Hamilton



Hamilton Contract Bridge Club

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http://www.hamilton.bridge-club.org/

Newsletter Editor: Catherine Cameron

Newsletter - August 2021

From the President

Congratulations to Barry, Jenny, Blair and Liz for representing New Zealand in a trans-Tasman (online) test against Australia.

Also, congratulations to Yuzhong Chen, Gary Foidl and Mike Curry on becoming Silver GrandMasters.

Table numbers are down a little on the night sessions but there have been strong increases during the day sessions. For the future there will be two rooms going on Friday morning as there will be five tables from the lessons and six/seven tables from the NC group and not enough room to hold them all in the Richmond room. A healthy situation for the club.

On Tuesday night before bridge, Richard does a brief lesson on individual topics.

On Fridays, Barry also does a 15 min lesson at 9.30 in the O'Neill room which is open to anyone.

Two big tournaments are coming up at our club:

- September 4th Waikato / Bays Regional Swiss Pairs
- Three days of bridge over Labour Weekend

PLEASE if you can spare a couple of hours helping in the kitchen, let Jane Sandelin know.

Happy Bridging.



From the Captain's Table

Hello everyone

It is great to see so many at our bridge tables. Especially great to hear all the friendly chatter. We even have two Rooms of players on Fridays! Do remember to welcome new players and be kind (not too many suggestions on how they could have played!!)

Members are having fun planning their costumes for the Cambridge Sixes on Sunday 7th August!

There will be a variety!!

Lessons have finished and next year we may have all our lessons on Tuesdays, one session in the afternoon and one session in the evening. A big thank you to our bridge tutors who do a great job of teaching and encouragement and a big welcome to our graduating learners.

Another Soup and Bun Day is coming, with Soup at 12.00 and bridge at 1.00pm. The date is to be confirmed so keep an eye on the clubroom doors or the website blog for the final details.

Do encourage new players to come along to socialise and have fun. Cost of \$5 is paid from your Compass account.

A reminder, if you feel unwell, please do not come to Bridge.

Let your partner know and stay home and look after yourself.

Please let me know of anyone who is ill or suffering bereavement.



Happy bridging



Laura Sommerville, Club Captain

A Trio of New Silver Grandmasters!

Since the last newsletter, 3 of our club players have become Silver Grandmasters! Congratulations to Mike Curry, Gary Foidl and Yuzhong Chen who have all now achieved silver status. The silver level requires 2500 A&B points and at least 1250 A points - which means successfully playing a lot of tournaments! Well done!



Mike, Gary and Yuzhong

Greeting Cards for Club Funds



Cynthia Clayton keeps busy producing handmade greeting cards for all sorts of occasions.

These are reasonably priced at \$5 each, with money raised donated to our club. See the selection on the table at the club rooms, or on request Cynthia can make cards to order especially for you.

Club News

Phone number changes / additions

 Alison Harris
 027 237-9994

 Beth Kingsley
 021 170-4432

 Cinn Thornton
 021 277-5157

 Deepak Ramaprasad
 021 208-9804

Deryl Northcott 850-1989, 021 999-429

Eunice Eccles 027 891-8225
Geoff Turner 839-7534
Graham Martin 07 211-4016
Helen Muller 027 885-6571
Jennifer Humphreys 021 107-1933
John Farmer 021 186-1986

Judy Simonson 855-3040 / 021 177-9922 Kim *G*raham 07 211-4016 / 027 419-9821

Linda Plasmeyer 027 554-6997

Lorraine Bird 07 824-3520 / 027 295-7000

Marie Fenwick 021 546-986 Maureen Haua 027 345-5858 Melanie Odey 021 874-475 Phil Harris 027 563-6040

Robyn Hardy 856-1189 / 027 281-9756 Susan James 849-5745 / 027 245-0427

Change to Trophy Presentation

This year, the club is changing how the end of year trophies are presented. Instead of these being announced and presented at the AGM, trophies will now be awarded to the winners at each appropriate final session of the year - the party day or evening. The winners will still be listed in the Annual Report. The only awards which will be presented at the AGM are those for the Most Improved and Most Promising bridge players.





Our Learners graduate

This year's lessons have now been completed, with the Tuesday night graduates, somewhat nervously, joining the regular session. Under the continued guidance of the director and tutors, their results are showing they are coping very well. The Friday morning group of 20 new



members have the luxury of continuing to play together in supervised play. They also are all doing very well, using different strategies to remember as much as they can. Their next stage is to join in with the O'Neill room group.

We all know what a complex and confusing game bridge can be at first, so please make them welcome. Why not offer to be a partner if needed? Be prepared to be patient with slow play and limit your comments until they find their feet. We want everyone to enjoy our great game!

Thursday Night Restricted Teams Coming soon

Players of all grades are needed for this event starting 26 August. Pre-entry of your team is required by Saturday 21 August. Each team is to consist of one player from each playing grade (open, intermediate and junior) plus a second junior or intermediate player.

This is a 4-night event with one substitute per team permitted.

[Substitutes must be of equal or lesser grade than the player they are substituting for].

An entry sheet will be available at the club soon or you may enter your team online on the Club website now.

Inter Provincial Representatives

The following members of our club will represent Waikato-Bays at the Inter Provincial Teams in Auckland on 20-22 November:

Open: Blair and Liz Fisher Women: Jenna Gibbons

Senior: Gary Foidl, Yuzhong Chen Congratulations and good luck.

Tournaments at our Club - Players and Helpers Needed



Don't worry - we are not expecting a kitchen wizz, but the more helpers we can get the easier it is for everyone! Labour weekend in particular is our busiest tournament so please think about volunteering for a couple of hours if you can.

Waikato/Bays Regional Swiss Pairs

This is a very big event with many players expected so we need plenty of helpers! Please can our Junior and Intermediate players make an extra effort to volunteer to help on Saturday September 4. Any Open players who do not wish to enter the tournament will be very welcome too. Jane will be asking for names soon or talk to any Committee member if you are able to help out on the day.

Hamilton Congress (Labour weekend)

Our annual Club Congress is our main event of the year, which runs for 3 days over Labour weekend (23-25 October). We would prefer to have a separate group of helpers for each day, so again lots of helpers are needed.

Upcoming Social Events!

Soup and Bun - Join the socialising on a Sunday afternoon for lovely soup, great company, bridge and prizes. Just \$5 for a soup and bun lunch (starting at 12 noon) followed by a session of bridge. The first Soup & Bun was a fun occasion for those who attended - it is a way to catch up with others and meet new people in a very friendly atmosphere.

The second was better again with "bangers and mash" that excelled! The next date in the book clashes with a full weekend building hire so will be

Melbourne Cup Day - On Tuesday 2 November Judith Brooks and her team will provide prize winning opportunities, and a men's and women's best dressed. This is always a very enjoyable event so put it in your diary now!

A Special Anniversary - The club's 70th Anniversary is coming up in 2022. We have started planning for this milestone - do you have any old photos, historical documents or memories of the early Club days that you would like to share? If so, please talk to Nigel, Lindsay Reid, Catherine Cameron or any committee member. We are hoping to produce a history of the club.

A Message from the Chairman of NZ Bridge

changed, with the new date to be confirmed shortly.

The Future

I want to share an article written in May by Christopher Leach, President of the Victoria Bridge Association. In the article he questions why people leave bridge, including not pursuing the game after a beginner's course. His summation, which I think we all know is worth repeating if only to remind ourselves that our actions have consequences:

"While we all understand bridge is a tough game and inevitably there will be some new players who decide it is more complex and demanding than they bargained for, the surveys undertaken across the country are unequivocal with regards to the biggest reasons we can control. These are all connected to the club environment the new player finds themselves in. It is very simple. New players expect and deserve a welcoming, comfortable, and non-critical place to play bridge. They do not like to be the recipients of rude, boorish, and critical behaviour or to witness other pairs engaging in the same, including berating each other for mistakes. The biggest reason people leave bridge is because of bad behaviour and a non-welcoming environment. The biggest reason for the success of some clubs is precisely because they create a place to play bridge where such things don't occur or have been eradicated under the influence of a warm, welcoming culture, completely averse to anti-social behaviours.

In my long journey through the game, I am sad to say that I have observed that, although some top players can be aloof and unfriendly, the worst behaviours are often exhibited by intermediate pairs, lording it over beginners. This is a total turn-off!

As a club proprietor, club committee member or Director, you need to be profoundly aware of the impact that various types of rude and unfriendly behaviours have on your cohort of new players. Perpetrators need to be spoken to, monitored and, if necessary, sanctioned, because they are inordinately destructive to the growth of your club and indeed to the growth of the game everywhere. And beyond ensuring that good behaviour prevails, you should implement a cultural overhaul that ensures friendliness, player comfort and a safe and welcoming environment.

The ABF research reveals again and again that you can have top teachers, spick and span clubrooms and every creature comfort, but that will hold little weight if the culture is off".

Now to the future. If Covid has taught us anything we need to be always thinking about the future. We face issues and challenges never contemplated. We all want the game to remain healthy, prosper and grow. Clearly the observations and comments made by Christopher above are pertinent and we should be doing what we can to ensure the game is enjoyable for everyone.

Allan Morris, Chairman, NZ Bridge

NZ Bridge National Congress Coming Soon

The 2021 Bridge National Congress will be held at a new venue, the Lion Foundation Centre, Bay Park, Mt Maunganui, from Saturday 25 September to Saturday 2 October. Register now as entry fees for events are discounted by 10% if paid by 31st August.

Visit the Congress <u>website</u> to enter or view events. There are no evening sessions this year and 9:30 starts most mornings.

There are separate special events for novice, junior and intermediate players too:

Novice Pairs – a single session on the afternoon of Saturday 2 October (A novice has less than three years' experience and was without a Certificate of Proficiency at 1 January 2021). Only \$10 for this session.

New Zealand Junior Pairs - 2 sessions on Friday 1 October
Intermediate Swiss Pairs - 2 sessions on Thursday 30 September
New Zealand Intermediate Pairs - 2 sessions on Friday 1 October
New Zealand Intermediate Teams - 2 sessions on Saturday 2 October.

The lower ranking Open players are allowed to play with Intermediates and Juniors in the following events:

New Zealand Restricted Open Pairs: from Sat 25 September for 5 sessions (Sat and Sun morning and afternoon and Monday morning)

New Zealand Restricted Open Teams: from Mon 27 September for 4 sessions (Mon afternoon, Tues morning and afternoon and Wed morning)

For all events, you must **enter in advance** - close-off is the day before the event but you are encouraged to enter earlier to help with their planning.

NZBrîdge

Sponsorship to NZ Bridge National Congress

Waikato-Bays Region is sponsoring the entry fee for up to 4 players for up to \$200 each. See http://www.waikatobays.bridge-club.org/congress
Applications for the lucky draw close 29 August 2021. Why not give it a go?

Recent Events at our Club

Soup & Bun I - Sunday 16 May

Laura did a great job of organising the first soup and bun social of the year – soup and bun is a bit of a misnomer as there was lots of cake as well! 19 pairs had a very enjoyable time, with Ian and Cynthia Clayton convincingly winning the north-south prize while Tracey Hoff and Heather Crosbie came out top of east-west.

Waikato Interclub Teams - Sunday 20 June

Teams from eight clubs battled it out in Hamilton for the opportunity to play Bay of Plenty in the Interclub Teams final at Cambridge in August. Representing our club were Open: Cynthia Clayton, Ian Clayton, Jenna Gibbons, Karen Harris; Intermediate: David Taylor, Joan Egger, Catherine Cameron, Trini Lin; Junior: Judy Cooper, Rachelle Meijer, Stephen Weir, Stephen Baptist. Overall, the Open team finished 1st, the Intermediate team 7th and the Juniors 2nd. Teams that finished 1st or 2nd advance to the final. The overall winning club and winner of the Waikato Interclub Trophy was Waikato, with Hamilton as runners-up.

The Interclub Teams final is coming soon - Sunday 22 August. Good luck to our Open and Junior representatives.

Bangers & Mash / Shepherds Pie - Sunday 27 June

On a wet winter's day, 19 pairs met to feast on cottage pie or sausages and mash, catch up with old friends and play a session of bridge. It was wonderful to see some of our learners from 2020 attend, and even a pair from Te Awamutu. Laura had again arranged some spot prizes - the prize for the first table to call a director was very quickly awarded following an "incorrect start to the bidding" on the first board! Winners of the bridge were Sam Armstrong and Phil Thompson, with Thelma Bird and Duncan White runners-up.

Hamilton Open and Restricted Open Teams - Saturday 10 July

Once again the Hamilton Bridge Club ran a successful tournament with 18 Open Teams in the 5A competition and 10 Teams in the 'Restricted Open' competition (for players with less than 300 'A' points).

After 6 rounds of 10 boards each, Liz & Blair Fisher, Michael Curry and Ken

Yule won the Open section while the 'scratch' fill-in Restricted Open team of Rachelle Meijer, Donna Prentice, Joan Egger and Jena Robinson came 2nd in that competition. Leanne Curry and Megan Jolly made up half the team that came 3rd in the Restricted Open and Yuzhong Chen was a member of the 3rd placed team in the Open section.



Donna, Joan, Rachelle and Jena

Many thanks to Nigel, Jane and Ella for running another successful tournament and to all those who helped both with setting-up and on the day.

Waikato Area Pairs Heat 6 (Final Round) - Sunday 1 August

As usual, Hamilton hosted the final round of the Waikato Area Pairs. Twenty-two pairs of keen bridge players played in the final round of the competition for this year, with Hamilton players featuring in the first 3 placings in the final round (see the results further on in the newsletter). The prizegiving afterwards for the overall leaders calculated over the 6 rounds also involved members of our club. Congratulations to Ian & Pam Moore, the overall winners.

Thanks to Ella for organising the WAPs this year, to Mike Neels for scoring and to Tracey Hoff and Richard Wagstaff for running the kitchen on the day as well as acting as standby pair - and they did get to play!

The afternoon finished with afternoon tea and drinks from the bar.

Tournament Successes by our Club Members



Matamata Junior Pairs Matamata Saturday 1 May

3rd Tim Densem & Donna Prentice

Taupo Open Pairs (2 days) Taupo Sat/Sun 1/2 May

1st equal Richard Solomon & Noel Grigg

Putaruru Open Pairs Putaruru Thursday 13 May

1st Jenna Gibbons & Julian Foster

Te Awamutu Restricted Pairs Te Awamutu Saturday 15 May

3rd Yuzhong Chen & Graham Saunders

Waikato Area Pairs (4) Te Aroha Sunday 23 May

2nd Anna Kalma & Richard Solomon

Morrinsville Open Pairs Morrinsville Saturday 29 May

1st Noel Grigg & Lesley Quilty

3rd Richard Fletcher & Yuzhong Chen

Rotorua Open Pairs Rotorua Saturday 19 June

2nd Richard Solomon & Rachelle Pelkman

3rd Blair Fisher & Jack James

Waik/Bays Interclub Teams Hamilton Sunday 20 June

1st Open Cynthia Clayton, Ian Clayton, Jenna Gibbons, Karen Harris

2nd Junior Judy Cooper, Rachelle Meijer, Stephen Weir, Stephen Baptist

Hamilton Open Swiss Pairs Hamilton Wed 9-23 June

1st Jenny Millington & Barry Jones

3rd Michael Curry & Yuzhong Chen

http://www.hamilton.bridge-club.org/

Spa Town Open Teams Te Aroha Saturday 26 June

1st Blair Fisher, Liz Fisher, Wayne Burrows, Jack James

2nd Richard Solomon, Anna Kalma, Michael Curry, Ken Yule

Waikato Area Pairs (5) Thames Sunday 4 July 1st Gary Foidl & Yuzhong Chen

Hamilton Open Teams Hamilton Saturday 10 July

1st Blair Fisher, Liz Fisher, Michael Curry, Ken Yule

3rd Yuzhong Chen, James Yang, John Wang, Gary Chen

Hamilton Restricted Teams Hamilton Saturday 10 July

2nd Rachelle Meijer, Donna Prentice, Joan Egger, Jena Robinson

3rd Leanne Curry, Megan Jolly, Simon Eminson, Jan Gyenge

Matamata Open Pairs Matamata Saturday 24 July 3rd Jenny Millington & Barry Jones

Tauranga Ladies Pairs Tauranga Wednesday 28 July 2nd Jenna Gibbons & Christine Gibbons

Waikato Area Pairs (6) Hamilton Sunday 1 August

1st Olive Davis & Mary Ronke

2nd Barry Jones & Karen Harris

3rd Phil Thompson & Ian Ross

Waikato Area Pairs - overall 6 sessions

1st Ian Moore & Pam Moore 3rd Gwyn Lobb & Kate McFadyen

Congratulations

Upcoming Events

COMING UP AT OUR CLUB

Waikato/Bays Regional Swiss Pairs	Saturday 4 September
Hamilton Congress Open Pairs	Saturday 23 October
Hamilton Congress Restricted Open Pairs	Saturday 23 October
Waikato/Bays Provincial Teams (Qualifying)	Sunday 24 October
Waikato/Bays Consolation Swiss Pairs	Monday 25 October
Waikato/Bays Provincial Teams Final	Monday 25 October
New Zealand Wide Pairs	Friday 12 November

EVENTS COMING UP IN OUR REGION

Junior and Novice Tournaments:

Cambridge Sixes Junior Pairs	Cambridge	Saturday 7 August
Tauranga Junior & Novice Pairs	Tauranga	Saturday 28 August
Te Awamutu Junior Pairs	Te Awamutu	Sunday 3 October

Intermediate Tournaments:

Cambridge Sixes Intermed Pairs	Cambridge	Saturday 7 August
Te Awamutu Intermediate Pairs	Te Awamutu	Saturday 14 August
Tauranga Intermediate Pairs	Tauranga	Saturday 28 August
Matamata Intermediate Pairs	Matamata	Sunday 12 September
Cambridge Intermediate Pairs	Cambridge	Sunday 17 October

Restricted Tournaments:

Thames Restricted Pairs	Thames	Sunday 5 September
Rotorua Restricted Pairs	Rotorua	Saturday 11 September
Mt Maunganui Restricted Pairs	Mt Maunganu	i Saturday 18 September

Open Tournaments:

Cambridge Sixes Open Pairs	Cambridge	Saturday 7 August
Waitomo Open Pairs	Te Kuiti	Thursday 7 October
Te Puke Open Pairs	Te Puke	Saturday 9 October
Taupo Open Pairs	Taupo	Saturday 16 October

http://www.hamilton.bridge-club.org/



Tuesday Individual Pairs

Scratch

1 Ian Clayton

2 Lucie Armstrong

Handicap

1 Judith Brooks

2 Lucie Armstrong

Club Teams Championship - Barbara Minogue Trophy

1 Karen Harris, Jenna Gibbons, Ian Clayton, Cynthia Clayton, Hugh McGann

2 Jenny Millington, Barry Jones, Liz Fisher, Michael Curry

Van Selm Memorial Pairs

Scratch

1 Nigel Gresson & Malcolm Smith

2 Helene Thygesen & Gosha Hirsz

Handicap

1 Catherine Cameron & Melinda Wang

2 Val West & Pam Burns

Elsie Pohio Intermediate Teams

1 Nigel Gresson, David Taylor, Trini Lin, Catherine Cameron

2 Phil Thompson, Sam Armstrong, Ranjith Cooray, Terry Wells

Elsie Pohio Junior Teams

1 Stephen Weir, Stephen Baptist, Rachelle Meijer, Laura Sommerville, Judy Cooper

2 Ewen Ritchie, Larry Olsen, Jiwan Dhaliwal, Bill Barwood, Ray Hancox

Friday Autumn Pairs

Scratch

1 Helen Healy & Tim Healy

2 Ian Clayton & Ian Moore

Handicap

1 Sheila Smith & Verna Beech

2 Helen Healy & Tim Healy

NC Friday Autumn Pairs Scratch

1 Chris Goulding & Michelle Paterson

2 Moira Fraser & Michael Davies

Handicap

1 Moira Fraser & Michael Davies

2 Peter Craig & Tim Seavill

Grace Fuller Championship Pairs

1 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood

2 Marian Kingham & Helen Green

Handicap

1 Marian Kingham & Helen Green

2 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood

Henry Handicap Trophy

Scratch
1 Sue Collinge & Jenny Millington

Handicap

1 June Rogers & Margaret Boyd2 Sue Collinge & Jenny Millington

2 Ian Moore & Cynthia Clayton

Winter Drawn Teams

1 Jenny Millington, Michael Curry, David Taylor, Helen Rinaldi, Liz Fisher

2 Barbara Daly, Mereana Cullen, Kevin Whyte, Malcolm Smith

Monday Pairs B

Scratch
1 Alan Parkes & Ella Gray

la Gray 1 Alan Parkes & Ella Gray

Handicap

2 Gosha Hirsz & Helene Thygesen

2 Stephen Weir & Stephen Baptist

Thursday Winter Pairs - Wardlaw Trophy & Rose Bowl

Scratch

Handicap

1 Helen Muller & Mary Fear

1 Adele Schofield & Alison Orchard

2 Val West & Phil Thompson

2 Helen Muller & Mary Fear

Friday Pairs A

Scratch

Handicap

1 Ian Clayton & Barbara Daly2 Malcolm Smith & Phil Thompson

1 Josie Gordon & Margaret Slack2 June Rogers & Judith Brooks

NC Friday Pairs A

Scratch

Handicap

1 Raewyn Higginson & Alan Grant

1 Raewyn Higginson & Alan Grant

2 Jannie van Schagen & Roger Johnstone

2 Jutta Morgan & Milwyn Rees

Tuesday Winter Pairs

Scratch

Handicap

1 Ian Clayton & Tim Healy

1 Ian Clayton & Tim Healy

2 Linda Lin & Cynthia Clayton

2 June Rogers & Heather Crosbie

Alisdair Beck Trophy

Scratch

Handicap

1 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood2 Oli Oliver & Deepak Ramaprasad

1 Donnalea Whitcher & Armand Petrin

2 Oli Oliver & Deepak Ramaprasad

http://www.hamilton.bridge-club.org/

Monday Pairs C

Scratch

Scratch

Scratch

1 Ella Gray & Alan Parkes

2 Mark Thomson & Richard Hooper

Peter Kunac Trophy

1 Ian Moore & Malcolm Smith

2 Helen Healy & Tim Healy

NC Peter Kunac

1 Chris Goulding & Michelle Paterson

2 Ruth Niemiec & Bob Niemiec

David Head Trophy: Individual

Scratch
1 Ian Ross

2 Cathy Nolen

Tuesday Evening Pairs A

Scratch

1 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood

2 Julie Hooper & Donna Prentice

Handicap

1 Ella Gray & Alan Parkes

2 Pam Burns & Val West

Handicap

1 Verna Beech & Lee Cook

2 Colleen De Luen & Judith Brooks

Handicap

1 Ruth Niemiec & Bob Niemiec

2 Raewyn Higginson & Alan Grant

Handicap

1 Ian Ross

2 Jenny Seavill

July

Handicap

1 Jiwan Dhaliwal & Bill Barwood

2 Veronica Grondona & Angus MacDonald

Wednesday Restricted Teams - President's Salver

1 Michael Curry, Liz Fisher, Leanne Curry, Megan Jolly

2 Ella Gray, Alan Parkes, Kim Thompson, Karen Thomson, Jenna Gibbons

Monday Mid-Winter Pairs

Scratch

1 Maureen O'Halloran & Natalie Muller

2 Leanne Curry & Megan Jolly

Friday Winter Pairs

Scratch

1 Helen Healy & Tim Healy

2 Ian Clayton & Olive Davis

NC Friday Winter Pairs

Scratch

1 Chris Goulding & Michelle Paterson

2 Roger Johnstone & Michael Davies

Handicap

1 Maureen O'Halloran & Natalie Muller

2 David Taylor & Judith Brooks

July 30

Handicap

1 Elaine Rayner & Elaine Hickel

2 Anne McCarthy & Verna Beech

July 30

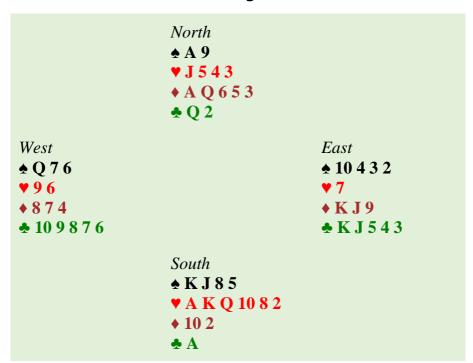
Handicap

1 Roger Johnstone & Michael Davies

2 Chris Goulding & Michelle Paterson

From Lindsay's File

Challenge 15



How can South make 7 Hearts after West leads the 6 of Spades?

The answer will be published on the club's website puzzle corner soon after the newsletter is published.

Tip of the Day:

Plan the play before you begin. Entries are a big part of planning. When the weaker hand is short of entries they must not be wasted prematurely

