



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

## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2015

### Chair Chat

*The end of 2015 is in sight! You can work out for yourselves how many days until Christmas – and how much bridge you can fit in before the end of November.*

*As we approach the end of 2015, I would also invite you to think about whether you'd be willing to join the Board for 2016, or take on some other portfolio of responsibility. The current Board is quite lean (but hopefully not mean!) and we sometimes find it challenging to allocate all the jobs that need to be done for the Club to continue functioning successfully. If you'd like to signal interest in being more involved in the running of the Club, have a quiet word to any current Board member.*

*Highlights for the Club since the last newsletter include the very successful Daffodil Day tournament, on 23 August, which raised \$1895 for the Cancer Society. Many club members contributed in ways big and small to the success of the day, so thanks to you all. The Daffodil Day trophy was awarded to Anne Baird-Horner and Tim Horner from the Otaki club.*

*Another highlight has been the “graduation” of our 2015 group of learners to playing with the main group on Wednesday evenings. Each of the new players has been paired with a “bridge buddy” for the month of October, to make the transition as smooth as possible. Thanks to those who have taken on a buddy role. And to the new players, CHEERS!*

*Good bridging,*

***Julie Bunnell***



### **Reminder! End of Year Celebrations**

If you haven't already made a note in your diary, do so now! Our Club's end of year celebrations will be held in the first week of December.

Wednesday 2 December, 5:30 pm – AGM, Prizegiving, and Festive Fare

Thursday 3 December – Christmas Luncheon and Bridge Afternoon

## Survey for Wednesday Night Players re Starting Time

Wednesday night players (current and potential) are invited to provide feedback on their preferred starting time for playing sessions. The three options on which the Board seeks feedback are

Start time of 7:00 pm 15 minutes earlier than now

Start time of 7:15 pm Status quo

Start time of 7:30 pm 15 minutes later than now

Feedback regarding your preferred start time can be provided by sending an email to [hokowhitubridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:hokowhitubridgeclub@gmail.com), sending a text to Julie Bunnell at 021 127 4143, or providing a written note to Julie Bunnell. Deadline for responses is Friday 6 November.

No change to start time will be made before the start of the 2016 playing year. Whichever option is selected, players will (as now) be expected to be seated 5 minutes before play is scheduled to begin.

## NEW ZEALAND WIDE PAIRS: 6 NOVEMBER, 7 PM

Our club will be taking part in the New Zealand Wide Pairs on Friday, 6 November, from 7 pm. This competition, which is sponsored by Babich Wines, covers the whole of New Zealand. Players at bridge clubs throughout the country play the same set of 24 hands at the same time, and the results are scored nationally. At the end of play, you'll receive a booklet that includes the hand records and commentary on how each hand could/should have been bid and played. Shortly after the competition, you'll find out how your partnership placed in the national field.

Supper will be provided, and we are exploring arrangements with the Bowling Club to have the bar open at arrival time. So come and enjoy a social evening of bridge!

Cost is \$10 per player, with about half of the entry fee going to the NZ Bridge Foundation to promote bridge in New Zealand. There is a sign-up sheet on the notice board at the Club, or you can email your entry to [hokowhitubridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:hokowhitubridgeclub@gmail.com). Don't delay – we need to have at least 12 pairs signed up by 22 October in order to confirm our participation with NZ Bridge.

## WEDNESDAY RESULTS

Winners of the Club Championships played in July were Alister Stuck and Peter Wiles with John Hogan and Janice Willoughby in second place. Handicap winners were Chai Young and Brian Burmeister.

Rotational Teams winners in August were Janice Willoughby, John Hogan, Mary Scott and Chris Abbey closely followed by Peter Wiles, Janine Fenelon, Michael Hardman and Tim Coolbear.

The Individual Ladder played in September was won by Maureen Watts with Alastair MacGibbon first in the handicap section.

## MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to new members Mike Dixon, Harold Orsborn, Margaret Orsborn, Karen Russell and Muffy Saville-Wood.

Janice Willoughby has resigned due to a move to Taradale. We wish her all the best in sunny Hawkes Bay.

With regret, we also announce the resignations of Jenny Chu, Heather Conaghan and Roy Swinbourne.

## SUMMER BRIDGE

Our club will be holding two summer bridge sessions in January 2016, on Wednesday 20th and 27th, from 7:15 pm. These sessions are open to all club members, you don't need to book in advance, and you can come solo or with a partner. Those who come solo will arrange partnership "at the door" and if needed, the director will form a partnership. Normal table money is charged. Summer bridge is a great way to ease back into the bridge year – and possibly to play with a new partner!

Summer bridge sessions will also be available at the Palmerston North Club as follows:

Monday Afternoons, 1:15 pm – from 14 December 2015 to 26 January 2016

Tuesday Evenings, 7:30 pm – from 8 December 2015 to 27 January 2016

Visitors from other clubs are welcome to play Summer Bridge at the Palmerston North club. Table money is \$5 per session. You can come with a partner, or come solo and arrange a partnership when you arrive. Please make sure to arrive about 10 minutes before the start of the session, so that you can be partnered and seated by the start time.

## LESSONS 2016

Details are yet to be finalised, but planning for a set of lessons in 2016 is already underway. It's quite likely that lessons will be offered from early February (coinciding with School Term One) but venue arrangements need to be finalised before dates/days/times can be decided. We will be asking all members to assist with recommending lessons to their friends, neighbours, colleagues, social groups (etc) and encouraging them to enjoy the game of bridge. Of course, advertising in appropriate publications and venues will also be arranged.

## WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE?

New Zealand Bridge has wonderful resources available on its website, at [www.nzcba.co.nz/learn-bridge.html](http://www.nzcba.co.nz/learn-bridge.html)

There are now 10 improvers' topics available! Each topic includes a set of notes, a quiz, answers to the quiz, and a set of 8 boards that illustrate the lesson topic. Learn about the Stayman Convention, the Blackwood Convention, Opening Leads, Signals and Discards (and much more). Why not set yourself a goal for 2016 of completing one topic per month? By the end of the year you will have completed the 10 topics, and your bridge should benefit.

Also available on the same site are the set of lessons developed by NZ Bridge for the ACOL system. Recommended for those who want to learn ACOL, or who want to review what they have recently (or not so recently!) learned.



Articles or suggestions for inclusion in the newsletter are most welcome. Please talk to Margaret Williams.

## TOURNAMENT NEWS

Our Daffodil Day tournament was a great success. We presented a cheque for \$1800 to the Cancer Society, and an additional cash donation of \$100 from the sale of daffodils.

**BIG THANKS** to everybody who contributed to the tournament, through contributions of time, morning tea and supper items, donations of prizes and cash and purchase of raffle tickets. Thanks also to the many members who played in the tournament! Pat yourselves on the back for the ways in which you have supported this event.

Special mentions go to

John McCartin -- tournament organiser  
Shirley Barnett -- sponsorship coordinator  
Pauline Brown -- prize preparation  
Graeme Donaldson -- board dealing  
Lorraine Stachurski -- directing

Thanks also to Lita Poll, for her generous donation of crocheted lap rugs. A total of \$85 was raised from the sale of these rugs, which was included in our donation to the Cancer Society.

A list of the businesses and organisations that sponsored our tournament is displayed at the Bowling Club. You are encouraged to support those who have supported us, and let them know you appreciate their support. We should also acknowledge the Hokowhitu Bowling Club, who waived the venue rental fee for the day, and BridgeNZ, who donated the use of the electronic scorepads.

The tournament was won by Anne Baird-Horner and Tim Horner, from the Otaki club. They were presented with the Daffodil trophy, which will be suitably engraved.

The best placed Hokowhitu pair were Frank Dunlop and John Hogan, who were the top Intermediate pair and fourth overall. Well done, Frank and John!! Congratulations also to Allan and Chai Young, who took out Top Junior honours.



Full results are available on our website, at [http://hokowhitubridge.org.nz/results/results\\_list.php](http://hokowhitubridge.org.nz/results/results_list.php)

Once again, thanks to all who contributed,

**Julie Bunnell**

