

## WBC News – March 2012

### PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

#### ***Reminder: Schneideman Memorial Premier Teams start Wednesday 11 April ...***

You can invite members from other clubs to join your team. All players in your team must be registered on the notice board.

### Presidents Corner... Derek Snelling

Thank you to all of you who completed the recent questionnaire. Especially those who made offers of help with various activities. As much as this is appreciated it's hard to take advantage of those offers if you don't leave your name in the space provided! If you recall that you may have omitted your name please let Bridget know. Thanks all the same.

We made a decision some time ago that the area just inside the garage should be kept clear on playing nights to allow entry and exit. We will soon be repainting all the parking areas that are for disabled parking and at the same time will make it clear which areas we don't want you to park in. Whilst we are aware there is a parking issue on the club's premises, we would appreciate it if you would comply with these directions.

The playing year is now well under way and we have been reminding members that subs are due in the notices on each of the playing nights. Whilst the response has been good, there are still a number of outstanding subscriptions. Please be reminded that if your sub is not paid by the end of March your membership can be cancelled by the Committee!

Enough gripes. I'd like to welcome John Wilkinson on to the Committee. John was welcomed on to the Committee at last night's meeting and, in his absence, elected as Treasurer! It's alright... John has kindly agreed to take over the role following Dayle's departure for further north. Thanks John and best wishes Dayle.

#### ***Interclub starts Friday 30 March 2012***

The Interclub Noticeboard has been moved around the corner into the foyer. Please check regularly to see forthcoming dates and venues. On page 68 of your Programme Book you can find all the dates for interclub for 2012. Please diary them.

At present we are entering 3 Open Teams: 5 Intermediate and 2 Junior teams. Are you a NOVICE player (less than 3 years bridge playing experience)? We are hoping to enter a NOVICE team. Please contact Bridget, our club manager, if you can play. Sue Johnstone is the Committee's Interclub Liaison person. Good Luck teams!

## **Dan Gifford Knockout Rubber Bridge**

**The draw is up. Please check the notice board....**

Please note the Regional Committee reserves the right to accept up to 6 further pairs to fill in the existing BYES shown in the draw but this option will definitely expire this Friday 16 March.

## **National Club Championships**

*Can we win again? Of course we can...*

The Committee seeks applications so a Junior, Intermediate and Open team can be selected to represent the Club for the NZ Club Championships. The Wellington Regional Committee is arranging a competition between clubs in the Wellington area on Sunday 17 June to determine which club will represent the area for the NZ Club Championships to be held in Hamilton in September. Please see notice board if you are interested in putting your name forward. Please also bear in mind that if you are selected to play in the regional trials for our club, you are under no obligation to play in Hamilton in September if our team gets through to the final (although of course we would be thrilled if you could play both dates).



## **Thanks a lot, Dot**

Our farewell function for Dot was a great evening - it really was a happy time for all who attended – 87 of us. The clubrooms looked vibrant with dotted balloons, flowers and beautifully decorated dinner tables giving a party atmosphere. Many who came for the cocktails wished they had stayed on for the splendid dinner catered by Simply Foods. Keith Harris was Master of Ceremonies and Jeremy Morley gave an excellent speech on Dot's life at the club over the years. Both Keith and Jeremy were very entertaining – thank you.

Here's Derek Snelling presenting Dot with flowers, a gift from NZ Bridge and a camera on behalf of our club. Dot was her gracious self and appeared very relaxed obviously enjoying the evening. She said she had a wonderful evening and had been truly spoilt. It was a night to remember and in true Keith style, he had us all up with a toast **“Thanks a lot Dot”!**



## Bridge to retirement

TALIA CARLISLE

The **Wellingtonian**

Thursday 1 March 2012 edition, in case you missed it.

From organising bridge tournaments to selling car parks, Dot Proctor knows that being the manager of Wellington Bridge Club can be a busy task. Mrs Proctor is retiring after 18 years of managing the club, but said she never had an interest in playing herself.

"I can see what the fascination is [but] I would rather be sewing or knitting or gardening," she said. "I did have a go playing with friends, but at night I would be trying to remember what [cards] I had and what I bid." Mrs Proctor said her husband Nelson would also give her advice on what she should have played. He is one of a few players of grand master ranking in New Zealand and has been playing for nearly 50 years.

Mrs Proctor took the job as club manager in 1993 after her youngest son had started school. The part-time hours suited her and she already knew many of people in the club. She describes bridge as a game that sharpens the mind, concentrates the thoughts and develops some logic. Her role in the club means finding people partners for games, managing events at the club, and sorting out finances and maintenance on the building. She has also been secretary for the bridge club's committee for the last six years.

After retiring, Mrs Proctor will keep busy with gardening, sewing, tapestry and reading biographies. Mrs Proctor and her husband are also preparing for an eight- week trip to Europe to visit friends. The club held a goodbye dinner for Mrs Proctor at the club a week ago. She received flowers and a special certificate from the Wellington Bridge Club stating she was entitled to a set of beginners' lessons for free.

### ***Playing numbers for the four weeks of February 2012.***

|        | <b>Tue</b> | <b>Wed</b> | <b>Thurs</b> | <b>Fri</b> |
|--------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Week 1 | 48         | 92         | 106          | 50         |
| Week 2 | 46         | 100        | 108          | 44         |
| Week 3 | 42         | 76         | 104          | 34         |
| Week 4 | 42         | 104        | 104          | 40         |

***Playing Numbers:*** The following are comparative figures for the calendar year to date:

| February |     |     |     |     |      |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 2005     | 268 | 524 | 628 | 88  | 1508 |
| 2006     | 240 | 536 | 660 | 108 | 1544 |
| 2007     | 310 | 626 | 660 | 102 | 1698 |
| 2008     | 284 | 598 | 546 | 142 | 1570 |
| 2009     | 370 | 610 | 572 | 160 | 1712 |
| 2010     | 364 | 632 | 602 | 174 | 1772 |
| 2011     | 344 | 686 | 670 | 176 | 1876 |
| 2012     | 318 | 710 | 738 | 254 | 2020 |

29 February 2012 Total Membership 415  
329 members with Wellington as their home Club

## ***“Down Under” with Martin Reid and Peter Newell - 2012 NEC Cup in Yokohama, Japan, 7-12 February***

Sartaj Hans and Tony Nunn from Australia invited us to play with them in the 17<sup>th</sup> NEC Cup Bridge Festival in Yokohama Japan. A total of 46 teams took part, of which 15 were from outside Japan, the top seed was a Dutch/UK team made up of a pair from the Dutch Bermuda Bowl team and a top British Pair who won the event last year. The format was a 12 round 3 day Swiss Teams qualifier, with the top 8 teams qualifying for the knockout phases. We only just managed to qualify, finishing 8<sup>th</sup> in the Swiss after a good win in the last round. The top qualifier was a Chinese team and they picked us as their quarter final opponent. We won our quarter and semi final matches pretty comfortably and then it was on to the final against a team called “Bulgarian All Stars”, versus “Down Under”. With 3 boards to go in the final our lead had dwindled to 13 IMPs when this interesting hand came up.

|        |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|
|        | KQJ7  |       |
|        | 8     |       |
|        | 983   |       |
| 6      | Q9642 | A102  |
| AKJ542 |       | 1096  |
| 5      |       | QJ742 |
| AKJ75  |       | 103   |
|        | 98543 |       |
|        | Q73   |       |
|        | AK106 |       |
|        | 8     |       |

Dealer East, Nil Vul.

In the closed room Nunn/Sartaj did well by bidding quickly to 4S over a strong club, before West had a chance to show either of his suits, so the Bulgarians pressed on to 5H which went quietly 1 down. At our table Martin played in 4H after south had doubled my 1D response to a strong club. On the King of spades lead, Martin won the Ace, played a heart to the Ace, and then a diamond to the Jack and King. South exited with the 8 of clubs. Martin won his Ace and reached a critical point (with 1 round of each suit having been played). At this point trying to cash the King of clubs will be fatal as South will ruff and play a trump, as will a second heart. Martin found the key play of a low club away from his hand towards the 10 in dummy – Whether North rose with the Queen or not Martin could not be prevented from making 4H for an 11 IMP gain making the match safe with a 24 IMP lead with 2 boards to go. **Peter Newell**

### ***Welcome to New Members ...***

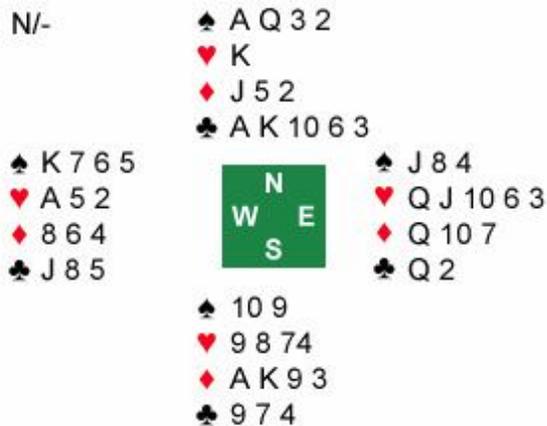
Bernadette MacGregor  
Alison O’Dea  
Yiyang Wang

**Gossip:** A little bird told me one of our Wellington bridge players (no names but a colourful character), while playing at the recent Gold Coast congress, revoked – first time in 5 years!! When asked to explain his thought processes he said in his defence ... I have a good excuse - I was distracted by the assets of one of the well endowed opponents! Appears no thought processes were involved on that occasion!

[We could have a regular gossip feature in our newsletter...along the lines of felicity ferret but bridge orientated...eg funny things that happen at the bridge table/club. Contributions please. Keywords....bridge should be fun! Ed].

## *From the Internet*

**Monaco**, represented by **Pierre Zimmermann, Frank Multon, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes** swept to victory in the TOP 8 at this year's [Slava Cup](#) in Moscow, defeating Israel's Ron Pachtman, Eldad Ginossar, Yaniv Zack and Ilan Herbst 96-52 IMPs in a final full of exciting deals that kept the huge BBO audience enthralled. The very first deal (diagrammed board) of the final, Monaco star Fulvio Fantoni excelled by making a 3NT in a fantastic fashion.



### Closed Room

| West     | North   | East     | South |
|----------|---------|----------|-------|
| Ginossar | Fantoni | Pachtman | Nunes |
|          | 1C      | 1H       | 1S*   |
| 2H       | Dbl**   | Pass     | 3D    |
| Pass     | 3NT     | All Pass |       |

\* transfer to 1NT

\*\* take-out

A singleton king is frequently a stopper when the suit has been bid against you, but here declarer needed some help from both partner and the opponents.

East led the queen of hearts – having been raised there is a strong case for finding the essential lead of a low one. West put up the ace and returned a heart and East ducked the trick to dummy. Declarer came to hand with a club and played a diamond, putting in the nine when East followed with the seven. When that passed off peacefully declarer played a second club and then another diamond. After cashing two tricks in the suit he exited with a heart. That declarer did not do the spade finesse was right all the time – he had +400 on the card and 10 IMPs.

The interesting point in Fantoni's play was that he had picked the winning line out of several reasonable options. For instance, he could double finesse in clubs. However, by cashing a club honour first he took the extra chance of queen-jack bare.



## **WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS**

### **Gold Coast Congress 2012 Open Teams Champions**

**Nye Griffiths, Liam Milne, Alex Smirnov, Nabil Edgtton, Michael Whibley and Andy Hung**

The Milne team with an average age of just 25 years old showed the strength of the young brigade of Australian Bridge players by beating the excellently credentialed Ware Team.

Congratulations **Liam and Michael** (our erstwhile club members) and your team mates! Liam told us he would write a paragraph for the newsletter if he won something BUT then he said: "So, i was writing it, went to town, played poker, came home and forgot to finish it. sorry".

## ***Results from Recent Tournaments***

### **Gold Coast Congress**

Congratulations to **Karl Hayes & Johnny Davidson; Debbie McLeod & Greg Aldridge** and **Martin Reid** who made the Open Pairs finals.  
Congratulations to **Kevin Walker & Helen Walker; Donna Upchurch & Nebojsa Djorovic** who made the Intermediate Pairs Finals

### **Masterton Multi-Grade:**

1<sup>st</sup> Derek Snelling and Jane Windle

### **Kapi Mana Intermediate and Junior tournament**

2<sup>nd</sup> Verna Scofield and Stephanie Smith  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sue Johnstone and Ruth Brucker

### **Paraparaumu Open – 11 March**

1<sup>st</sup> Arumugam Kumarasamy & Prafulla Hegde  
2 Isobel Ross & David May  
3 Peter Delahunty & Lynda Rigler

## **Results from Club Nights**

### ***Tuesday Night – Martin Jug Pairs***

1<sup>st</sup> ***Sarah Bradbury & Nick Venter***  
2<sup>nd</sup> ***Carole Dryburgh & Jamie Linton***

### ***Wednesday Night – Charles Wilson Memorial Pairs***

1<sup>st</sup> ***Nigel Kearney & Charlie Cahn***  
2<sup>nd</sup> ***Tony Lenart & James Li***

### ***Thursday Night – Alder Cup Ladder***

1<sup>st</sup> ***Sophie Atkin & Ross Craig***  
2<sup>nd</sup> ***Julia Barnett & Christine Haronga***

### ***Friday – Afternoon Duplicate Ladder***

1<sup>st</sup> ***Mary Slowey***     2<sup>nd</sup> ***Shirley Green***