

## March Newsletter

**March Tournament** - Unfortunately we had to cancel this tournament as we did not have sufficient entries to make the tournament viable. This was not entirely unexpected as we have been experiencing declining numbers each year. We think this is predominantly due to the Wanaka Show which is held the same weekend. We have negotiated with the Oamaru Bridge Club who has agreed to swap with us. Therefore, in 2018, our 8B tournament will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup>. This will probably be in the long weekend for Anzac Day, the 25<sup>th</sup> is a Wednesday so I presume the public holiday will be the preceding Monday. Hopefully we will be able to attract more entries and our three tournaments will be more evenly spaced throughout the year.

**Mixed Teams** - For the second year we have had to change to Mixed Pairs on the three nights designated for Mixed Teams. They do not appear to be a popular event and the committee will revisit and make a decision when we are planning the programme for 2018.

**Stone Cottage** - As we have not as yet found alternative premises for our club we have to do something about repairing the guttering on the stone building bordering Matau Street. Every time it rains, water pours over the neighbour's stone wall causing partial collapse of the wall adjacent to the building. We have received and accepted an estimate from a builder who has ordered the required materials. Hopefully, he will be able to undertake the repair in the near future. We will then have to employ a stonemason to make good the damage to the stone wall. Our neighbour, Nathan Love has been extremely patient and we would like to have this problem sorted before the winter.

**Lessons** - Karl has kindly agreed to run the lessons again this year. They begin on Thursday night of this week. At this point we have six in the class which means we will need at least two members to make up the two tables. Judy Henderson and I will be doing this for much of the time but there will be occasions when either one or both of us cannot be there and we will be looking for volunteers to take our place. If any members want to brush up on their bidding and play you are welcome to come along, we usually finish at 9 pm so it is not a late night.

**NZ Bridge** - the club vote for members of the Board is due by the end of the month. Various documents from those standing are on the noticeboard, please read them if you are interested and let me know your thoughts and preferences.

**Power Bill** - Lately these seem to be higher than expected. If you are one of the last to leave, please ensure fans, heaters, urns and lights are all turned off.