

TABLE TALK

OCTOBER 2025

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

OCTOBER
Happy
Birthday



Kay Beadle
Maggie Grigsby
Deidre Gunn
Tony Hacking
Sandie Jordan
Desrai Karl
Sue Martin
Debbie McBride
Lorraine Murrie
Angela Newton

Lisza O'Dwyer
Rebecca Osborne
Bill Pook
Steve Porter
Sally Shaw
Sue Sherwood
Janice Simpson
Lloyd Stone
Ruth Sweatman

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



WHAT'S HAPPENING/
COMING UP
(Make a note in your diary)

- **Tuesday tutorials** continue... 12.30pm for 15 minutes. Reserve your playing seat first please.
- **Etiquette Board** is updated every month. Please make time to check it out
- **Heads up...** October Friday drinks will be the 3rd Friday THIS FRIDAY... 17th Oct... to avoid Labour Weekend as well as manage the lead up to our Christmas party. Ron Scott's daughter will be attending and 'shouting' a round of drinks in Ron's memory.
- **Sunday Bridge** the 3rd Sunday of the month. Next session 19th October **THIS SUNDAY**
- **On-line Bridge Session Tuesday 28th Nov** – fundraiser for Keryn's cancer treatment.

OUR JULY WINNERS

MON	Two Trophy Singles <i>Craigs Investment Partners</i>	Nick Comber Malcolm Christie	Tallis Tray Don Gordon Trophy
	1 + 3 Teams #2 <i>Gaspy</i>	Shirley Bain, Nickki Baguley, Kerrie Little, Astrid Martin	
TUE	Let's Go Driving Handicap Pairs <i>Toyota</i>	Jenny Lynam & Ruth Sweatman	
WED	Happy Buyer Restricted Pairs <i>Andrea Cawley at Eves</i>	Astrid Martin & Stacey Hilton	
	Graduation Handicap Pairs	Joan McNeill & Maria Arhanic	
FRI	Alan Turner Memorial Teams	Simon Eminson, Stacey Hilton, Frances Ball, Joy Bates	
	Handicap	Peter Hagan, June Hagan, Dot Skousgaard, Heather Melville, Chris Andrews	
	Property Pairs <i>Andrea Cawley at Eves</i>	Derek Webb & Pat Webb	



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS...

This month I'd like to talk about the great spirit of cooperation between our club and our friends across the bridge at the Mount Maunganui Club. Many of you probably aren't aware that the two clubs keep in close contact on all sorts of different issues because when we work together both clubs benefit!

Just last weekend we manned a site at the Bay Home Show with the aim of drumming up interest in lessons for both clubs. Costs were split, we both designed posters and fliers, and then we each took a day to 'man' the site with volunteers playing bridge to entice the public. Fingers crossed both clubs will see some of those players along for lessons in the new year.

For many years now we have collaborated on our lesson programme so that both clubs are running the same lesson on the same week. This allows for our learners to head over to the other club on any given week if the usual timing doesn't work for them. Or they could head to both clubs every week if they're especially keen!

Even our playing sessions are scheduled so as to provide as many options as possible for our members. We have an open club session on Monday nights and a Junior only session on Wednesday nights. The Mount have theirs switched. This means that a keen Junior player could play a Junior only session at the Mount on Monday night and again at Tauranga on a Wednesday night.

We also help each other out with directing and scoring, both tournaments and club sessions. We swap success stories or lessons we learned when it comes to running tournaments, club sessions or lessons. We share things that worked with respect to marketing and player retention. The Mount President Michele and I are heading down to Wellington this weekend to continue those discussions with clubs from all around the country.

Both clubs face the exact same issues and it is this spirit of cooperation that allows us to bounce ideas off each other and come out stronger for it. Many thanks to President Michele and Club Captain Teri and long may our strong mutual relationship continue!

Mike.

BOUQUETS

Simon Eminson thank you for the abundance of beautiful avocados recently. Much appreciated by all who partook!! A HUGE thank you for assisting Heather Melville in September when she had car issues. Above and beyond!! Very special thank you

Irene Edgar how special are you? Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! You spend EVERY Thursday facilitating Social Bridge and do it beautifully. The Club applauds you and appreciates you.

Muriel Banks thank you for the very generous donation of your vacuum cleaner. Practically brand new!! We now have 2 stick vacuums, one in the back room, the other by the back door in the kitchen.

Afternoon tea volunteers THANK YOU all!!! Everyone appreciates your contribution to enable us to enjoy a cuppa and some social chit-chat





Planning your NT Contract

Hugh McAlister

	♠ A3	
	♥ K964	
	♦ KQ103	
	♣ J53	
♠ Q10854	Both vul, Dealer S	♠ J96
♥ 103	Contract 3NT by S	♥ QJ52
♦ 652	Lead 5S	♦ A9
♣ K86		♣ 10942
	♠ K72	
	♥ A87	
	♦ J874	
	♣ AQ7	

Bidding: South opens 1NT (balanced 12-14), North bids 2C (simple Stayman) to check for a Heart fit, South bids 2D (no 4 card major) and North bids 3NT.

Lead: undeterred by North's Stayman, West leads 5S (4th highest)... no other lead appeals.

Play:

What are you thinking? You have 5 quick tricks, and can develop 3 more in diamonds and one more in clubs. But you may have to lose the lead twice to do that.

Plan your play... Declarer won the spade lead and played on diamonds, their longest suit. East took AD and played another spade. Now when declarer took the club finesse, West got in and took 3 spades, down 1.

Can you do better? When you may have to lose the lead twice, and have two stoppers, it is often good to duck the first round (so leader's partner is exhausted of their suit when they get the lead). It is also good practice, when you have 2 potential losers, to lose to the "danger hand" first.

So....duck trick 1, win the continuation in dummy, with AS, and lead 3C to finesse the QC. If West wins and clears the spades, now start on diamonds. When East gets in with AD, (s)he has no more spades to lead,... contract made. If West decides to duck the QC finesse, move on to diamonds anyway.

Lessons:

1. When you have 2 stoppers, but may ***have to lose the lead twice to set up your suit(s), it is often best to duck the first round.*** If the opponents' suit is 5-3, this effectively breaks the opponents' communication.
2. When you have two potential losers before you can set up your suit(s), try and ***lose the first trick to the danger hand.*** If the clubs were in opposite hands, North and South, you would take the club finesse second, once you know they have no more spades to lead.
3. If the danger hand has both AD and KC, you can't make the contract, so don't stress...you have to hope the honours are split, and play accordingly.



LENDING LIBRARY

We're blessed with the generous donations of books to our 'lending' library. We would like to ask that you:

- PLEASE return the books when you've read them. Many of us are perplexed at the disappearance of books we spied & haven't seen again.
- Take one or two books at a time - we appreciate you not stockpiling!
- Please use a bookmark - do not fold the corner of the pages.





Ron Klinger

Champion Bridge Player
Author
Teacher
Commentator

ronklingerbridge.com

RON KLINGER WORKSHOPS
Intermediate to Advanced level.
Not for beginners.

The sessions are practical with the players playing through a deal, followed by discussion of the bid ding, the lead, the play and defence.

December 7th 2025
2 workshops ... Morning & afternoon
\$30 per session

Competitive Bidding: 9.00 – 11.30am

Defensive Technique: 12.30 – 3.00pm
(general defence play)

Maximum of 120 people per session.
(30 seats reserved for people on the cruise) BYO LUNCH if you're staying for the afternoon



A COUPLE OF REMINDERS

OR SOMETHING NEW

RULE OF 20

Count your high card points (HCP) and then add the length of your two longest suits. 20+ ... open the bidding.

RULE OF 15

Pass defense Pass

In the 4th position your HCP's PLUS the number of SPADES = 15 ... then open the bidding.

VULNERABLE vs NON VULNERABLE

No risks when vulnerable. When you're not vulnerable you can 'afford' to be a tad cheeky.

SINGLETON K

3 HCP therefore cannot also count 3 for shortage as can easily lose to the Ace.

MISTAKE

When you make a mistake, according to Graham Tufnell (Sky Bridge), change position or focus ... Look off into the distance.

LOW LEVEL CONTRACTS

Can earn good scores. If you're unsure, stay low!

Hello all



I had a wonderful month away in September enjoying the Autumn in Croatia and Italy, I even managed to get a tan, a very rare thing for me. On my return home that wonderful relaxed feeling has quickly disappeared and I feel I've returned to my busiest every end of year, so many interesting and different things to choose between before taking the Christmas break.

So far have enjoyed playing some bridge at the Matamata Swiss pairs and at the Tauranga Home show where we were encouraging members of the public to sign up for lessons.

Upcoming bridge events on my radar are ...

Lovelock NZ Wide pairs this Friday night. We're not hosting this year so your closest venue is Rotorua.

Final of the intermediate tournament league in Cambridge on Sunday 19th. Best wishes and good luck to **Rosemary Wilkey & Bettina Dudley** (Te Puke) who are seriously in the running to win the Intermediate League.

Bridge for Keryn NZ Bridge online. Tuesday 28th November.

Hamilton Labour Weekend Congress Tournaments

Club Daytime Championship Pairs
Club Intermediate and Open Teams Championships

Regional Championships in Palmerston North – may the cards be with our players representing Waikato Bays which include our club members **Di and Hugh McAlister, Judy Pawson, Kate Terry, Christine Gib**

National Congress in Palmerston North. I know of many Tauranga club members from all ranking levels attending. Some for the full week, but a number like myself, just for a couple of the events

Rotorua Christmas Party Tournament

Ron Klinger workshops details earlier in the newsletter. These events will be open to the wider region next week & will be very popular so make sure you get your registration completed. And you cannot miss, grand finale to our year, the **Tauranga Club Christmas party on:**



SATURDAY, 13 DECEMBER.
I wonder what this year's theme will be?

