

WBC News – November 2012

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

Wellington Regional Christmas Cheer – Saturday 24 November 2012.

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

New President's Corner... Kevin Walker

Thank you all for the support and encouragement you have given me as I begin my time as Club President. Past President, Derek, has set a high standard with his dedication and excellence in running the club for the last three years. I look forward to working with the new committee and welcome Christine Haronga and Maureen Pratchett – the new members of the committee. Maureen has taken up the Chief Director role and has been asked to join the committee. Derek Snelling, Jenny Delany, Ruth Brucker, Brad Tattersfield, John Wilkinson, and Peter Barker ably supported by our Club Manager Bridget make up the rest of your committee.

My main focus as President will be on ensuring that the club remains a significant club in Bridge in New Zealand. We have maintained membership when other clubs' memberships are falling. We need to continue to be active in bringing in new members, and as club members you are our best ambassadors to bring in new members. We will also look for new ideas that might boost membership.

By maintaining our club numbers we will continue to be a strong, viable club that sees its members doing well at the bridge table.

On the same topic it's great to see us breaking further records with 30 teams in the current Thursday night competition. With only one room available on Thursday night it does make for 'closer' play.

2012 Babich Wines NZ Wide Pairs – Friday 2 November

A very pleasant evening with 20 tables. Visitors from several Wellington/Hutt area clubs boosted the numbers, the best we've had for this event for several years. Quite timely as this Friday evening annual pairs was seemingly becoming a bit tired and not attracting the numbers it should – in Wellington anyway. Many thanks to Alan Joseph, our director. First N/S and E/W pairs received a bottle of wine each from our club. Surely Charlie's & Tereska's score of 68.53% must be up there in the New Zealand top scores? Yes!! Congratulations see below.

Results were:

N/S 1st **Kathy Ker, Anthony Ker** 59.87; 2nd **Vivienne Cannell, Maureen Pratchett** 59.54

E/W 1st **Charles Cahn, Tereska Knap** 68.53; 2nd **Greg Aldridge, Debbie McLeod** 62.61



Tereska Knap claiming her prize

2012 BABICH WINES NEW ZEALAND WIDE PAIRS. OVERALL PRIZES

1. Nick Bailey – James Coutts Otago 71.37 E/W
2. Karen Harris – Jane Lennon Crockfords 69.60 E/W
3. Maurice Carter – Kate Davies Golden Bay 69.04 E/W
4. Jeff Miller – Graeme Stout Otago 67.98 E/W
5. **Charlie Cahn – Tereska Knap Wellington 67.97 E/W**

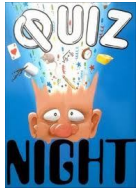
Novice & Beginners Tournament – Sunday 11 November

This was a one session only tournament with 5½ tables to introduce our novice and beginner players to the thrill of a tournament. After a few hiccups with the feed-ins, we hear, the players enjoyed the afternoon. Thank you to director, Phillippa Gardiner.

1st Alwyn Courtenay and Alan Jennings (not our club)

2nd Gill Sutherland and Sam Ward (our members)

3rd Eirlys Hunter and Laurence Millar (our members)



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

Our goal is to raise the best part of \$3,000. Quotes for a new defibrillator are as follows. From Wellington Free Ambulance (WFA) they are \$2,800 + GST. Another website Heartbeat advertises for \$2995 + GST. The Ambulance one is recommended as it is compatible with NZ Ambulance and Fire Service equipment. To date we have **12 teams** – nearly full up!!! - so don't delay, book a table...

Entries please to Bridget Willcox.

Raffle tickets are on sale this week – 3 for \$5. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of the defibrillator and prizes will be drawn on the Quiz Night.

Helpers Needed to set up the room for the Quiz. We will need to shift tables from the motorway room and set up the Main Playing room for approximately 120 people. If you can help here please let Bridget Willcox know.

2013 Programme Books

These will be available early next week in their pretty bright pink covers!

Ticket books – 10 playing nights for \$70

Reminder: new books with adjusted \$7 table money are available. A good little Christmas gift for your bridge partner.

2013 Subscription Notices

Please help yourself to save on postage – your subscription is due now – notices are located in boxes in the foyer.



Bar News - Increase in our Bar Prices **Drinks – please pay as you go!**

We know there's been lots of reminders on this lately, but there is still a shortfall between income and drinks consumption. Our daily stock-takes have shown an improvement, but discrepancies remain.

Put simply, either drinks are still being taken without payment, or money is being taken from the bar.

We don't want to have to change the way we manage the drinks – the “honesty bar” is one of the most-liked features of our club – but clearly this problem must be dealt with. So, another reminder:

- please pay for your drinks as you get them – no IOUs
- check the latest prices before paying – several have been changed
- please let a committee member know if you notice any non-compliance with this.

News from Liam Milne

The editor has often asked Liam to write about some of his successful tournaments these last few years. He promised he would... "next time he wins". Thank you Liam!

Michael Whibley and I, both ex-Wellingtonians now living in Australia, decided to make the trip over for another NZ National Congress this year. For both of us, the two major New Zealand events (the Pairs and the Teams) have been tournaments we have wanted to win since we began playing bridge. Our team-mates were Alan Grant and Anthony Ker. I also filled the role of NPC for the Wellington Youth team in the Interprovincial Championships.

The NZ Pairs started well for Mike and I, with an average of just over 60% after the first two qualifying sessions. However, we had an atrocious afternoon in the semifinals on Sunday, leaving us in serious danger of missing out on the final altogether. After a nervous correction period had expired, we were sitting in 26th place (out of 28) with virtually no carry-over going into the final the next day. We would start almost 3 full boards behind the top two pairs, Carol Richardson-Eileen Horsman and Ashley Bach-Nathan van Jole.

We had a good morning session which meant we had recovered from starting at the bottom and were now in the top ten after the lunch break. We both made some good plays in the afternoon, and by the time there were five rounds left, we were less than one board from first place. In the penultimate round, we had two good boards to take the lead by 0.1 matchpoints over Bach-van Jole, who had had a steady day, staying mostly in the top three. It would all come down to the last two boards - two of the most nerve-wracking boards of my life! We had one top and one good board, but the grapevine was telling us that Ashley and Nathan had also had two nice results. We all knew it was going to be a very close finish. After a nervous wait, we found out the scores. We had won by 1.1 matchpoints - a fantastic moment for Michael and I. It was an amazing feeling to win which I can't quite describe.

I would've loved to include a nice hand from the NZ Pairs final, but not many of the hands involved any special brilliance on our behalf - we were mostly rewarded for normal solid play and avoiding mistakes. As most tournaments do, this confirmed to me what I've suspected for some time now: that success in bridge is mostly determined by doing the everyday things right and preventing disasters.

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		♥ KQ7532	<i>Vul: None</i>																														
		♦ 2																															
		♣ JT																															
♠ A654		♠ 7																															
♥ A98		♥ J																															
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We did have one nice bidding hand from the NZ Teams final, however: (Board 11, NZ Teams Final session 3, <http://nzbridgecongress.co.nz/hands/380~NZ%20Teams%20Semifinal%203.pdf>)

We had a useful piece of system to deal with this hand. Our auction went:

Liam 2NT 3NT* 5H* 7C	Mike 3S* (20-22; forces partner to bid 3NT, variety of hands) 4S* (forced; at least 54 in the minors with longer diamonds, moderate slam interest or better) 5S* (Roman Keycard across BOTH suits, i.e. 6 keycards; one or four)
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Over 4S, I could just about bid the grand slam myself, but I decided to wheel out a piece of system which we hadn't used (or discussed!) for over three years. Both of us remembered it, amazingly enough - last time this system came up we also bid a lay-down grand slam! This auction was worth 12 imps when our opponents played in 6NT in the other room, but Peter Newell-Martin Reid, Geo Tislevoll-Mike Ware and Michael Cornell-Ash Bach went on to beat us by 35.5 imps regardless.

Michael and I had a fantastic time at this year's Congress. As I said in my speech at the victory dinner, the NZ Pairs is one of the best matchpoint events in this area of the world and I would encourage anyone who hasn't played at Congress to make the trip to Hamilton. We'll be sure to be back soon - we've still got our eyes on that NZ Teams trophy! **Liam Milne**

Here's a hand from BBO friend Don in Denver. "You can treat it as double dummy problem".
Vulnerability Both Dealer: N

	NORTH	
	♠Q1073	
	♥AQ92	
	♦AK	
	♣A76	
WEST		EAST
♠KJ		♠A8542
♥KJ7		♥3
♦J109653		♦42
♣J2		♣Q9854
	SOUTH	
	♠96	
	♥108654	
	♦Q87	
	♣K103	

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
		2NT	P
3D	P	3H	P
3NT	P	4H	P
P	P		

Lead: 9 of clubs

There are loads of roadblocks to making this hand. There is only one quick entry to dummy, so you can't finesse the hearts twice. You have two sure spade losers. There is a club loser that you have to find a way to get rid of. East can ruff the third diamond if at least one trump isn't drawn. West can overruff the dummy when spades are played if all of the hearts are not drawn.

This is the solution:

Win the king of clubs on the dummy and play the 8 of hearts. West has to cover it or his trump trick disappears. Now you cash your two high diamonds and play the nine of hearts. West must win it or his heart trick disappears. Now declarer is in control. He can win the club return in his hand lead a trump to dummy's 10 or hearts (drawing the last trump from west), pitch his losing club on the queen of diamonds and lose only two spades. (Thank you Don. Ed)





Welcome to our new members...

Phillippa Gardiner, Pieter Vanderpoel (returning member), Angela Potts, Ronis Chapman, Vernon Phillips, Bob White, Annie Fleetwood, Glenda Van Zijl, Margaret Curnow, Lee Walker, Gillian Clark-Kirkcaldie, Judith Taylor, Tim Pope, Ian Browne.

Results from Tournaments - Congratulations!

Karori Intermediate – 28 October:

1 Paul Maxwell, Gail Tippett
3 Turei Haronga, Christine Haronga
7 of the 8 top pairs were from our club.

Sydney Spring Nationals – October

Dick Cummings Open Pairs
1st Michael Whibley and partner
6th Liam Milne and partner



Heath Tolley, Kerry Geertson, Steven Coulter, Matt Poulton

Intermediate Winners of 2012 Interclub

Wellington 2 - Steven Coulter, Heath Tolley, Matt Poulton and Kerry Geertson

Intermediate Plate Winners

Wellington 1 - Bridget Willcox, Barbara Allen, Jo Rollo and Tereska Knap, Tadek Gawor.

Results from Club Nights – October

Tuesday

Tinakori Salver Pairs
1st Grace Millar & Laurence Millar
2nd Megan Booth & Mark Masterson

Thursday

Stockman Salver Handicap Pairs
1st Denise Udy & Alistair Young
2nd Anthea Black & Frances Bickerton

Wednesday

Woe Wilson Memorial Handicap Pairs
1st John Davidson & Pieter Vanderpoel
2nd Turei Haronga & Patricia Herbert

Friday

Spring Pairs
Barbara Allen & Helen Fitzgerald
Haley Fenwick & Max Wigbout

Wellington Region Christmas Cheer Tournament
Saturday, 24 November 2012, 10:00am start.

All players most welcome, register with the Club Manager. Cost \$40 per player.