Climo & Murray Climo



Wellington team to defend Inter-provincial trophy

Congratulations to the Wellington Club Members who have successfully played their way to the 2019 Inter-provincial finals who will defend the Wellington Region's trophy in Christchurch in November.

Open Team;

Nigel Kearney, Karl Hayes, Anthony Ker & Alan Grant

Seniors Team;

Peter Benham, Patrick D'Arcy, John Davidson & John Luoni

Womens Team;

Mindy Wu, Anna Herries, Anne Marie Russell & Annette Henry

Intermediate Team;

Tegan Bennik, Jeremy Morley, Martyn Rew & Kim Tate

Martin Reid – Gold Grand Master!

Congratulations to Martin Reid who achieved the distinguished international status of Gold Grand Master. The Wellington Bridge Club is privileged to have such players as members.



An unusual slam swing - By Nigel Kearney

This is from the Provincial Teams, round five, Board 1:

QT5 *Dlr: N*
 J5 *Vul: Nil*
 AQ9
 KT542

K AJ9864
 32 -
 KJT8742 653
 Q86 AJ93

732
 AKQT98764
 -
 7

Our table started with 1NT by North, 2S by East, then 4H by South, giving up on a slight chance of slam but with the advantage of shutting out the E/W diamond suit. West led the KS. An attitude signal would be irrelevant as West will know where the ace of spade is after trick one, so East played the 4S, suit preference for clubs. After the club switch, ace of spades and a spade ruff, the contract was one down.

At the other table the final contract was 6H! N/S did not tell me the auction but they were happy to talk about the play. The KS won the first trick and West chose to lead a diamond instead of a club. Declarer played the queen and discarded a club. Now Declarer led a club from dummy. East might have worked out declarer's hand based on West not continuing spades and South not discarding a second club on the ace of diamonds. But these things are much easier in hindsight.

East played the ace of clubs, ruffed by declarer and the JH was an entry to allow declarer to discard two losing spades on the ace of diamonds and king of clubs. Making six.

Billets wanted for bridge teachers?

Bridge NZ is running a bridge teachers conference in Wellington in August. If anyone is willing to billet any of Those attending, please let Bridget know.

Different stimulant

Brian Cleaver (right), who orders the club's wine, was the first test the club's fancy new coffee machine. Note the \$2 coin in the honesty box! If people don't play ball, this system won't work. So far, so good.

BTW, Brian and the committee get a good deal of feed back on the wines selected for the bar. Be assured that a fair bit of thought goes into the selections taking into account both quality, price and the ability of our supplier to supply. Feedback is welcome but be aware that we can't please everyone.

