



From the President

November 2019

With our final tournament of the year held over Labour Weekend our Bridge year is coming to an end. Hosting a multi-day congress is a huge undertaking and I was impressed with the members who responded to appeals for assistance, especially in the kitchen, and willingly contributed part of their long weekend to help. Particular thanks go to Michael Neels, our scorer, Cathy Nolen who dealt a small mountain of boards, Jane Sandelin and her catering team, and Richard Fletcher who balanced the books each day and quietly did all the jobs that needed to be done - a great crew to work with!

Congratulations to members Duncan White, overall Intermediate winner, Eddie Tan and Mark Hodges, top junior pair in the Intermediate Pairs on Saturday and Barry Jones and Michael Curry winners of the Swiss Pairs on Monday. Unfortunately, no-one anticipated the dreadful rugby result on Saturday night in the sweepstake entries - the stake will be added to the Melbourne Cup prize pool. (*I know, the better team won on the night.*) The club AGM is on November 17. If you wish to contribute to your club by becoming a committee member, complete the nomination form on the notice board outside the Secretary's office by 9th November.

Also thanks to Catherine Cameron who has produced this newsletter for us for 4 years, making improvements to it each year.

I wish all members a peaceful time over the Xmas and New Year break and more bridging in 2020.

Ella

Ella Gray

Club Captain's Chatter

Hope you all enjoyed Congress - and if you didn't make it, you don't what you are missing... New sections to play in, loved the Open Restricted programme - adding in juniors, what more could you ask for - I know, the Disco came back, I had bags of fun dancing, you should really consider playing at Congress, the pinnacle event of the NZ Bridge calendar.

I was talking about the different systems that everyone uses and all the little tweaks one adds to them. I have a prize from the Bridge Zone if you send in your favourite bid, convention or defence - give a quick blurb about what it is called, what it does and when you use it - and we will weigh them all up, pick a winner and hand out an early Christmas present!

All entries to be in by November 27th - the winner will be named on December 4th ...the quirkier the better. A small hint - I don't use the multi 2D bid - Mary's way, 2 way, 3 way or 4 - that is not going to take out the prize - find something better.

Well done to those who achieved their goals this year. I crossed off a few of mine and added in a couple more - it's nice to know that you can chip away at these - did you get close to any of yours?

The last of the tourneys are coming up and if you don't hurry the Christmas ones will be all filled up. Eunice Eccles keeps us well informed with what's on so please get your entries in really early.

I have a tip for you all:

How do you quantify your singletons, doubletons or voids? Yes they are valuable, but how valuable are they?

The rule of thumb is:

Before you know you have a trump fit with partner

Add 1 point for a doubleton

2 points for a singleton

And 3 points for a void

When you know you have a trump fit

Add 1 point for a doubleton

3 points for a singleton

And 5 points for a void

The saying that my hand improves during the auction is true - you can find more points as the bidding goes on. It may help you decide whether to keep bidding - your fingers and toes come in handy when counting points. Sometimes you need to use all your digits to decide whether to pass, compete or bid game. I don't always know what's right - sometimes you get a feel, most times it's logical and sometimes you just shut your eyes and bid. I may even submit my own contribution of quirky bids called... 'On the smell of an oily rag - invites are always game force'.
See you at the tables...

Mereana Cullen

Club Captain

COMING UP AT OUR CLUB

NZ Wide Pairs - Friday 1 November at 7.30pm

This event is played at the same time in bridge clubs throughout New Zealand. Everyone plays the same hands and as well as the result at our club, it is scored across the whole country with prizes awarded for the top scores nationwide including for juniors and intermediates. A booklet containing commentary on each hand is given to all players afterwards, so you can discuss how you could improve your bidding and play. All this for \$10 with money raised being used to support Youth bridge.

Melbourne Cup Afternoon - Tuesday 5 November



Come along on Tuesday at 12 for soup, followed at 1pm by a session of bridge then afternoon tea. The final act will be viewing of the big race at 5pm. Only \$6 for a fun afternoon!

Members' News



Phone number changes / additions

Alistar Steyn-Ross	856-4614, 027 280-8100
Angie Singh	854-1142, 021 872-999
Barbara McLean	824-3834
Celia Bentley	834-1451
Eunice Eccles	07 929-2806
Gael Levin	824-3907, 027 518-7432
Heather Douglas	027 362-3129
Hugh Barton	849-6628, 021 135-8615
Irene McCaskill	855-5130, 021 065-435
Jenny Mangan	021 130-4193
Josie van Weerd	027 494-3002
Judy Cooper	856-3763, 021 041-7821
June Scott	855-1018
Kathleen Downey	021 044-9510
Kieran Mangan	022 196-9353
Kimberley Yeoman	849-7765, 022 391-2893
Lyn Jones	849-7211, 021 061-0716
Margaret Boyd	849-6536, 027 749-6537
Marilyn Webby	854-0450, 021 037-4713
Moiria Steyn-Ross	856-4614
Peter Craig	839-2644, 021 438-764
Peter Levin	824-3907, 027 518-7432
Rachelle Meijer	027 801-4436
Sandra Duane	021 145-6583
Susan Primrose	839-7220, 022 082-3212
Tim Seavill	839-1920, 021 625-139
Veronica Grondona	07 210-1447, 021 177-4451

Update your mobile phone number for 2020

The 2020 programme book is now being prepared. This year we would like to add as many mobile phone numbers as possible to the book. A list of all members' details is on a table in the main clubroom. Please take the time to check your phone number and either confirm it is correct, add or change the details, or let the [bridge club secretary](#) know of any change needed.

Jewel Cresswell

Jewel Cresswell, our long-time life member (and mother of current committee member Bruce Cresswell) died recently. Jewel was made a life member in 2002 for services to the club. In recent years Jewel had sight problems and was unable to play, but until 2016 she and husband Henry were regular Open grade players at the club.

New Directors Needed

Have you ever thought of becoming a director? Our club needs some new directors - could you be one? Training will be given along with help to pass the exam. If you think this is you, then contact Dallas Dagg or Ella Gray for more information or to register your interest.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Starts 2pm

**Followed by Bridge and
Christmas Dinner**

\$10 per person



Note the date change from that in the bridge book!

Nominations and notices of business need to be in writing with the Club Secretary by Saturday, 9 November 2019

If you are holding a trophy, please return it to the Club as soon as possible for cleaning

Meet Our Members - Richard Hooper

(Interview with Phil Thompson)

Richard is a long-standing member of our club, having joined over 30 years ago, in 1988. But his bridge playing began much earlier, in 1965 at Te Awamutu College where Paul Hobbs was a mathematics teacher, a Bridge Grand Master and a NZ Representative. Paul coached some lunchtime bridge which was popular when the weather did not favour kicking a ball around outside. When Richard and Julie joined the club they took lessons again, this time taught by Malcolm Smith. During the period from 2000 to 2017, Richard progressed from Provincial Master to Life Master (his current rank), and his regular partner was the late Rodney Harris. He and Rodney played a very basic Acol system, with few special bids, but with considerable success nevertheless.



Richard attended Waikato University and graduated in Management and Marketing. During his University years he started his lawn-mowing business to fund his study years. It was so successful that he has continued that business right to the present day, apart from a break in 1980 when he travelled to Rotterdam to propose to Julie, who was working there at the time. He worked as a glass-washer (read window-cleaner), a vital trade in a windy city by the water. His trip was not in vain, and Richard and Julie were married in 1986. They have two sons, two daughters and 5 grand-children.

Richard has been a long-standing servant of our club, serving on the committee 1993-1995, and again 2001-2005, including as President 2004-2005. He served on the Match Committee from 2002 to 2015 and has also served on the Waikato Bays Region committee as President in 2005-2006. During his time on the committee, Richard has seen and been responsible for some major milestones and changes. He was instrumental in setting up the Waikato Area Pairs (WAP), based on a similar Bay of Plenty competition, and he was also instrumental in getting our Wednesday night

3A Swiss Pairs approved by NZCBA (now NZ Bridge). But one of the most important changes was to initiate, share, and support Jan Spaans' vision to introduce electronic scoring into NZ via the Hamilton Club, which became the first club in New Zealand to go digital. He always believed that streaming data was a gateway to the future. His dream of playing inter-club online at the Club via the internet became a reality, using cameras and a video link. Although the initial event was short-lived, those early experiments with simultaneous bridge paved the way for X-club bridge, where clubs throughout the country play the same hands and results can be computed for a couple of hundred pairs, rather than 20 or 30 at a single club. This technology also enables the result for the NZ Wide Pairs in November to be available shortly after the conclusion of play, rather than a few weeks later as it was prior to electronic scoring.

Richard told me that his finance committee chair did some analysis and determined that providing biscuits at supper time was costing the club \$3000 per annum, so during his presidency the committee cancelled the tea lady and the free biscuits and reverted to a self-service tea and coffee facility. This was apparently not very well received by the membership at the time but seems to be happily accepted these days.

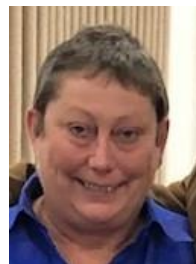
One final improvement was when the stadium was built, and the committee determined that there was a financial opportunity to offer car parking for a fee. Richard and his committee did a search of the title for the property and determined that the rear fence was well inside the boundary. After checking with the City Council, a working bee was held to move the fence back to the boundary. This provided a much larger parking space, which has proved to be a necessity when the club runs big tournaments, and a great source of income when there are events at the stadium.

JP Available

Club member Lucie Armstrong is a Justice of the Peace. She can be available to help with witnessing signatures, certifying documents, administering affidavits or statutory declarations following bridge on Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday evening and Friday mornings. Make sure you contact Lucie (854 9339) beforehand, so she knows to bring her equipment. There is no charge for this service.

New Gold Grandmaster

Kathy Yule of Matamata, who joined our club this year, became a Gold Grandmaster in October. Congratulations on reaching this elevated level - only 3 players in New Zealand have a higher grade.



NZ Bridge National Congress Results

Over 700 players including 70 from Australia arrived in Hamilton at the start of October to take part in the NZ Bridge Congress held at the Distinction Hotel in Te Rapa. Over 9 days of serious competition players need to overcome exhaustion and bidding misunderstandings. These Hamilton club members scored in the top 10 in their events (top 5 for Novices & Juniors, top 20 for premier events), an impressive result given the very high calibre of competition:

- Rubber Bridge: Sam & Jo Simpson 1st
- NZ Restricted Open Pairs: Kevin Whyte & Jan Spaans 7th
- Novice Pairs: Jo Millington & Mike Everard 4th
- New Zealand Pairs: Jenna Gibbons & Julian Foster 17th
- Matchpoint Swiss Pairs: Michael Curry & Ant Hopkins 6th
Liz Fisher & Karen Harris 8th
- NZ Restricted Open Teams: Cath Glyde & teammates 2nd
Diane Emms & teammates 4th
Kevin Whyte & teammates 6th
- NZ Senior Teams: Ian Clayton & teammates 2nd
Richard Fletcher & teammates 9th
- NZ Intermediate Teams: Kay Dixon & teammates 2nd
Leanne Curry, Megan Jolly & teammates 3rd
- Multiple Teams: Jenna Gibbons & teammates 8th
- NZ Senior Pairs: Michael Neels & Ella Gray 3rd
- NZ Same Sex Pairs: Graham Stern & Alan Parkes 5th
- NZ Mixed Pairs: Sam & Jo Simpson 6th
- Open Swiss Pairs: Sam & Jo Simpson 7th
Liz & Blair Fisher 14th

Recent Events at our Club

Waikato/Bays Regional Swiss Pairs and Hamilton Junior Pairs - Saturday 7 September

What do fans going to an All Blacks test and bridge players have in common? They all wanted to park at or near the Hamilton Bridge Club! Despite the scheduling clash (blame the All Blacks!) we managed to park all our players' cars - and it was a great turnout, with 48 pairs in the regional Swiss Pairs, 17 Junior pairs and 6 Novice pairs filling up both club rooms. Everything ran smoothly on the day, which was a great tribute to Nigel, Jane and all their helpers. Hamilton players had keen competition, with Gary Foidl and Brett Glass finishing in 8th place the highest placed local pair in the Swiss.

TWITs results - Come and play next year

The 2019 Waikato Interclub Teams finished on Friday 23 August. The Hamilton Intermediate team Cinders (Karen Thomson, Kim Thompson, Roger Gunning and Ian Ross) convincingly won the Intermediate section, while the Hamilton Open team Archie's Slaves (Barry Jones, Jenny Millington, Cherie Barton and Dallas Dagg) also won their section. Many thanks to those who supported this event. A survey revealed that peoples' favourite aspects of the TWITs were meeting and playing against new faces and partaking of the wine & cheese suppers. We hope to see you all again next year, as well as new players - the more the merrier.

Get your team together and be ready for March 2020!

Hamilton Congress 26-28 October

Who did you expect to win the rugby semi-final All Blacks vs England? Participants in the rugby score sweepstake at Hamilton Congress all opted for the All Blacks! You can't win them all, but Hamilton club was a winner with a well-run tournament at Labour weekend - a tribute to the planning and hard work of the organisers, including Ella Gray, Michael Neels and Jane Sandelin.

Tournament Successes by our Club Members



Cambridge Sixes

Cambridge

Saturday 10 August

3rd Team

Karen Harris & Malcolm Smith, Ian Ross & Jenny Seavill,
Lois Jones & Stewart Lawrence

1st Open

Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton

1st Intermed.

Catherine Cameron & Trini Lin

Te Awamutu Intermediate

Te Awamutu

Saturday 17 August

3rd

Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry

WaikBays Interclub Final

Cambridge

Sunday 25 August

2nd Open

Michael Curry, Jenna Gibbons, Ian Clayton, Cynthia Clayton

Tauranga Ladies Pairs

Tauranga

Wednesday 28 August

1st

Jo Simpson & Kathy Yule

Hamilton Junior Pairs

Hamilton

Saturday 7 September

2nd

Mark Hodges & Karen Harper

Hamilton Novice Pairs

Hamilton

Saturday 7 September

1st equal

Hugh Barton & Alyson Mackey

Matamata Intermed.Pairs

Matamata

Sunday 15 September

3rd

Duncan White & Kevin Johns

Waitomo Veteran Pairs

Te Kuiti

Thursday 10 October

3rd

Barbara Daly & Colleen De Luen

Te Puke All Grade Pairs	Te Puke	Saturday 12 October
1 st	Jenna Gibbons & Christine Gibbons	
3 rd	Yuzhong Chen & Herman Yuan	

Te Awamutu Junior Pairs	Te Awamutu	Sunday 13 October
1 st	Jane Weir & Francoise Campbell	

Taupo All Grade Pairs	Taupo	Saturday 19 October
3 rd	Mereana Cullen & Barbara Daly	

Cambridge Intermediate Pairs	Cambridge	Sunday 20 October
1 st	Catherine Cameron & Trini Lin	
3 rd	Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry	

Hamilton Congress Intermediate Pairs	Hamilton	Saturday 26 October
1 st	Duncan White & Kevin Johns	

Waikato/Bays Consolation Swiss Pairs	Hamilton	Monday 28 October
1 st	Barry Jones & Michael Curry	

Waikato/Bays Provincial Teams Final	Hamilton	Monday 28 October
1 st	Sam Simpson, Jo Simpson & teammates	

EVENTS COMING UP IN OUR REGION



Thames Xmas Party	Thames	Sunday 17 November
Te Awamutu Xmas Party	Te Awamutu	Saturday 23 November
Waikato Xmas Party	Waikato	Saturday 30 November
Rotorua Xmas Party	Rotorua	Saturday 7 December
Huntly Xmas Party	Huntly	Sunday 15 December

The Xmas parties are always popular so if you are planning to enter, don't wait, do it now!

summer Bridge

SUMMER BRIDGE STARTS 26 NOVEMBER

For those who have spare time over the holiday season, the Hamilton club runs Summer Bridge 3 times a week except for the week before Christmas and the Christmas and New Year holiday weeks.

Summer Bridge is open to ALL grades and ALL players (including members of ALL bridge clubs). For all sessions you will need to have organised your own partner before you arrive. Table money of \$4 applies. Summer Bridge is stand-alone scratch, with NS and EW winners each night given a voucher for a free session of bridge at Hamilton.

2019 Summer Bridge:

Tuesdays at 7:00pm - November 26, December 3, 10 (partner required)

Thursdays at 7:30pm - November 28, December 5, 12 (partner required)

Fridays at 10:00am - November 29, December 6, 13 (partner required)

2020 Summer Bridge:

Tuesdays at 7:00pm - January 7, 14, 21 (partner required)

Thursdays at 7:30pm - January 9, 16, 23 (partner required)

Fridays at 10:00am - January 10, 17, 24 (partner required)

(The Waikato Bridge Club runs summer bridge on Monday nights if the above dates and times don't suit you)



Club Results

Tuesday Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Cynthia Clayton & Allison Smith
- 2 Judith Brooks & Ian Clayton

Handicap

- 1 Tracey Hoff & Bruce Cresswell
- 2 Phil Thompson & Malcolm Smith

Monday Pairs D

Scratch

- 1 Mark Thomson & Richard Hooper
- 2 Pam Burns & Val West

Handicap

- 1 Mark Thomson & Richard Hooper
- 2 Pam Burns & Val West

Tuesday Evening Winter Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Lesley Kuggeleijn & Irene McCaskill
- 2 Vicky Holloway & Mary Helm

Handicap

- 1 Vicky Holloway & Mary Helm
- 2 Geoff Walpole & Julie Hooper

Hamilton Open 5A Swiss Pairs

- 1 Sam Simpson & Jo Simpson
- 2 Michael Neels & Kevin Whyte

Thursday Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Terry Wells & Kevin McCarthy
- 2 Ross Stewart & Richard Wagstaff

Handicap

- 1 Terry Wells & Kevin McCarthy
- 2 Ross Stewart & Richard Wagstaff

Peggy Perry Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Barbara Daly & Graeme Hope
- 2 Lucie Armstrong & Phil Thompson

Handicap

- 1 Lucie Armstrong & Phil Thompson
- 2 Barbara Daly & Graeme Hope

Allen Family Trophy Individuals

Scratch

- 1 Mark Thomson
- 2 Marian Kingham

Handicap

- 1 Marian Kingham
- 2 Armand Petrin

Waymouth Trophy Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Kim Thompson & Allison Smith

Handicap

- 1 Shirley Fransham & Bob Jones
- 2 Ross Stewart & Trini Lin

Thursday Restricted Teams

- 1 Josie Van Weerd, Cathy Nolen, Catherine Cameron, Trini Lin, Joan Egger
- 2 Bill West, Terry Wells, Ranjith Cooray, Val West

Monday Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Ian Clayton & Malcolm Smith
- 2 David Edson & Elaine Rayner

Handicap

- 1 David Edson & Elaine Rayner
- 2 Stewart Lawrence & Vaughan Samuelson

Tuesday Spring Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Malcolm Smith & Ian Clayton
- 2 Shirley Fransham & John Paterson

Handicap

- 1 Angela Lovell & Trini Lin
- 2 Sheila Smith & Judith Brooks

Hamilton Bridge Club Championship Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Barry Jones & Jenny Millington
- 2 Barbara Daly & Phil Thompson

Handicap

- 1 Barry Jones & Jenny Millington
- 2 Brett Glass & Gary Foidl

Friday Spring Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Barbara Daly & Joan Craig
- 2 June Rogers & Maria Kalksma

Handicap

- 1 Barbara Daly & Joan Craig
- 2 Heather Crosbie & Sheila Hollinger

Tuesday Evening Spring Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Karen Harper & Carissa Oliver
- 2 Julia Muldoon & Julie Hooper

Handicap

- 1 Julia Muldoon & Julie Hooper
- 2 Maggie Fisher & Helen Green

Thursday Spring Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Cathy Nolen & Nigel Gresson
- 2 Anne McCarthy & Margaret Boyd

Handicap

- 1 Anne McCarthy & Margaret Boyd
- 2 Francoise Campbell & Vaughan Samuelson

Monday Spring Pairs

Scratch

- 1 Olive Davis & Joan Egger
- 2 Ian Clayton & Malcolm Smith

Handicap

- 1 Olive Davis & Joan Egger
- 2 Stephen Weir & Stephen Baptist

Galbraith Trophy

Scratch

- 1 John Paterson & Melva Johnstone
- 2 Shirley Fransham & Tracey Hoff

Handicap

- 1 Nolene Vail & Heather Crosbie
- 2 John Paterson & Melva Johnstone

Spring Swiss Pairs

- 1 Cherie Barton & Karen Harris
- 2 Brett Glass & Malcolm Smith

Friday Pairs B

Scratch

- 1 Cynthia Clayton & Ian Clayton
- 2 John Paterson & Sheila Smith

Handicap

- 1 Lindsay Reid & Ewen Ritchie
- 2 John Paterson & Sheila Smith



From Lindsay's File

Challenge 2



North

♠ A K Q J 8

♥

♦ 10 7 6 5 4 3 2

♣ A

West

♠

♥ 9 8 7 6

♦ A K Q J 9 8

♣ J 5 4

East

♠ 10 6 5 4 3 2

♥ 5 4 3 2

♦

♣ 10 3 2

South

♠ 9 7

♥ A K Q J 10

♦

♣ K Q 9 8 7 6

How can South make Six Hearts after West leads the King of Diamonds?

The answer will be on the Results noticeboard at the bridge club shortly and published on [the website puzzle corner](#) soon after the newsletter is published.