

TABLE TALK – MARCH 2020 with Richard Solomon



It's sad to have to close down the club but that is the right decision for now. In a month's time, we may have some better news for you



all. We hope so.

Hand Evaluation and yummy cake!

The "Carrot Candle" Birthday Cake



The day after Waitangi Day..and after Richard's birthday. It was not too late for Tina Fulton to whip up a yummy birthday cake. I have to agree that the best place for a carrot is as a candle on a birthday cake. Rumour has it (come on now, Richard, admit it.It's true. Carrots taste terrible! Do I have any supporters?) that Richard does not like carrots. He really did like the cake, though.... and by the tiny amount left after the supper break, so did everyone else!

Quite apart from the cake, hopefully all those who came to the two improvers sessions on "Hand Evaluation" both enjoyed and took something away from them. We had good numbers, nearly 30 on both evenings.



Blue "Hat Trick"

We all now know what wearing the blue hat means. Well, you might just be wrong! Wearing the blue hat for three successive Wednesday nights in February was Jon Taylor...and guess what, he has performed the "hat trick" with three 1st places in a row and three different partners:

63.45 with Charlotte Jager (a visitor to the club)

62.26 with Susie Longdell

62.92 with Robert Brake

And can you beat this?

Meanwhile, Nelda Wormald and Bev Henton had a ball on a recent Friday session and outscored May McRobbie who had topped 75% when playing with Nelda only a couple of Fridays' before ...75.50%...a pretty good score over 24 boards.

You cannot play at the club: but you CAN play Rubber Bridge

*An opportunity to play bridge **now** in each other's home*

Each year, a few pairs from our club play in a heat of the National Rubber Bridge competition. We would like to expand the number now because we cannot play duplicate.

So, play a 30 board Rubber Bridge match against another Franklin pair **at a player's home**. We will give you the rules: they are not hard. The winner goes on to the next round. We will play one round per week. Matches are knock-out. Eventual winner plays in regional competition to find a winning pair.

TO ENTER: email or phone me by 5.00PM Friday March 27th

with yours and your partner's name...first draw made March 28th

Round 1 to be played week ending Sunday 5th April

Round 2 to be played week ending Sunday 12th April (*first round losers play their own competition in week 2*)

Further rounds as directed

NO COST *all you need is a table, 4 chairs, 2 packs of cards and a score-sheet (I can email you score-sheets)*

I will provide you with a brief guide to Rubber Bridge: you need **never** have played Rubber before.

No need to suffer withdrawal symptoms from bridge.

There is skill in Rubber but a lot depends on getting good hands. We



all can do that.

at home. Richard Solomon

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Player News

- We wished the Fulton family well in mid-March as they headed off to live on the Kapiti Coast. We hope to hear their news from time to time, Farewell Will, Tina, Harri, Poppy and Logan
- We're sorry that Diane Conroy has been unable to come to bridge for some weeks owing to health issues. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her back at the table soon
- News from former member Irene Bronlund in Taumarunui:

"Life goes on much the same. I have been reading a lot and am playing bridge again so am keeping busy. I often wonder how you all are - the bridge club seems to be doing very well. My neighbours were down recently so I caught up with a bit of news. It all sounds as though Pukekohe is growing as big as Auckland."

Jenny and Dan Colgan had a fine time at the Art Deco weekend in Napier in late February. So did Yvonne and Rolf Baettig, all 4 of them entering into the spirit of the weekend.



Time for a round, Dan?



Our very fine-looking Secretary



This really is Rolf and Yvonne...looking as flash as the car!

- Overheard/seen at Auckland Inter-club : "Director please" with hand raised. "That'll be a Franklin member" said someone else proudly. Yesssss! -- please continue to be courteous to our volunteer directors 😊



Saturday April 26th Franklin Restricted Pairs. We certainly hope to run this event if at all possible.

Remember The Gold Coast?

Quite a few of us do. We were there only a few weeks ago, wining, dining and playing just a bit of bridge. I counted 13 Franklin members over there, that is myself, Lynne and Arie, Andrew Janisz, Trevor Robb, Margaret Wilson, Sue and David Spencer, Bev Henton, Kevin and Julie and Chris and Maria.

Hard at Play!



“Come on, share the joke, Maria.” Looking far more composed were Bev, Trevor, Chris, Andrew and Lynne and the very top of Arie’s head!

We did not come home with any gold medals (or silver or bronze ones either!) but we had our moments:

Open Pairs (9 sections mostly of 28 pairs per section)

Lynne and I finished 13th in Section B.

Andrew and his Canadian partner finished 2nd in Section C.

Restricted Pairs Final F (176 pairs took part)

Margaret Wilson and Angela Signal finished 6th.

Monday Butler Swiss Pairs (73 tables)

David Spencer- Trevor Robb 19th

Open Teams

Lynne Geursen and I finished 43rd out of 236 teams after scoring just 0.3 vp in the last of our 12 matches. Oh, what might have been!

Sue Spencer's team finished 60th.

Restricted Teams (102 teams)

27th Chris Glyde, Maria Casci, Julie Quilty, Kevin Birch

Ivy Dahler Swiss Pairs- Restricted (98 pairs)

10th Chris Glyde- Maria Casci

12th David Spencer- Sandy Buzzard (Invercargill)

14th Kevin Birch- Julie Quilty

Who Needs Honours?

The answer would be not Neal Phillips after he had played well to make a rather unusual contract on this recent Monday night deal:

Board 21

North Deals

N-S Vul

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>♠ K 8 7 6 4</p> <p>♥ J 7 3</p> <p>♦ 5</p> <p>♣ Q 8 7 3</p> |  | <p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ K 8 5</p> <p>♦ Q J 10 8 3</p> <p>♣ A 10 9 4 2</p> | <p>♠ A Q 5 3</p> <p>♥ A Q 10</p> <p>♦ 4 2</p> <p>♣ K J 6 5</p> |
|---|---|---|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>♠ J 10 9 2</p> <p>♥ 9 6 4 2</p> <p>♦ A K 9 7 6</p> <p>♣ —</p> | <p>West</p> <p>North</p> <p>Neal</p> <p>Pass</p> <p>Pass</p> | <p>East</p> <p>1 NT</p> <p>All pass</p> | <p>South</p> <p>Neal's partner!</p> <p>2 ♣</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

After East's 15-18 1NT opening, South's 2♣ bid showing both major suits was rather an overbid as well as being a gross description with 7 of their 8 high card points in diamonds. It was though hard for West to bid 2♠ after South's bid even though only a club lead from North

beats 4♠. Thus, North was asked to choose between the majors...no hard choice this time! (*hand repeated for convenience*)

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------|------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|-----------|
| Board 21 | | ♠ — | | | | | | | | | |
| North Deals | | ♥ K 8 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| N-S Vul | | ♦ Q J 10 8 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ♣ A 10 9 4 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ K 8 7 6 4 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <table style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> | | N | | W | | E | | S | | ♠ A Q 5 3 |
| | N | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | | E | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ J 7 3 | | ♥ A Q 10 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ 5 | | ♦ 4 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ Q 8 7 3 | | ♣ K J 6 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ♠ J 10 9 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ♥ 9 6 4 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ♦ A K 9 7 6 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ♣ — | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | |
| | <i>Neal</i> | | <i>Neal's partner!</i> | | | | | | | | |
| | Pass | 1 NT | 2 ♣ | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 2 ♥ | All pass | | | | | | | | | |

East led ♦4 with dummy's ♦6 winning the first trick. After that, Neal ruffed a spade to his own hand and discarded a spade on the ♣A. Neal then ruffed 3 clubs in the South hand and 2 more spades in his own North hand. Thus, he made 8 tricks and with only dummy's ♥9 his only trump left, made no further tricks. Still, he made +110 without making a trick with any of dummy's honour cards!

At the other table, the declarer lost their way in their 5♦ contract which only an initial lead of ♥J from West beats legitimately. South can otherwise ruff 3 clubs in their hand and score 2 club tricks including the ace and ruff 4 spades in the North hand. Add in two trumps in the South hand and you can come to 11. So, 7 rather undeserved imps to Neal and his partner's team though Neal took full advantage to make his unusual part-score.

We will try to bring you an April "Table Talk" though there will be almost no Franklin bridge on which to report. *Richard Solomon*