

JUNE NEWSLETTER

POT-LUCK DINNER



Friday 17 June

Our midwinter social function this year is a pot-luck dinner. Come at 6.00pm for a time to chat and eat before we begin play at the usual time.

All options are open. You can bring a partner or come alone, eat and play, eat and not play, or play and not eat. I guess you could also choose to not eat and not play and just chat, that's up to you. Please put your name on the sheet at the top table so we know how many to expect.

Be prepared for some unusual directions such as "The opener must bid 1NT" or "Bidding Spades is forbidden".

Masks must be worn at the table from 7.00pm onwards.

NATIONAL CONGRESS SUCCESSES

The New Zealand National Bridge Congress was held over Queen's Birthday in Tauranga. The club was honoured by Graeme Norman and his partner taking a sparkling first place in the Open Swiss Pairs, hard fought in a field of fifty-four pairs.



Graeme Norman

Judy Plimmer and her partner came seventh out of fifty-six pairs and Judith Jackson and Angela Gattsche also performed creditably against very strong competition.



Judy Plimmer



Judith Jackson



Angela Gattsche



RUBBER BRIDGE

Sixteen Waikanae players made up the Kapiti section of the National Rubber Bridge competition. The finalist pairs for Kapiti are Jeanne Wardill/Graham Cheater who will play against Isobel Ross/Derek Snelling. The winning pair plays Lorraine and Tom Sutich for the chance to represent the Wellington Region nationally. We hope our Waikanae players get dealt all the slams.

NEW MEMBERS

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We expect over twenty new players to join us from Monday 11 July after they finish their lessons with Judith Jackson. We are delighted to have so many newcomers interested in playing bridge with us. We want them to enjoy their time when they come, so please make sure whatever you say to them makes them feel welcome and supported and willing to return.

The usual Monday rules will apply and in addition, from 11 July you may not double for penalties. Double like crazy while you can!

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RECYCLING – a reminder



Please use the recycling bin only for clean paper and cardboard.

All other rubbish goes in the landfill bin.

WAIKANAЕ/PARAPARAUMU INTERCLUB TOURNAMENT



Once again Waikanae Bridge Club won the annual interclub fixture against Paraparaumu Bridge Club. Congratulations to the team who played and thank you to those who contributed nibbles for the social time after play finished.



IMPROVERS LESSONS

Lessons for those wanting to improve their play will take place in July. Set aside three Monday nights beginning 11 July. Graeme Norman will teach us some interesting ways to develop our skills and refine our play. There will be a charge and details will be provided closer to the time. All players are welcome.

THOUGHTS ON PARTNERSHIP

With acknowledgements to Tihana Brkljačić. You can read the complete article on the Waikanae Bridge Club website

Are you ready for a serious relationship? Bridge partnership is one of the most complex and demanding relationships in human society. Completely depending on each other is exciting, challenging and frightening. The partnership's delicate, sensitive and turbulent structure raises issues over time that need to be tackled in order to build a successful long-term relationship, much as in real life.

Survivors in bridge partnerships realize that the partnership is more valuable than their ego. They are willing to put effort into resolving issues, they make adjustments and sacrifices. They realise that their partnership is a dynamic, cyclical process where when an issue arises, they will work together to solve it. These partnerships can last a lifetime, and for many, it is the most precious relationship they ever have.

Going through the processes of formation, stability, tensions and disintegration enriches one's life. Bridge partnership is a relatively safe arena in which to practise trust, commitment, respect, patience, adjustment, empathy, assertiveness, restraint and forgiveness. These virtues, developed at the table, can transfer to real life and help us cope with daily stressors and challenges.

Tihana Brkljačić is a psychologist and a bridge player. She teaches psychology and bridge at Zagreb university. She represented Croatia at multiple European championships and at The World Championship (Wuhan cup) in 2022. As a psychologist, her main areas of interest are in quality of life, well-being and communication. Additionally, she studies the psychology of games (focusing on bridge in particular) and consults players on various topics.



AND NOT SO SERIOUSLY...

Ballad of Big Chair – A Cautionary Tale

By Peter Dale

Carpet was ripped and distraught. Repairing would simply not wash.

Big Chair asked for help from Committee who kindly came up with the dosh.

New Carpet was ordered and paid for. It came on the last day of May.

Committee got set to clearing the decks for Carpet was ready to lay.

First were tablecloth covers, folded away into squares,

But what about thirty-three tables? And a hundred and thirty-three chairs?

An air of despondence descended which filled Big Chair with gloom,

For the tables were now all upended and who would be stacked upon whom?

Lad stacked the chairs in the kitchen in orderly layers of eight,

But where was his sense of direction? For none was stacked with its mate.

He put one or two in the gentleman's loo though why, Big Chair can't say.

Maybe Director has won the trifecta and sits in there reading each day.

Carpet lay down like a greyhound but nothing would now be the same,
For every disconsolate table and chair no longer remembered their name.
Strapping Young Lad said to Foreman, "Which way do you want them to go?"
"Four chairs to a table are needed and set 'em up neat in a row."

Lad finished placing the furniture. Boss looked on with delight.
"That's a good job you've done, my lad, to be sure, remember to turn off the light."
Lad did his best and finished the rest, took care in replacing Fridge.
But though he was good at his carpets, he knew less than nothing of bridge.

For a short while Room was quiet. Big Chair hummed a sad song.
It was easy to tell that all was not well. Something was dreadfully wrong.
Tables were out of position, chairs upside down in despair.
Big Chair looked around left right and square for Director's table and chair.

But Table reserved for Director was not in its corner at all.
It was pushed up alongside Kitchen, its northern side facing the wall.
"Can't help you," Table said sadly, "there's nought I can do in the least.
How on earth do I find my direction when I'm hassled by West, South and East?"

Scorer ignored New Carpet and sat down ready to play,
But partner had gone. Something was wrong. Sitting rights every which way.
Beginners got grand slams doubled, bridgetabs all out of whack,
Intermediates shouted and flouted and pouted and wanted their table money back.

Cupboards were empty and sad, their innards exposed to blame
Walls had crusts of mould and rust. Computer closed down in shame.
Director bid out of rotation and didn't know which way to turn.
Big Chair called for Grand Master for wisdom from which they could learn.

Seven Grand Masters from Kaio to Gore attended the club in its plight.
A fairy came through from the Manawatu with a wand to scatter some light.

The conclave met in the office and remained secluded for days.

Scholarly marks and quantum and quarks showed their Grand Masterly ways.

Then the grandest of all the Grand Masters stood up and commanded the floor.

“Let’s look at our game over history to find out what’s gone on before.

Learn from my friend, Rudyard Kipling. He says it right here on this sheet.

East is the East and West is the West and never the twain shall meet.

To me it’s a classic example, applying Rule 422.

For a club that has lost its direction, any point on the compass will do.

We can’t rearrange all the tables with no idea which one is which,

So we’ll take a fresh point of direction. Why not begin with Fridge?

East will look towards Fridge and South will be facing the rear,

So using your points of the compass you can take your positions from there.

Director will face Reikorangi which isn’t a bad thing at all.

West will look at the kitchen and North, well, they look at the wall.”

Committee held four special sessions to declare and respond and explain.

By the end of the week, with the odd plaintive shriek, the new directions were plain.

So at Waikanae Bridge it’s all peaceful. It holds all the trumps in its hand.

And provided that Fridge remains on its bridge it’s the best little club in the land.

If your club is replacing its carpets, we have some knowledge to share.

Use the four points of the compass to mark all your tables and chairs.

Have fun and play well

Ady Dale
President

