

TABLE TALK

MAY 2024

TAURANGA BRIDGE CLUB | 252 Ngatai Road, Otumoetai 3110 | 07 576-5022 | www.taurangabridge.co.nz



Happy
Birthday

MAY



WHAT'S ON IN MAY
(Make a note in your diary)

Monday lunchtime Bridge sessions 10.45am

Waikato Bays Bay 5A Pairs #3 Tauranga Sun day 26th. All grades welcome!

Lessons for Beginners are held Wednesday evenings 7pm (6.15pm Mike does a recap of the previous week). Remember you may attend any sessions (free of charge)

May Etiquette check our Etiquette section on the noticeboard - our topics this month are:

- **Best Bridgemate Manners**
- **Asking for an explanation of the bidding**

Pam Bell
Chris Buckley
Kevin Dawson
Simon Eminson
Libby Hobson
Roger Hoskins
Jan Johnstone
Julie Lankshear
Astrid Martin
Megan Nelis

Mike Newton
Carolyn Parker
Cathy Parker
Maree Paterson
Judith Regnaud
Pat Rutherford
Barbara Steele
Liz Swanston
Mark Wardill
Irene Williams

Please make sure that your birth month is entered into Hello Club – no need to put the year



OUR APRIL WINNERS

M: Evening Championship Singles – *Metlife Care – Greenwood Park*
Refurbished Handicap Pairs – *Cooper Young Construction*

Judy Pawson

Cathy Brown & Sue Sherwood

T: Autovillage Handicap Pairs - *Farmer Autovillage*

Belinda Ford & Mary Toner

W: Lifestyle Block Pairs - *Phil Mangos – Bayleys*
The Road Trip Pairs - *Ultimate Motor Group*

Clare Trass & Sally Shaw
Dale Allen & Jayne King

Th: 1 + 3 Teams #1

Kate Wade & Stacey Hilton
Astrid Martin & Colin Roberts

Fr: Charge the Battery Handicap Singles – *Baybat Batteries*

Margaret Wakelin

- Morning tea contributions & kitchen assistance appreciated for the Bay Pairs Sunday 26th - list on the noticeboard.
- Thank you to our Afternoon Tea volunteers - everyone appreciates your assistance. The list is on the noticeboard if you would like to help.
- You may have noticed that we currently have a clear space in front of the windowed doors at the front of the room (by the Director's desk) - this is for emergency exit purposes.
- **Bridge Club Lending Library** Please return the book/s that you borrow from the club so others may enjoy them also. Donations welcome!

Our planning for next year has already begun! We will be holding 'Town Hall' meetings in June so you can contribute / make suggestions for our program.

As you would expect, some of our sponsors are withdrawing at the end of this year so there is a wonderful opportunity for businesses or individuals to sponsor events. Do you know anyone? Perhaps you're interested? (This may be done anonymously).

The sponsorship team is seeking contributions of \$100 - \$150 - \$200 + GST. Please contact Keryn O'Brien or Sue Handley



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS...

In the past few months I have been touched by the number of you that have been asking after my 7-year old son Liam following his heart procedure late February and I thought I'd take this opportunity to fill you all in now that we know a bit more.

First, some background. Liam was born with an Atrial Septal Defect (ASD), a hole between the upper chambers of the heart. This was initially discovered as a heart murmur by his GP at 6 weeks of age during a standard checkup and confirmed up on further investigation at Tauranga hospital. The plan at that time was to wait until he was big enough to repair the hole by catheter via the vein in the groin.

At about 3 months of age he started to have difficulty feeding which in turn affected his sleep and he was hospitalised while they tried to establish what was going on. Although there was no certainty it was assumed his feeding difficulties were related to minor breathing difficulties caused by his heart condition. After three weeks in hospital he was discharged with a nasogastric feeding tube which we used to feed him for the next three months. Once he started on solids he was all good, we were able to remove the nasogastric tube, and he hasn't had any issues since.

Over the intervening years they've kept a pretty close eye on him, taking various images of his heart as it grew and monitoring his weight with a target of 20kg in mind for the catheter procedure. Eventually late last year the decision was made to proceed and some more imaging was done of the vein running from the groin to the heart to ensure it ran straight and true and he was put on the waiting list. In February we were notified he was scheduled for the procedure at Starship the day after I returned from the Gold Coast Congress!

On the first day they did a bunch of preparation for the procedure: blood test, chest x-ray, echocardiogram and an ECG. We also met with the surgical team to discuss how things would go the following day and have a little play with the device that was going to be inserted inside the heart to close the hole. We headed back to Ronald McDonald House for the evening with instructions to return to Starship in the morning for the procedure itself.

When Liam was put under, not altogether willingly, they inserted an echo probe down his throat for visibility inside the heart during the procedure. It was at this point the surgeon observed that the vein that was going to be used to enter the heart wasn't as straight and true as thought.

They did a CT scan to confirm and indeed the vein that was thought to be running straight and true from the groin into the bottom of the heart was in fact going past the heart and then curving around to join another vein coming into the top of the heart. The device cannot be manoeuvred around corners and so the original plan had to be abandoned. They took the opportunity to insert a pressure gauge inside the heart to run some diagnostics so he did still end up with a hole in his groin. The most heartbreaking part of it all was once he was awake and had shaken off the effects of the anaesthetic he exclaimed "Well, at least I don't have to do that again" at which point we had to break it to him that things had not gone to plan.

So what is next for Liam? It will be open heart surgery for him later this year. We have been given an approximate date of Septemberish but we won't get any solid timing until a few weeks out most likely. The outcome will be very much the same but the recovery will be significantly longer with 4-6 weeks off school. He has started sessions with a child psychologist to work on preparing him for the surgery and reducing anxiety. It is frustrating that the problematic vein wasn't picked up in any of the images taken over the years (including the day before!) but we remain thankful that his condition doesn't affect him day to day and the surgery is really about avoiding heart issues decades down the road.



TIP OF THE MONTH #6
Good defence starts at trick #1

♠ AKQ62

♥ 76

♦ KJ63

♣ J4

♠ J973

♥ AQ8

♦ 1075

♣ A73

Bidding:	W	N	E	S
				1NT
	P	2H	P	2S
	P	3NT	All P	

Lead 4H
Dealer South
Both vul.

Lead:

Partner's 4H is likely to be 4th highest, with an honour.

Play:

How do you, as East, defend? Almost every one, unless asked this specific question, would play AH, then QH, then another...BUT...

1. From the bidding, one would expect declarer to have the KH, probably K10X or Kxx. If you play AH, (s)he will hold up the KH to the third round.
2. Do you know the "Rule of 11"? If partner has led the 4H, take 4 from 11...N, E and S between them have 7 cards higher than the 4...you can see 5 in your hand and dummy, so you expect declarer has KJx, K10x, or K9x.
3. Partner hopefully has 5 hearts, otherwise declarer would have 4....and given you have 11 points, and the opposition have bid to 3 NT, partner likely has very little....hopefully 5 hearts to the J?
4. You have spades and clubs stopped once, so you have "some control", and will get back in fairly early....partner could only have QD for her/his points, and this would be finessable...

SO....**play the QH!** Declarer would have to be very brave to not play the KH...he would expect you to send back another heart, finessing his King (unless he has KJx, in which case nothing you do will take this contract down). When you get back in, with either AC or JS, play AH and 8H to partner's 5-card suit....if you played "usually", with AH first, declarer holds up and must make the contract, losing only AH, QH and AC. If East does not have the AC (the critical card for the defence), (s)he should play "usually"...AH, then QH, then 8H...in the hope that West has a Club winner.

♠ AKQ62

♥ 76

♦ KJ63

♣ J4

♠ J973

♥ AQ8

♦ 1075

♣ A73

♠ 105

♥ J9542

♦ 942

♣ 986

♠ 84

♥ K103

♦ AQ8

♣ KQ1052

Lesson:

You can learn a lot about people's cards from the bidding.



We are very proud to announce the following Representative Teams chosen recently...

Waikato Bays Team to contest Regional Champion ships, Nov 30-Dec 2, Wellington:

OPEN: Michael Ware, Hugh McGann, Liz and Blair Fisher, Jo and Sam Simpson.

WOMEN: Jenna and Christine Gibbons, Kate Terry, Judy Pawson, Rebecca Osborne, Gillian Corbett.

SENIORS: Rachelle Pelkman, Murray Wood, Gary Foidl, Yuzhong Chen, Di and Hugh McAlister.

INTERMEDIATES: Megan Jolly, Leanne Curry, Lyn Bailie, Di Rodger, Bettina and Marcus Dudley.

Tauranga Inter-Club Team to contest Bay of Plenty Inter-Club Championship, July 28, Rotorua:

OPEN: Kate Terry, Judy Pawson, Di and Hugh McAlister.

INTERMEDIATE: Malcolm Christie, Stacey Hilton, Joy Bates, Colin Roberts.

JUNIOR: Rebecca Taylor, Kerri Friar, Kate Wade, Mark Wardill.



A big shout out to our DIRECTORS

Early next month, at Matamata, we are holding a Regional Directors' Forum. The aims of the Forum are to educate, support and encourage our serving Directors, and to promote this important role within our bridge community.

A lot of work goes on behind the scenes at any Club everyone knows that. In this column I want to take the opportunity in coming months to celebrate and appreciate those in our Club who help make it what it is today – a thriving Bridge community which strives to provide a welcoming social outlet, an educational opportunity and a quality competitive experience ... all at once.

I see Directors as the “engine room” of any Bridge Club. Without them we cannot function. You could not imagine a rugby or soccer game without a referee. We expect our Directors to “run” the session, choose which movement we will play, deliver the large number of boards accurately and efficiently, and monitor the time and our movement around the room. We expect them to adjudicate on matters of bridge law, and to maintain fairness. We even occasionally expect them to go back into the scoring system, many hours or even days later, to “correct a score”!

Our iconic Karen Martelletti Boston Cup Teams event has just started....for the 52nd time! Consider just for a moment the work that goes on behind the scenes – my favourite Director has been busy....(a) monitoring the entries; (b) personally dealing and recording in the computer an extra set of boards in case there is a “triangle” (an odd number of teams, a challenge for Directors in Teams matches); (c) checking with our Dealers that sufficient boards have been dealt ahead of time; (d) writing into the computer scoring package all the names and Teams ahead of time; (e) deciding on the format (in this case a Swiss event); (f) practising the scoring (with the help of senior scorers Rebecca Osborne and Mike Newton – Norm Silcock likes to be in Europe at this time!); getting there early to set up the room and check all is set to go. Then we arrive and pretty much all we see is the Director answering, in her/his calm and reassuring way, our occasional calls for assistance.

Nor do we give thought to the many hours of study, for some to sit formal exams, and the occasional Di rectors' educational sessions they attend just to make sure they are imparting “justice” fairly and accurately, according the Laws of bridge.

All our Directors give extra time and effort and skill to this important role, and I would like, on your behalf, to say a VERY BIG THANK YOU to you all...

Chief Director: Norm Silcock

Senior Directors: Rebecca Osborne, Di McAlister, Mike Newton, Judy McLeod and Peter Hagan

Club Directors: Simon Eminson, Derek Webb, Kate Terry, Tony Hacking, Sam Simpson and Pat Ware

Hugh McAlister

