



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

## NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2016

### Chair Chat

*I am writing this on the “morning after”—the morning after our Daffodil Day tournament, that is! I think there were lots of positives about the day, but the highlight is our donation of \$1600 to the Central Districts Cancer Society.*

*Another huge positive was the cheerful willingness of so many club members to contribute to the success of the day, in so many different ways. It really is wonderful the way the whole club participated in the charity tournament. Thank you all!*

*August is a big month for the Club in another way: the Wednesday night players are competing in the Club Championships, the premiere competition of our bridge year. There are 10 pairs competing in the Tournament grade, and another 8 or 9 pairs contesting the Progressive grade. The competition is only two weeks old, so early days yet – and plenty of time for changes in position.*

*Those who have attended Wednesday nights recently may have noticed a big improvement in the exterior lighting along the pathway to the door. We really appreciate the Bowling Club taking note of our concerns about lighting and installing the additional lights.*

*Good bridging,*

**Julie Bunnell**

### Gold Grand Master

Warmest congratulations to Lorraine Stachurski, who has recently achieved the rank of **Gold** Grand Master. This is the highest possible rank a player can reach in NZ Bridge, so this is an awesome achievement!!

## Tournament Achievements

Congratulations to

- Graeme Donaldson and Frank Dunlop, who WON the Hawera Intermediate tournament on 30 July
- Jan Whyte and partner, who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Napier Open tournament on 23 July
- Jan Whyte and partner, who placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Wanganui Open tournament on 17 July

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

## Daffodil Day Charity Tournament 2016

Sixteen tables of keen bridge players gathered to contest the Daffodil Day trophy for 2016. The tournament winners were our own Jan Whyte, with partner Ken Bateman (Palmerston North). Congratulations to Jan and Ken!

George McLachlan and Anita Thirtle from Wanganui claimed second place, with Alan Doddridge and Alister Stuck (Hokowhitu!) in third place.

Special mention goes to Frank Dunlop and Janine Fenelon, who were the top Intermediate/Junior pair. More impressively, they were placed 9th overall, ahead of several Open pairs, and ahead of the top Open/Intermediate and top Intermediate pairs. Well done!!

Other well-placed Hokowhitu pairs were Harold and Margaret Orsborn (8th overall) and Gayle Leader and Maureen Watts (11th overall). Paul Orsborn with Barb Robinson (Feilding) were the top Intermediate pair (14th overall), and Derek Knighton and Rohan Wewala were the top Junior pair (16th overall).

Of course, the Daffodil Day Charity Tournament is not just about the bridge. Its purpose is to raise money for the Central Districts Cancer Society, and we were delighted to present a cheque for \$1600 to Faye James from the Cancer Society. In accepting the cheque, Faye asked participants to think about who they wear their daffodil for... a timely reminder for all of us about the reason for Daffodil Day.

I've already mentioned the many generous contributions made by club members to the tournament, and how appreciated these were. Another key factor in the success of the Daffodil Day tournament is the generosity of sponsors, who provide the vouchers and items that allow us to award an extensive range of prizes. This list of 2016 sponsors is posted at the club, and will appear in the 2017 programme. Please do support our sponsors wherever you can, and let them know that you value their support of our tournament.



Winners Jan Whyte and Ken Bateman. Janine Fenelon and Frank Dunlop top Intermediate/Junior Players. Derek Knighton and Rohan Wewala top Junior Pair. Paul Orsborn and Barb Robinson top Intermediate Pair.

## WEDNESDAY RESULTS

Winners of the July Pairs were Jan Whyte and Harold Orsborn with Gayle Leader and Pauline Brown in second place. On handicap the winners were Julie Bunnell and Tim Coolbear followed by Mary Dunlop and Margaret Williams.

## HAND OF THE MONTH AUGUST

### A NEAT ELIMINATION AND END PLAY!!

This interesting hand cropped up recently at Monday afternoon bridge at Palmerston North. The hand is interesting because it illustrates an effective declarer play when you force the defenders to open up a suit that you cannot safely start as declarer. At the table no defender found the killing lead, but despite this, no declarer was able to make the contract!

West has a normal one Heart opening and North has a nice 2 Diamond overcall. East with 8 points and the black suits should find a negative double[showing tolerance for the other 2 suits]. South supports partner with 3 Diamonds and West bids 4 Clubs which East raises to 5. North leads the Ace of Diamonds which is ruffed by declarer. As you can see, the problem suit is Spades with a potential 3 losers. However it may be possible to force the defenders to open up this suit in order to restrict your losers to 2 only. So after drawing 2 rounds of trumps you embark on a cross ruff, trumping 2 Heart losers in the East hand and 2 Diamonds in the West hand.. West is now down to S. 9 4 3 and K Q of Hearts East has Spades Q J 8 7 and a Diamond. South has A K T of Diamonds and 2 losing Hearts. You now cash your top Hearts and exit with a spade to the Queen and South's Ace..Poor South can now only cash his top Spade leaving declarer to enjoy the last trick with his Jack, the eleventh trick.

Finally –the killing lead which no defender found. Can you spot it? Well of course it's a Spade at trick one. The end play is now impossible and you have to lose 3 spade tricks.

Good Bridging . **Alan.**

	♠ 652	
	♥ T5	
	♦ AQT952	
	♣ Q7	
♠ 943		♠ QJ83
♥ AKQ42		♥ 3
♦		♦ J843
♣ KJ842S		♣ A965
	♠ AKT	
	♥ J9876	
	♦ K76	
	♣ 73	

## National Bridge Congress, Hamilton, 23 September – 1 October

The 31<sup>st</sup> New Zealand National Bridge Congress is now only one month away, so get yourself organised if you'd like to attend! This is the big event on the NZ 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](http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/congress.html).

## Call for Bridge Buddies

As noted in the last newsletter, the novice group will join the main room on Wednesday evenings from 14 September. The September competition (14, 21 and 28 September) 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 are invited to make themselves known to Derek Knighton as soon as possible. Players who would like to partner a novice during October or November are also needed, and Derek would be pleased to hear about your interest and availability. 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.



## DUMMY'S BRIDGE BLOG!

With four more weeks still to go in the Club Champs, Dummy decided to cover them next month and to concentrate on the Daffodil Day 3A point Tournament held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August. [For those who didn't participate in the tournament – here's a view of the Prize Table for this highly successful event!]

Dummy asked one of the older Grand Slam members how many Daffodil Day Tournaments have been held and history shows that the first Charity Tournament was staged in 1993 in aid of The Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter. In 1994, with the launch of Daffodil Day by the Cancer Society's Faye James, the Club Board decided this was an extremely worthy cause and that relationship has continued year after year. By Dummy's reckoning, that makes 2016 the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Daffodil Day Bridge Tournament. It was stated that over \$30,000 has been raised in that time. With Chair Julie handing over a cheque for \$1,600 to Faye on Sunday, the total is now over \$32,000.

Dummy won't go into detail on his/her pair's performance – the results cover that! Some interesting facts though show that the 64 participants in the tournament represented 12 different clubs. Two players from Dannevirke, six from Feilding, two from Hastings, one from Hawera, six from Levin, two from Marton, two from Masterton, six from Otaki, fourteen from Palmerston North, two from Wanganui, one from Wellington and twenty from the Host club. Spread comfortably around the Hokowhitu Bowling Clubroom, the sixteen tables enjoyed a friendly ambiance within the distinctly competitive atmosphere of tournament standard Contract Bridge.

The general overview, summed up in the extensive prize-giving ceremony, was that once again HBC has staged a memorable Bridge Tournament and raised a significant amount for the worthiest of causes. Special thanks to the organising committee and the gang of volunteers who looked after the background labours that ensured the comfort and refreshment of everyone. Dummy is proud to be a member of a Club that so consistently produces the goods.

## Online Payment Reminder

The club is very pleased to receive payments online for table cards, subscriptions, and so forth. Our account number is 03 0726 0499234 000. Please remember to indicate in the reference field what your payment is for (eg, \$20 card, \$40 card, 2016 sub), so the Treasurer can allocate income correctly.

## Next Supper Evening - 21 September

Our next supper evening will be on Wednesday 21 September. Members with surnames beginning **A to L** are asked to bring a plate to share, please. We'll take a little break during the evening for refreshments and socialising.

## Board Resignation

The Board accepts with regret the resignation of Paul Orsborn from the Board. Paul joined the Board at the beginning of 2016, and we've appreciated his contribution to our work. A (positive) change in employment circumstances means that Paul will be taking a break from bridge for the rest of 2016. We wish him well and hope he will be able to return to bridge next year.

## Bent Horseshoe Event – 10 September

Winsome Lost will be the band at the next Bent Horseshoe event on Saturday 10 September. The Winsome Lost are a local (Palmerston North) bluegrass Americana band, who play a mix of tunes from Elvis to Avicii with a bluegrass flavour appealing to audiences of any age. They also crank plenty of straight bluegrass and modern folk covers from Mumford and Sons, Old Crow Medicine Show, Of Monsters And Men, and others. Tickets are \$20, and can be booked by phoning Steve on 06 329 8808, or email [steve@benthorseshoe.co.nz](mailto:steve@benthorseshoe.co.nz)

