

# Invercargill Contract Bridge Club

## Newsletter #2 – 2017

### Mid-Winter

Time for a catch up on all the Invercargill Bridge club happenings.

### Congratulations

To Marilyn Jackson, Tony Winters and Harry Shepherd who will be representing Otago Southland at the interprovincial teams in November.

And also to Lindsay Glover, Moss Wylie and Bruce Batchelor; winners of the Murihiku teams.

Congratulations to all those of you have done well at tournaments this year.

### Welcome

I would like to welcome nine new members Sharon Ayto, Michelle Bantang, Jenny Craig, Jan Harris, Tina Johnston, Barbara Martin, Sara-Jane Milne, John Pouw and Sue Shaw to Silver Reserve on Tuesday nights. Jill has been working with these enthusiastic learners since early March. I am hopeful that everyone will make them feel welcome and treat them with patience as they gain confidence and come to love this great game we all enjoy.

This is a very important time for them, and it is vital that they have nothing but good experiences as they get used to the room. There must be only positive feedback and support. Any negative comments have the potential to turn away a beginner forever. "If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all!"

In particular:

- The beginners must not feel that they are being rushed , or told what to do (or what not to do)
- They must be welcomed with a smile and positive words.
- They should not be doubled when they are obviously in a bad contract – the risk of losing a player because they are upset that they gave away 1100 points, is not worth the good board. And anyway you were probably getting a good board without the double.

Also I would like to welcome Kevin Skoropade playing Silver Division.

### Bridge Events

- **Avenal Park Funeral Home Swiss Pairs:** Held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – we had a really enjoyable day and it would have been even better if there had been more people there! Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Avenal Park Funeral Home.
- **Teams Competition:** After the first round robin we have now split the teams into 3 sections from the previous two. We decided to do this after the teams at the bottom of the competition commented that they did not enjoy losing all their matches and sometimes by large scores.
- **Mixed Teams:** Has finished for 2017. Congratulations to the Scott team on the win on the last night. The team members were Sue Scott, Grant Milne, Fay Woodward and Sean O'Connor.

Congratulations to you all. Mixed teams is a great way to get to know players from a different division.

- **Improvers Lessons:** The first night was held on 20<sup>th</sup> July. We covered declarer play and counting your losers. Another one will be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August. Please let me know if there is anything in particular you would like to learn about.
- **“C” Point Competition.** For the first time this year we are trialling a competition in Silver Reserve for the most C points won over 2017, excluding pair’s nights. (Except the first three) Top of the pops so far is a closely fought battle between Karen Palmer-Hall and Barbara Fahy, with Jeff Elton sneaking up to challenge in third place (to date).
- **Silver Reserve Series winners.** For the first time, we are also inviting the winners of each Silver Reserve series to come and play one series in Silver division on a Monday night. To date only Betsy Gray and Jo Smith have joined Silver for a series, but I heard they enjoyed the experience.

## Monster Garage Sale:

We are holding a garage sale at the clubrooms August 5<sup>th</sup> - 8am – 12pm to raise funds to replace the kitchen ovens.

If you are able to donate goods it’s time to drop them off now. If you require items to be collected from your place let **Sue or Fred know PH 215 4070** and they will arrange collection.

If you are able to bake a cake/slice/biscuits or give some homemade pickles or jams for the baking/edible table, please drop them off the club on Friday August 4<sup>th</sup>

We plan to have tables for: books, CDs/DVD’S, clothing, toys and other children’s items, baking, kitchenware and miscellaneous; so that about covers anything and everything!!

**Spread the word and let everyone know where to come and for  
bargains on Saturday August 5<sup>th</sup>**

## Happy Birthday to

Cushla Broughton who turned 80 back in April and  
To Ray Harper who we helped to celebrate turning 90 last week.  
Sorry if I have missed any other important milestones.

## Committee

We would like to welcome Sherry Elton onto the committee. Sherry has taken on the role of secretary for the committee and is doing an amazing job of getting up to speed with all the bridge terminology, and what needs to be done. Thank you Sherry for your positive attitude.

It is also good to be getting some input from the Silver Reserve division on the committee from Sherry and Jeff Elton, and we would love to encourage another Silver Reserve member to join us. So please, if you have an interest in what is happening at our club, and want to make a difference, please let Sherry or a committee member know. There is still a space on the committee this year, for you.

## **Youth Bridge**

Congratulations to Sean O'Connor who will be attending a New Zealand Bridge youth training camp in Auckland 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> August. It is great to see this opportunity being offered to Sean – and I am sure he will learn lots and also meet heaps of amazing people.

## **Entertainment Books**

These are still available, I have three that I would love to sell; but they will be going back on 3<sup>rd</sup> of August if not bought by then. \$60 will get you \$1000s of discounts. They also make a great gift for a younger family member. \$10 comes back to the bridge club to go towards the purchase of the ovens.

## **Bridge Rules 2017**

There is a revised set of rules out which come into effect 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017. Unfortunately I haven't had time to study these up so I can report in a short newsletter what is most relevant to club play but we will try to keep you up to date with the changes.

## **Sponsors 2017**

A big THANK YOU to our sponsors. Please support them when you have the opportunity.

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**Southland Real Estate Ltd**

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## **Joke**

The Lone Ranger and Tonto went camping in the desert. After they got their tent all set up, both men fell sound asleep. Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says, 'Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see? '

The Lone Ranger replies, 'I see millions of stars.'  
What that tell you?' asked Tonto.

The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, 'Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo.

Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What's it tell you, Tonto?

'You dumber than buffalo sh\*t. It means someone stole the tent.'

(This is not unlike a hand of bridge, on picking up the cards there are lot's of possibilities, about what the contract will be and who will be the declarer and the defender. Whether the contract will be made, or defeated, is it a top board, or a bottom board for the partnership score? Hopefully you have a gracious partner who accepts the outcome in good stead, as it is a game we share in comradery and friendships develop)

Happy Bridging!

From your President ...

Anne Somerville