



# Hamilton Contract Bridge Club

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## From the President

November 2018

As the Labour Weekend congress is our last tournament for the year, it means that the Bridge year is coming to the end. Again, I want to thank the members who contributed to the success of this tournament. I was encouraged by the willingness to assist as well as the positive attitudes. It's great to see people prepared to willingly give up their time on a long weekend to support our community. If we are successful, it is due to you all. A special thank you to our sponsors, Ryman Healthcare and Urge Coffee and Tea Boutique.

Look out for Ryman's advertisements in our 2019 club booklet.

Again we had a large club representation at the NZ Bridge congress where the club had lots of success starting with Mark and Jeffrey winning the Open Restricted Swiss Pairs. A fantastic achievement. Congratulations to all.

The AGM is on November 25th, followed by bridge and dinner.

The club is always looking for new committee members so, if you would like to contribute to the club by joining the committee, please let me know.

Lastly, as this is my last newsletter as President, I would like to sincerely thank all the members who have helped me in the last two years. As I have said before, the club is reliant on the goodwill and contributions of its members. If we are successful in what we achieve as a club, it is because of the members' contributions, not any one individual.

Happy Bridging

***Nigel Gresson***

## Club Captain's Chatter

The year is flying towards a close and we are heading into the last events of the Club year.

Check your calendar please - come along and play in the NZ Wide Pairs, Friday, November 2nd - it's a big event for NZ Bridge and you get a fancy book explaining the possible auctions for the best and not so good outcomes. Playing against all of NZ is certainly a highlight - it's a date open to all grades. If you don't have a partner let me know, we can pair people up if we create a singles pool.

Heading into next year - why not play with someone new and book yourself into Wednesday night for 2 or 3 sessions - what better way to broaden your horizons and stretch your Bridge a little - perhaps play in one or two Open tournaments - note to self ...if all players that entered are Open - then an Open pair has to be at the bottom of the list - your goal could be to enter and aim not to be that pair. From my experience, having done that many times - this practice improved my play when I returned back to Junior and Intermediate level.

You just need to accept that yes, it will be hard, yes, you will make mistakes and yes, you may well be bottom - however the major benefit will be an appreciation for you and your partner's play knowing that you could have done this and that a bit better and learning from those hands that you could have bid or defended differently.

Your Bridge is enhanced by playing against more learned opposition and having those partnership conversations - introduce a new titbit into the partnership system if things are bit stale or not progressing - keep it basic and make sure your system is a work in progress, tweaking and improving as you go.

If you go adding in fancy conventions that crop up once in a blue moon, you may well get a shoulder tap from Barry Jones - the simple country boy from the "Naki", who is well known for the KISS system.

And lastly - The Bridge Zone - Barry and I have been hosting the Bridge Zone now for 4 months on 89 Free FM - we would love to have more of the Hamilton members' listening to the show. The Club's website has been

updated with a direct link to the latest and previous shows on the home page under ARTICLES. Please show your support by clicking on the podcast and listen to our chitchat - the show is sponsored by NZ Bridge. Look us up - it's a weekly laugh and you find out what's hot and what's not in the Bridge World - fellow crew, Bruce Cresswell and Jane Stearns are also hitting the airwaves - I promise, you will enjoy it, it's addictive  
Join the Bridge Zone crew

Listen to the banter on bidding, leads and the stealing of Kings - what the heck!!!

We ask the hard questions - no subject is safe:

Should you play bridge with your spouse?

Is there gender inequality in bridge?

How hot are you?

You'll feel like you are eavesdropping on someone's conversation:

Postcard from Scotland

Views from experienced players and improvers

The fun way to discuss Bridge dynamics

Bridge, easy to learn, hard to master

2019 - Te tau hei whakapai ake i to kemu Bridge ... 2019 - the year to improve your Bridge game

See you at the table....Mereana

*Mereana Callen*

**Club Captain**

## ***NZ Trialists for 2019 World Championships***

Did you know the next bridge World Championships are in Sanya, China in November 2019? And maybe some of our club's top players will be there representing New Zealand in the Mixed Teams section? Four mixed teams will play off at Orewa Bridge Club this 10 & 11 November to decide the 6 players that will then go to the Championship. These teams include:

- **Jenny Millington, Barry Jones, Julie Atkinson, Patrick Carter**

- **Liz Fisher, Blair Fisher, Jo Simpson, Sam Simpson**

Congratulations to our club members on reaching this stage of the selection process and best wishes and good luck for the trials.

# Members' News



## *Phone number changes / additions*

Angela Hackett	846-3998 / 022 608-0541
Armand Petrin	855-8941
Chris Murphy	021 137-5507
Christine Bishop	027 839-5199
Diana Preece	843-3721 / 021 189-0402
Donnalea Witcher	021 041-8277
Gill Sinclair	021 459-118
John Sinclair	021 357-787
Lee Cook	027 288-3740
Lynda Millington	027 664-8659
Marie Kendrick	021 110-2134
Mary Helm	021 830-078
Milwyn Rees	856-1187
Shaun van Gent	027 335-6492
Stephen Weir	027 209-0001
Vicky Holloway	855-1839
Yvonne Mears	853-7795 / 027 272-554



## *Update your phone number for 2019*

The 2019 programme book is now being prepared. A list of all members' details is on a table in the main clubroom. Please take the time to check your phone number and confirm it is correct or change / add the details.

## *Partner Steward required*

After more than 10 years our Thursday partner steward, Margaret Boyd, would like to take a break from organising partners. Are you able to take over, with back-up support from Margaret? Those people who need a partner for a Thursday will contact you by phone, text or email and you will then arrange a partner. Please contact Margaret or a committee member if you wish to find out more or are willing to take over this role.

# Upcoming Events

## COMING UP AT OUR CLUB

New Zealand Wide Pairs  
Melbourne Cup Afternoon

Friday 2 November  
Tuesday 6 November

## EVENTS COMING UP IN OUR REGION

### *Open and All Grades Tournaments:*

Thames Xmas Party	Thames	Sunday 11 November
Te Awamutu Xmas Party	Te Awamutu	Saturday 17 November
Waikato Xmas Party	Waikato	Saturday 24 November
Rotorua Xmas Party	Rotorua	Saturday 1 December
Huntly Xmas Party	Huntly	Sunday 9 December

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## SUNDAY 25 NOVEMBER

### Starts 2pm

Followed by Bridge and  
Christmas Dinner

**\$10 per person**

*Committee nominations and any notices of business  
need to be in writing with the Club Secretary by  
Sunday, 18 November 2018*



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

# ***NZ Bridge National Congress Results***

A record number of players (close to 700!) arrived in Hamilton at the beginning of October to take part in the NZ Bridge Congress held at the Distinction Hotel in Te Rapa. The Congress runs for 9 days so by the end there are some very tired players. These Hamilton club members scored in the top 10 in their events (top 5 for Novices, top 20 for premier events), an impressive result given the very high calibre of NZ and international competitors:

NZ Youth Teams: Shaun Hewitt, Daniel Spencer & Teammates 2<sup>nd</sup> handicap

Novice Pairs: Megan Jolly & Janice Wilton 1<sup>st</sup> NS

Congress Pairs: Yuzhong Chen & Herman Yuan 5<sup>th</sup>

Ella Gray & Michael Neels 9<sup>th</sup>

Liz Fisher & Michael Curry 10<sup>th</sup>

NZ Open Restricted Pairs: Clare Coles & Anna Kalma 3<sup>rd</sup>

Back to the Future Teams: Graham Stern, Alan Parkes & Teammates 3<sup>rd</sup>

Liz Fisher & Teammates 4<sup>th</sup>

NZ Pairs: Blair Fisher & George Masters 12<sup>th</sup>

Jenny Millington & Barry Jones 18<sup>th</sup>

NZ Pairs Plate: Gary Foidl & Brett Glass 10<sup>th</sup>

NZ Teams 9-16: Gary Foidl, Brett Glass & Teammates

Barry Jones, Jenny Millington & Teammates

Yuzhong Chen & Teammates

Same Sex Pairs: Dan Lulu & John McIntosh 6<sup>th</sup>

Alan Parkes & Graham Stern 10<sup>th</sup>

NZ Seniors Teams: Ian Clayton & Teammates 2<sup>nd</sup>

Rodney Harris, Lucie Armstrong & Teammates 4<sup>th</sup>

Malcolm Smith & Teammates 7<sup>th</sup>

Tim & Helen Healy & Teammates 10<sup>th</sup>

Point a Board Teams: Yuzhong Chen & Teammates 7<sup>th</sup>

Liz & Blair Fisher & Teammates 10<sup>th</sup>

Open Swiss Pairs: Jenny Millington & Barry Jones 8<sup>th</sup>

Restricted Swiss Pairs: Mark Thomson & Jeffrey Chang 1<sup>st</sup>

Diane Emms, Jane Stearns 6<sup>th</sup>



Congratulations to all our players. For those who took part in Congress for the first time, well done on making the effort. Come again next time!



*Our member, Enid Trower, the oldest participant at Congress, pictured here with the youngest participant, Ryan Song from Auckland*

## **Junior League Results**

Several members of our club have been playing in the junior league of six tournaments this year. The final tournament was held at Te Awamutu on Sunday October 14. Congratulations to our players who finished in the top 10 in the overall standings of the league: Megan Jolly and Janice Wilton tied for 1<sup>st</sup> with two Tauranga players, Don McPherson came 5<sup>th</sup> and Richard Wagstaff finished 9<sup>th</sup>. A really great result!

## **Recent Events at our Club**

### ***Soup and Bun Social - Sunday 19 August***

This friendly event on a Sunday afternoon gave members who play at different sessions during the week a chance to meet and get to know each other, or to catch up with old friends in a very social atmosphere. Mereana handed out spot prizes to those who could answer her questions, and the all of club handicap meant that the bridge prizes were distributed across members from all grades. Open players Michael Neels and Ella Gray won the gross competition, with novices Norm Thomson and Ruth Ivey taking out the handicap. Michelle and her helpers supplied delicious warming soup to start the afternoon, with cake and special teas finishing the event.

### ***Waikato/Bays Regional Swiss Pairs and Hamilton Junior Pairs - Saturday 8 September***

The club rooms were buzzing with conversation as 44 Swiss pairs and 22 Junior pairs arrived, which was followed by complete silence as play began. Hamilton pairs finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Juniors competition, while the best finishers in the Swiss, against some very stiff competition, were Michael Neels and Ella Gray in a very creditable 4<sup>th</sup> place. Thanks to all those who helped, including Dallas Dagg for directing, Jane Sandelin for organising the kitchen and all those members who helped with caddying, setting up the rooms and making and serving food for the players.

### ***Hamilton Congress 20-22 October***

Impressive, delicious - these were comments heard about the morning and afternoon teas supplied for our Congress visitors. The stunning long weekend weather outside was matched by the atmosphere and calibre of bridge inside. Congratulations to all the members who were among the



prizewinners (2<sup>nd</sup> was a popular placing!) and many thanks to all those who helped make the weekend a great success.



*Jane with some of the many members who helped in the kitchen during the 3 days of the Labour weekend congress*

## **TWITs results**

'The Waikato Interclub Teams' or TWITs competition ran from March to August this year. Teams gathered at our clubrooms on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month to play team bridge, meet people from other clubs, and enjoy wine and cheese in the break between sessions. While it is intended to be a social event and to improve players' knowledge and ability at playing teams there will always be winners.

Hamilton members featured in the following successful teams:

Open section: Waikato Wonders 1st, Fit Finders 2nd

Intermediate section: A-ccounters 2nd

Junior section: Radars Lot 1st, Boyack Band 2nd

All winners and runners-up in each grade were presented with URGE Coffee & Tea Boutique vouchers. Thanks Jeffrey!



## **SUMMER BRIDGE**

What better way to brush up your bridge over the holidays than playing Summer Bridge? Hamilton club runs Summer Bridge 3 times a week (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday) in the months of December and January except for the Christmas and New Year holiday weeks.

Summer Bridge is open to ALL grades and ALL players (including members of all bridge clubs). On Thursday nights and Friday mornings you will need to have organised your own partner, but on Tuesday nights you can just turn up and the director will arrange a partner for you on the night - please be there before 6.45 if you need a partner. 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.

### **2018 Summer Bridge:**

Tuesdays at 7:00pm - November 27, December 4, 11 (no partner required)

Thursdays at 7:30pm - November 29, December 6, 13 (partner required)

Fridays at 10:00am - November 30, December 7, 14 (partner required)

### **2019 Summer Bridge:**

Tuesdays at 7:00pm - January 8, 15, 22 (no partner required)

Thursdays at 7:30pm - January 10, 17, 24 (partner required)

Fridays at 10:00am - January 11, 18, 25 (partner required)

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

# Tournament Success by our Club Members



Akarana Swiss Pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Auckland Liz Fisher & Blair Fisher	Saturday 25 August
W/Bays Interclub Teams Final 2 <sup>nd</sup> Open	Cambridge Jenny Millington, Ian Clayton, Richard Hooper, Brett Glass	Sunday 26 August
Hamilton Junior Pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hamilton Don McPherson & Karen Harper Merle Jonson & Lois Jones	Saturday 8 September
Rotorua Restricted Pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rotorua Michael Neels & Eunice Eccles	Saturday 15 September
Waitomo Veteran Pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Te Kuiti Ella Gray & Michael Neels	Thursday 11 October
Te Puke All Grade Pairs 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Te Puke Yuzhong Chen & Gary Foidl	Saturday 13 October
Te Awamutu Junior Pairs 1 <sup>st</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Te Awamutu Don McPherson & Richard Wagstaff Barbara Andrews & Lynne Boyack	Sunday 14 October
Hamilton Congress Intermediate Pairs 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hamilton Terry Wells & Phil Thompson Wendy Mortimer & Mary Fear	Saturday 20 October
Waikato/Bays Provincial teams 1 <sup>st</sup>	Qualifying Hamilton Barry Jones, Jenny Millington & teammates	Sunday 21 October
Waikato/Bays Provincial teams 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Final Hamilton Barry Jones, Jenny Millington & teammates	Monday 22 October
Waikato/Bays Consolation Swiss pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hamilton Yuzhong Chen & Noel Grigg	Monday 22 October



# Club Results

## Friday Winter Pairs

### Scratch

- 1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Lindsay Reid & Malcolm Smith

## Tuesday Championship Pairs

### Scratch

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

## Monday Pairs D

### Scratch

- 1 Mary Fear & Ross Stewart
- 2 Verna Beech & Margaret Boyd

## Tuesday Evening Winter Pairs

### Scratch

- 1 Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry
- 2 Carissa Oliver & Karen Harper

## Hamilton Open 5A Swiss Pairs

- 1 Yuzhong Chen & Jenna Gibbons
- 2 Barry Jones & Jenny Millington

## Thursday Championship Pairs

### Scratch

- 1 Cathy Nolen & Cherie Barton
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Ian Ross

### Handicap

- 1 Vaughan Samuelson & Stewart Lawrence
- 2 Bob Jones & Nolene Vail

### Handicap

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

### Handicap

- 1 Mary Fear & Ross Stewart
- 2 Jacqui Mackenzie & Ann-Maree Byrne

### Handicap

- 1 Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry
- 2 Jacqui Mackenzie & Jim Lynn

### Handicap

- 1 Terry Wells & Kevin McCarthy
- 2 Cathy Nolen & Cherie Barton

## **Peggy Perry Pairs**

### **Scratch**

1 Kay Dixon & Jenny Millington

2 Angela Lovell & Trini Lin

### **Handicap**

1 Kay Dixon & Jenny Millington

2 Angela Lovell & Trini Lin

## **Allen Family Trophy Individuals**

### **Scratch**

1 Eddie Tan

2 Mark Hodges

### **Handicap**

1 Olwen Kerr

2 Rita Davies

## **Thursday Swiss Pairs**

1 Kevin McCarthy & Judith Brooks

2 Megan Jolly & Leanne Curry

## **Weymouth Trophy Championship Pairs**

### **Scratch**

1 Ian Clayton & Cynthia Clayton

2 Ian Ross & Phil Thompson

### **Handicap**

1 Ian Ross & Phil Thompson

2 June Rogers & Jo Howell

## **Monday Championship Pairs Sep 24**

### **Scratch**

1 Ian Clayton & Malcolm Smith

2 Kevin McCarthy & Margaret Boyd

### **Handicap**

1 Kevin McCarthy & Margaret Boyd

2 Vaughan Samuelson & Lois Jones

## **Tuesday Spring Pairs Sep 25**

### **Scratch**

1 Bruce Cresswell & Stewart Lawrence

2 Allison Smith & Malcolm Smith

### **Handicap**

1 Bruce Cresswell & Stewart Lawrence

2 June Rogers & Maria Kalksma

## **Hamilton Bridge Club Championship Pairs Sep 26**

### **Scratch**

1 Jenny Millington & Barry Jones

2 Brett Glass & Gary Foidl

### **Handicap**

1 Jenny Millington & Barry Jones

2 Rodney Harris & Phillipa Kilpatrick

## Thursday Spring Pairs

### Scratch

- 1 Sam Armstrong & Karen Thomson
- 2 Cherie Barton & Cathy Nolen

### Handicap

- 1 Sam Armstrong & Karen Thomson
- 2 Cherie Barton & Cathy Nolen

## Friday Spring Pairs

### Scratch

- 1 Judy Coulshed & Bob Treloar
- 2 Cynthia Clayton & Allison Smith

### Handicap

- 1 Kay Dixon & Pam Halls
- 2 Jane Sandelin & Jo Howell

## Tuesday Evening Spring Pairs

### Scratch

- 1 Mark Hodges & Eddie Tan
- 2 Leanne Curry & Megan Jolly

### Handicap

- 1 Jenny McGhee & Jane Mugeridge
- 2 Pam Hewitt & Shaun Hewitt

## Monday Spring Pairs Oct 15

### Scratch

- 1 Lois Jones & Kevin McCarthy
- 2 Megan Jolly & Janice Wilton

### Handicap

- 1 Lois Jones & Kevin McCarthy
- 2 Mike Everard & Jo Millington

## Galbraith Trophy Oct 23

### Scratch

- 1 Sue Collinge & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Bruce Cresswell & Malcolm Smith

### Handicap

- 1 Sue Collinge & Cynthia Clayton
- 2 Shirley Fransham & Melva Johnstone

## Friday Pairs B Oct 26

### Scratch

- 1 Lucie Armstrong & Val West
- 2 Nigel Gresson & Allison Smith

### Handicap

- 1 Laura Sommerville & Prue Butler
- 2 Lucie Armstrong & Val West



The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you sit at the bridge table.



# From Lindsay's File

## Grand Slam Coup

Although South can see 14 winners when counting the tricks on this hand, it is only with careful treatment that the Grand Slam can be made. Can you work out the correct way to play the hand?

*North*

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

*West*

♠ J 10 9 8 2  
♥ 9  
♦ 10 8 7 2  
♣ Q 8 7

*East*

♠ 6 4 3  
♥ 10 6 5 3 2  
♦ J 9  
♣ J 9 4

*South*

♠ 7  
♥ A K Q J 7 4  
♦ A K Q 6  
♣ K 3

**How can South make 7 Hearts with J spades lead from West?**

The answer will be in the next newsletter (February 2019) or if you don't want to wait that long it will be on the Results noticeboard at the bridge club soon!



## ANSWER TO AUGUST NEWSLETTER'S POSER

### Control of the Four Suits

#### How can South make 4 Hearts with J spades lead from West?

Dummy won the initial lead with the king of spades.

Acting on the sound advice of a long standing maxim, declarer made a move to set up the club side suit first by leading a club to the king in hand.

West won with the ace and returned the suit. South's jack of clubs held this third trick.

With communications established, Declarer proceeded to draw trumps, overtaking the jack in hand on the second round. It took four rounds of hearts to remove the four trumps that West held. Dummy discarded two diamonds.

Knowing that a club break would produce the vital tenth trick, Declarer correctly deferred this play, which could be taken at any time, until after other alternatives had been tried.

At the eighth trick the ace of spades was used to enter Dummy. A small spade was then led from the table and ruffed with South's last heart. When East produced the queen of spades, South reasoned that 'West must hold the 10 of spades'. The initial lead confirmed this assumption. Only at the tenth trick was the club position tested with a lead to North's queen. When West threw a diamond declarer knew that East had the suit guarded.

At this stage Declarer could have led a diamond up to the king but a count of West's hand showed a superior play. The last spade was led from dummy with South throwing a diamond.

Forced on lead with the ten, West could lead the ace of diamonds, but then had to concede the last trick to declarer's king of diamonds. This was South's tenth winner needed to make the game contract.