

New Plymouth Bridge Club Newsletter

December 2019

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General meeting was held on November 24th. This was well attended and the new bridge book was available for collecting as well. Lyn was thanked for the fantastic job she has done for the club and has reluctantly agreed to one more year as President. Other office holders are

Vice President Deane Skelton

Secretary Marian Biggs

Treasurer Maggie Garnham

Committee Anne Fitzgibbons Frances Corcoran Coby Slager

Lalith Mendis Kevin Turner Anthony Murcott

New Plymouth Contract Bridge Club Presidents Report 2019

It gives me great pleasure to present the 70th report of the New Plymouth Bridge club for 2019. The club membership is 305 and playing numbers remain steady

Financially we are in a sound position.

A Sponsorship sub-committee was implemented headed by Deane Skelton. Thankyou Deane and our sponsors for your support.

The game:

Congratulations to Pam Livingston who became a Silver Grandmaster.

The Rosebowl was returned to New Plymouth, while elsewhere many of our players were successful in tournaments.

Christine Burton and Helen Carryer continued with lessons supported by Bridge Buddies, with 20 graduating. A support system is in place post graduation.

Improver lessons were scheduled and successful thanks to all the tutors, Kevin, Murray, John and myself.

A revised programme was implemented this year. The aim was to increase playing numbers through the provision of more playing options.

The following changes were successful:

- moving the Monday Intermediate evening to Thursday evening
- moving Wednesday afternoon to Monday afternoon
- Scheduled Improver lessons, pre session lessons and assisted learning (green alerts) on Mondays
- Supplementary programme - Monday Swiss, Thursday Premier Fours and GM Multiple teams

Those less successful

- Supplementary programme pairs
- Fun events were unsupported

The 2020 programme has been adapted based on this demand.

However, the biggest change next year will be a move to handicap competitions apart from graded

Cup, Swiss and Teams events which will be based on rating points

Tournaments were successfully run including the National Swiss which we hosted. Positive feedback was received thanks to the support of club members involved in catering (led by June Metcalfe), dealing, scoring, directing, parking, bar service. The only negative being slight loss or break even on most

Facilities:

Under Lalith Mendis' guidance the building refurbishment continues with:

- recovering of chairs and new curtains (TSB grant)
- replacement of the photocopier
- changing to LED lighting
- repair of back step railing

Several roof leaks occurred which have been patched and are currently being monitored

An upgrade of the bathrooms is planned for 2020, dependant on obtaining a grant.

The rooms are rented out to several organisations.

Information Technology:

The year started well but there have been recent issues with scoring, The computers are dated and have insufficient RAM so will need replacement next year.

The dealing machine has been serviced and the supplier states it should last several more years.

All tournaments are advertised and entered via the NZB website.

Communication:

Convenors deliver weekly updates and acknowledge sponsors. Facebook is used to celebrate successes and upcoming events. I have tried to respond to members needs through surveys and the use of the suggestion box and incident book.

Like all clubs we rely on the support of our members who are our unsung heroes baking, gardening, mowing lawns, convening, dealing, directing etc (over 70 members).

The "volunteer of the month" this year acknowledged the following club members for their behind the scenes contribution:

Raewyn McLean	newsletter
Helen Carryer	dealing, lessons, refurbishment

Thanks to all those retiring from the Committee and good luck for 2020 when we celebrate the Silver anniversary of our Club Rooms.

Lyn Muller President

Revital Growwell Anniversary Pairs

We had our last Club Tournament on the 9th of November with most people going home with some of the sponsor's product. Thank you David Gibson and Revital Growwell. June's kitchen helpers included Georgia Luscombe the 11 year old granddaughter of Pat Cantrell-Pary who came in as a helper. She was a very willing and useful person to have in the kitchen. Thank you Georgia. Thanks also to Pat Cantrell-Pary, Eleanor Garvie and Frances Corcoran who provided participants with a delicious morning tea.

Results 1st Jennifer O'Shaughnessy and Lyn O'Shaughnessy
2nd John Rutten and John Sole (Top Intermediates)
3rd Lyn Muller and Judy Holdom
Top Junior Pair Kay Wyatt and Jane Shaw

A note from June -

I would like to update the lists of kitchen helpers and morning tea providers. These are not onerous tasks - even an hour helping with morning tea or lunch is appreciated and helps to lighten the load. Morning tea is provided by club members and enjoyed by players. If enough people are willing to provide plates individuals will not need to be called upon very often.

Please contact June Metcalfe 02108408922

President's Night and Prize Giving

We had a full room for the popular president's charity night. It's always a great opportunity to socialise with club members from all grades and show our support for Lyn. This year's charity was Riding for the Disabled and well over \$1500 was raised. Prize giving preceded the play.

<u>Club Champions</u>	A Grade Auckland Cup	Pam Livingston and Russell Wilson
	B Grade Thurston Cup	Cecelia Stringer and Marie Gilliland
	C Grade Centennial Cup	Jan and Wayne Hawkins

Other Trophies

Marsh Cup - Monday Championship Catherine Mann and Jennifer O'Shaughnessy
Ewart Plate - 2nd A grade Championship Maggie Garnham and Wayne Beasley
Liffiton Cup - 2nd B Grade Championship Helen Carryer and Anne Fitzgibbons
Centennial Plate - Top Learners Kay Wyatt and Jane Shaw
Jean Sandel Trophy - Most improved player John Rutten
Dennis Allen Trophy - 3 comp average Russell Wilson
Friday Plate - Friday average Lyn O'Shaughnessy
Madge Middleton Trophy - Friday handicapped average Catherine Mann
Rose Allum Trophies - Most C points gained during the year
A Grade Russell Wilson
B Grade Marie Gilliland
C Grade Wayne Brunton

Monday

M13 Pairs

1st Katherine Kingsbury and Linda Couch
2nd Annette Weaver and Jan Hawkins

M14 Pairs

1st Lyn and David O'Shaughnessy
2nd Pushpa and Ravi Modgill

M15 Pairs

1st Sandie and Tim Howard
2nd Annie Frame and Annette Weaver

Marsh Cup

1st Jennifer O'Shaughnessy and Catherine Mann
2nd Lyn and David O'Shaughnessy

<u>Club Results</u>

Club Results

Tuesday

Auckland Cup

- 1st Pam Livingston and Russell Wilson
- 2nd Maggie Garnham and Wayne Beasley

Monty Shearer Memorial Pairs

- 1st David O'Shaughnessy and Colin Carryer
- 2nd Pam Livingston and Russell Wilson

A7 Anne Wilson Remax Realty Pairs

- 1st Sandra Calvert and Russell Wilson
- 2nd David Whittle and Colin Carryer

Wednesday

Centennial Cup

- 1st Jan and Wayne Hawkins
- 2nd Jane Waite and Judith White

C10 Plant and Platform Pairs

- 1st Sheree Robbertsen and Jane Shaw
- 2nd Marg Mora and Bev Griffin

C11 Pairs

- 1st Annette Weaver and Audrey Young
- 2nd Jan and Wayne Hawkins

C12 Pairs

- 1st Jill Dunlop and Judy Jefferies
- 2nd Helen Loney and Eileen Gundesen

Thursday

Thurston Cup

- 1st Cecelia Stringer and Marie Gilliland
- 2nd Helen Carryer and Anne Fitzgibbons

Vivian Pharmacy Swiss Pairs

- 1st Anne Wilson and Linda Couch
- 2nd Jan Scott and John Sole

B9 Pairs

- 1st Sarah Green and Ian Laird
- 2nd Liz Henderson and Kay Shearer

GM Multiple Teams

- 1st Jude Hansen Neil Murdoch Sue Rollo and Russell Wilson
- 2nd Catherine Mann Tom Lawn Teresa Roberts and Colin Carryer

Friday

F19 Pairs

- 1st Jennifer and David O'Shaughnessy
- 2nd Colin Carryer and Ravi Modgill

F20 Pairs

- 1st Sandie and Tim Howard
- 2nd Joan Smith and Chris Bower

F21 Pairs

- 1st Peter Twiss and Kevin Turner
- 2nd Barbara Howard and Anne Russell

Private Bridge Coaching with Pam Livingston



Friendly, practical tuition in all aspects of the game catered to your level - bidding, declarer play, defence, tactics, etiquette and how to get the most from your partnership. Individuals, pairs or table of four.

First session free!

Multiple NZ Open Team Representative
Two Open World Zone 7 Championships
Silver Grandmaster

pjlivingston6@gmail.com
027 384 5492



Or come and chat to me at the club

[A story from Pam at the National 15A teams in Nelson recently](#)

Sometimes people ask me if I play women's bridge. Is this a different game from normal bridge? Maybe the queen is higher than the king in that version. Maybe you are allowed one hand in the session when dummy's cards get a makeover. I'm not sure.

With that in mind four demure ladies sat down for a match of 14 boards - yes I was one of the demure ladies(!) playing with Jan Alabaster against Carol Richardson and Andi Boughey.

On the second board of the set I held

♠KJ87
♥72
♦AK876
♣K3

The auction started with dealer on my left – 2d p 2h x

- 2d is a multi two showing either a weak two in a major or 20 to 22 balanced
- 2h is less than game interest and showing longer spades than hearts or equal length
- x is takeout of hearts

Then it got interesting. Opener now redoubled and this was showing 20-22 balanced hand and hearts! Partner passed, then another pass, and back to me. I had an image in my head of these huge numbers being wracked up like an old-fashioned adding machine! What was the score for two hearts redoubled making four? Did I have any alternative but to pass? No I didn't. I told partner I had a takeout of hearts and she chose to pass.

So here we are in 2hxx. This is one of the ballsiest auctions (I think that's a term from women's bridge) I have seen in some time and we all just sat there staunch. Result down three for a score of 1000.

The whole hand

BOARD 2		
BD: 2	♠KJ87	Dir: E
	♥72	Vul: N-S
	♦AK876	
	♣K3	
♠942		♠AQ5
♥43		♥AKT5
♦J432		♦QT9
♣7654		♣AJ9
	♠T63	
	♥QJ986	
	♦5	
	♣QT82	

Nobody made a comment as the score was recorded and I was so impressed with the other pair as they went on to play very well for the rest of the match.

At the end of the match the scores were read from the bridge mate to confirm with both sides. As the 1000 was read out we all just laughed and went on to the other scores. Andi and Carol went on to top the datum for the event with their team finishing second.

By the way, I am of the opinion that multi 2d should be a compulsory part of any system. All the best bridge stories come from multi twos!

To read about what happened at the other table go to nzbridge.co.nz where there is more to the story. It's a good read.

Pam's team finished 3rd and Russell Wilson was in the 2nd placed team. Congratulations both of you.

Friday Trophy

Announcing a new competition for Friday players

Due to the extended season there has been an opportunity to introduce a pairs trophy, the "Friday Trophy".

This will be played along the same lines as the Monday Marsh Cup. It will be a handicapped event and must be pre-entered. Auckland Cup & Thurston Cup partnerships are not eligible.

Hope you find this an enjoyable competition.
All competition rules are available on the club's website.

M&G Committee



Rubber Bridge Competition

Congratulations to David and Lyn O'Shaughnessy who are the Rubber Bridge Champions for 2019. They beat Pam Livingston and Russell Wilson in the final.

The match was close. There was a vulnerable slam bid on the last hand which if it had made would have changed the winners!

Since making a doubled slam made no difference as to who won, the slam was duly doubled and "what the heck"redoubled. The desperation slam went light which rather blew up the margin.

Pam and Russell continue their great rubber bridge performance, having been winners for the previous two years and runners-up this year.

Thank you everyone who participated. We look forward to next years competition.
Reeve and Gillian

Reeve and Gillian have done a great job convening this competition and I know the participants have enjoyed the relaxed format. It involved a round robin contest in two sections with matches played at home on a mutually agreed date each month. If you fancy some fun social bridge in 2020 you might like to enter. There is an element of luck with rubber bridge as generally whoever gets the good cards has a better chance of success. However, you do still have to play your cards right.

Condolences

We offer our sympathies to Joan and the family, friends and bridge partners of Peter Gaines who died recently. Peter had been a long time member of the club and he showed a willingness to support the club over the years. He enjoyed his bridge and the company of other bridge players. Our thoughts are with you Joan.

Directions

One of the things we are going to concentrate on in 2020 is achieving less errors with scoring. All Directors will undertake further training.

The Web movement is often the fairest choice however difficulties resulted with setting tables in a timely manner for these, especially for Thursday sessions. Being seated 10 minutes prior to play means Directors do not have to re-shuffle the room to ensure fair competitions. To mix up players we will reinstate the use of marbles in 2020.

Bridgemates

Remember these must be checked prior to moving so you move to the correct table. It is also polite to check you have the correct boards and the correct opponents. Greet them by name and introduce yourself. Do not hog the machines, share the scores with others, but don't comment on opponent's play and save the post mortem's until the end of play.

I would like to thank all of those club members that have helped with contributions to the newsletter this year. I do appreciate it. It makes my job easy if I can cut and copy and paste the work of others. Season's greetings to you all. Have a happy holiday period, enjoy the break and may your stockings be full of bridge books - and chocolate.

