

SOUTH WAIRARAPA BRIDGE CLUB



#2

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2017

Our Junior and Intermediate Tournament – held on the 2nd April



It was a great day – We had 23 tables - 11 Junior Tables and 12 Intermediate Tables –an excellent turn out.

There is always an air a nervous excitement when people arrive for a Bridge tournament – doesn't matter if it is your first time or if you are hardened tournament player – the day is full of promise when you walk in the door- will you bid perfectly, will you play magnificently, will your partner understand what you are trying to tell her , will the opposition make a mistake or two that will help you out of a disastrous contract, will the director be kind – at this moment it is all the glorious unknown! Such fun!! Later - if things haven't panned out too well in the bridge department – there is always a chance you will be able to go home with a beautiful raffle prize -

and in between times you have had the chance to enjoy beautiful tasty food, drink some lovely wine and enjoy the company of like minded people!

Congratulations Anna and Birgitta - winners of the Junior Tournament – they had a marvellous day - First in the am with 68.64% and second in the pm with 58.64%.



Session prize winners
Alan and Sheila -
Junior Tournament



Katherine and Di were third
equal in the Intermediate
Tournament

Our Tournament Organizer Lizzie Catherall was very pleased with the way the tournament went and is putting a Tournament Manual together as a guide for future tournaments – we would love anyone from the Club with any comments or concerns about the recent tournament to email her so we can have everything sorted before our next Tournament in September. Her email is lizzie.catherall@gmail.com She would love to hear from those of you who played in a tournament for the first time

Full Tournament Results are on our website
<http://www.southwairarapabridge.org.nz/results-of-our-tournament>

There are more photos there too

Thankyou to Sue Wright, Glenys Almao, Helen Hayes, Pam Francks and Heather Draper for your donation for the Raffles. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

The director at the Tournament was Greg Whitten, who did a marvellous job with so many tables and running two tournaments concurrently. We were thrilled he shared our vision of a relaxed and friendly day of great Bridge - there were some computer issues regarding the ladders at the end of the day but he handled it with his usual grace and aplomb.

It was a long long day for Felicity – she forgot it was the end of Daylight Saving and arrived at the tournament before 8.30!!

Questionnaire:- This month I have attached a Questionnaire to this newsletter – in the last major club survey some of the questions asked were about running an extra club night, buying wireless scoring pads, have a convenor for Bridge nights, fielding an Interclub team in the Wellington Competition – all these things are in place now and working well. The Committee really need your feedback and we stress that this is only a survey to get your opinion. – we are not saying things will change but we do need to know your opinion. So please would you print out the Questionnaire, fill it in and place it in the box that will be beside the notice board on Bridge nights. There will also be questionnaires beside the notice board on Club nights so if you can't print it out, you can just pick up one from there.

I encourage you to play Bridge overseas while on holiday by Helen Hayes

I took the opportunity to play at the Kuwait Bridge Club in the University Graduates Society rooms while visiting my daughter in Kuwait City recently. Making contact by their WhatsApp group I was warmly welcomed (by Dr Dashti and Mr Al-Turki) at 2 weekly games, with partners arranged for me- an Englishman and a Bahraini woman (whose aunt incredibly had owned the house I'd lived in in Bahrain in the 1980s). Everyone else was Kuwaiti, Egyptian, Lebanese and one French couple, so chatting was in Arabic and English. Two players had been to internationals in Poland. My attempts at Standard American paid off by week 2!

Bidding was with a swatch of cards held in your own box- nothing written or spoken-not to say there wasn't plenty of table chat. Table fee at 2.5KD was cheap (NZ\$11)-same as my taxi fare-and I was a guest first time. The women also played socially in their homes regularly and asked me to join them next trip.

Refreshments-drinks, soups, snacks, Lebanese pastries were available throughout-and with a server! After every set all adjourned to the foyer to smoke- cigars, cigs and electric cigs-so even 20 boards took nearly 4 hours-and I succumbed to laryngitis after the second game. It was great fun, I learnt a lot and it was a rare opportunity to meet the locals. Can I keep my points pretty please?"

This is a photo of my Bahraini partner with a bidding card box



Interclub Team Results - after two rounds the results are

- Intermediate – Ed Hudson’s team - 7th
- Alice Forward’ team - 13th
- Lizzie Catherall’s Team - 17th
- Felicity Warren’s team - 22nd

22 teams in this competition

- Junior - Angie Smith’s team - 6th

16 Teams in this competition

Next round is on April 28th

There has been some concern about our two websites that appear on Google search engine –One is current and one is very out of date- this resulted in Linda’s husband getting a phone call from someone, while he was in the Working Mens club, wanting to enter the tournament – very con fusing for everyone!! The committee has it in hand!!

The Club has a marvellous Asset in our Dealing Machine and we are lucky to have a talented team to run it. I spent an afternoon with them recently to see how it works

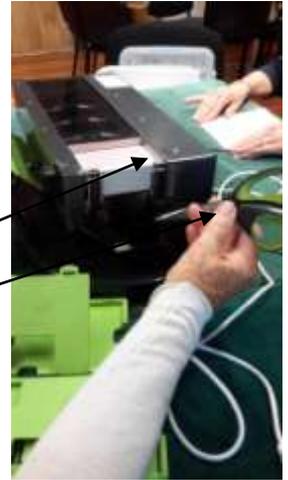


The Dealing Team on the day I was there was Jill Baker (Dealer in Chief) Dinah Eldridge and Robyn Draper.

Before they met at the WBS Room Jill had spent about an hour at home downloading the hands that she would be dealing, from a special programme that has been installed in the machine by BridgeNZ. On the day I was there they were dealing hands for the tournament and 6 other playing sessions. They deal the cards

approx once a month and it takes them about two hours each time. The cards from previous sessions are on Jill's right – she opens up the board and removes the cards, puts them into the machine and then passes the open board to Dinah, who puts it in the dealing machine.

The hand that they are going to deal is on the screen of our new laptop. Each of the cards has a micro chip in one corner and there is a little camera on the dealing machine-Jill is pointing to it with her special pointers (Scissors) that reads the chip and puts the cards in right place in the boards



Dinah places the open board into the machine. The cards automatically go into the right places as dictated by the screen, the micro chip and the camera– it's a very quick process – takes about 8 seconds to deal a hand



She removes the board from the machine, closes it and then passes it to Robyn



Robyn places a Travelling Sheet into the back of each board -makes sure they are packed numerically and then stacks the boards for each session, and the hand records, into labelled containers. The containers are stored in our locked cupboard until they are needed for play

Results

The results of all our competitions are on the official website of the South Wairarapa Bridge Club <http://www.southwairapabridge.org.nz/> Click on this link and you will be there! Look

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1	2 Greytown Pairs	
6 Summer Pairs	7	8	9 Thursday Club Individual	10
13 Summer Pairs	14	15	16 Championship Pairs	17
20 Summer Pairs	21	22	23 Championship Pairs	24
27 Monday Individual	28	29	30 Championship Pairs	31

at the menu on the left hand side of the screen, Click on **Results** and it will take you to a Calendar – the picture on the left is the March Calendar – click on the competition you want to look at and there are the results! All our results are on Pianola– I am in love with Pianola –it’s marvellous! I’ll tell you all about it in the next newsletter.

There has been an issue getting the correct result for the ladders on Pianola, as it does not recognise substitutes or the fact that a certain pairing may have only played 2 or 3 games –Pianola has told Martin that they may fix this later, but in

meantime he has provided a solution. Click on **Competitions (Ladders)** on the Menu, scroll to the bottom of the page and Click on the series you want to see. The tournament ladders are correct on Pianola because there were no substitutes and everyone played both sessions, so you will see that on the usual screen.

goughgirl@gmail.com or Martin martin.connelly@xtra.co.nz or talk to either of us at club nights.

Greytown Pairs

Last Month I got caught out by the incorrect ladder and put the wrong results in the newsletter for this competition.

The correct results are and Congratulations to Barbara Page and Marilyn Smethurst with 55.85% - the first time either of these two have a won a club competition

Second – Margaret White and Neil Catherall with 54.92%

Third – Greg Whitten and Martin Connelly with 53.40%

Summer Pairs

Congratulations to:

Peter Francks and Anna McDonald with 58.60% - you’ve had a marvellous month Anna!! This is the first time Anna has won a series

Second – Martin Connelly and Angie Smith with 57.81%

Third – Margaret Bell and Dianne Hill with 57.68%

Over 65’s

Since our last newsletter people who have scored 65% or over are:-

Summer Pairs 6 th March	- Diane Hill and Margaret Bell	67.99
Summer pairs 20 th March	- Martin Connelly and Angie Smith	71.30%
Monday Individual -27 th March	- Glenys Almao and Sue Whitten	67.80%
Monday Individual 27 th March	- Paul Collins and Rosie Collins	65.11%
Championship Pairs 30 th March	- David White and Margaret White	66.31%
Autumn Pairs 3 rd April	- Rosie Collins and Greg Whitten	73.61%
Junior Tournament	- Brigitta Harper and Anna McDonald	68.64%

Greg's monthly Tip



This is the first of a series of simple lessons that will appear in the Club's newsletter. I will look to vary the content between bidding and playing and will pitch the material at different levels. I will also look to tap others on the shoulder for a contribution!

UNDERSTANDING YOUR PARTNER'S FIRST RESPONSE.

When your partner responds to your opening bid, it is important to understand not just what the bid says about the suit, but also what other information it provides. Let us assume you open 1D with the following: S AT3 H KT6 D AJ9732 C K
So, we will examine what the various responses tell you about responder's hand.

A response of 1H says your partner has 4+ Hs and 6+ points.

A response of 1S says your partner has 4+ Ss, 6+ points and does not have 4 Hs.

In both the above responses, partner might have 4 Ds, but they will tell you about the 4 card major first as our bidding system is about

finding a fit in a major.

A response of 1NT says your partner has 6/9 high card points and does not have 4Hs or 4S.

Responder might hold a 5 card or even 6 card club minor suit.

A response of 2C says your partner has 5+ clubs, 10+ points and does not have 4 Hs or 4Ss.

A response of 2D says your partner has 4+ Ds, 6/9 points and does not hold 4 Hs or 4Ss.

In other words, there is important information about what partner does not have. Too often we see bids that only get half of this information correct. This can send opener heading off down the wrong path. So, when responding to an opening bid, remember the following:

A response of 1NT tells opener that you do not hold a 4 card suit between opener's suit and 1NT.

A response of a 2 level minor, promises 10 points. If you hold a 5 or 6 card unbid minor and 6/9 points it is best to respond 1NT. Your partnership is seeking to find an 8 card fit in a major. If your partnership has over 50% of the points and can't find a major fit, consider NTs before settling on a contract in a minor.

Interesting Snippets

Greg has accepted an Invitation to join the Wellington Regional Committee. It operates as a middle player between the Board and the Clubs in the region. Committee members do not represent the Clubs they belong to. However, the reason he was asked to put his name forward was that the existing Committee particularly wanted someone who belonged to a smaller Club and SWBC was seen as a progressive smaller Club. Congratulations Greg!

This is what has been happening on our Website

In the last week our website has been accessed 772 times

The Majority of users looked at the Results Page

The Page we set up to advertise our tournament was viewed by 38 people

The page we use to advertise upcoming tournaments in the region was 35 people

10 people looked at the page where we provided links to Mindy Wu's advice

Scoring Pads upskilling lesson

Angie and Martin are working on a date to do this and we let you when it is going to happen.

In the meantime you can ring Angie 06 3086646 to add your name to this list

Seating Rights at our last meeting the Committee agreed to review seating and moving rights. Written applications need to be received by our secretary Kath Banks by the next committee meeting on Thursday 13th April. Kath's email address is kathleenbanks@gmail.com

Monday and Thursday Nights

We have had great turnouts on the last few Monday and Thursday nights – e.g. 15 tables for the last two Thursdays and 14 tables last Monday. Although great for our club - Barbara and Lizzie, the convenors for these nights would love to know if you are coming so they can arrange the tables for the night's play, unfortunately we can't leave our tables set up from week to week because the room is used by different people. If you haven't put your name down in the book and want to play – that is no problem - just give them a call and you are sorted. Their numbers are:- Barbara 06 304 9208 and Lizzie is 06 304 9952. They will also do their best to find you a partner if you haven't got one.



Masterton Visit

A reminder to all club members, Monday and Thursday night players, on Thursday May 4th we are hosting a visit by Masterton players. For those who are new to the club we exchange visits annually with Masterton and our visit to their clubrooms is Tuesday July 11th. The evening starts at 5.30 with wine and food. We ask all participating club members to bring a plate. Masterton plays SWBC, so you will need to find your own partners – if you need help with this phone Lizzie 06 304 9952

Did you Know that:-

In July 1996 our Club started with a group who went to Masterton to learn how to play Bridge. There were 17 in the group and Sue Wright, Sylvia Beavis, Cathy Smith Gloria Wong, Diana Cresswell, Heather Draper are still members of SWBC. Andrea Hempleman who was also part of the group is a member of Masterton Club.



Sue Wright is a Life Member of SWBC



Gloria at a recent club bridge night

Bridge Golden Rule #1—Always lead your partner's suit. You never lose the post mortem by leading partner's suit -there are occasional exceptions , but they are very rare. Plus, just as importantly, you will build partnership trust. If you do not lead partner's suit, partner can assume you have a void.