



Website: hokowhitubridge.org.nz

NEWSLETTER JULY 2016

Chair Chat

I hope that everyone enjoyed their blind dates at the end of June! I certainly saw some interesting new partnerships at the sessions. I want to make special mention of how well the novice players did on the Wednesday evening – their results were impressive, and they all gave the impression of being calm and composed while playing a full evening's boards with a new partner.

In the June Newsletter, Dummy (our mystery blogger) made some observations about signage at the Bowling Club. The Board took note of the comments, and I'd like to provide some further information for members to consider. When the present sign was arranged, in 2012, the then Board obtained quotations for several different sized signs. A sign like the one erected by the Hokowhitu Football Club (two panels, larger size) was approximately \$750. The then Board opted for a more modest sign (single panel, smaller size) at a cost of approximately \$200, as the Board was not convinced that the cost for a larger sign was a good investment of Club funds. However, it's certainly possible to revisit that decision, if the membership wishes. The Board would welcome feedback on this topic.

As part of the discussion, the Board did resolve to approach the Bowling Club for permission to display information, visible through the door or window, providing session times and contact details.

The mystery blogger also noted that the connection between the Hokowhitu Football Club and the Bowling Club was a social one, as football is not played on the bowling greens. This is correct: the Bowling Club and the Football Club have entered into an arrangement whereby all members of the Football Club are *social members* of the Bowling Club, for a modest per annum payment. At our most recent liaison meeting with the Bowling Club, the suggestion was made that the Bridge Club enters into a similar arrangement, with all of our members becoming social members of the Bowling Club. The Board is currently exploring the merits of this suggestion before reaching a decision.

Do keep warm in the chilly weather. Perfect time for more bridge!!

Good bridging,

Julie Bunnell

New Members

A warm welcome to two new members this month:

Jacque Rutgers 022 528 2466

Kelvin Rutgers 027 320 9194

Please note names and telephone numbers in your programme book.

WEDNESDAY RESULTS

Winners of the June Alpine Pairs were Gayle Leader and Maureen Watts closely followed by Peter Wiles and Tony Paterson. On handicap the winners were Bruce Wilson and Graeme Donaldson with John Hogan and Tim Mordaunt a very close second.

On 29 and 30 June we had a "Blind Date" where partners were drawn at random. This resulted in many playing with people they had not previously partnered. The Learners Group were included, their first time playing with other members. Far from being daunted by the evening they all played exceptionally well. North/West winners were Chris Abbey and Nick Finlay with Janine Fenelon and Donald Meikle-Cameron in second place. East/West winners were Maureen Watts and Margaret Williams with Stuart Malcolm and Peter Wiles close behind.

The results of the Thursday Blind Date were Dorothy Davidson and Mary Dunlop in first place with Julie Bunnell and Betty McLaughlin in second place.

Club Championships: 2016 Information

Information about the 2016 Club Championships is now available on the Club's website, at www.hokowhitubridgeclub.org.nz (select Rules from the left hand menu), and a printed copy is posted in the bridge cupboard. The complete set of rules also appeared in the June newsletter. The 2016 Championships begin Wednesday 3 August, so please let Maureen Watts know your partnerships as soon as you can.

FEILDING DANCING WITH THE STARS 2016



Now we know why club member Grant Irvine has not been playing bridge for a while. Too busy practising his waltz steps ! Congratulations to Grant and his partner who came second in this competition.

Tournament Achievements

Congratulations to

- Margaret and Harold Orsborn who WON the Hastings Open Teams on July 10, with team-mates Colette Fermor and Graeme Eustace from Dannevirke – well done!!
- Alan Doddridge and Jenny Wilson, who placed 2nd at the Feilding Charity tournament 10 July, from a field of 32 pairs
- Michael Hardman and partner who placed 3rd at the Levin Intermediate tournament on 18 June, from a field of 17 pairs

Honourable mentions to

- Alan Doddridge and Jenny Wilson, who placed 5th at the Kapi Mani Open on 19 June, from a field of 28 pairs
- Lorraine Stachurski and Alister Stuck, who placed 5th at the Feilding Charity tournament
- Graeme Donaldson and Frank Dunlop who placed 7th equal at the Levin Intermediate tournament
- Frank Dunlop and Janine Fenelon, who placed 9th at the Dannevirke Junior/Intermediate tournament on 3 July, from a field of 25 pairs

It's great to see our members taking part in tournaments and doing well!

For upcoming tournaments that members may be interested to enter, please refer to your diary for details.

Daffodil Day Charity Tournament 2016

It's getting closer! Sunday 14 August is the date for our Daffodil Day tournament. This is our big fund-raising event of the year, in support of the Central Districts Cancer Society.

Thanks to club members who have already volunteered to prepare items for the morning tea and/or post-play refreshments. There are still some opportunities to contribute in this way if you are able. There will also be opportunities to volunteer with various organisational tasks on the day.

We would now like to invite all members to donate at least one item suitable for a playing or raffle prize. This could be something you purchase for the occasion, or an unwanted (and unopened) gift or prize that you have received. Please bring this to a bridge session before the end of July and place in the basket provided. Thank you!

Substitution Rules for Monthly Competitions

As you will know, Wednesday evening bridge is organised into monthly competitions. In 2012, the Club developed a set of rules governing substitutions for the monthly competitions. These are available on our website (www.hokowhitubridge.org.nz) under *Rules*, and a copy is also available in the bridge cupboard.

Novice News

Our group of novice players have now been playing bridge for several months, with assistance provided each Wednesday evening by more experienced club members. It's been great to see them put their learning into practice. The novices joined the main room for the Blind Date, and performed very creditably!

The novice group will play an individual ladder during August, under the guidance of Alister Stuck, while the main room competes vigorously in the Club Championships.

Programme Change and Call for Bridge Buddies

From September 14, the novice group will join the main room on Wednesday evenings. The September competition (3 weeks) has been amended from a Teams event to a Pairs event, for logistical simplicity. Each novice player will be paired with a friendly and encouraging "bridge buddy" for the month.

Wednesday evening players who would like to volunteer for a bridge buddy role during September, October or November are invited to make themselves known to Caroline McCartin or Julie Bunnell. Bridge buddies do not need to be expert players, but they do need to be committed to ensuring a friendly, supportive environment that will promote enjoyment of the game.

HAND OF THE MONTH – JULY

ANOTHER SIDE SUIT MISFIT !

This is another hand on the same theme as last month's hand, with a misfit in the side suits .It was dealt on a weekday session in Palmerston North club and emphasises the need to make use of dummy's 7 card side suit to make a tricky slam .

South is dealer and opens one Spade with S.A K T 6 5 H. Q T 7 D. A 9 4 2 C. 6 . North responds 2 clubs and South rebids his 4 card Diamond suit. North now launches into Ace asking and on hearing 2 aces, bids 6 Diamonds .

West leads the A of Hearts ,dropping North's King singleton and after some thought continues with the eight of Clubs. It seems risky to play the Club finesse and so declarer plays the ace and East plays the 2. Now is the time to do some planning ! There appears to be 3 or possibly 4 losers in the South hand – one in Hearts and probably 2 and possibly 3 in Spades. To cater for these will require 3 ruffs in the North hand . That will be fine if trumps break 2-2 ,but a 3-1 trump break will scupper you because you will have to use trumps to return to your hand and will run out of trumps [or entries!] So. is there a better way? Well what about our long Club suit on table? Entries will not be a problem because we have a 5 card trump suit there .The only danger is an over ruff from West when we try to set up the clubs by ruffing.. So we start by ruffing a club in hand. Then it would be wise to return to dummy with a low trump to the king. Then another club ruffed in hand ,both opponents following. We then draw the trumps with the ace and the queen. They turn out to be 3-1 so it was just as well we played the hand this way. Now our dummy is good and we have made our slam.

The hand is set out below . Try setting out the hand with a pack of cards – I think you will find the above method is the only way of making the contract..

Good Bridging!

Alan

	♠ J	
	♥ K	
	♦ KQ863	
	♣ AQT743	
♠ 943		♠ Q872
♥ AJ9864		♥ 532
♦ 5		♦ JT7
♣ 985		♣ KJ2
	♠ AKT65	
	♥ QT7	
	♦ A942	
	♣ 6	

National Bridge Congress, Hamilton, 23 September – 1 October

The 31st New Zealand National Bridge Congress is only two months away, so now is the time to consider your attendance. This is the big event on the annual bridge calendar, with over 500 players attending. It's not just for the superstars, either – there are dedicated events for Intermediates and Juniors, too. Full information, and online registration, is available at www.nzbridge.co.nz/congress.html.

DUMMY'S BRIDGE BLOG!

No doubt winter is more than in the air. Dummy decided, like quite a few other regular players, not to attend the "Blind Date" session on the 29th June. Was it the weather or the "lucky dip" that put us off? From all reports the evening was a great success with the "beginners" being purposely drawn with experienced players and the random pairing-off produced some notable winners, particularly N/S, where the newbies got amongst the 'C' points for the first time. Not too sure why the learners had to return to their 2/3 tables the following week though. Thursday afternoon appears to be attracting steady numbers with 14 pairs in a Howell movement.

The July Winter Pairs lived up to its 'cool' name running as a "handicap" event, with 9 tables on 6th July competing on the indoor bowls floorboards and the Learners reverting to 2 tables on the carpet boosted by some experienced volunteers. Dummy for once found the cards to be his/her way and enjoyed the challenges that arose. Pity the webpage results have to be printed in 'handicap' order with the 'C' points going to the overall Top 3, no matter where they ended up! Dummy knows them's the rules, but perhaps the results could stress that this is a "handicap" competition. Thursday maintained its 8 Tables.

On the 13th the above pattern continued, but down to 8 tables plus 2 learners' and tutors' tables. There were some interesting boards providing variable results, but Dummy has finally worked out the way the scores appear on the webpage and concluded that the decided drop in their final placing came about because his/her partner's status promoted their handicap – so be it!

The Chair's announcements on the Daffodil Day Tournament on 14th August was a good reminder well in advance and a "volunteer" request sheet looked like it'll be filled well before the event. If you've never played in this friendliest of Bridge tournaments, you'll never regret giving it a go. Started back in 1994 (or so) this event has raised over \$30,000 for the Cancer Society and acts as a "kick-off" for their overall Daffodil Day fund-raising effort.

As Dummy is not permitted to comment on play, he/she signs off in silence – till next time . . .

[PS – thanks to modern technology's miracles, Dummy's scene shot taken off last year's tournament video is repeated to spruce up the ending of this missile.]



Bent Horseshoe Event – July 23

Legal Tender will perform on July 23 at the Bowling Club. The Legal Tender duo of Ian Campbell and Moira Howard-Campbell has been performing an eclectic mix of Rural/Folk originals and covers around New Zealand for many years. Carylann, an established singer/songwriter in her own right, joins Legal Tender on keys, accordion and vocals to provide a powerful collaboration.