

WBC News – March 2017

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PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY

Interclub starts this Friday, 17 March

Wellington Regional Congress 22-25 April – enrol now... check our website for details

Presidents Corner... Brad Tattersfield

Hi everyone

Last month I had the pleasure of playing in the Gold Coast Congress, along with about 30 others from our club. What a terrific event. More than 2600 players were registered - at one stage they had 530 tables in play in the same (cavernous!) room. Everything was exceptionally well organised and, despite the huge scale of the event, there was a relaxed and friendly atmosphere throughout the week.

Notable performances from WBC included Stephen and Annette Henry, whose team ranked 11th in the Open competition; and Gail Tippett and Paul Maxwell, who were near the top of the field in all three events they contested in the Restricted section – pairs, teams and Swiss pairs. Well done them.

While we're handing out bouquets, congratulations also to Peter Newell and Martin Reid, who have recently been named in the New Zealand Open team for the APBF championships in Seoul, and to Annette Henry and Anna Herries, who are the reserve pair for the Women's team in the same competition.

Advance notice that soon you won't have to fish around to find \$7 table money on club nights. The club will be providing a direct debit payment option, allowing you to pay your table money in the same way that many of us pay our bills these days. Watch this space...more details on this next month.

Finally, I've been asked to remind players about the rules for the coin toss to determine seating positions before play starts. If a pair calls "heads" or "tails" correctly, they must play North/South for the night – they can't choose East/West. Conversely, if the pair calls incorrectly, they must play East/West. The only exception to this is if a player has seating rights, in which case no coin toss is made.

Last Thursday night's play ...

Fortunately, as we were about to play the second board of the night, the Director announced "*one very astute player has recognised the boards they played on Wednesday night*". At our table, as we played the first board, East's Jo Rollo said as dummy went down... "*that's funny - that looks just like Bridget's hand last night*". However, we duly played out the contract and then the "director's announcement" was made. So well done astute people, you saved the night and lots of time..... we played the new boards dealt for Friday. By the way, who was that "*very astute player*"?

Wellington Congress – 22-25 April 2017..... Now it's time to enrol

Our Club looks forward to hosting the Tenth Wellington Regional Congress over the long Anzac Day weekend. The Congress caters for all levels of the game, so please **Intermediate, Junior and Novice** players – this might be your very first congress – and it's a great opportunity to play a congress or just one of the events at our very own club...you can check out the programme and enter your pair or team now. See details following:

Intermediate, Junior and Novice Grades: the Congress provides separate (**and shorter**) Pairs and Teams events for Intermediate and Junior players. You can choose to play in the Intermediate or Junior Pairs only (held on Saturday), or the relevant Teams only (held on Sunday), or both the relevant Pairs and Teams. (Novice player teams are welcome to enter the Junior teams.)

Open Grade: The Congress has three Open events, spread over four days. You can enter any one, any two, or all three events. The Provincial Teams are held over two days, Saturday and Sunday, with the Provincial Pairs on the Monday (this is an ordinary working day), and George Masters Motors Swiss Pairs on the Tuesday (Anzac Day).

Help Wanted in the Kitchen / Bar please for the Wellington Regional Congress

As always, we need volunteers to help run the kitchen, clear away dishes and keep us fed and watered. Our members are fantastic at giving up an hour or so to help with our tournaments, and we do appreciate every hour of your assistance here.

We will make out a kitchen/bar roster. We will need help from 9 am to 5 pm particularly on: Saturday 22 April and Sunday 23 April. We will need a Bar Person in the evenings.

Monday 24 April – only a couple of volunteers needed plus a Bar Person

Tuesday 25 April - only a couple of volunteers needed plus a Bar Person

If this sounds like you, please contact Bridget or Jenny Delany. Many thanks!

Gold Coast Congress - Restricted Grade ... Paul Maxwell & Gail Tippett

The Restricted Grade at the Congress is their third highest grade, just above Novice, but it is still open to persons below NZ Master. In case you haven't previously seen what "Enough tables for 530 tables of bridge in one room" looks like, here it is.



Gail and I started off in the pairs. Two qualifying rounds and the field is split into 5 groups of 14 tables for a three session play-off over the next two days. You eventually play 3 boards against the 27 other pairs in your group. The higher ranking the group, the more master points on offer, but all groups get some.

We reckon that Brad Tattersfield and Jan Borren took the strategic approach and qualified for the lowest ranking group. This worked well for them and they came first, for a swag of

master points and money (big \$A prizes, matching the big entry fees). Donna Upchurch and Nebojsa Djorovic, and Christine and Turei Haronga, qualified for the second group. They did well and came up second and third, again for suitable sums and master points. Jenny Borren and partner were midfield in the C final.

Gail and I must have encountered a few weak pairs in the qualifiers as we came eighth overall and thus qualified for the A final. This was the opposite of President Brad's strategy.

Three rotten sessions and we ended up 24th out of the 28 pairs. We needed cheering up, and the Tattersfield / Borren rolling barbecue was most timely.



The next event was the teams (12 rounds times 14 boards over 3 days). We had previously managed to persuade Donna and Nebojsa (yes, he really qualified for Restricted!) to play with us. We obtained a few good results, and were running second, fading to third in the last round. Brad's team came 30th out of the 90 teams. Christine and Turei left us to do well in the Intermediate teams with Julia Barnett and partner (23rd out of 94).

The final event for us was the Swiss pairs of about 90 pairs. Ten matches of eight boards over one and a half days. We had some of the good hands and much of the good luck that you need in Swiss pairs. Going into the last round, we were second, 5 VPs ahead of third.

This is day 8 of bridge, the last match, the opponents are chatting about winding down and heading home, 3 or so boards to go. We've previously bid a slam and the match seems to be going well otherwise. You (north) pick up SK7532 HQ DK9876 C98, vulnerable against non-vulnerable. The bidding starts on your left. 2H 2S 4H. It's now your bid. We dozed and passed 4H (making), and that was minus 13 IMPs. Most NS were in 4S or 5S making. And so we drop to sixth overall, less than 4 VPs behind second. This one lapse and its large consequence was disappointing at the time, but it's fading fast, and is swamped by all the good times, at the table and away from it. **[Many thanks Paul & Gail – enjoyed.]**

GCC Congress Results

A quick scan of the top results and congratulations!

Restricted Teams:	3rd Gail Tippett, Paul Maxwell, Donna Upchurch and Nebojsa Djorovic
Restricted Pairs: Final B	2nd Donna Upchurch and Nebojsa Djorovic
Restricted Pairs: Final E:	1st Brad Tattersfield and Jan Borren
Butler Swiss Pairs Open:	2nd Annette and Stephen Henry

Thursday Night Lessons before Neal Salver Pairs

Last Thursday, we had an excellent lesson from Anthony Ker - "*Play the Hand with Me*". Anthony chose to illustrate 3 hands and gave us 5 options of what our bids should be throughout the auction, and for which we received points 0-5. All very interesting evaluating these options punctuated with Anthony's dry sense of humour. Thank you Anthony...

Next lesson is 30 March at 6.30 pm with Nigel Kearney. We will send you a reminder by email.

Interclub. The first interclub session is this Friday, 17 March 2017. The Wellington Club has 16 Teams registered. We will be hosting 8 out of the 9 sessions here with up to 40 tables.

Welcome to New Members: Victoria Johns 2; Ian Johns 2; Pamela Spry 2

Monthly Pairs - Results from February 2017

<p>Tuesday: <u>Martin Jug Pairs</u> 1st Jenny Norris & Wayne Stechman 2nd George Baird & John Norling</p>	<p>Wednesday: <u>Charles Wilson Memorial Pairs</u> 1st Robyn Freeman-Greene & Dinnie Hall 2nd Murray McMillan & Anthony Ker</p>
<p>Thursday: <u>Brian Willis Memorial Pairs</u> 1st Sushila Kumar & Barbara Allen 2nd Keith Massey & Sue Brown</p>	<p>Friday Afternoon Duplicate Ladder 1st Ross Craig 2nd Cheryl Scott.</p>

Results from Recent Tournaments - Congratulations

<p><u>Masterton Intermediate 26 February</u> 1st Jeremy Morley & Denise Barnett 2nd Mira Trifunovic & Graham Potter</p>	<p><u>Taranaki Congress</u> <u>Marion Hills Pairs:</u> 1st Kate Davies & John Patterson <u>Taranaki Teams Plate</u> 1st Kate Davies John Patterson with Teammates Moss Wylie & Andrew Janisz</p>
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Bridge Tomorrow Afternoon – Wednesday 15 March

We have invited members of the Kapi Mana Bridge Club to join us for the afternoon. There will be afternoon Tea (bring a plate – optional). All Club members welcome (*including Friday only players*) along to this friendly relaxed session. Play starts at 1pm. Hope to see you there.



Turei & Christine Haronga and Maureen Pratchett are very kindly donating their time to make the club's new blue tablecloths! Can anyone lend a hand please? Someone to help cut out the cloth (no sewing skills required) would be really appreciated.

Please contact Christine to arrange a date 027 782 6135. sparebuttonchris@gmail.com

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Wellington Bridge Club Bank account details:

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