



Website: hokowhitubridge.org.nz

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2014

Chair Chat

Happy New Year to all! I hope that everybody had an enjoyable festive season, even if the weather was not always cooperative. Perhaps by the time you read this, summer will have arrived properly and we will be enjoying sunny, calm weather.

The 2014 Board of Directors held its first meeting on 16 December. At that meeting, we organised our officers and portfolios for 2014, and I have agreed to continue as Chairperson of the Board for this year. I very much enjoyed the role last year, in large part because of the support given by other Board and Club members, and I anticipate that 2014 will be just as enjoyable. The names and contact details of all Board members are given separately in this newsletter; please don't hesitate to contact any Board member if you have suggestions or concerns pertaining to the Club.

It was great to see so many members at the AGM and Christmas Party, and to have the opportunity to celebrate success at the bridge table and to acknowledge special contributions to the functioning of the Club. A huge thank you to all those who attended for their tolerance with respect to the non-appearance of the food! The caterer recorded the incorrect date in their diary, and was all set to cater for our function on Thursday evening. The proprietor of the Bees' Knees has asked for her sincere apologies to be conveyed to all those attending. The Board has determined that all those who paid to attend the Christmas Party will receive a concession of two free playing sessions; vouchers will be included with your 2014 renewal notice and programme.

On the subject of annual subscriptions for 2014, those who attended the AGM will know that the 2013 Board recommended an increase in the subscription from \$65 to \$75. The 2014 Board has confirmed this increase, and you will soon (or may have already) received renewal notices for this amount. The Club's costs are increasing in 2014, due to increases in the levy paid to NZ Bridge for each member and the increased rental paid to the Bowling Club for venue hire. The venue hire has increased by approximately \$600 plus GST per annum, so that item alone will consume almost all of the subscription increase.

On behalf of the 2014 Board, I would like to warmly welcome you back to the new bridge year, which will commence in the first week of February. Please remember to arrange your February partnerships and notify those to Maureen Watts (Wednesday) or Joy Pearce (Thursday) in advance.

Good bridging,

Julie Bunnell



TABLE TOPICS

The new learners are to begin their first year of playing with the main group so please be sure to make them feel very welcome. Please do not offer them advice as everyone's approach to the game is different. However if they ask for assistance then please do help in any way possible.

AGM AND CHRISTMAS PARTY

The AGM was held in early December . The meeting went smoothly with no major concerns raised. Detailed below are the elected Board Members :-

Hokowhitu Bridge Club: 2014 Board Members

Chair	Julie Bunnell	355 2896	bunnell.julie@gmail.com
Secretary	Graeme Donaldson	358 6156	graeme.d@inspire.net.nz
Treasurer <i>To 31 March</i>	Peter Wiles	358 6894	pwiles@wiles.gen.nz
Treasurer <i>From 1 April</i>	Shirley Barnett	021 254 5119	s.j.barnettnz@gmail.com
Member	Andrea Bennett	358 1630	j.a.bennett@massey.ac.nz
Member	John McCartin	356 3449	jpmccartin@xtra.co.nz

Please feel free to contact any Board member if you have suggestions or concerns about our Club. We welcome input from members! If there is a particular matter you would like the Board to consider at its next meeting, please contact our Secretary, Graeme Donaldson.

At the prizegiving, Maureen Watts and Gayle Leader were presented with a trophy to mark their success as winners of the Club Championships. John Hogan chose Mary Scott as the recipient of the Oscar Trophy in recognition of all the work she has done for the club. Congratulations to Janine Fenelon who won the Most Improved Player Award. The Points Cup was won by Maureen Watts with Janice Willoughy a close second.



We still have an unclaimed black earring which was found after the AGM. Please contact Margaret Williams if it belongs to a club member.

WEDNESDAY WINNERS

The winners of the Spring Pairs in October were Alister Stuck and Peter Wiles followed by Pauline Brown and Gayle Leader. Winners of the Handicap Section were Shirley Barnett and Graeme Donaldson with Janice Willoughby and Margaret Williams in second place.

The End of Year Pairs winners were Gayle Leader and Jan Whyte followed by Maureen Watts and Zheng Zhang. The Handicap Section winners were Chai Young and Margaret Williams.

MEMBERS

Sadly Alan Lim from the learner's class unexpectedly passed away. Our condolences to his family and friends.

THURSDAY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On the final Thursday game for the year we celebrated with lunch prior to play. Everyone brought a plate so we were treated to an array of delicious food for lunch and afternoon tea. Mary Scott was thanked for her hostess duties which she has undertaken for several years. Joy Pearce has kindly agreed to take over those duties.



If members would like to check the results of play they can do so on the Club's website <http://hokowhitubridge.org.nz/>

Master Points may be viewed on <http://www.nzcba.co.nz/online-points.html>

Finally a reminder that everyone is requested to assist with tidying their own table after play. We need volunteers for a roster to wash the dishes after Wednesday evening play and also to set up the afternoon tea things before play on Thursdays.



