



News from the Timaru Bridge Club June 2024

Carole's Communique

Hello everyone.

Hope you are all enjoying these sunny mild winter days. Though all may have changed by the time you receive this newsletter!

I am afraid flu, RSV and Covid are all rampant in our community, albeit early in the winter. And so, I need to ask you to please stay away from bridge if you are unwell. You may like to consider bringing along your own pen to use.

Jim Burford Bridge Bash

Our congratulations and thanks to Dorothy, Dianne, Sue and Pauline for their tremendous efforts in organising such an enjoyable and successful fundraiser. We were so pleased to see Jim there in such fine fettle and I believe he is now back playing bridge with us. I have to say that he is very fortunate to have such a passionate and caring friend and bridge partner in Dorothy.

Illuminate

Thank you to all who volunteered to help with this fundraiser. I am pleased to be able to report that we have been promised \$1,800 for our efforts. Thank you to Penny Dewar for again giving us this opportunity and we are keen to do it all over next year.

Paula Gregory

The news is that we have another gold grandmaster in our midst and we would like to congratulate Paula. Attaining 4,000 A and B points (including 2,500 A points) is simply marvellous and we all really proud. Her photo will soon be sitting alongside Michael's in our foyer.

Bill Mecchia

Bill has shifted to pastures new in Christchurch and we would like to wish him well. We need to thank him for his hard work and dedication as Club Captain, Computer Manager, Director and Committee member. He has always been willing to help and has been committed to fostering a welcoming and supportive environment.

Bill has joined Mary McSherry at Christchurch Bridge Club. We would like to thank her too for her involvement as Bronze Group Chair, housekeeper and caterer. Mary was the biggest mover and shaker in setting up the bronze group and was absolutely focussed on supporting our beginners.

We will miss you both.

Beginners' Lessons

“We have an enthusiastic group of 12 – 15 attendees in the Beginner Group this year. Most are new to bridge with a couple of folks using it as a refresher course after being away from the table awhile. Only a few more sessions to go and they will be ready to

join the Bronze crew on 17 July. It will be very helpful to have some of the existing Bronze players volunteer to serve as mentors for the new players without a regular partner. This does not require any expertise on your part. Just a willingness to shepherd someone new into your friendly group. If you are interested, please contact Grant Patterson at grpandskp@gmail.com “

Joe Harris

South Canterbury Congress 20 and 21 April

“I am happy to report that Congress went relatively smoothly, due to the efficiency of Dianne Esler, our director/director liaison, Joe Harris, our computer manager, Chris Darvell, our catering co-ordinator and Carole Brand, our Club Chairperson.

Final income over expenditure was \$1,386.74 which was largely due to the many members of the club providing their expertise and time for free. As we have to pay out one third of our entry fees in prize money it would be good to try and attract more sponsorship money. At the moment we gratefully have Miss Timaru providing a small monetary donation towards the \$2,000 needed this year and The Shoeshop providing us with spot prize vouchers to the tune of \$300. Any suggestions would be most welcome.

There are many in the club who are not on the committee but who contributed their time and expertise to the overall success of the tournament and I sincerely thank them. Claire Neilson, Sue Milmine, Dorothy Bain, Mary Mulligan, Mary Cummings and Carole Brand spring cleaned the clubrooms before congress, Allan Luscombe and Bill Mecchia helped with the setting up and Janice Jackson, Mary McSherry, Carole Brand, Cath Preen, Mary Mulligan, Mary Cummings, Margaret Jones, Andrea Brown, Daphne

Fitzgerald, Carol Agnes, Claire Neilson and Raewyn Guise all made contributions to the catering needs of the tournament.

The envelopes for tournament entry and prizes were professionally printed by Keith Nicholas, who is also the card convenor and responsible for the dealing of the tournament cards. He was ably assisted by Pauline Prendergast, Heather Oldman and Dianne Esler plus some of our regular dealers, Andrea and Peter Brown and Caren and Mark Hampton. Kay Nicholas printed the conditions of contest for the teams and worked out their draws.

So, you can see there are many of our members who work behind the scenes for any event that is run at our club. Without these volunteers we would not be able to function successfully.

Our next tournament is the Canterbury Pairs 10A tournament on 14 September. The poster is already on the board. Check it out.”

AnneMarie Pavletich, Tournament Secretary

(Our thanks to AnneMarie too for all of her time, careful management and attention to detail.

We should make special mention of our reserves who were called in to play in the Open Teams at the last minute – Pauline Prendergast, Uneta Denley, AnneMarie, Wendy Taggart, Margaret Christian, Jeanette Meijer– and were placed 7th and 8th out of 16 teams which was an amazing feat)

Tournament Successes

Congratulations to our following members...

Paula and Michael

3rd Otago Provincial 10A pairs 2 June

Dorothy Bain and Bill Mecchia

1st overall Temuka 8B tournament 8 June

2nd overall Mid Canterbury 5A pairs 6 April

Pauline and Uneta

2nd Temuka 8B Tournament 8 June

2nd Green section Mid Canterbury 5A pairs 6 April

5th overall North Otago 5A Open Pairs 11 March

Joe Harris and Gavin Spence

1st section 3 Temuka 8B Tournament 8 June

Claire Neilsen and Bill Schmidt

1st Junior Pairs SC Congress 21 April

Monique Van Vugt and Arthur Brokenshire

2nd Junior Pairs SC Congress 21 April

Membership

We have received resignations from Dennis Johnston, Sandra Prue and Melissa Still.

Tournaments Outside Timaru

June 30 Oamaru All Grades

June 30 Rangiora All Grades

July 14 Canterbury Regional Swiss Pairs (Rangiora)

21 July Crockfords All Grades

27 July Christchurch Mid-Winter Teams

Keep a firm grip on your cards!

I have been reading other club newsletters and now know that there are CONSEQUENCES if you drop one or more cards during an auction and your partner is able to identify them. Given that this happens quite frequently, I thought you might appreciate a heads up! I will leave it to our Directors to clarify the consequences.