



This careful bidding analysis and play of the hand produced a top board for us.

This young lady is a delight to play with and has a very promising future as a top bridge player."

Then there was recently the New Zealand Wide Pairs with our club as usual running a heat. We had a scrumptious pot luck dinner to start with to be followed by 9 and a half tables playing the same 24 boards as at 56 other clubs around New Zealand. Jim Buckland and Julie Quilty were glad they came along and achieved the highest score of the night at Franklin, 69.53% while the top East-West score was achieved by Nelda Wormald and Henrietta Annabell with 61.01%. When the across the field scores appeared, Jim and Julie had dropped to 64.17% to finish 31st overall. Nelda and Henrietta's had increased to 64.07% and were one place below Jim and Julie, and ... that is out of 970 pairs.

Nelda and Henrietta were helped by the tale of the missing ace on Board 15. These were the cards visible to the players:

Dealer	<b>North</b>					
South	♠ AQ9732					
North	♥ 642					
Vul. N/S	♦ 5					
	♣ 43					
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>				
♠ KJ	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 1086	
N						
W E						
S						
♥ 973		♥ J5				
♦ KQJ106		♦ 72				
♣ KQ9		♣ AJ10862				
	<b>South</b>					
	♠ 54					
	♥ AKQ108					
	♦ 9843					
	♣ 75					

Nelda, East, was in 3♣ with South, Debbie Sullivan leading her two high hearts and then switching to spades. After losing the first four tricks, Nelda's cause looked hopeless as she had to lose to the ♦ A. However, someone else was also "losing" that card. Nelda won the lead and after drawing trumps, twice led a diamond from hand with the king and queen winning the tricks. Nelda thus had 9 tricks. Since North, James Harris, had discarded to the second round, it was suggested that Debbie should have won the second diamond rather than play low. A somewhat perplexed Debbie examined her hand in the finest detail but still could not find that card! It was 2 to 3 minutes later that it was discovered *under James' chair*. Personally, I have often wanted to throw away a 2 or a 3 but I have always valued every ace I have been dealt rather more highly than James had this one!

Other unusual events during the evening included a freely bid 2NT contract drifting off 8 down on the above deal. 5 hearts followed by six spades were very understandable after East threw a spade. That

"sometimes missing" ♦ A appeared at trick 12 to be followed by the high, somehow, ♦ 5 at trick 13. See, James, how valuable that ♦ A was!

One pair who had a good evening was Carol McDermott and Stephen Stafford- Bush. They scored 53.3% at the club coming 3rd of the 9 North-South pairs and were especially happy to bid and make 7NT on Board 6.

Carol (North)	Stephen (South)
♠ AJ	♠ K875
♥ KJ6	♥ AQ108
♦ AKQJ642	♦ 5
♣ J	♣ A754

Bidding	1♥
2♣	2NT
4♣	4♠ 2 aces
5♣	5♥ 1 king
7NT	Pass



*Nelda Wormald and Dave Gardiner.*

## AGM and Prize giving night Sunday November 29th

Pot luck dinner, AGM, Prize-giving ... and bridge.