

# Franklin Bridge Club Table Talk November 2023



## Upcoming Events:

We look forward to as many players as possible for the Loveblock NZ-wide Pairs on Friday night 10<sup>th</sup> November (used to be the Babich Pairs). Last year, 55 clubs and 865 pairs participated. It's suitable for all levels of bridge.

Optional shared pot luck dinner at 6 pm(BYO), but if you prefer you can come at 7pm and just play bridge. Please put your name on the whiteboard at the club, we need to know how many boards and booklets to provide.

And have you put your name down to play in the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November. Play will start at 1pm as usual, best handicap pair wins.

There will be an auction of pairs, a sweepstake, a raffle, wearing of raceday hats is optional but there will be a prize! Find yourself a partner, or just come along and we will provide you with one. Please bring a plate to share and BYO drinks.

A selection of hats from our 2016 Melbourne Cup Day follows:



Fascinating!!

## **The AGM Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**

Please diary the AGM and Prizegiving.

Optional bridge (drawn pairs – you don't need a partner) will follow.

New programme books for 2024 and annual invoices for your sub will be available at the AGM. This is your opportunity to sign up partners for the year ahead.

## **Tuesday daytime and Thursday evening bridge:**

Please note that the last Tuesday afternoon bridge for this year will be Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November. Tuesday sessions will resume in February next year.

Thursday evening lessons ceased at the end of September.

We thank John Fergusson for the tremendous effort he has put into beginners and improvers bridge this year. We have been rewarded with an influx of new members, who are enjoying their bridge.

## **Parking on our front lawn:**

Please don't park on, or drive over, the circles where the old trees used to be on our front lawn. They have been seeded with new grass, which will take until Christmas to establish itself. We have asked the lawnmowing man to avoid them too and we have protected them with stakes. Thanks to Carol De Luca for doing the sowing.

## **Player news:**

Japan was the place to be in October.

- Lynne and Arie Geursen were there on a cruise.
- So too (separate cruise) were Gerda and John Bouwman.
- Mary Crawford was on a walking tour, having rendezvous'd there with a friend who came down from England.

And look who met up at Narita Airport – completely by chance.



Random encounters at Narita Airport



Mary Crawford and friend

We received an email from Peter Rowe in early October as follows:

“Greetings from Bavaria. Photo attached is at a farmhouse on a hiking trail at Mt Wank (I am not making this up!). Morning tea comprised a big hunk of cake with cream and beer – could this be hazardous to health?”

Heading to UK and the Netherlands shortly, later on to Canada.  
All the best from Peter and Maria”



Prost!

Margaret van der Coer turned 89 in mid-October, and she was presented with a card and small bouquet. She protested “But I’m “only” 89 – I’m not 90 until next year” – we are planning on celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> with her!



Thanks to Christine and Henk Egelmeer for buckets of delicious large avocados from their tree.

Jonathan Taylor and his family had a great time in France and Spain in September/October. Jonathan has a great collection of hats (and t-



shirts) and often wears them to bridge. He said he couldn't resist a genuine French beret a few weeks ago – and doesn't he wear it with style!



“Beret nice!”

### **Neil Christensen**

We were saddened to learn of the death of our club member Neil Christensen on 7<sup>th</sup> October, leaving behind his wife and two adult sons. Neil had played bridge in university days, and came to our club several years ago, playing on Wednesday nights. Tributes at his funeral all referred to him as NZ's foremost expert in free range chickens, adventurer, hiker, skier, tramper, private pilot, his wicked sense of humour, and his terrible fashion sense. Apparently, he wore his shorts and crocs everywhere – not just to bridge. R.I.P. Neil.

### **Out and About in Pukekohe:**

We note the considerable progress in demolition of the old Franklin Council Buildings in Manukau Road. The site is to become a private “Health Hub”.