



Carole's Committee Communiqué

October 2025

Hello everyone,

It is difficult to believe that our competitive 2025 year is almost through and division AGMs are being held this week.

Much has been happening this year and we have endeavoured to keep you all up to date through emails and weekly notices. Draft and final Committee minutes have been posted on the notice board.

Tournaments

Both the Canterbury Regional Pairs hosted by us and our Anniversary Pairs were successful and enjoyable tournaments. We need to acknowledge our hard-working tournament committee. I would like to specially thank AnneMarie for organising us all (in absentia!), Dianne for her excellent directing and Chris Darvell and her helpers for their superb catering.

Sunscreen Blinds

We have just received the exciting news that Pub Charities Ltd have granted the funds for sunscreen blinds and these will be up very soon. It is pleasing that we have been able to complete our double-glazed windows project and we are very appreciative that all of our costs have been funded by Pub Charities.

The Committee has decided that our next project will be the replacement of the café bars with a hot water tap installed in a bench unit. We will again be applying for funding to ensure that this goes ahead.

Fundraising

Thank you to those who volunteered to help at the Illuminate light show. Be assured that our efforts were well and truly worthwhile as we should receive \$1,800 again this year.

Clubrooms Hire

This is proving to be a significant income stream thanks we believe to our signage and to Kay's exertions on our behalf.

New Bar Fridge

There has been a small surplus this financial year and we have therefore been able to purchase a new bar fridge for around \$2,000. Ashley M seems very pleased.

Revised Club Constitution

It would seem that members are happy with all 16 pages of the Constitution as I did not receive any feedback and only four attended the Q and A session last week (no questions were asked!) The revised Constitution will be presented for approval at the Annual General Meeting on 4 December and we will also resolve that the Club be re-registered as an Incorporated Society under the 2022 Act.

Our Way Forward

The Working Group were tasked by last year's AGM with finding an alternative to the status quo. They have looked for a solution that would

- create level playing fields in the divisions
- allow more flexibility in play between the divisions
- encourage more participation
- benefit everyone.

The group worked all year on a thorough and consultative process and developed two proposals.

Club members have voted in favour of the Working Group's proposal **B to be trialled for one year only**. In summary this proposal was for...

- the replacement of the promotions committee with a grading committee
- for players to be able to play in higher grades and one grade lower

- for all players to be handicapped
- for all sessions to be scored on scratch (unadjusted scores) and on handicap

The Club Bylaws are being amended accordingly and the grading committee will meet soon. This committee includes the Club President, the Club Captain and the Chairperson of each playing division.

The Committee hopes that everyone can support the decisions that have been made, and that we all continue to enjoy playing our bridge together.

Carole Brand

Club President