



INVERCARGILL CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB (Inc.)

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It gives me great pleasure to present this newsletter, my first as President of the Invercargill Bridge Club.

Those of you who were able to attend prize-giving last week will have seen the first stage of the kitchen renovations. We think it looks bright, fresh and clean, and we hope you think so too. The gib board over the sink is now in, the drawers and cupboards are filled. The plumber will be fitting the hot water dispenser in the kitchen and a new water cooler in the Harvey Kitto room next week. The next stages are yet to be formalised but when funds permit the remaining benches in the kitchen and bar will be reviewed, wallpaper and paint chosen and new floor coverings debated. It's a work in progress and we hope it will not disrupt bridge as we update and upgrade our forty year old kitchen and bar

We have a few plans for fundraising for the year and are really delighted that as a start our "Bluff Girls" have offered to provide a seafood dinner which is scheduled for April 6. Those of you who love seafood will recall the previous occasions of bridge interspersed with fabulous fish courses and that format will be repeated this year. For those who don't like seafood the girls suggest you arrange an Italian night (or something similar) as there will only be seafood served on April 6. Another fundraiser in the pipeline is a quiz night. These are always fun and good revenue for the club. As soon as we have a date we'll let you know.

It is appropriate in this newsletter to make a formal apology to two silver reserve players, Marianne Frisby and Andrea McWilliam. Through a series of misunderstandings and miscommunications they were not informed of the outcome of the Silver Reserve Pairs competition prior to prize-giving. The 2% handicap being carried by Maryanne because she had declined to take promotion to Silver last year, had not been applied to their score for the year. Although this has been the standard approach taken over many years, some were unaware of that fact. The handicap was applied on Wednesday evening, as the Match Committee finalised trophies and prepared for prize-giving on Thursday evening. The committee discussed notifying the prize winners, and can only apologise, again, that none of us thought to notify Maryanne and Andrea that the results which were printed on Tuesday did not reflect the final, correct outcome for the year. Our sincere apologies for the hurt and any embarrassment this lack of thought may have caused you.

We have taken steps to ensure this cannot occur again, by ensuring that the two people in silver reserve to whom handicaps will apply in 2019, have that entered from the outset, and will be applied each week of play. We have also scheduled prize giving on Dec 13, a week after competition ends, so that there is time to consider and review the necessary procedures to ensure such oversights do not occur again.

Holiday Bridge starts on Monday, 10 December and with that a move to the east room so that we can avoid the blazing sun distracting our play. Sue Scott is convening holiday bridge. If you need a partner call Sue on 215 4070 and she will do her best to pair you up. To qualify for the holiday bridge prize (bridge vouchers) you must play seven of the ten nights and can only play with the same partner for two of those nights. Table fees will be \$5 per night and please be seated by 7.20 pm. After discussion with some of you some of us were wondering how many would be interested in Friday holiday bridge after New year? Please call me in you are interested and we will gauge interest and enthusiasm.

The committee, on your behalf, would like to congratulate those who have been promoted to Silver division, Geoff Elton, Kevin Kerr, Linda Taylor and Fay Woodward and we wish them every success.

It is with sadness we record the recent passing of a stalwart of our club, Murray Oliver; our condolences to Lorraine, Shannon, Renee, Michael and their extended family.

On 19 January 2019 we are hosting the Otago Southland Swiss Pairs at our club. This is an A point tournament and there will be some very experienced players taking part. We do encourage less

experienced players to enter so that you become familiar with tournament play. The Swiss format means that if you don't win the first round you will end up playing with your peers within the competition. It is the same format that we have played the last few weeks of Bridge on both Monday and Tuesday nights. Morning tea will be served at 0930, bridge starts at 1000. The cost for the day is \$30 and you need to bring your own lunch. Afternoon tea will be provided and there will be a snack at the end of play.

If you are not going to play your help with catering or hosting (which means cleaning up after the players) would be much appreciated, please call Sue Scott if you can help.

If you have any questions, queries or compliments I am always willing to listen. For those who prefer, there is a suggestions box in the foyer and it is checked regularly. My phone numbers are 217 6977 and 027 438 2213.

A safe, happy and healthy festive season to you all.

Judith

The committee, as elected in November 2018 consists of:

President:	Judith Lawton
Vice president:	Colin Thomas
Secretary:	Sherry Elton
Treasurer:	Anne Somerville
Committee:	Jan Brown, Lee Davies, Claire Graham, Lindsay Glover, Julie McDonald, Angus McKay; Harry Shepherd, Sue Scott

Sub committees for 2019 (names in bold denote committee chair), with the Chair being a member of each Committee ex-officio.

Fundraising - Angus McKay; Anne Somerville and Claire Graham

House - Sue Scott, Lee Davies, and Julie McDonald

Kitchen renovations - Lindsay Glover Anne Somerville and Sherry Elton

Match - Jan Brown, Anne Somerville, Colin Thomas, with Jill McMeeking and Geoff Eyles co-opted members.

Property - Harry Shepherd, Claire Graham and Lindsay Glover

Roles Outside of the Committee

Bar - Grant Milne

Club recorder - Ken Smith

Club administration and tournament secretary - Yvonne Hughes

Library - Helen Chesterfield and Karen du Mez