

Invercargill Bridge Club – March 2024 Newsletter

Hi All

New Zealand Representative

Congratulations to Anne Somerville for being selected to represent New Zealand in the Seniors Team to attend the World Bridge Games in Buenos Aires in October this year. Anne has had some stunning results this year with partner Murat Genc from Otago, winning the South Island Teams and trialled very respectably recently for the Mixed Team.

Anne is only the third player from our Club to represent New Zealand when a Club member. The other two being Sandra Russell for the Women's Team and Vicki Bouton for the Youth Team (Emma Strong who is Anne's pairs partner has represented New Zealand when at another Club).

Spot the theme fellas. Not a male in sight. Watch out for the two NZ reps at the table on pairs night!! Well done Anne we are very proud of your achievement.

Property Happenings

Those of you who have been at the Club this week will have noticed the excavator working near the stop bank. We have finally managed to reach agreement with ICC Parks on driveway repairs with a new curbing and drainage system being installed. This will improve the state of the car park / driveway and add some longevity to the driveway.

Grant Milne our hardworking property convenor is arranging a few improvements around the place with extractor fans being installed in the toilets, LED recessed lighting in the west playing room and reinstatement of the fresh air fans in the ceiling. Watch this space.

Heat Pumps

We are getting these serviced prior to winter arriving. Power bills are becoming an ever-increasing cost for most of us. So, a few guidelines re the use of these.

They should be turned off in summer and when play begins turned to heat or cool as required. From Autumn onwards leave them on 18 Heat and again they can be adjusted on the day. So from now on PLEASE RETURN THEM TO "18 HEAT" WHEN YOU LEAVE (17 Heat on a Friday).

Series Winners

Well done to the series winners from Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday competitions.

- Monday, Tisbury Pairs – Tash Lundin and Marilyn Jackson with 59.38%, from Kay Shand and Bruce Batchelor 56.75% and Christine Dallas and Lee Davies third with 52.76%.
- Tuesday, Kildare Pairs – Juliene Sheat and Robyn Boylan with 54.33% from Claire Graham 53.63% and Julie McDonald and Marie Chilton third with 52.63%
- Wednesday, Greenhills Pairs – Sandra Russell and Kay Shand 57.55%, from Anita Cloete and Michael Checketts 55.23% and Betsy Gray and Bev Flint third with 53.97%.

Lobb Optical, Masonic Lodge, North Island Teams and Gold Coast Congress Tournaments

Well done to Bruce Batchelor and John Lonie for taking out the Masonic Lodge 8B Pairs last weekend with a 117.59 total, from Tony Winters and Richard Hishon second in Section A with 111.57.

Section B winners were Deirdre Glover and Kath Glover with 116.20 (and second overall), with Pam Mcleod and Kate Ramsay runner-up with 105.55. Section C was taken out by Janet Ellis and Lyn Gutsell with 94.21.

The Lobb Optical sponsored handicapped tournament was won by:

- NS - Jane Carroll and Sue Whelan with 63.83, second Jan Harris and Tash Lundin 57.55
- EW - Lyn Gutsell and Faye Woodward 63.14, second Julie McDonald and Cathy Flawn 62.64

Harry Shepherd and yours truly fared well in three out of four events at the Gold Coast congress amongst the 2,000 attendees with a sixth, third and a sixth in Swiss pairs events with 100 plus pairs. We won't mention the teams. It's a highly recommended event in Broadbeach, everything within walking distance; bridge, accommodation, supermarkets, cafés and restaurants. All playing levels are catered for; Open, Restricted, Intermediate, Junior and Novice. If you want to play day time bridge and socialise in the evenings or swim or walk in the morning it is held during the NZ Day week.

Well done to Anne Somerville, Kevin Skoropada and Moss Wylie in the North Island Teams 20A tournament in Wellington on the weekend. Anne played with Murat Genc and finished second (to go with first in the SI Teams) with a big last round win. Moss and Kevin finished fourth after knocking off the leading team in the last round 13.5 to 6.5. It was interesting that the SI Teams held online had 58 teams compared with 22 for the face to face in Wellington.

Privacy Policy and Privacy Officer

The policy is now also on our web site. A reminder Jan Brown is our Privacy Officer.

Beginners Lessons

WOW what a turn out. We have 32 beginners taking lessons. Fortunately, not all attend every night as it's hot and cosy in the eight table room. Thank you to you all for helping promote this turn out. Jill McMeeking and Tash Lundin are running the classes ably assisted by Lindsay Glover and Bev Flint.

Given the large numbers when their lessons finish we are planning to bring the group into the playing room as a separate section on a Tuesday night, playing around 20 boards. Then merging them with Silver Reserve in the New Year. They will be available to form mixed teams with their healthy handicap for this competition which starts in August.

Lots of Tournaments in Our Region in April / May, they include:

Saturday, 6 April – [Winton](#), Swiss Pairs 5A

Saturday and Sunday – 13/14 April – Otago Autumn Teams and Pairs (Open 5A and Intermediate 5B)

Sunday, 21 April – [Invercargill](#) Avenal Park Funeral Home Swiss Pairs 8B

Saturday 27 April – Wanaka 5A Pairs

Saturday and Sunday – 11/12 May – [Invercargill](#) ILT Sponsored Murihiku 5A Teams and Pairs

Saturday, 18 May – Te Anau Open 8B Pairs

Sunday 19 May – Otago Junior 3B Pairs

Saturday – 26 May – Gore Junior/Novice 3B Pairs

Otago Southland Region Inter-Provincial Trials

These are being held face to face in Dunedin on 4/5 May for Open, Women, Seniors and Intermediate. Otago Southland finished second overall last year. The inter-provincial championships are now back face to face in Wellington in November.

Get your trials entries in via the NZ Bridge website.

Thank you all it's been a pleasure writing the most positive newsletter in my time as President and let's keep those beginners at the Club.

Good bridging everyone and have fun.

Greg Buzzard
President