

## News – October 2015

### **PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY ...**

Please arrive and be seated by 7.20 pm on playing nights.

**AGM** to be held Friday 30th October 2015, 6pm, followed by dinner and Bridge.  
Please make sure you RSVP to Bridget (or on the notice board) if you are here for the dinner.

Calling for new grade captains for 2016.

Ron Klinger lessons.... see details on page 4.

New Zealand Wide Pairs at the Hutt Bridge Club on Friday 6 November at 7.30 pm.  
(Please support this event as we rotate this event at different clubs).

### **Presidents Corner... Kevin Walker**

First up the AGM is to be held on 30 October followed by dinner and a night of bridge (\$10 for the whole evening AGM, dinner and bridge – cash bar). Please come along and have your say on running the club and we welcome members to put their names forward to be on the club committee and other club positions.

The committee had a very good discussion last evening on the building maintenance priorities, how these could be funded, and consequently what the proposal on next year's annual subscriptions would be.

Over this year we have had the exterior of the building painted at an all up cost of approximately \$45,000. We had included some additional money for the exterior painting in the budget but given the membership views at the last AGM the committee decided it was more important to ensure our main asset was maintained to a good standard and undertook all the painting this calendar year.

An upgrade/significant maintenance plan of club facilities has been developed. This is aimed at ensuring the facilities are of a standard to get best use, and are somewhere that club members enjoy. The major upgrades, in order of importance are:

- upgrading the kitchen including some appliances
- replacing the heating units (potential risk) in the foyer area and repainting the smoked stained wall above
- replacing the heating units in the Pipitea room (inefficient and old)
- replace ceiling and lighting in Pipitea room similar to Tinakori room
- repainting Pipitea room after above

In addition to the above there is an amount in the budget to cover essential ongoing maintenance to cover electrical, plumbing and minor painting works.

The committee at last night's meeting agreed that we would like to tackle the next upgrade item(s) on the list above. That is to upgrade the kitchen (this could be around \$25,000) but yet to get quotes, and look at upgrading the foyer area with at least removing the risky heaters and repainting the wall above.

The discussion was then around how this could be funded. Whilst the club has over \$100,000 in the bank the committee is clear that this is the minimum that must be available for a significant event (fire/earthquake) as we have an asset which has a replacement value of over \$2m.

The committee considered that the funding of this next project(s) would be from a number of sources.

Firstly we would apply for grant funding from the appropriate external organisations. We have agreed to seek assistance from an external person, with knowledge in this area, to help with our applications for this funding.

Secondly the committee agreed that we would ask members, who could contribute an additional amount, to contribute to a special building maintenance fund (kitchen upgrade). This amount would be set aside for the projects listed above (kitchen first) and would not be used for ongoing operating costs. This request would go out with the annual subscription notices.

Thirdly the committee thought we would hold a number of club events/fundraiser to raise funds to upgrade the kitchen.

While this is a longer Presidents Corner than normal (and my last as President) we come to the question of the proposal on subscriptions for next year. There were a number of views on what proposal we should put forward to the AGM on subscriptions for next year. The proposal that will be formally notified for the AGM to vote upon is that the annual Wellington Bridge Club subscription fee increase from \$90 (excluding GST) to \$95 (excluding GST). There are some fees that are 50% of this main fee so they will increase proportionately.

There is no proposal to increase table money.

That's it my last Presidents Corner – thank you to all who have helped me and the club over the last three years – see you all at the AGM.

## **Beginners Lessons Update**

Once again two groups of learners have completed lessons with Alan Grant this year. 36 people started in February and 24 in June. Around 12 of the first group are now playing on Tuesdays and the second group are just starting to play in the main room, although they will be playing separately for the next few weeks.

Next year we will be looking at some new strategies for supporting learners in the transition to becoming regular Tuesday players. If anyone has ideas around this, please give Bridget or me a call. **Margaret Curnow**

## **2015 Annual General Meeting – Friday evening at 6 pm on 30 October**



Last year we had a large turnout to the AGM which will more than likely be repeated this year with the same dinner and bridge format following. Cost for the evening will be \$10 table money for those opting to play in the Multigrade Pairs. Bar sales of course. Please diary this date now and we look forward to seeing you all here – remembering of course this is your opportunity to get a handle on how we run the club. The Annual Report will be emailed to members at the end of next week. Please contact Bridget if you want a hard copy posted.

6 pm	Annual General Meeting
6.45 pm approx.	Dinner
7.30 pm approx.	“AGM Pairs” multigrade.

## **Novice & Beginners Tournament – The Wehipeihana Novice Cup**

Saturday 7 November at 1 pm **For players with less than 3 years' experience & no more than 8B points**

This is a great opportunity for our newer players to compete together in a friendly environment, and we have always had very positive feedback from previous Novice tournaments we have held. There will be just one session and of course nibbles and bar sales and prize giving. Please check out the notice board or talk to Bridget.

## **National Congress Results**

**Congratulations to the winning Wellington Club members as follows:**

<b>Rubber Bridge</b>	2nd Charlie Cahn & Nigel Kearney
<b>NZ Pairs Plate</b>	1st Mindy Wu & Lorraine Stachurski 3rd John Davidson & Ellena Moskovsky
<b>Congress Pairs</b>	1st Peter Benham & Brian Cleaver
<b>Point-A-Board Teams</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mindy Wu, Lorraine Stachurski, Ray Gruschow & Graeme Norman
<b>NZ Seniors Teams</b>	2nd Tony Sutich, Lorraine Sutich, Rosa Mishkin & Judy Manhart 4th Maureen Pratchett, Vivienne Cannell & Team-mates
<b>Mixed Pairs</b>	1st John Davidson & Andi Boughey
<b>Intermediate Pairs</b>	1st Christine Haronga & Turei Haronga
<b>Top Junior Pair (in Int Pairs)</b>	Eirlys Hunter & Grace Millar.
<b>Goulash Pairs:</b>	1st Anthony Ker and Charles Ker (Charles has not played for 8 years!)
<b>Lorraine Inglis and Judy Plimmer</b>	- top team with less than 250 A points aggregate in the NZ Teams.

**Is this for real from a top US professional? “I counted the cards and found 14 in one hand and 12 in another, so I moved the extra card, which I thought was the one that had fallen out and I had replaced.”**

Mike Passell, a member of the ACBL Hall of fame, and winner of over 77,000 MPs, has been placed on probation for 13 months with 25% of his masterpoints removed for an ethical violation. Mike says:

“Early this year, I played a bracketed Swiss at the Palmetto Regional with Mary Chilcote, Meckwell, and Chris Compton. I sat North and tossed a board on the floor after we had gotten a poor result. Sometime during the next hand I noticed a card sitting face down next to a pocket and inserted it. This was a three-way match, so I thought it prudent to make sure the board was correct before our opponents took the boards to the other table. I counted the cards and found 14 in one hand and 12 in another, so I moved the extra card, which I thought was the one that had fallen out and I had replaced. I should have checked more thoroughly, but I thought I had fixed it. When we compared results, our opponents said there was a fouled board and I realized it was my screwup and owned up to it. They had won 2 IMPs on the board, and we decided to just let that result stand. I should have gone to the director ....

This was early in the week and I thought nothing of it until the following week when two close friends told me one of my opponents was spreading stories of my “foul play.” ....

The end result of my not calling the director was that I was found guilty of four things, most of which I’ve never heard of. The most significant seems to be “prearranging a deal or part thereof,” which I still don’t know exactly what it means or how it pertains to what happened. Apparently it carries with it a mandatory penalty of 13 months probation and 25% of total masterpoints. However, I was found NOT GUILTY of cheating, and I was told the public statement would make this clear. Yet, now I see the statement reads like I was found guilty of cheating and given a lenient sentence. I am 100% not guilty of anything other than stupidity. I have a spotless five-decade record; I never have and never would cheat the game I love. I feel my reputation has been damaged and am extremely hurt. ...” **Bridge Blogging**

## **RON KLINGER time again**



It’s been a few years now since Ron visited our club and lectured to a full room of our members keen to improve their play. Ron is a very entertaining teacher and it’s great to welcome him back for a couple of workshops.

\$20 per session per player. Pre-registration with Bridget is essential.

1. Thursday 5th November 2015 - 3pm – 5.30/6pm finish. Topic: “*Winning Tips On Declarer Play*”.

Dinner available \$15 direct to Mindy. Please indicate if you will be having dinner.

2. Friday 6th November 2015 - 9.15am – 11.45ish finish. Topic – “*15 Tips on No Trumps*”.

This session will only proceed if sufficient numbers register.

***Welcome to our new members (all from lessons)***

Ruth Whittle

Peter Burt

Jeremy Gogan

***Results from Recent Tournaments***

<b>Victoria Junior 20 September</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Graham Potter & Denise Barnett	<b>Victoria Intermediate 20 September</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pauline Murtagh & Mike Murtagh
<b>Paraparaumu Multi Grade 27 September</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Christine Haronga & Turei Haronga	<b>South Wairarapa Multi Grade 11 October</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> John Davidson & Margaret White

***Monthly Pairs - Results from September 2015***



<b>Tuesday - Manoy Estate Teams</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Denise Barnett, Graham Potter, Wayne Stechman & Geoffrey Nixon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Terry Neal, Anne Gaskell, Nigel Kirk-Patrick & Liz Baker	<b>Wednesday - McDermont Cup Ladder</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Carolyn Black 2 <sup>nd</sup> Peter Benham
<b>Thursday - Porter Ladder</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> George Westermayer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Malcolm Greig	<b>Friday - Handicap Pairs</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Simon Nathan & Judith Nathan 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jolene Zink & Valerie Rhodes

***Last reminders:***

1. Please register for the AGM dinner & bridge.
2. Ron Klinger flyers are on the notice board. Registration is essential.
3. New Zealand Wide Pairs at the Hutt Bridge Club on Friday night, 6 November at 7.30 pm.