

WBC News – October 2012

Quiz Night: Friday 30 November, \$20 per ticket

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ... Busy bridge month at the club in November.

NZ Wide Pairs – Friday 2 November at 7.30 pm – please enter your name on notice board.
 WBC Novice Tournament – Sunday 11 November at 1 pm one session only. Entries on the notice board.
 Wellington Regional Christmas Cheer – Saturday 24th November 2012.

(Past) Presidents Corner... Derek Snelling

Last night was the 78th AGM. A good turnout saw some interesting discussion around how to manage our finances, encouragement for younger players and the appropriate set up for a new club website. Thank you to those who turned out, a healthy 30 members.

Of significance Alan Grant was elected to Life Membership of the club and Kevin Walker was elected as your new President. Congratulations to you both.

The new Committee has some challenges ahead for the coming year and there are some changes financially that have been forced on us by the current economic climate. Table money will be going up to \$7 per player (effective from 5th November) and the annual subscription will be raised to \$80 + GST. As you will have noticed your wine is in a slightly smaller glass and we have changed the price of some of the drinks. Whilst it's unfortunate we have had to make these changes, it is better to make some small changes now than have bigger changes forced on us in the near future.

A more optimistic note was the introduction of a Youth membership rate that will see membership for those under 21 years at the beginning of the financial year free, and for those between 21 and 26 set at \$40 + GST (50% of club subscription). Our thanks to Simon Louisson for the motivation to consider a Youth membership rate. We hope that it will encourage more young players to give bridge a go!

Annual General Meeting last night

Congratulations and a warm welcome to our new President, Kevin Walker, and to new committee member, Christine Haronga. Tributes from both Nelson Procter and Sue Johnstone to the excellence, hard work and devotion shown by Derek Snelling as President these last three years was endorsed by all members at the meeting. "Hear Hear".

Bar News

No IOU's please. "No money, No drinks".
 IOU's have not been working for us as people with the best intentions to pay the following week, FORGET!



NB: Increase in our Bar Prices

You will see our wine prices stay the same at \$5 per glass. Please familiarise yourself with the slight increase in price for the rest of the range of drinks etc to be applied from 5th November 2012.

Wine	\$5.00	Splits (Coke etc)	\$2.00
Lindauer	\$6.00	Bundaberg Range	\$3.00
Beer	\$3.00	Orange Juice	\$1.00
Heineken	\$4.00	Chippies	\$2.00
RTD's Gin and Vodka	\$5.00	Peanuts	\$2.00

27th National Bridge Congress – Hamilton – September 29th to October 6th 2012 by Gary Hanna

Congress was preceded as usual by the inter-provincial team championships with no Wellington teams reaching a final, a disappointing result.

First up the New Zealand pairs with 224 entries reduced to 28 in the final and 28 in the plate, and here we can claim the winners **Liam Milne and Michael Whibley** even though they now reside across the Tasman. Other great results in the final were 11th **Mindy Wu** and partner, 12th **Peter Delahunty & Lynda Rigler**, 14th **Alan Grant & Anthony Ker** and 22nd **David May & Isobel Ross**. It is a great achievement just to reach the prestigious final so well done, and hearty congratulations to Lynda on becoming a Grandmaster.

In the pairs Plate, also a great effort in reaching, won in fine style by the **Stephens Blackstock & Henry**, 2nd **Ray Gruschow & Graeme Norman**, 5th **Peter Benham & Brian Cleaver**, 17th **John Davidson & James Li**. Well done all.

There are numerous side events throughout the week, where many club players did well, and all the results and bulletins can be found on the congress site <http://www.nzbridgecongress.co.nz/results.php>

The other event of great significance is the New Zealand teams. 110 teams started with 10 qualifying matches to reduce the field to the final 16. From there on it is a knockout until two teams are left to contest the final. Congratulations went to the 6 man Tislevoll team which included **Peter Newell and Martin Reid**. Runners-up were the 4 man team of **Liam Milne, Michael Whibley, Alan Grant & Anthony Ker**, a great effort.

The birth of a new system

In this, my 27th congress, I decided to spend the first half of the week with family and grandchildren, and just play the Seniors package with my dear friend Rex Benson. This was a great idea and made the week doubly enjoyable

In the 1st session of the Senior Pairs I had my senior moment which turned into a serious 100% score, thus the idea of a new system was born. As dealer, I picked up a rippling 3-suiter with AK63, K962, AKQJ and stiff 9. I opened 1H and LHO jumped to 3C. Rex bid 3H, pass, and back to me. It was then I noticed that the 2H was actually a diamond! I tried 3S but Rex bid 4H. I passed. The lead was AC, followed by another, which I ruffed with my 6H. I was now playing in a 4-2 fit as Rex had tabled AJ32 of hearts with flat poop outside. I must have been good in a previous life I claimed later, as after K and my last heart, the doubleton Q popped up and I was then able to cash the J and play diamonds until RHO took his trump trick. Easy game, top board, so I am now a firm fan of 3 card majors.

Wellington club finished a creditable 2nd in the club championships at the end of the week. Roll on congress number 28 in 2013.

Other results from Congress:

Restricted Awards NZ Pairs:

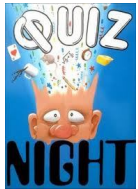
Congratulations to **Ruth Brucker & Nan Wehipeiha** – top pair below Open status.
Senior Pairs: 3rd **Helen Thomson & John Evitt**; 4th **Chris Bolland and David May**

2/1 Lessons

Thank you to visiting Canadian, George Holland, for his lessons on 2/1 on a Wednesday and Thursday night last month. These lectures were very well attended and much interest has been shown since with a few circles of social bridge we hear keen to play and learn the new system. A brief summary of 2/1 notes are on our website [or will be on our website very shortly as promised!].

NZ Wide Pairs – Friday 2 November 2012 at 7.30pm

Let's see if we can boost numbers for this annual event. Pre-registration would be preferable but otherwise, if you're free that night, just come along – after play you can compare your results with the free booklet of the hand records and analysis, and of course the bar will be open. Please encourage/invite players from other Wellington clubs to join us – next year we will alternate with Hutt Bridge and Victoria clubs to host the NZ Wide Pairs.



Quiz Night – Friday 30 November 2012 at 7.30 pm – \$20 a ticket!

Dean Sole has kindly volunteered to host this Quiz and Gordon McBride will be the MC. So diary this date; invite your friends, make up a table of 10 maximum and, as in the past, our Quiz Nights are lots of fun and a full house. All monies raised on the night plus all raffle proceeds will be put towards the purchase of a defibrillator for our club. Entries please to Bridget Willcox. Don't delay!



Card Play Technique or The Art of Being Lucky - - Victor Mollo and Nico Gardner

This book was first printed in 1955 and here's part of the Introduction & Epilogue. You would have to agree nothing much has changed in over 50 years and there are still those mischievous gremlins around! By the way you can still buy this book.

"Fortune only smiles on the brave. She positively beams on the skilful, versed in the technique of wooing her. For to be lucky is an art which can be mastered like any other.

You, dear reader, can hold much better cards than you do at present – not by dealing yourself more Aces and Kings, but by getting a higher return from your existing ration. Persuade the cards to work harder for you than they do for your opponents. Therein lies the formula of success. The purpose of this book is to point the way, to enlist on your side, whether you be declarer or defender 52 sturdy and loyal allies. Does a mischievous gremlin haunt you at the table, bewitching every finesse, spoiling the distribution of every suit? If so, you can exchange him for a friendly leprechaun. He will sit behind you, averting bad breaks, warning you against impending ruffs and inspiring the luckiest leads. Better still, if you propitiate him, he will pierce the linen curtain and reveal to you the holdings of your opponents.

The art of card-reading, "seeing" the hands of the other players, is one of the secrets of being lucky. That is why we expound it in some detail, and engage to assist you, the every friendly leprechaun. Cards have their magic. We pass on the incantations and ask you to weave the spells. To paraphrase Hamlet: "*Cards are not good or bad but playing makes them so*". Many a contract cannot be won until the defence to it is lost – and vice versa. For winners are not born, they are made: whereas a loser is born every minute. Holding good cards is not lucky. It is only difficult. To acquire the technique needs a little imagination, a grasp of logic and the ability to draw inferences. And therein lies the Art of being Lucky."

Extract from Hamilton Bridge Club October 2012 newsletter:

"Directors fees are to increase from 1st November. This is the first increase in nearly 20 years to my knowledge and well overdue - It will go from \$25 to \$30 per night and while this does not exactly make directing a profitable business I hope it shows how valued these people are."



Welcome to our new members...

Annette Prebble and Mary Anderson.

Results from Tournaments

Victoria Intermediate - 16 September 1 Steven Coulter & Heath Tolley 2 Tereska Knap & Bridget Willcox 3 Michael Cox & Turei Haronga	Paraparaumu Multigrade Top Intermediate Pair Ruth Brucker and Nan Wehipeihana
Waikanae Intermediate - 7 October 2 Phillipa Gardiner & Trevor Gane 3 Suzanne Johnstone & Julia Barnett	Kapi-Mana Intermediate – 14 October 3 rd George Westermayer and Malcolm Grieg

Events in November

Can we draw your attention please to our busy programme ahead.

Friday 2 November: NZ Wide Pairs at 7.30 pm – suitable for all our grades.

Sunday 11 November WBC Novice Tournament – at 1 pm - one session only

Saturday 23 November: Wellington Regional Christmas Cheer Tournament

Friday 30 November: Quiz Night at 7.30 pm for members and friends.

We will be running raffles and giving out prizes for the above. We plan to have raffles for the Quiz night to raise funds for the defibrillator. In the past some of you have donated very generous prizes. If you are able to contribute here, maybe you have a spare bottle of “spirits” in your cupboard or whatever, we would very much appreciate your help. As you can see it’s a busy programme and all the more, the merrier.

Please contact Bridget Willcox or Jenny Delany if you can assist us.

Results from Club Nights - September

Tuesday

Manoy Estate Teams.

1st B Maxwell, A Grant, K Saunders, D Upchurch

2nd E Cooper, G Millar, L Millar, E Hunter, K Shand

Hand Trophy Pairs.

1st Pauline Murtagh & Mike Murtagh

2nd Khay Ooi & Jolene Zink

Wednesday

McDermont Cup Ladder.

1st Andrea Gluyas

2nd Tony Lenart

Friday

Handicap Pairs.

1st Helga Karau & George Westermayer

2nd Roy Tugwell & George Haines

Thursday

Porter Ladder

1st Christine McKirdy

2nd Christine Haronga

Neal Salver Pairs.

1st Matt Poulton & Jack Richardson

2nd Vivienne Cannell & Maureen Pratchett