

Table Talk

News from the Wanaka Bridge Club



July 2018

Hi everyone

Welcome to this month's newsletter. As I sit here on a dreary day in front of my computer, the gas fire roaring and music playing from my smart phone I can't help but think how much harder it must have been to get through winter in previous times. We have mod cons to help us with our favourite game too. I'm sure the American Harold Vanderbilt back in 1925, killing time on a steamship cruise inventing the game we know today as contract bridge, had no idea that one day we'd have dealing machines, touch screen bidding pads and computer scoring. Of course, the game itself doesn't get any easier which is why it is so frustrating and rewarding. Isn't it great that we have so many different days and series to play we can be selective and complain that we are playing almost every day of the week?! Let's remember it is a game, have fun and be thankful how far we have come.

Clare's message

Your bridge books have all the dates of play and also whether a bronze player can play on a Monday night or a silver player can play on a Wednesday night. There are only 4 series a year, over both nights, where this cannot happen and we encourage you to mix and play both nights, as we can assist each other in terms of learning, enjoyment and club spirit.

It would be great to have some bronze players who are able to direct or operate the computer as these roles fall upon a very small number of people and we are stretched at times. If either of these roles interests you, please approach a committee member for more information.

Happy bridging to you all
Clare

On a sad note

Earlier this month we bid farewell to John Mercer who passed away. His keen wit and gentlemanly presence will be missed. Our thoughts go out to this family, friends and bridge partners.

Bridge app

Exciting news. The committee has been working hard designing an app to download onto your phone or tablets. You will be able to view our tournaments & series, request partners, view results and contact players. We are almost ready to have this approved by the app store so watch this space for its launch.

Fun day Sunday

A big thank you to Lynne Fegan for her time on Sunday 14th July where she hosted an afternoon of lessons for any keen players. With over 5 tables it was a great success and enjoyed by all. Thank you Lynne and please run more!



The Bridge Zone podcast

Exciting stuff. There is now a weekly broadcast show on bridge which you can download and enjoy. Here is the link. You can save this to your browser and it will update every Wednesday around midday with a new episode.

[//www.accessradio.org/player.aspx?pid=6379a3ce-8450-482c-bad1-6b4cc2574313&Last=1](http://www.accessradio.org/player.aspx?pid=6379a3ce-8450-482c-bad1-6b4cc2574313&Last=1)

You can also contact the Bridge Crew directly with suggestions for music or discussion items at thebridgezone@outlook.com.

Tables

For those of you that have been to the club recently you will have noticed the side tables at each table. They have been kindly made by students at Mt Aspiring College. The feedback has been fantastic. Thank you to Clare for organising this. We have sent a donation to the college as a way of saying thanks.

A tricky slam

by Martin Unwin

A deal from a recent Friday afternoon session provided N/S a chance to bid and make a small slam on a combined 28 points. At our table N/S ended in the rather ambitious contract of 6H after North opened 1H and rebid 2H after South's temporising response of 2C.

<p>♠ 94 ♥ KQ8632 ♦ Q9 ♣ A87</p>		<p>Dir: W Vul: E-W</p>	
<p>♠ KJ86 ♥ 97 ♦ T752 ♣ K42</p>	<p>♠ Q752 ♥ 5 ♦ K863 ♣ T653</p>		
<p>11 7 5 17</p>	<p>♠ AT3 ♥ AJT4 ♦ AJ4 ♣ QJ9</p>	<p>♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ N N 3 2 6 2 6 S 3 2 6 2 6 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p>	
<p>Par: 990</p>			

East led the diamond three, giving declarer an easy run. Faced with three possible losers – a spade, a diamond, and a club – she wins the opening lead in hand, draws trumps, finesses East's diamond King, discards her losing spade on the diamond Ace, and concedes a

club to bring home 12 tricks. A club lead fares no better: declarer plays low from dummy to snare West's King, takes the diamond finesse, and has only a spade to lose.

A spade or heart lead gives nothing away, making it much harder for declarer. Win the spade lead and draw trumps, ending in dummy. Play the club Queen, and – when this holds, marking West with the King – switch to the heart Jack. Follow with the ten, overtaken in hand with the Queen, to reach the following seven card ending:

	S 9		
	H 86		
	D Q9		
	C A8		
S KJ		S Q7	
H T52		H -	
D -		D K63	
C K4		C T5	
	S T3		
	H -		
	D AJ4		
	C J9		

If East holds both the diamond King and the club ten, the contract is now home. Play the last two hearts from hand, and note East's discards. If he throws a diamond, you will make three diamond tricks and the club Ace, conceding a spade at the end. If he throws a club, take the diamond finesse and play the club Jack to score two diamonds and two clubs. And if he throws his spades, follow with the diamond Queen. East will cover with the King, taken by dummy's Ace, after which you cash the diamond Jack and exit with your last diamond, throwing East in and forcing him to lead away from his club tenace.

Essentially the same plays are available to declarer if the defence kicks off with a heart lead, or if the hand is played in 6NT rather than 6H. But with a ten card trump fit most pairs opted for a heart contract, chalking up anywhere from ten to thirteen tricks depending on the quality of declarer's guesswork.

Upcoming tournaments

Aug 5 Otago Swiss Pairs, Open

Aug 19 Oamaru Pairs, Jnr/Int 3B/5B

Aug 25 Invercargill Pairs, Jnr/Int 3B/5B

For tournament details, check out the noticeboard or contact Maggie on 027 333 6681

New members

Welcome to Viv Milsom who joined us recently.

Club series results

Congratulations to our recent series winners

AJ McKenzie Pairs - Monday Night

1st Mary Gibson-Collings & Maggie Stratford 58.64%

2nd Errol Kelly & Vivienne Christie 56.83%

Pisa Pairs - Wednesday Night

1st Jane Hamilton & Shona Watt 59.47%

2nd Helen Henshall & Lyn Hill 55.29%