



Website: [hokowhitubridge.org.nz](http://hokowhitubridge.org.nz)

## NEWSLETTER APRIL 2014

### Chair Chat

Greetings to you all – I do hope you have been enjoying your bridge during the late summer/early autumn months. Table numbers have been steady at around 9-10 tables on Wednesday evenings and around 6 tables on Thursday afternoons, but there is always room for more! If you have not yet got back into the swing of bridge for 2014, make a resolution to do so now and contact either Maureen (Wednesday evenings) or Joy (Thursday afternoons) so they can match you up with a partner.

#### *Hand Records on the Website*

You will know that weekly session results have been available on the Club's website ([www.hokowhitubridge.org.nz](http://www.hokowhitubridge.org.nz)) for some time. These are now accompanied by the hand records for each session, so you can review the hands that you played – and work out what you could have done differently. Thanks to Peter Wiles and Graeme Donaldson for arranging this new service.

#### *Intermediate Tournament*

Our Intermediate Tournament was held on Sunday 13 April – see the tournament feature and photos later in the Newsletter.

#### *Bridge Lessons*

The Club plans to run another series of lessons for beginners, starting just after Queen's Birthday weekend. Alister Stuck has generously agreed to repeat his role as tutor, which was very well received last year. Members will be receiving information cards to distribute to friends and relatives who might be interested in learning to play, as word of mouth is a great way to encourage prospective players. Look out for these in the next few weeks.

#### *Random Acts of Kindness*

Finally, a reminder to all players to “mind their manners” before, during and after play so that our bridge is more enjoyable for all concerned. Little acts of kindness and consideration do make a difference and there are many ways that each of us can contribute to make bridge life more pleasant for our hostesses, our partners, our opponents, our director, and other club members. What will you do?

Finally, do remember that suggestions for ways in which to improve our Club are welcomed by Board members, so don't be shy about bringing matters to our attention.

*Good bridging,*

*Julie Bunnell*



## WEDNESDAY WINNERS

The winners of the Welcome Pairs in February were Mary Scott and Maureen Watts followed by Shirley Barnett and Janice Willoughby. Winners of the Handicap Section were Joy Pearce and Brian Way with John Benton and Allan Young in second place.

The Summer Pairs winners were Gayle Leader and Maureen Watts followed by Frank Dunlop and Rohan Wewala. The Handicap Section winners were Frank Dunlop and Rohan Wewala with John Benton and Dennis Whiterod in second place.

Excellent to see many of the newer players achieving such good results.

## TABLE TOPICS

### STOP Cards (how and why they are used)

From the NZ Bridge Manual

“The **"STOP CARD"** is used during the auction as a Skip Bid Warning.

Before a Player makes a bid that skips one or more levels, a Stop Card should be placed face up on the table to LHO, (*the person next to bid*) before making the (skip) bid. After allowing for any alert that may be required and any questions by LHO to be answered, the person who made the bid waits for approximately 10 seconds (but less at one's own discretion) before removing the Stop Card and LHO may bid. “

Examples        Opening at the 2 level or 3 level or higher  
                      Jumping over partners bid, 1D – 2H, 1S -3C  
                      Jumping over your opponents bid, 1C – 2H, 1H - 3D

The Stop card should not be handled until you have decided to make the Skip bid as touching it while you are deciding gives your partner unauthorised information about your hand if you then decide to make a bid in normal sequence

### When a STOP card is placed in front of you

You must wait until it is removed before bidding whether you have a weak hand and will probably pass or if you a bid that you will make anyway.

You do not remove it, that is the responsibility of the one who placed it there.

The Stop card is used to alert both the bidder's partner and the opposition that a Skip bid or bid out of sequence is about to be made. This gives the person next to bid time to reassess their hand and make an appropriate bid. Any questions about the meaning of the bid should be made and answered while the STOP card is in place.

The use of the STOP card also helps to eliminate insufficient bids when the person next to bid does not notice that a skip has been made.

## MEMBERS

On Thursday 3 April Margaret Miles, Peg Riddell and Marie Hughes were invited to afternoon tea, unfortunately Margaret Miles was unable to attend. The Club wished to acknowledge the long association they all had with the Club and to express sadness that they had decided it was time to resign. They will all be missed, especially by the Thursday Ladies.

## INTERMEDIATE TOURNAMENT

Our Club hosted a successful Intermediate Tournament on Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>. Although registrations were slow to arrive, on the day there were nine full tables. Players came from Whanganui, Feilding, Hastings, Palmerston North, Levin, Waikanae, and Wellington – with a good turnout from our own Club too.

The overall winners were Alistair and Rob Poulgrain, from Hastings Bridge Club, with Andrew and Carolyn Brodie from the Palmerston North Club as the runners-up. The morning session prize was won by our own Peter Wiles and Zheng Zhang, who were also the top intermediate-junior pair and third overall. The afternoon session prize went to Mereana Cullen and Debbie Marcroft, from the Palmerston North Club. The top junior prize was won by Janine Fenelon and Margaret Vaughan. Full results (and hand records) are available at [www.hokowhitubridge.org.nz](http://www.hokowhitubridge.org.nz)

Big thanks to John McCartin for overall organisation, Caroline McCartin for organising the roster of volunteer helpers, Shirley Barnett for acting as registration secretary, Lorraine Stachurski for her capable direction on the day, Village Wine Trader for sponsoring the session prizes, and Bees Knees for the catering. And to the many members who filled the volunteer roster and who provided plates for morning tea – thank you one and all!



### Tournament Prize Giving

Please be sure to inform Graeme Donaldson if your address, phone number or email change so that Club Records can be kept up to date.

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.

