

TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MARIE KEAN:

We had our AGM on Monday. The committee for this year is Merv Muir (vice president), Margaret Auty (treasurer), Barbara Wilkes (secretary), Jan Methers (table card administrator), Jen Macartney (immediate past president), Lyn McLaren, Deirdre Bruce, Diane Paterson and we welcome new member Allan Dyer.

Thank you to all who attended our AGM. There was discussion at the meeting about the increase in table money that was approved by the committee from this financial year. The decision to increase the table money was not taken lightly by the committee. With increases in many of our costs it was felt prudent to investigate how we may increase our revenue to ensure we cover the day to day running of the club from our income and also continue to provide reserves for future capital expenditure. The committee works hard to make decisions in the best interests of the club and appreciates the continued support from the members.

A big thank you to the committee and everyone who has been prepared to help during the past year. I appreciate the willingness of people to be part of our club. We look forward to 2025.

NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE:

Unfortunately due to lack of entries we had to cancel the Junior Pairs Tournament on 29 September. This tournament has been challenging to run. NZ Bridge has agreed to change the tournament to a Junior/Intermediate tournament. This will open it up to a larger potential pool of players and hopefully will be more successful. The tournament is going to be 5 October 2025.

Fun Bridge Night 28 October, 5.30pm. The price for the meal and Bridge is \$15. There will be another delicious two course meal. You don't need a partner we will organise that for you so come along and enjoy the evening.

A SAD FAREWELL

As you will all know Alan Lewthwaite passed away just recently. Many club members were at his funeral which is a testament to the wonderful man he was. Deirdre Bruce who spoke on behalf of the Club at his funeral has kindly given me her speech to share with you.

"Alan was an active member of the club in the short eight years he attended. During this time he was a committee member taking care of building maintenance, he was a Bridge director, a Bridge convener and a dealer of the cards.

He was very proud of our club and took great joy in telling others that we are a social club. He loved his Bridge but always told us not to take it all too seriously and just enjoy it, easy for a natural play like him to say this!

He achieved junior club champ in 2018 and his name will always be on our honours board. On club nights he always bought some fun and laughter saying 'me mates' and 'me pals' (in his pommy accent).

Alan and I attended lessons in 2016 and even though he hadn't played Bridge before he had played a lot of card games and he would give my friend and I a hard time for not being card savvy asking why we didn't know what had been played, or what side the points were sitting on, I think he thought we were a bit thick but I persevered and finally last year (seven years later) he gave me a compliment saying I was finally card wise. I took this to mean that I was playing like a champ. Alan was a gambler when it came to cards and his card point count was always 1SH or thereabouts, meaning I might have a five card suit...or not or I might have an opening hand...or not.

Over the years he struggled with his hearing and I would have to get quite close to him for us to talk as did other ladies. I think this was his ploy to get us closer and I can just see his cheeky smile as I told him so.

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If Alan was in town he never missed a Bridge night, always consistent and committed when he became poorly he would tell us don't fuss and it is what it is!! He told me when he didn't come to Bridge I would know it was serious and two weeks ago we were very sad when this happened.

Alan and I lived on the same street and he would often drive me home, each night he would ask 'am I taking you home tonight Josephine' (some famous reference). Sadly Alan you won't be taking me home anymore! Alan I pray that you are at peace, and that you are warm! You and your cheeky smile will be greatly missed!!"

TOURNAMENTS:

Otago/Southland Congress at Otago

26th October 10A Open Pairs, \$45

5B Intermediate Pairs, \$35

27th October 10A Open Teams, \$45

5B Intermediate Teams, \$35

Entries close 22/10 by 6pm

2nd November **Invercargill 5A Swiss Pairs**, \$30, 10am start

9th November **Timaru 5A Anniversary Pairs**, \$35, 9.30am start, closes 4/10

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to **Deirdre Bruce and Lyn McLaren** for their third place in the Intermediate section of the Balclutha Open Pairs Tournament on Saturday 12 October. Well done!



Barbara Wilkes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR