



## Newsletter #2 for 2015

The Committee thought it was timely we had another update. You might have heard of “The good, the bad and the ugly”? Well this edition contains the “The great, the sad, and the naggy”.

### **Firstly – on a sad note**

We record the passing of the following current and former Invercargill Bridge Club members – Tina Hishon, Inga Jensen and Allan Ramsay

And it was lovely to see so many club members paying their respects at their funerals, and providing support to their families! Thank you.

### **Let’s get the naggy bit over now!**

♣ **Arriving on time** - Please, please, attend your club night’s on time – Monday nights are to be seated by 7.20 pm, and Tuesday night players are to be seated by 7.05 pm. This allows the Director to set the movements, for the computer to be updated quickly and readily, and for play to commence on time. It also saves problems with having to change movements when players are late arriving – which can lead to all sorts of hiccups, and some very late nights, and a lot of hard work for Geoff!

Also, when you arrive – can you fill the seats from Table 1 – don’t start at Table 15 – there may not be 15 tables. All of these little things can help the night go smoothly for everyone.

♣ **Have you played with someone different this year?** We would love to see more mixing of players within the club. It is particularly hard for new players and less experienced players to get playing partners. They can make contact with the Convenors for series to get a player partner – but it is really nice if we (the longer serving players – or some of the more senior players) would ask learners/new players into the Division, for a series.

♣ **Have you double booked your playing partner?** A gentle reminder that should you double-book your playing partner (And yes, we have all done it at some time), then the protocol is that the two people that you booked to play with stay and play, and you go home – after all the mistake was yours, not theirs.

♣ **Missing Plates** – do you have a stray plate at your house? Some of our members who have brought supper on a plate, have found their plate missing when they have gone to collect it. If you happen to have a stray at home, bring it back and leave it in the kitchen. Thanks ☺

## Now we can focus on the "Great"!

♥ **Cutter Debate Fundraiser** Once again I want to record my (and I am sure the whole Club's) thanks to those members who worked so hard on the sub-committee to bring about a great result from the Cutter Debate Fundraiser.

Also – thank you to all those club members who arranged for and made donations of such great prizes for the raffles, who sold tickets, who attended on the night and helped to make it the success it was; and also to all those members who made monetary donations directly to the club to show their support when they could not attend the function. All of this has led to an excellent result.

Final P's are being dotted and T's crossed, but it is clear that the club will receive in excess of \$12,000 from this fundraising event. Well done team!

♥ **Club Alterations** - As previously advised, the toilet upgrade is progressing – albeit somewhat slower than we had anticipated. This is partly because we had not received all of the funding needed. However, I can confirm the following:

- The tender for the alterations has been let – Sherlock Homes were the successful tenderers.
- The consent application has been lodged with the Invercargill City Council – hopefully it will be processed within the next month.
- The cost of the alterations will not be as much as had initially been anticipated, because of changes to the regulations around the fire alarm systems.
- We have received funding commitments from the Community Trust of Southland, Southern Trust and ILT and this, combined with our fundraising, means we are almost there.
- When the alterations are occurring, there will be some disruption to the club. However, we have been advised that there will always be some toilet facilities available, and we will be able to continue to hold bridge without interruption.
- We will keep you posted on this as we learn more.

♥ **Upcoming tournaments** - We have the Murihiku A Point tournament coming up – this is over the weekend of 2 and 3 May 2015. We are keen to have as many entries as possible. There are both the Teams competition and the Pairs competitions – so get involved.

And don't be frightened by the fact it is an A point tournament – we all need to get experience somewhere – and why not enter and support our local tournaments and have a go! Details are in the foyer.

And next is the **Lindsay Trophy** – the interclub event between Gore and Invercargill. We are the hosts this year – so it would be great to have a good turn-out on the afternoon of Sunday, 17 May 2015. Remember – all players a plate – please put your names up in the foyer.

♥ **Improvers Nights** – Don't forget to diary the following nights for Improvers classes (being run by Anne Somerville) - **15 May 2015** (at 7.00 pm) will be covering Stayman and Transfers; and **26 June 2015** (at 7.00 pm) will cover Overcalls and Doubles.

These classes are open to everyone – not just learners – many of us could do with a refresher on these key aspects.

### ♥ **Handicaps**

Just a note, if you haven't already noticed – the handicaps for the two divisions, and an alphabetical list, are now available on the Noticeboard. These will be updated quarterly in future. Thanks Geoff for your hard work on this.

### ♥ **Beginners Classes**

The current class is going well and there is the possibility of holding another class starting in August. If you know of anyone who may be interested please let Jill McMeeking know.

Now for something a little light to finish with:

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These four guys were playing rubber bridge at their club and they noticed they had a kibitzer who said nothing. Several hours later one of them received an emergency telephone call and had to leave. There was absolutely no one at the club who could fill in so they asked (beseeched) the kibitzer. He said he would like to play but didn't know how. He was a gin rummy player and had just come over to watch. They said, that was good enough, and they would sort of lead him through if he had any problems. Reluctantly he filled in.

As luck would have it, he was the dealer. After everyone sorted their cards, all eyes were turned on the newcomer . Finally, he opened four clubs!

Well, they thought this is a strange bid for a beginner to make, but they carried on. Second hand doubled and this was passed back to the dealer who, after a considerable time, bid four diamonds.

Well, they thought, no matter how desperate we are, we can't play with this guy after this hand. Second hand doubled and again it was passed back to the newcomer who, looking around, only wanted to go home. But it was his turn to bid again so he bid four hearts!

Would this madness never end? Second hand doubled and for the third time the bidding was passed back to "Mr. Multiple Preempts". They all looked at him again.

Finally, he said: "And the jack of spades".

Good Bridging everyone!

**Jan Brown**