

SOUTH WAIRARAPA BRIDGE CLUB

Our email is:-
swbridge@xtra.co.nz

Our website is:-
<http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/th>
[e-south-wairarapa-bridge-club](http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/th)



#6

AUGUST 2017

I would love to receive contributions for the Newsletter – so if you have an interesting bridge hand you would like to share, a bridge tip or idea you want to pass on, or would be happy for me to write a mini bio on you, email me goughgirl@gmail.com

Thanks to Reg and Sheila Stapleton, Kath Banks, Greg Whitten, Lizzie Catherall (from London) and Martin Connelly for help in compiling this newsletter

From The Committee

The August Committee Meeting was held on the 10th August. As Lizzie is away Andrew Beck was presiding.

- Alan presented a very comprehensive financial report – table money has balanced every playing session over the last month. Current Account balance \$7108.85, and Term deposit balance \$20,000
- We talked about arrangements for our tournament which is to be held on 24th September – catering, stationery requirements, raffles are in hand. Angie has approached Fresh Choice to ask them if they will sponsor our tournament. They have agreed in principal and have asked us specifically what we would like them to do for us.
- Alan Joseph is to be Director on the day, and told us he is looking forward to it
- The committee discussed letters from two club members, one concerning rudeness at the table and the other concerning director's decision regarding lateness. Andrew told the committee that the director has control of the room - NZ Bridge have said that they want all boards played at club nights, if possible – which means that if a table is slow or held up

for some reason, the correct decision would be to play the boards at supper time rather than make an adjustment to the scores at the end of play

- We are now required to have a liquor license for our Christmas Party – Andrew will put an application for this.
- The committee agreed that travellers will be put at the back of the boards again - either by the dealers or after the first set of boards have been played for the session.

Thursday Nights:- For the last few months I have been the Thursday night convener and I thought I would share with you what happens on a typical bridge night. I arrive about 5.25, open up, turn on the lights and the heaters and open up the office. David Steel is marvellous – he, and often Margaret as well come early and the first thing he does is go down to the storeroom and gets out the tablecloths, rubbish bins and little tables – last week I thanked him for doing this and he said he has been doing it for years, with Ed’s help until recently, when Ed started his cancer treatment. (More about Ed later in this newsletter)

Sometimes we come in and the tables are all over the place because of what has happened in the room during the day. Margaret and David sort the tables and chairs into rows for the night. By this time other people have started coming and they straight away start helping with the tables, putting out the stationery, table numbers and pencils – the supper people arrive and they set out supper things, the scorer arrives and sets up the computer and gets out the bridge pads – the boards have all been dealt and labelled with the correct dates by Jill and her team, so we get the correct boards out ready to play. By this time the director for the night is looking around to see how many people have arrived so he/she can work out how many tables we are going to have and how many boards we are going to play – the scorer can’t complete the setup until this is finalised.

By this time it is 5.50 ish – we consult the book to see if everyone has arrived (which may or maybe not be right, depending who has remembered to write down or give me their names) everybody is talking and laughing so it’s a little bit chaotic at this stage, but gradually everyone finds a seat - Alan collects the table money, we finalise the playing order for the night and hand out the boards and the bridge pads, the computer set up is completed, the bridge pads go live, and we are away !!

Although I have mentioned David and Margaret specifically there are others who are also marvellous helpers – Val, Andrew, Ruth Lynette – Great club spirit -Thank you.



Do you know that NZBridge has a Zero Tolerance Policy – this poster is displayed on our notice board and in many other Bridge Club rooms and the full document is on NZBridge website

Interclub Teams

The weather caused chaos last month on Interclub Teams night, and unfortunately the decision was made that all the Wairarapa teams would default their games on the Friday night and would play each other during the weekend. Tony Sutich told us that our new draw was:- Lizzie Catherall's team was to play Alice Forward's Team, Jill Baker's team was to play Felicity Warren's team and the South Wairapapa Junior team was to play the Masterton Junior team. We played at the Masterton Club rooms and Fran Jenkins was our director. The results are on our website <http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/interclub-bridge>

The next Interclub night is Friday 25th August – Best of Luck to our Junior Team, who at the moment are in the top four.

Mini Bio about Reg Stapleton

When I asked Reg if he would let me write about him, he said he had recently done a life story with hospice and he would be happy to share some of it with us.

Reg was an Architect in Wellington - the firm he started is still there, and is now called Design Group Stapleton - he is 87 years old and started playing bridge about 16 years ago, when Sue Wright started bridge lessons at Swingers.

He loves the combativeness of bridge and the companionship of the bridge club – bridge both invigorates and frustrates him – I know that feeling – I am sure we all do - when I rang him for a chat he was busy studying the results from the night before which in his words were “last night's disasters”

Reg dresses immaculately and is very charming when he comes to the table –he loves the family atmosphere of the club. He prefers to play East West if he can, because the particular cancer he has make him extremely fatigued and moving around the room helps with that. He actually likes 99% of us, thinks Sue Wright did a marvellous job starting the club, and admires the work the Whittens are doing teaching the Beginners and Improvers lessons at the moment. Although he has read some bridge books he thinks the information available now on the internet is amazing!

His bridge partner is often his wife Sheila and one of their bridge highlights was when they came second in our Junior Tournament one year.



Reg and Sheila Stapleton ready for action at Monday night teams

Latest update on Ed – We have missed him at committee meetings for the last couple of months, but the news is good. He has finished his Chemo and he is working on feeling better. He will be playing for his Interclub team on Friday night and then he is going to Seattle and San Francisco in September to visit his daughters and their families..

Do you visit the NZBridge website – everyday they put up interesting information from Clubs throughout New Zealand.

<http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/>


They also have a facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NZBridge> - at the moment there is a lot of posts about the New Zealand bridge teams playing in Lyon. Very Exciting!! The Bridge Blacks team are now into the semi finals which you can watch live on Bridge Base Online (BBO)

One of the News Items on NZBridge at the moment is an article about NZ Bridge Youth Weekend – which was held in Auckland on the 19 and 20th of August

<http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/latest-updates,listing,3296,new-zealand-bridge-youth-weekend.html> and our very own Eslyn Beck features very prominently there.

Another regular feature is **“Play With an Expert”** where the attendees get the chance to play with a strong Open player. It was neat seeing Andi Boughey along as one of the experts. The top North-South score was achieved by Peer Bach very ably assisted by first time attendee and one who is very new to the game, Eslyn Beck from Greytown. Here is Eslyn doing all the hard work against a pair of New Zealand Internationals (that’s right, Peer Bach in the rather unusual role as dummy!), one Senior and the other Youth. They decided to double Eslyn in 2♦.

Board 23 ♠ A 10 9
 South Deals ♥ J 9 6 5 2
 Both Vul ♦ A J
 ♣ K J 7

♠ K 8 5 3 ♥ K Q 10 3 ♦ Q 9 7 2 ♣ 5		♠ 6 4 2 ♥ 8 ♦ K 10 6 3 ♣ Q 10 9 8 3
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♠ Q J 7
 ♥ A 7 4
 ♦ 8 5 4
 ♣ A 6 4
 2

Eslyn Beck and Luc MacKay



Eslyn sat East and received the ♥ A lead. He kept cool and did better than Deal Master Pro which had him down 1 for the horrible -200. Not Eslyn. He just lost 5 tricks and scored an excellent +180

Two small but significant awards are always given to the two attendees who contributed to the spirit and intent of the Weekend. The awards this year went to Eslyn Beck and Galen McGinlay.

#We are all proud of you Eslyn!



In 2016 Eslyn attended Greg’s Beginner lessons – this message is from Greg regarding this year’s lessons

The Class of 2017 numbers 13. We are up to lesson five of ten and twelve of the thirteen attendees remain enthusiastic and positive about their introduction to Bridge. Some assistance from Andrew Beck is required to get the thirteenth member of the group across the line.

Andrew and Barbara Page have been assisting Sue and I which has meant that each of us can work with a small group at our weekly sessions.

Upon completion of the lessons, the new group will continue to play on Tuesday evening for a further six weeks. During these weeks, we will play an increasing number of Boards in a fairly casual manner so that the players get a progressive introduction to Club play. Buddies will be required to assist the graduates and recent learners will also be invited to join the group.

Our tournament is coming up on Sunday 24th September-

it is an 8B tournament which means
 It is open to all Players - Open, Intermediate and Junior (Can be mixed pairings). B Points awarded to overall top place getters. Following Greg’s report about the difficulty for the director to move about of the room because of limited space at our Intermediate and Junior tournaments – we will be limiting the tables to 20
 We encourage anyone who wants to play in a tournament to enter – if the thought of playing “open” players sounds scary, just think that you play open players at our bridge club all the time. More information on our website
<http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/upcoming-tournaments>

The following was sent to us by Lizzie from the London’s Richmond Bridge Club Website

Greet others in a friendly manner prior to start of play on each round.
 Be a good "host" or "guest" at the table.
 Fill in your convention card completely and make it readily available to your opponents.
 Make bridge enjoyable for yourself, partner and opponents.
 Give credit when opponents make a good bid or play.
 Take care of your personal grooming.
 Ensure that your mobile phone is turned off.
 Enjoy the company as well as the game.

Congratulations to Greg and Sue Whitten who won the first session at Waikanae Multigrade 8B. Tournament with a scores of 64%. Their afternoon score was 54% They ended the day being the morning session winners, top open/open pair and 4th overall.

Results of Thursday Night

Teams.

Sharks:-

Linda Gibbs, Rosie Bauckham, Sheridan Evans and Sue Wright

Scores over 65% since our last newsletter

24 th July Eslyn Beck and Sue Whitten	73.48
31 st July Val Rait and Ruth Burgess	67.99
31 st July Anna McDonald and Betty Campbell	67.05

Pianola Update from Martin Connelly

It is nearly a year ago that the club signed up to Pianola. Pianola offered the club a number of benefits: -

- An easy way for the committee to communicate with members –
- A way to display results that also provided insights for individual members into where they might be doing well, and where they might do better –
- A website creation tool that enabled that enabled the club to develop a website that could be viewed on smartphones and tablets (as well as on traditional computers). This included being able to display the club's results in an attractive fashion.
- But for most members, the feature they value most is the Results Email. An email that comes out almost as soon as we get home, telling us how well we did that night.
- Another feature that some members use is the facility to advertise when we would like a partner for an up-coming game.

The most popular part of the club's website is the Results Page; then the page that has the results of the Regional Interclub Competition. The 3rd most watched area is the Upcoming Tournaments page. A recent innovation has been that whenever new material is placed on the webpage and email goes out to self-selected club members telling them of the update. Currently 40 members get those updates. If you would like to join them – let Kath Banks know. One feature of Pianola that members might not be aware of is that whenever we hold a tournament or an event that attracts outside bridge players, Pianola keeps a 'note' of who those visitors were. This means that the next year we can get in touch with them, letting them know about anything in our club that might interest them.

This is one of the replies I got on one of the questionnaires – For the life of me I can't read this beautiful writing - Can you? The topical answer is on our Facebook page -

<https://www.facebook.com/swbridgeclub/> (Don't forget to "like" us.)

Of course this is not a photo of Martin – it is Carlos, his smart little dog – taken when they were out on one of their morning walks – long before the Town Centre is open for bridge!!



26. Any comment you would like to make about the Club.....

I do not like some
things, eg. some information on the club website
that is in error, - or other things that are
not in the club's interest.