

[View this email in your browser](#)



News from the Timaru Bridge Club - October 2023

CAROLE'S COMMUNIQUÉ

So sorry this newsletter is well and truly overdue!

I am sure you have received updates through the weekly notices and from your divisional chairs while I have been out of circulation, but I feel I need to ensure that you are well informed.

Firstly, our thanks are due....

Social charity night 31 August

My view is that this was a great success because we brought our members together, we all had an enjoyable time and we raised \$1,080 for the NZ Bridge Foundation Disaster Relief Fund. The NZBF have thanked us for our very generous donation. Penny Dewar was simply the best quiz mistress and I would like to thank her and everyone else who helped on the night.

Improvers Lesson 30 July

Thanks to Kay and her helpers for running this lesson on defenders' first leads which was well attended. We will try to run a series of improvers lessons next year. In the meantime, there are intermediate improvers lessons at <https://www.nzbridge.co.nz/intermediate-lessons.html>

Grant application successes...

Pub Charity Ltd

The Club has received a grant of \$19,215.55 for the double glazing which is half of the total cost of the project. We are very appreciative to receive this significant donation. The committee has agreed that we should proceed and replace the window joinery and windows with double glazing on the north side of the building (including

the playing room) and two windows on the east side (rear of the building) We will spend just the grant money and a further \$1,000 from the current year's repairs and maintenance budget.

Thank you to Steve Geddes who obtained project quotes and to Grant who made the grant application.

We will recommend that the new committee applies for further grants to enable the project to be completed next year.

Aoraki Trust

We have received a \$500 grant toward the cost of a new Ricoh photocopier and will purchase this shortly. Funds raised from Illuminate will also contribute. We have been experiencing some problems with the current copier and recognise the importance to the club of a reliable copier/printer.

Other works news...

LED lighting

The replacement of all our fluorescent lighting has almost been completed and the club has still managed to cover this cost and do a little better than break even again for the year to 30 September. We have calculated that it is more economical to replace all these now rather than continuing with our programme of replacing just one line each year. Thank you to Grant, Steve and others who have helped.

More news...

We have a new Computer Manager!

Joe Harris has been brave enough to take on this demanding role and we are all appreciative.

Our thanks to Bill Mecchia who was persuaded to do the job some two and a half years ago and has spent much time doing his utmost on our behalf.

And our gratitude to Keith Nicholas who has advised Bill and has stepped in when he has been unavailable. Keith has made a huge contribution to the club through many years.

Suggestion box

Thank you for your suggestions which the committee have discussed. Grant has lowered the air conditioning temperature another degree. And we are looking at purchasing a few more side tables.

Canterbury Regional Inter Club Teams 30 October

Our best wishes to those representing us this coming weekend.

Timaru Anniversary Pairs 4 November

Please do consider supporting our anniversary tournament. This is an open 5A tournament and another opportunity for you to show your support for your club. You do not have to travel very far to play!

Annual General Meeting and Prizegiving Thursday 30 November

Please note this date in your diaries. Come along, listen to the reports and join in the

discussion.

The championship trophies only will be presented.

Situation vacant. Can you help us?

We are looking for a new Club Secretary. Andrea has been doing a wonderful job through this year and it has been absolutely great to be able to rely on her. But she now needs to be able to travel overseas and get away in her caravan without me bothering her. She is very happy to support a new secretary.

Congratulations to....

Paula Gregory and Michael Johnstone who won the Otago 5A Swiss pairs on 30 July.

Paula and Michael also were two of the team members who won the Central Otago Teams Event on 2/3 September

Congrats also to Pauline Prendergast and Uneta Denley for winning the Ashburton Intermediate Pairs on 26 August.

Another snippet from Wanaka Bridge Club's newsletter...

Bashing Slam

You cannot always be certain if your partner has the right cards when your hand is highly distributional, if your gut feeling is that a slam will make, be prepared to have a fling. (From Paul Marston's "Language of Bidding")

Marston considers that Roman Keycard Blackwood is a better ace asking convention than Gerber for exploring suit slams.

My Swedish crispbread recipe by popular request...

1 cup cornmeal flour
1/3 cup sunflower seeds
1/4 cup pumpkin seeds
1/4 cup sesame seeds
1/4 cup linseed
2 tsp cumin powder
1 tsp salt
1/4 cup olive oil
1 1/4 cups boiling water

Heat oven to 150 degrees C. Mix all above together (it is a very wet mixture)

Roll out between baking paper as flat as possible, using your hands too. Remove top sheet of baking paper. Bake for 45 minutes or until crisp. Check after 35 minutes, Makes 3 trays.

Happy crispbread making, but be warned it is a messy business!