

WBC News – March 2013

Happy Easter and safe travelling.

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...

Main Centre Pairs – Wellington Bridge Club, Saturday 23 March-Sunday 24 March

Free lesson – Thursday night before Neal Salver Pairs - 28 March at 6.30 pm

Presidents Corner... Kevin Walker

At last night's committee meeting we discussed two issues that are not new, but continue to cause concern to club members and the committee.

Firstly the issue of car-parking. Unfortunately we do not have enough marked spaces for all those who wish to park on club premises for Wednesday and Thursday evening. As a consequence we have allowed parking "down the middle" in the basement. However, in allowing such parking there is a clear expectation that those who park there must move their cars as soon as bridge finishes. If you don't want to leave as soon as bridge finishes don't park in the middle in the basement.

Sometimes those who arrive late park in the entrance or exit ways or on yellow lines. Parking in any of these places is prohibited. Such parking is inconsiderate to others, does not allow easy entry or exit and is unsafe in an emergency. If there are no parks left in or around the building there are ample parks on Thorndon Quay. Please be considerate in your parking.

The other issue the committee discussed was the operations of the bar. There is concern that there are still times when bar takings do not tally with expected revenue based on the drinks consumed. The committee has discussed having a bar person selling drinks to better manage this position, however, it is considered that this will put restrictions on when drinks will be available and also have an additional cost which we would like to avoid. It is up to members to be honest about payment for drinks – if not, price increases and or other costs associated with the bar will need to be put in place.

To help the management of the bar we will be putting in a money box for notes which will mean that the grade captains do not have to count the money at the end of the night. This will also mean we will only have coins available for change. So please come to bridge with \$7 for table money (to make the collection of money easier for the director) and the right change for your drink (so you don't take all of the coins home).

To finish on a happier note, congratulations to those who have done well in tournaments recently particularly the winners of the South Island Teams and those who did well at the Gold Coast Congress (see results in this newsletter).

Defibrillator News: Wellington Free Ambulance has delivered our defibrillator!
Details of training sessions will be advised.

Interclub 2013

This year our Wellington Club teams are as follows. Good luck to all.

We have **14** teams! 9 Open/Open restricted; 3 Intermediate, 1 Junior; 1 Novice.
Last year we had 12 teams (4 Open, 5 Intermediate, 2 Junior and 1 Novice).

Gold Coast Congress



Lorraine and Mindy

Hearty Congratulations for these excellent results!
Best results from our members (E&OE).

We had 3 pairs in the Open B Finals: **Annette & Stephen Henry; Debbie McLeod & Alan Grant; Dinnie Hall & Andrea Gluyas**
Open Seniors Final A: **Robyn Freeman-Greene & Jim Murray**

Open Teams: **Debbie McLeod, Brian Cleaver, Kirstin Gardiner and Alan Grant** were 7th overall (out of 200+) and won the prize for best mixed team. [Top 6 to the finals – Kirstin said “7th was the perfect place as she didn’t have to play the next day!” Ed]

Best Women’s Pair in the Open Pairs Event: **Mindy Wu & Lorraine Stachurski.**

Swiss Pairs: **Mindy Wu & Lorraine Stachurski** were 2nd N/S.

Friday Teams: **Stephen & Annette Henry’s** team were 2nd.

Mixed Teams: **Debbie McLeod, Brian Cleaver, Kirstin Gardiner and Alan Grant** were 4th.

A few of us were on the same Wellington-bound flight from the Gold Coast on the Sunday evening. As I walked down the aisle of the aircraft, I noticed Brian (Cleaver) sitting next to a Buddhist monk, in full orange regalia. When I next encountered Brian at the luggage carousel, I asked him, smirking, if he'd found any 'spiritual guidance'. Without missing a beat, Brian pointed to the Duty Free bag on his luggage trolley and replied, "Yup, three bottles!" **Isobel Ross**

*** Help Needed Please! Main Centre Pairs Tournament

Afternoon and evening of Saturday 23 March and morning / lunch of Sunday 24 March. If you can assist us with some home baking or help in the kitchen, please let Bridget Willcox or Jenny Delany know. Thank you. Just one hour of your time would be very much appreciated. Feel free to come and kibitz too.

Free Lessons for Thursday night players, before the Neal Salver Pairs

Again this year we are fortunate to call on the experience of some of our “top” Wednesday night players to come along before the Neal Salver Pairs competition each month to give us a lesson on various subjects. So to start the ball rolling, thank you to **Nigel Kearney** on Thursday 28 March at 6.30 pm. Topic to be advised via our grade captain or check our website. If you would like to suggest a subject matter for these lessons, please let Bridget know – as there will be 6 lessons.

Congratulations Alan, Anthony, Martin and Peter! South Island Teams ...

Saturday 16th February saw a strong field of 28 teams contest the South Island teams held at the smart modern clubrooms of the Rangiora Bridge Club. As with other 'Island' events in recent years, all pairs vying for places in New Zealand’s international events this year (an APBF championship in Hong Kong; and Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup in Bali) were present, playing in formations chosen by the NZ Bridge selectors.



The Grant team consisted of **Peter Newell and Martin Reid** paired up with **Anthony Ker and Alan Grant.**

Other strong teams of note were:

Ware: Michael Ware/Geo Tislevoll with Stephen Henry/Stephen Blackstock
 Dravitski: Rod Dravitski/Blair Fisher with Jeff Miller/Graeme Stout
 Alabaster: Jan Alabaster/Jan Cormack with Christine Gibbons/Jennifer Gibbons
 Wilkinson: Jenny Wilkinson/Shirley Newton with Linda Cartner/Glenis Palmer
 Cornell: Mike Cornell/Ashley Bach with Patrick Carter/Tom Jacob
 Taylor: Tony Taylor/Tina McVeigh with Arleen Schwarts/Murat Genc

After a brutal 5-round swiss on Saturday, the top 4 teams were: Grant, Cornell, Alabaster, Taylor. These teams played a round-robin on Sunday, and the Grant team was ultimately victorious.

Here are a couple of interesting hands.

1. Too Greedy!

This hand from the final of the South Island teams saw West try to collect a big penalty when we sacrificed in 4S.

Board 16, Dealer W, Vul E-W

	N (Alan)		
	♠ J3		
	♥		
	♦ AQ10965		
	♣ 108653		
W		E	
♠ AQ		♠ 954	
♥ K10654		♥ QJ873	
♦ K842		♦ 3	
♣ AJ		♣ Q972	
	S (Anthony)		
	♠ K108762		
	♥ A92		
	♦ J7		
	♣ K4		

W	N	E	S
1H	2NT	3H	3S
4H	4S	Pass	Pass
X	All pass		

West opened 1H and Alan competed with 2NT, Unusual - both minors. East bid 3H and I had room to venture 3S. Over 4H from West Alan decided 4S would be a cheap save. West doubled very confidently and led a small heart. This is a natural choice but not the best one - try working out what West's double dummy best lead is before reading on.

At first glance things did not look very promising. There were problems in all four suits - 2 possibly 3 trump losers, 2 hearts to get rid of, a diamond finesse to take and two clubs. Might not be that cheap! I ruffed the heart in dummy and ran the jack of spades. West took that and led another heart. I won with the Ace and drove out the Ace of Spades. West cashed the King of hearts and the crucial point of the hand was reached.

The defence have 3 tricks and West could continue with the Ace of clubs to ensure the defeat of the contract. However this would only result in a one trick set. Hoping for more West instead chose to continue leading hearts. After all I might have only a singleton diamond or East might hold the diamond jack. I ruffed, drew East's last trump and continued with two more rounds of trumps. On the last trump West was squeezed, having to discard from four diamonds to the king and the club ace. When a diamond was released I ran the Jack and a second diamond finesse brought in the suit for an improbable but very welcome +590. And the best lead at trick one? Try the King of Diamonds!! West can't be prevented from giving East a diamond ruff and then a trump back from East kills the heart ruffs. South loses 2 spades, 2 hearts, 2 clubs and the diamond ruff for down 4. Nothing wrong with the double!

At the other table Martin and Peter had no trouble collecting an overtrick in 4H and the resulting double game swing gave us our best board of the tournament - 15 imps en route to a 25 - 3 win.

2. Too Greedy!!!!

The following result was achieved at another table in the final match by pairs seeking NZ representative honours...

Dealer South, Both Vul

	N	
	♠96 ♥J10543 ♦Q1083 ♣94	
W		E
♠A ♥AK87 ♦K2 ♣AKQ1076		♠KQJ108543 ♥96 ♦5 ♣32
	S	
	♠72 ♥Q2 ♦AJ9764 ♣J85	

South passed, and West very reasonably opened 2C. North passed, and East had a problem. E-W had agreed that a positive response required an Ace + King, so this wasn't good enough. However, East thought they had a pretty good hand (which they did!), and was really only interested in how many Aces were held by West, so decided to respond 4NT. West knew that was ace-asking, but they hadn't discussed Blackwood without setting a trump suit!, so was not completely sure of the responses. However, West reasoned that if partner could muster an ace-asking bid, then they must have *at least* a positive response, hence the missing Ace and King...so bid directly to the top-scoring contract 7NT!. South issued a speeding ticket in the form of a double, and led Ace and another diamond. As you can see, there is no entry to the East hand, so that ignominious contract went 3 light for minus 800, and the unusual score of -20 imps, when the other table bid the 'obvious' 6 spades.

A very pleasant time at Rangiora was had by all, and I'm sure the Rangiora Bridge club will be a popular venue for future events. **"The Grant Team"**

Welcome to our new members... Barbara Leach, Jean Cashin, Lynne Jagusch

Basics Quiz (courtesy ACBL newsletter)

YOU

♠AQ5
♦AK76

DUMMY

♠432
♦432

Question: You are playing a notrump contract and are in dummy for the last time. You need an additional trick and cannot afford to lose the lead to the opponents more than once. Should you play to set up your fourth diamond or take a spade finesse?

Answer: The chance of a 3-3 break in diamonds, which is what you will need to set up your fourth diamond, occurs slightly more than one-third of the time (36%), while the spade finesse offers a 50% chance of success. If you had an additional entry to dummy, you could afford to delay the finesse and test the diamonds first. But since you are in the dummy for the last time, you should opt for the play that provides the better chance of succeeding.

Congratulations to Gloria Crabbe

At Friday afternoon bridge, 15 February, a special afternoon tea was organised to celebrate our past President and Life Member Gloria Crabbe's 90th birthday.

Past President, Alan Cooper (who preceded Gloria as President) proposed the toast to Gloria and commented on the events which occurred during this period. The club was situated in a beautiful old wooden two storey building at 8 Moturoa Street. There were some major issues which divided members of the club: one was smoking in the bridge playing area before, during and after playing bridge and the other, of lesser dissension, was the opportunity to relocate to the present building.

Through Gloria's determination and those who could foresee the ability of the proposed new club rooms to meet the future needs of a growing club, the decision was made to purchase the Masonic Lodge Building in Tinakori Road. Once the decision was made the Committee and all the members of the club got behind the proposal and weekend bridge tournaments were held regularly with sponsorship from the Wellington Business Community.

When the time came to move into the new building a "working bee" was organised to paint the playing area. Gloria's husband Neal assisted with the purchase of the carpet and drapes. There was insufficient club funding to carpet the entrance and vestibule area and individual members who were able to loan the club the money and were paid back within a five year period. We moved into our new premises but it was still not "plain sailing" for the committee – an elderly lady living opposite the building complained to the Wellington City Council about the noise the players made when they left the building at the end of evening play. For many years we had to be very careful not to slam car doors or speak loudly when we were leaving! Being a President at that time was not an easy job.

The elimination of the second mortgage was also assisted by the sale of a section in Tinakori Road which the club owned, thanks to the foresight of club member Bryan Weyburne who had assisted in its earlier purchase.

In proposing the birthday toast to Gloria, Alan wished her a very happy belated birthday and said she deserved the Life Membership for her dedication and the support she and Neal have given to the club. She was presented with a posy of flowers before the cutting of the cake. **Maureen Cooper**

Results from Recent Tournaments



Donna Upchurch and Sue Brown –
Winners of Masterton Intermediate in February.

Kapi-Mana Restricted Sunday 10 March:

1st Gail Tippett and Paul Maxwell

Paraparaumu Open Pairs 5A Sunday 10 March:

- 1st Alan Grant and Anthony Ker
- 2nd James Li and Pat D'Arcy
- 3rd Robyn Freeman-Greene and Jim Murray
- 4th Mark Rowe and Margie Michael
- 5th John Cormack and Tony Thompson

"Shall I go on!" says Bridget. [lol...of course these are all Wellington Club members as some of you may not realise. Ed.]

Club Results from February 2013:

Tuesday Martin Jug Pairs

1st Haley Fenwick & Faye Smith
2nd Alice Baird & Anna Locker-Lampson

Wednesday

Charles Wilson Memorial Pairs
1st Brian Cleaver & John Davidson
2nd Anthony Ker & John Luoni

Thursday

Brian Willis Memorial Pairs
1st Kathy O'Halloran & Glen Bush
2nd Elicia Gold & George Westermayer

Friday

Afternoon Duplicate Ladder
1st Barbara Allen
2nd Stephanie Smith.



Recent High Scores

Jane Windle / Anthea Black **70.75%** - Neal Salver Pairs, Thursday 28 February

Alan Grant / Anthony Ker scored **75.49%** in the afternoon session at the Paraparamu open on Sunday.

For Sale: Entertainment Books. Our club receives \$12 for each book purchased – please order from our website and pay on line!

Interprovincial Trials 2013

Saturday May 25 and/or Sunday May 26 at Victoria Bridge Club.

OPEN - SENIOR – WOMEN

Butler Pairs over three sessions (minimum)

Non-established partnerships will need prior approval of the Regional Committee.

Will be trialled as one group scored across the same datum.

Players who wish to be considered for more than one of these teams must indicate their order of preference.

INTERMEDIATE – YOUTH

Butler Pairs 48 Board minimum.

Will be trialled as one group scored across the same datum

Winners must be available to play Friday November 29 to Sunday December 1 at Wellington Bridge Club.

Entry Fee \$20 per player.

Entries to Joan Waldvogel forestbird@xtra.co.nz or on our notice board/website.

Further details with actual date(s) and start times to be advised.



Reminder: If you arrive late, please do not park in the driveway. Please park on the road – Thorndon Quay via the zig-zag makes for stress free parking on Wednesday or Thursday nights!