

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk September 2023



F2F

We promote Face to Face Bridge

We particularly promote F2F Bridge in our upcoming tournament on Saturday 16th September!!

We encourage everyone to participate.

There are two distinctly separate sections:

- The Open section is being held online, and will attract experienced players from our own and other clubs chasing the 3A points on offer.
- The Intermediate Pairs is open to everyone! and will be held at the clubrooms, play starting at 10am sharp (morning tea at 9.30am, BYO lunch, free glass of wine at the end of the day).

The F2F session will feature prizes for:

- Novice/Novice
- Novice/Junior
- Junior/Junior
- Junior/Intermediate

Also spot prizes and a fun day. Don't be put off by having to register via the NZ Bridge website – ask a committee member to help you.

We want this to be a really enjoyable day for everyone – come along and support it.

News from Lessons:

Starting on 7th September there will be Improvers Lessons for 8 weeks, each lesson followed by playing hands designed to illustrate the lesson. All welcome – normal \$6 table money applies.

We are enjoying having so many of our novice players integrated into our regular Wednesday night play, with a slightly reduced number of boards per night (for the month of August).

Wednesday Night Teams

We have 12 teams in this year's Wednesday competition. Wonderful to see so many novices entering. There has been a bit of juggling as people set off on holidays and are only available to play some of the time, but we've managed to fit most people in – a total of 60 players taking part. Photos follow at the end of this newsletter.

Fun and Games in Cambridge:

A team from our club was formed to participate in the annual Cambridge Sixes on 5th August. Cambridge Club put on a fun event, where teams comprised of 2 x Open players, 2 x Intermediates, 2 x Juniors compete. 34 teams competed this year and all the teams come dressed to a theme – our team this year went as “Frankly Oarsome” in rowing gear (thanks to Tricia Balle, who is a rower with Mercer Club). Our team comprised Sue and David Spencer, Caroline and Kevin Griffin, Tricia Balle and Jonathan Taylor.



The editor's favourite costume from some years ago was a team from North Shore club, who dressed to a construction theme, wore logo'd black t-shirts, jeans and hard yellow hats. The t-shirt logos were all different, but the one which caught our eye read

“Caution – Bridge Unstable”.

NZ Bridge Annual Congress, 23-30 September 2023

Congress is again at Mt. Maunganui this year. Several players from our club are attending, we wish them the best of luck – may all their fitnesses work.

Player News:

Congratulations to Gina Sangster and her husband Les, who have just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They were married in 1958 in Aberdeen, Scotland. A true milestone.

Congratulations to Roni Bistricher on the birth of his new grandson, Gabriel. Roni, who has mown our club lawns for many, many years, has just sold his lawnmowing round and is looking forward to spending quality time with Gabriel, to tending the many fruit trees he has planted, and to working on his peanut project. Have you tasted Roni's famous peanuts – they're extremely addictive and are often a feature at our functions.

We presented Jim Buckland with a birthday card in mid-August for his 82nd birthday. Jim is and has been a great stalwart of our club – President 2000-2001, Treasurer for 8 years 2008-2015, still our Friday director Jim learned to play bridge with his parents, who were keen bridge players – he's been playing for more than 65 years!



Jim blowing out the candles on his 80th birthday 2 years ago

John Fergusson also learned bridge in the same way – if someone didn't turn up to an evening's bridge, his parents would sometimes get John up out of bed to come and make up a fourth! John, too, has been playing for more than 60 years.

Get well wishes from us all to those who are unable to attend bridge at the moment, following stays in hospital: Nelda Wormald, Ann Anderson, Terry Evans

and Bill Mellow. Diane Conroy returned on 1st September and Susie Longdell's husband has also had a lengthy stay in Middlemore, best wishes to them all.

Another fun night - Monday 18th September:

This night is listed in the programme book as the 5th week of Monday teams. However, the committee has decided to instead have a **Goulash Night** and hopes to encourage people who don't normally play Mondays to come and have a fun night.

A Goulash Night is when the hands are wildly distributional and some very off the wall bids get made. For example, you might pick up a hand holding 10 hearts and 3 singletons. Do you go for a slam or just be content with 4 hearts? Fortune favours the brave - or not?

Come join us.

[Assistant Editors historical note – I first encountered goulashes as a young lad watching my grandmother, Ross Nash, playing rubber bridge. In those days the cards were all played into the middle and the winner of the trick gathered the cards and placed them in front of him/her. To deal a goulash the tricks from the previous hand were gathered up and given a very light hand-to-hand shuffle (not a riffle shuffle). They were then dealt out in 3-3-3-3 sequence and one each at the end, or something similar. As with the goulash dish everyone had their own variation of this but the results were similar – Jonathan]

Comings and Goings:

Peter Rowe and Maria have gone off to the northern hemisphere until February – they will spend Christmas in Calgary, Canada, where it will definitely be white!

Christine and Henk Egelmeer are back from their Netherlands and England holiday, and Janet and Frank Hogan are just back from travelling the Australian Outback.

Spring has sprung in gardens all around Pukekohe.



Daffodils at the Pioneer Cottage, Pukekohe

- May all your finesse work
- May all your slams be grand

Stop Press – Wednesday Night Teams photos.



Teresa kept the room moving happily along, and managed to captain Pink team at the same time!



