

SOUTH WAIRARAPA BRIDGE CLUB



#12

JANUARY 2018

email :- swbridge@extra.co.nz

website :- <http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/the-south-wairarapa-bridge-club>

<https://www.facebook.com/swbridgeclub/>

Thanks to Kath Banks, Martin Connelly, Lizzie Catherall, Linda Gibbs, Alan Butler for help in compiling this newsletter

Before I start on 2018 news, my first job is to apologize to Linda Gibbs and Rosie Bauckham for omitting their names from the prize winners list in the December newsletter– they won the Featherston Pairs. Congratulations you two!

Requests from the Treasurer:- Alan Butler – mralanbutler@googlemail.com

- **Subs are due by the 20th January – you can pay on Club night (please bring your money in an envelope if you are paying this way) – or pay online. Bank account number is on 02 608 0110363 00 – please use your bridge number and name as reference. Our club is required to pay \$23 levy for each full member to NZ Bridge and the first payment is due soon. The sub is \$56.00 if we are your home club and \$33 if you have a different home club**



- **Anyone requiring a name badge? - please use the above email to let Alan know – he will be ordering them next month. The club pays for the first name badge so there is no charge to you, but there is a \$5 charge for replacement badges.**

Alan has asked that you please avoid a paying table money with silver coins

I never made a
mistake in my life.
I thought I did
once, but I was
wrong.

-Charles M. Schulz

Cool Funny Quotes.com

Check Your 2018 Bridge Programme!!

March the 8th is missing –and also Individual 3 –
so we have combined them!!

For your records:-

Thursday March 8th is Individual 3

From The Committee Meeting held on the 11th January 2018

1. Alan Butler presented a very comprehensive financial report and has now sent all 2017 accounts to the reviewer.

Balances :-Current Account:- \$2679.00, Deposit account:- 2220.24, Term Deposit \$20,000. Term Deposit:- (Until April) \$5000.

General Business

2. Nesting Pairs – classes consist of videos on you tube. Jane has given us some details on -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fL1SHqitE4c&feature=youtu.be>

Nesting Pairs do involve learning a different system - 5 card majors High NT and various other conventions – but the beauty about this is that you and your partner will have a chance to learn and practice exactly the same things together.

At this stage we have three pairs who are keen, which doesn't make it feasible to hold the classes in the Bridge Club rooms. – It's a great idea – but we need a few more pairs. The classes are not due to start until March so it's not too late to join in. Have a look at the you tube videos and see what you think. There was also more information on Nesting Pairs in the December newsletter <http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/newsletters>

PS All the newsletter are on the website - you can just pick the appropriate new letter and then click to open it.

"It really is just a course I put together, it has jollied people along at Cambridge and got them more interested in the game and more interested in going to tournaments - and I thought - well I could do this nationwide, and got the Cambridge Bridge Club and NZ Bridge to cover the filming costs.

I would say half the people at Cambridge who have done it have not had much clue about at least a half to two thirds of the course content beforehand -. but they have LOVED trying it and I've just watched them get so enthused and excited and roaring with laughter as they get it wrong ... so it's a lot about trying some new things and giving it a go and enjoying it."

If you are interested or want to know more about Nesting Pairs – I would love to hear from you. Email me at goughgirl@gmail.com



3. Supper Duties – New Roster – starting on Monday 29th January

There is a copy on the Notice board

Everybody will be on the Supper Duty List except for those who are involved in running the playing session on the night– the Monday and Thursday convenors, the supper convenor, and the scorer and the director on the night.

- There is more information about the supper duties in the December newsletter.
<http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/newsletters>
- If you can't do supper duty you are responsible for finding a replacement
- Supper duties involve setting up the cups, milk biscuits etc before we have supper and then cleaning up and emptying out the dishwasher after supper. All supper duties are on the notice board - We have put two people each session, so that way you should only have to do it two times a year.

Supper Duty for February:-

Mondays

February 5th

Bill Armstrong
Glenys Almao

February 12th

Dinah Airey
Dora Aw Yong

February 19th

Hamish Banks
Kath Banks

February 24th

Paul Baines
Liz Bondy

Thursdays

1st February

Jill Baker
Rosie Bauckham

February 8th

John Bath
Margaret Bath

February 15th

Sylvia Beavis
Bill Andrews

February 22nd

Adrian Blackett
Robin Blackett



It's fun doing the dishes together!!!

4. Monday nights – with a large group of players we are running two sections for a period of nine weeks ending March 5th. To manage both sections play we will use both the WBS room and the forum. William Walsh to help set up the tables on a Monday and will be paid \$10 per evening – this will be reviewed at the end of the nine weeks.
5. Gail spoke about the lease – after over a year of negotiation, it is ready to be signed – we have the new lighting that we wanted installed in the WBS room and a new cupboard in the kitchen

6. Repositioning the AGM. Ed has spoken to the Registry of Incorporated Societies about the change of date for the AGM as well as the financial year. There are forms to be filled out which Ed is happy to with help from Andrew.
7. We will have a paid non playing director for Thursday Night Championship Pairs – Fran Jenkins has agreed to this

Our next meeting is to be held on Thursday 8th February

If there is something you want to committee to discuss please put it in writing and send it to Kath Banks. swbridge@xtra.co.nz

We have great workshops and classes coming up :-

Mindy Wu is coming back!

Last year Mindy gave us a workshop on opening leads, opening weak 2's, and bids after oppositions opens 1NT <http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/for-bridge-learners-of-all-ages-and-stages> -- she will be back on Saturday the 12th March for another workshop. One of the things we will be asking her to talk about is how to bid slams – if there is anything you would particularly like Mindy talk on, let me know. More details next month.

Allan Joseph has agree to direct our Intermediate and Junior Tournament on Sunday 15th April and has also agreed to come and teach a Director's workshop for three hours on Saturday afternoon before the tournament.

Good news for those of you who enjoyed the Improvers lessons that started last year. Because we had so many requests we are going to run them again starting on the Tuesday May 1st. More details later.
Beginners lessons also start on 1st May

Who Dealt this this Rubbish – a guide to Shuffling and Dealing hands

From Time to time there are comments complaining about the random deals of the hands we play on Bridge night – Martin has written this article which will tell you everything you ever wanted to know about the fairness and randomness of Random Deals

In the April Newsletter, <http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/newsletters>

Katherine had an in-depth article on the mechanics of dealing the hands we play on Monday and Thursday nights. The centre-piece of that operation is an expensive machine called Dealer4. As the article showed, Jill Baker and her team place a deck of cards into one end of the Dealer4 machine, then they place an empty bridge board into the side of the machine and about 7 seconds later the board has been filled up with the dealt hand. It is marvellous to watch, not only to wonder how does the machine deal out 52 cards in 7 seconds, but also at the precision and attention to detail that Jill and her team have to employ.

One thing that Katherine's article did not talk about was "How does Dealer4 know which cards go where?" She did explain that the hand to be dealt is already in the computer – but how did it get there? And there is a related question – why bother, after Bridge players must have managed before computers where invented.

It is true; people used to enjoy Bridge before computers came along. Normally, at the start of the night, when everyone was seated, the director would come to each table and hand out 2 or 3 boards and 2 or 3 decks of cards. Someone at the table would shuffle the cards, deal them into 4 hands and then place those hands into the boards. After this initial shuffling and sorting, the cards would not be shuffled again, they would just be played and passed around in the same way that we are accustomed to. But Bridge players had known for a very long time that this process had a bad flaw. Most people do not shuffle very well and in bridge this has a rather interesting result – more and more balanced hands end up being dealt. That is fine for people who like to play in No Trumps, but for many players it often lead to fairly boring bridge.

On average, balanced hands should occur 47% of the time. In the Xmas Pairs 2 night 2 people commented about the number of strange hands they were dealt. But if you sat north in that game you got dealt 11 balanced hands. That is, 46% of your hands were balanced and the rest were unbalanced. And that is pretty much what we would expect if the hands were being dealt randomly.

Bridge is meant to be played with hands that are dealt at random. Random dealing is important to ensure that over a period of time (which is longer than one session) each player gets their fair share of good hands.

So one reason for using computers to shuffle the cards is to get random hands, instead of being dealt lots and lots of No-Trump hands. There are many different computer programmes that deal cards; the SWBC has access to four such programmes. The one we normally use is a programme called “Big Deal”. It is quick and it is the same programme used in the World Championships.

However, in recent times we have been using hands that the X-Club sends us. This means that we are using the same hands that approximately half the clubs in the country also use. For those of us who have joined the X-Club¹ we get to see not only how we did compared to other players in the SWBC, but also to other players throughout the country. The X-Club uses some software called “Dealmaster Pro” to create their hands. This is also a very good programme and it is useful for the X-Club who have to send their material in many different formats to suit the needs of the various bridge clubs (and their dealing machines) throughout the country.

You will not be surprised to learn that when computers were first used to shuffle and deal bridge hands – there were complaints. Players who were used to seeing large numbers of balanced hands thought that computers were dealing extreme and wild hands instead.

But using a computer to “shuffle” the cards has another benefit. Take this hand, also from the Xmas

Paris 2. Just by looking at all 4 hands, can you tell which are the best contracts for EW and NS to be in? As it happens, South can make 3 Clubs, but North can only make 2 Clubs, and EW can make 5 Spades or 4 Diamonds. This process, of working out the makeable contracts for each side is called “Double Dummy Analysis”. Sometimes it is easy to do, usually it is not. Yet we all like to compare the contracts we bid to what was possible. And we do this by either looking at the travellers, the Hand Record, or on the Website. Double Dummy Analysis might be hard for us humans, but with the right software computers can do it in a few seconds. Whenever Jill gets the computer to deal the hands for a game, she also gets the computer to do the

The diagram shows a bridge hand with the following cards:

- North:** ♠ 8, ♥ 6 5 4, ♦ J 4 2, ♣ Q 9 7 5 4 3
- West:** ♠ Q 9 7 6 5, ♥ A Q J 2, ♦ A 10 9 5, ♣
- East:** ♠ K J 4 3 2, ♥ 9 7, ♦ Q 8 6 3, ♣ J 6
- South:** ♠ A 10, ♥ K 10 8 3, ♦ K 7, ♣ A K 10 8 2

The HCP count is shown as follows:

3	
13	7
17	

“Double Dummy” so that the possible contracts appear on the travellers or Hand Records.

Lastly, having Hand Records available (which is really only practical with computer-dealt hands) is really useful because:

- It makes going through the results (particularly the travellers) on the web much more interesting – nobody can remember all the hands from a session.
- If you want to improve your play, it is important to review what happened at the table. Having a record of the hands is the best way to do this. It enables you to see what partner had in the bidding and play.
- It allows you to see that you and partner are using the same system.
- It enables you to identify your weaknesses: when you have missed a game you should have bid or bid one you should not have, for instance. If you are not interested in this sort of post mortem, then you have lost nothing, but those who want to improve find them vital.
- A hand record allows the Director to sort out issues when cards are put back in the boards in error.

¹ If you would like to join the X-Club, but have not done so yet – just send me an email goughgirl@gmail.com When you belong to the X Club, not only do you get a Pianola email telling you how you did compared to others in the SWBC, you get a 2nd email saying how you did compared to several hundred people who all played the same hands throughout the country.

Pianola– I am printing this again (it was previously in May 2017 newsletter) for the Newbiesand anyone else who isn't quite sure how Pianola works

How to use Pianola to get your Results- Pianola is free for every member of our club to use. After the game you will receive an email telling you your results for the night

Here are your results for the game "Holiday Individual 2" you played with Paul Baines at South Wairarapa Bridge Club on 15 Jan 2018.

OVERALL RESULT [View full results](#)

SCORE	POSITION	MASTERPOINTS
48.12%	5th	

We've calculated your bidding and card play analysis. Log in to Pianola to view the full [session report](#). [Go to session report](#)

BEST SCORE	WORST SCORE	MOST INTERESTING*
BOARD 7	BOARD 14	BOARD 1

January 15 **Holiday Individual 2**

Ranking Travellers Scorecards Hands

Log in to Pianola to access powerful analysis tools: see your bidding accuracy, card play ability, and replay hands with card-by-card guidance. [Learn more](#)

Place	Players	Score %	Masterpoints
1	Ann Rainford & Sheila Stapleton	53.00%	C: 40
2	Dinah Edridge & Linda Gibbs	52.86%	C: 20
3	Dinah Airey & Jill Baker	50.50%	
4	Margaret Bell & Pam Sims	50.00%	

You will receive an email like this when you arrive home after the game.

Click on “view full results”

If you don't get an email let me know goughgirl@gamil.com

After clicking on “View Full Results” you go into a page that is headed by the name of the competition you have just played and the date. Underneath you have four headings, Ranking, Travellers, Scorecards and Hands. Ranking is underlined so that is the page that opens up and it will tell you results and ranking of everyone who played that night. By clicking Travellers you will see all the boards you played on the night along the top. It opens up with Board 1 and you can see all the contracts, that were played, who played who, and the different scores that were played on Board 1 right through to the last board of the night

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
Monday Night - Holiday Individual 1			New Year Individual 1		
Monday Night					
15	16	17	18	19	
Holiday Individual 2					
15th January - Section B					
22	23	24	25	26	

You can access results at any time through the website. <http://www.southwairapabridge.org.nz>
 Open our website and then click on Results.
 Click on the date that you want to check and the results will open up to the screen that is above.

If you still want help with Pianola let me know goughgirl@gmail.com

The “Last word” from Lizzie - At our next committee meeting we have Volunteers on the agenda– Lizzie would value your feed back

Definition of a volunteer : *“a person who donates time or efforts for a cause or organization without being paid.”*

In the December newsletter I acknowledged the role of the SWBC volunteers: those I labeled “The SWBC’s Grunt.”

Since the early days of one weekly session our club has grown in size, now well over 120 members, with two sessions and more enriching activities (for example now two big tournaments a year). 2018 Monday nights look to having tables well in double figures and a repeat this year of the 2017 wrap around support of learners and refresher lessons will mean additional pressures.

It seems to me that The Grunt’s load is growing when often the opportunity for volunteer participation by the wider membership is not taken up. Eg difficulties getting people to cover supper duties.

This is something I’ve been thinking about over the Xmas break, in part because of an email I received from a member late December and also from my observations since becoming president in 2017.

Should we be doing more to acknowledge the volunteers?

I have put the role of volunteer in the workings of the SWBC on the agenda for our early February committee meeting.

I’d appreciate feedback from you on this topic before then.



Email me lizzie.catherall@gmail.com or phone me 06 304 9952 or perhaps in the slightly changed words of a famous man you could if you’re not currently part of The Grunt “ask not what my bridge club can do for me—ask what I can do for my bridge club” and carve out an input 2018. Offering to partner a new player for on Individual or series on Mondays nights starting March 12th would be appreciated. Lizzie