

## TABLE TALK November 2020



### The AGM

Wow -- it's nearly December! Time for us to hold our Annual General Meeting, **Sunday 6th December**, starting with a welcome drink at 5.30pm. Please note the list of proposed Committee members up on the whiteboard at the club, and if you are keen to come onto our committee, please let one of the existing committee know. We have a vacancy for a Vice President.

We get "the business" out of the way as quickly as possible, followed by the prize-giving, and then an optional pot luck dinner and random- Pairs bridge. At the meeting, a clipboard will circulate to put your name down for the optional bridge. Random pairs will be drawn -- no correspondence regarding the pairing will be entered into. 😊

Please come along and attend this meeting. Pick up your new 2021 programme book (and new invoice), and sign up some new partners ready for 2021.

### Emergencies

If something happened to you at the bridge club, would someone know with whom to get in touch? We have provision within our computer system to record next-of-kin, or emergency contacts.

There is a space for this on your subscription invoice -- fill in your contact details and we will put them into the computer. While you're reading your invoice, please note the discount which applies to 31st January 2021. We (especially Maureen!) very much appreciate prompt payment of your subs.



### Lighting

Have you noticed our new lighting? We have had LED lighting installed in the front foyer and a new security light (also LED) illuminates the rear corner of the building, over the carpark. Those exiting the building by the back door after evening play will now have much better lighting as they head to their cars.



### Being Dummy

During play, dummy is significantly limited in that he or she is able to do! Some of the things that you might want to do, but **cannot** include:

1. play a card before it is called for by declarer
2. encourage partner to play dummy's small card which you know is good, but partner doesn't seem to
3. express surprise at partner's choice of card from dummy
4. tell partner they have a trick pointed the wrong way after a lead has been made to the next trick
5. ask a defender if he has revoked
6. call the director before anyone else has drawn attention to an infraction

Dummy is dummy! And is just there to play the cards on declarer's instructions...or get the teas and coffees!

However, dummy can attempt to prevent an irregularity from occurring. So, if you see partner about to play a card from their own hand, when the lead is in dummy, or vice versa, you can pipe up and **try to stop them**. But if partner has called for a card, or played a card, you should just let it happen and let the other players say something if they notice.

However, once the irregularity has occurred, you can no longer say anything - it is up to the defenders to point out the infraction.

## Player News

- several of our members took the opportunity of a spring holiday within NZ. Sue and David Spencer went for a cruise in the Marlborough Sounds. Janet and Frank Hogan went on a cruise in Fiordland.



*Sue with a nice-looking catch*

- Experienced campervanners Margaret Wilson and Alan Lancaster won't be at the bridge table until nearly Christmas -- they've taken off for a 6-week trip in their 'van
- Maria and Chris enjoyed their campervanning and e-biking holiday on the West Coast of the South Island. Maria was very taken with frequent sightings of pairs of Paradise ducks and sent us this very "springtime" photo.



*Paradise ducks, courtesy of Maria*

- Congratulations to Jenny and Dan Colgan on the birth of another little grandson, Monty, in Invercargill. Another good excuse for a trip to the Far South!
- We (the Club) sent a birthday card to Dudley Husband for his 91st birthday at the very end of October. He had a happy day and was glad we'd remembered him. He is enjoying being "in charge" of the gardens for his rest home, and producing fresh vegetables for use in the kitchen there.
- Best wishes to Diane Conroy, recently returned home after a hip replacement. We hope to see her back at the bridge table soon.
- We send our best wishes to May McRobbie as she moves from her home of 40 years and into the Ryman village (where she will no doubt encounter Suzanne Radley, Dirk Mooy and Jocelyn Hunter). May says she's ready for the move and looking forward to it. They even have a small bridge group there, but we hope that she will continue to play with us too.



- Several members of FBC enjoyed the Franklin Hospice Garden Ramble in stunning weather in mid-November.



Sheltering under their sunhats and behind their sunglasses in one of the beautiful gardens are Belinda Summerville, Margaret Gardiner and Sue Helleur. Caroline Griffin worked on one of the gardens, helping the many visitors. Hospice, which is not Government funded, has been hard hit this year due to its fund-raising shops being closed by Covid for several months.

**Babich Wines New Zealand Wide Pairs: Friday evening October 30<sup>th</sup>** As usual, our club ran a heat and many attending came for a lovely pot luck dinner first. Not only can we play bridge but we can also cook very well. We had 11 tables for the bridge which is the most at the club for many years. Countrywide, there were 444 tables taking part at 57 clubs. Our top scores when scored across all 57 clubs were:

Pair	%	Position (out of 888)
Grant Jarvis and Lynne Geursen	64.96	13th
Bev Henton and Bev Guilford	59.48	87th
Christine and Henk Egelmeer	58.58	112th
Sue and David Spencer	56.89	150th
Angela Smith and Gayle Askew	56.34	167th
Dennise Biddick and Jo Griffiths	55.76	191st

### A NEW GRANDMASTER



*That's Bev Henton, who was recently presented at the club with her certificate to prove it and presented to her by our President, Caroline Griffin.*

### **Interclub Results for the Year**

It has been a very interrupted year, with even the November round being cancelled because of the possibility of a new outbreak. So, the last round for this year was back in July after which our Open team were in 5<sup>th</sup> place but only 3 vps from 3<sup>rd</sup> while in the Intermediate event, the Franklin Anzacs were 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 20- team event. Franklin Tim Tam were mid-table in this competition. Our Junior Franklin Chit Chat had just discovered the art of winning and had moved above several teams but progress further up the table has been thwarted by Covid.

So, a frustrating year for Inter-Club but do think of representing your club in this fun event next year.

### **Reputations can count for nothing at the bridge table**

This piece is dedicated to all of you who might feel a little overawed by one's opponents, whether you play your bridge on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evening or during the day on a Friday. Most of you will have felt you have little or no chance coming up against some players who have the reputation of being a lot better than you perceive yourselves to be.

That might well have been the case when the team of Teresa and Neal Phillips, Nelda Wormald and Maureen Nelson slid into the semi-finals of the Monday night Teams Championship. That's 2 Open and 2 Intermediate players. Between the four of them, they have amassed 73 A Points and their average Rating Points is 66.

Their opponents consisted of two Silver Grand-Masters, Lynne Geursen and Trevor Robb, a Grand Master in the form of Andrew Janisz and a very very capable Intermediate player, Henni Annabell. These four have a total of 5,302 A Points with an average Rating Points of 378.

In a 12-board knock-out match, with Team Robb having a 5 VP advantage going into the match, you would think there could only be one winner.

Absolutely, with Team Nelson thrashing their opponents 42-14 in imps. What a fabulous victory...and it seems most of the imps were lost at the table where Trevor and Andrew were playing. I am sure the losers will not mind my

highlighting this result. They will have had and will have many more victories but not on this occasion. *(as an aside, after such a victory, is there a place for the winning team captain taking over managing the All Blacks?)*

Team Nelson competed strongly too in the 12- board final but finished second. So, next time you think you are really up against it playing a perceived stronger team, sensible bridge and perhaps a little good fortune can produce such a result, whoever you are. Just believe it could happen.

### Plan, Plan and .... Plan!

Are you listening? You have just seen dummy. A little thought early on can be well rewarded, whether you are declarer or a defender. Take a look:

South Deals	♠ Q J 5 4									
None Vul	♥ Q 8 7									
	♦ A J 2									
	♣ A Q J									
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	N									
W		E								
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	♠ A K 9 8 6									
	♥ J 4									
	♦ Q 8									
	♣ 8 7 5 3									
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>							
			Pass							
1 ♥	Dbl	Pass	2 ♠							
Pass	4 ♠	All pass								

South's jump to 2 ♠ showed about 9-11 hcp and at least four spades. Opposite that, North had enough to jump straight to game.

West started with ♥A, ♥K and a third heart with East ruffing with ♠2 and South ruffing with ♠6. Our declarer then did the right thing by drawing the defence's trumps by playing ♠A and then ♠K. However, at that point, the contract became a lot harder to make...or to be exact was likely to fail. Can you see why?



