

## January 2018 Newsletter

2018 started very well with a highly successful tournament of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of January. We had 92 players and had to turn some away due to lack of space. It is a long time since we have had so many entries, which is very encouraging. My thanks to all those who assisted in so many ways, help in the kitchen preparing and serving food, donations of money for raffles, apricots, peaches, cherries and wine. This all helped produce an enjoyable tournament and we stand to have made a healthy profit although final costs are not yet in. The winners of the tournament were Michael Johnstone and Paula Gregory and Lisa Harkness and John Bates were the highest scoring Alexandra pair with 53.60%. Congratulations to you both.

A resolution was passed at the AGM in November to keep the subs at the same level as 2017. They are now due and \$50 should be paid by the end of February. If unpaid at this point a \$5 late penalty applies. The sub for country members is \$27 with the same rule for the late fee.

At the December committee meeting, we had a lengthy discussion on the question of whether the table money should be raised. It has been \$3 for a very long time, in fact, I think it has been that amount since I first came to Bridge at the end of 1977!! The decision has been made to lift table money to \$4 per session. I know this will be unpopular with some members but the committee felt it was in the best interests of the club. Another factor is the change in Masterpoint charges from NZ Bridge, we now pay 30 cents per player, per club session and \$1 per player, per tournament.

There are two more nights of Holiday Bridge with Mixed Pairs starting on 31<sup>st</sup> January. The increase in table money will apply from that date. Vouchers will be \$40 for 10 sessions.

Over the Christmas/New Year period, we rented space to the SPCA to give them the chance to sell goods to the people in Clyde. They raised a pleasing amount of money and very kindly gave us a little extra for the use of the rooms.

Happy Bridging everyone for 2018!