
'Table talk'

**Franklin Bridge Club Newsletter
May 2017 - with Richard Solomon**



Franklin Restricted Pairs

It was great to see such a good turnout for our tournament -- 22 tables or 88 bridge players concentrating hard for the two sessions. Open/intermediate was the biggest section with 20 pairs. It was particularly pleasing to see so many of our own players participating, with 21 pairs being Franklin players. A big well done to Maria Casci, our Tournament Secretary, who also won the main prize of the raffle.

Maureen Nelson comments. "It was even more pleasing that a pair of "our own" were the overall winners. Congratulations to Richard Solomon (Open) and Will Fulton (Junior). Christine Lyons and Robert Brake won the Intermediate/Intermediate section. Caroline Griffin with her friend Cathy Carroll won the Junior/Intermediate, Carol McDermott and Roger Gregg won the Junior/Junior. Well done to you all.

Thank you to everyone who worked on the day, contributed to the working bee, the goodies for the raffle, etc. It was all very much appreciated and a core value of our club. Thank you, too, to our sponsor Don Barry's company Flooring Xtra, and to his wife Joan for helping in the kitchen. And a special mention to Chris Glyde for scoring. We are lucky to have him, as most of us would have no idea how to keep it all the electronics under control." (*not bad on electrics too ... but more of that in a minute*).

"Thanks to Ann Anderson and Pam Lorimer for sewing new lunchtime covers for all our tables, just in time for the tournament. Ann has been our indefatigable raffle-organiser for many years too.

Did you ever wonder how the bulk egg supply from our sponsor Bromley Park Hatcheries gets translated into all those half-dozens which we give away as prizes? The Friday players make up all the smaller packs in their lunch break. We hear from a reliable source that there were lots of double-yolkers in the last lot." (*I have no idea as, as usual, I left eggless.*)

"People came from far and wide to play --a pair from Waiheke, several pairs from North Shore and East Coast Bays, others from Howick, Royle Epsom and Remuera, even a visitor from Hawkes' Bay.

It was great to see two teenagers playing - MacKenzie Rhodes from ECBays and Tony Ren from Howick playing with his father Jeffrey. Tony is a student at MacLeans College in Howick, where they have a 40-strong bridge club at the school.

Many of you will know Open player Wayne Benefield, who came from North Shore club. He was wearing a black t-shirt with the large letters "STOP" on the front. Each year, the Cambridge Bridge Club hosts the "Cambridge Sixes". Teams are made up of one pair each of Open, Intermediate and Junior, and are encouraged to come dressed to a theme. Last year, Wayne's North Shore team went as construction workers, in jeans, hard hats and t-shirts with construction-related logos on. You may not have seen the back of Wayne's t-shirt. After the

“STOP” on the front, the back read "BRIDGE UNSTABLE"!

Thanks for the report, Maureen. How about Franklin entering a team or three in this year's Cambridge Sixes? It is to be held on Saturday August 12th And if you do want to form a team, do so soon as the event is extremely popular.

A note from the partner-convenors:



It's several months since you filled in your programme book at last year's AGM. Please touch base with your partners when a new series is starting as there have already been one or two miscommunications.

If you've changed your phone number since our programme book was printed in December 2016, please advise Chris Glyde so we can update our records.

New Players and Improvers

It seems one or two of our newer players may soon take the step into Wednesday night play. I am sure they will be warmly welcomed. Meanwhile, Chris Glyde has two more Thursday evening sessions for Improvers. On Thursday May 25th, he will be covering Competitive Bidding, that is overcalls, cue bids and doubles while at the end of June, he will look at planning the play of a hand. Chris is happy with the 12-15 who have been coming to these sessions. They are particularly aimed at Wednesday night players who would like to improve their game. So come along to the club on May 25th, 7.30pm. You have nothing to lose and would pick up some useful hints.

Ultra Restricted Tournament

This is happening as I write this month's report (Sunday 21st May). We will report on this event in June.

Auckland-Northland Inter-Club Competition

This is at the Auckland Bridge Club on Saturday May 27th. Franklin always enters a team, which consists of two Open, two Intermediate and two Junior players. It's a neat day out. If you are interested, put your name on the whiteboard at the club, this weekend.

More Overseas Travellers

Sue and David Spencer are off up to Alaska for three weeks for a cruise and to see some spectacular scenery. Enjoy. Carol Moore and Henni Annabell should also be on their big seaward adventure by now.

Men: the great multi-taskers

This story was related by one of the fairer sex.

The builder, the painter and the electrician

Yes, we bridge players are a very talented lot. If we do not have the skills ourselves, then we know how to rope in a relative. *(Those who know me and my inability to do anything with my hands except hold cards will smile at my use of the "royal we" in the above sentence.)*

Handyman 1 Our new ramp

Hopefully, you have noticed the new ramp at the back of the club. No more falling down the steps as you rush out at the end of the night not looking where you are going, too busy discussing partner's appalling lead on Board 15.

The new ramp will be much safer for the winter, and for people with mobility issues. The upgrade has been built by President Lynne's brother, who is a retired builder. Maureen popped into the club on a Saturday morning and encountered Keith there. He said Lynne had haggled his price down to a minimum, but he was wondering about a small extra adjustment. "Tell her you've cleared it with the Treasurer", said Maureen!



Handyman 2 Painter within

Henk Egelmeer has completed the freshening-up of the interior, and has almost completed painting the exterior. That should see us right for a few more years, and we'll be spick and span for the big July tournament.

Handyman 3 Throwing Light on the contract

On a recent Monday night, one of the fluorescent lights above the playing area started flickering. Chris Glyde was sitting right underneath it. So, next time he was dummy, he went and got a ladder and a new bulb. Kevin Wang, who is an electrician, noticed what he was doing. So, between the two of them they got the job done very quickly just in time to "move on" when director asked East/West to do so. Well done, men. 😊

(Rumour has it that Andrew Janisz was the declarer ... hence giving the men plenty of time to complete this difficult task!)
