

TABLE TALK

SEPTEMBER 2025

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

SEPTEMBER Happy Birthday

Linda Aldridge
Dale Allen
Jan Anderson
Karyl Anderson
Chris Archer
Joy Bates
Paul Blatchford
Cathy Brown
Ross Brown
Val Clarke
Belinda Ford

Judith George
Bruce Glover
Peter Hagan
Jayne King
Heather Melville
Ronnie Ryan
Denis Smith
Kate Terry
Hilary Warren
June Watson

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)

- **5A Teams Event** this Saturday at the Club. We would very much appreciate your morning tea contributions please... A list is on the notice board.
- **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... 17th Oct... to avoid Labour Weekend as well as manage the lead up to our Christmas party.
- **Sunday Bridge** now the 3rd Sunday of the month. Next session 19th October

OUR JULY WINNERS

MON	Refurbished Handicap Pairs <i>Cooper Young Construction</i>	<i>Isobel McIntyre & Alan Lawton</i>	
	Restricted Rotational Teams <i>Craigs Investment Partners</i>	<i>Jocelyn Buchanan, Janet Young, Simon Eminson, Diana Foster</i>	
TUE	The Margaret Torr Memorial Tuesday Championship Singles	<i>Open: Intermediate: Junior:</i>	<i>Judy Pawson Rosemary Wilkey Kerri Friar</i>
WED	Junior Championship Pairs <i>Farmers Autovillage</i>	<i>Jayne King & Maria Arhanic</i>	
THUR	Tauranga Sixes <i>Metlifecare – Greenwood Park</i>	<i>Shirley Bain & Graham Young; Stacey Hilton & Joy Bates; Clare Trass & Sarah Graham</i>	
FRI	Village Life Pairs <i>Metlifecare – Greenwood Park</i>	<i>Jocelyn Buchanan & Judith Malcolm</i>	



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS...

This month I would like to focus on a couple of points that I suppose relate to etiquette but are less to do with the playing of the game we all love and more to do with being a good club member in general.

The first is punctuality. We ask that everyone be seated 15 minutes prior to start time and there is good reason for this, chiefly to do with the responsibilities of the director and scorer that most of us aren't aware of. There are many considerations as to which movement to use for any given session and the different movements have different setup tasks associated with them which all take time.

In small fields the director may be happy to run a Mitchell movement with full tables but when a pair arrives late we now have a phantom and a Howell movement may be preferred. This is because less boards are played per round with a Howell and we don't like the phantom pair to have to sit out three or four boards. But a Howell movement comes with its own challenges! Movement cards need to be printed and distributed to all tables and there are a lot less stationary pairs which makes it harder to accommodate those with seating rights.

In larger fields we typically run a lot of Web Mitchell movements these days to avoid only playing one board per table. However the layout of the boards is very different in a Web Mitchell depending on whether there is an odd or even number of tables. So once again a late addition can undo a whole lot of preparation.

Of course we appreciate that life happens and sometimes you will be running late. If this happens just call your partner or the club directly and let us know you're running late but you're definitely on your way. As long as the director is aware then there's no problem.

The second point is just a brief one and that is to please try to remember to wear your name badge. As we try to encourage more of our junior players to play in other club sessions outside of Wednesday night it does make them feel more welcome and sociable if they can put names to faces. If you've lost your badge and are after a new one talk to David and he can order you a replacement. If you're constantly misplacing it feel free to leave it at the club, we have a special spot for them in the foyer.

Mike.

HOUSEKEEPING

AFTERNOON TEA The new roster is on the noticeboard... We need volunteers PLEASE.



END OF SESSION Please take a moment to shake the tablecloths out - makes a world of difference to how they look. Tuesday & Friday afternoons please stack the blue stools to the side of the room... Easier & quicker for the cleaner plus we have a Church group who use the clubrooms every weekend it's free. A wee reminder that the Club runs on volunteer help apart from our wonderful Administrator David, our cleaner Adrienne and sometimes our Directors (many of whom are not currently paid). Everything else is done by us. When everyone pulls their weight, in any small way, it helps us all.

REMINDERS

- **INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS** begin Monday evening October 6th... A 4-week tournament with a break for Labour Weekend. The list is on the Monday noticeboard. Intermediate AND Junior players are eligible for this event. Roll up! Roll up!
- **OPEN TEAMS** begin Thursday evening October 9th for two sessions. Open to ALL grades... NO restrictions. The previous two Thursday evening events have been cancelled due to lack of participation. PLEASE let's make this Thursday event rock and roll!!



“Another challenging 3NT”

Hugh McAlister

	♠ 93	
	♥ AQ8	
	♦ A94	
	♣ KQ1042	
♠ KQ10765		♠ J84
♥ 976	Both vul, Dealer S	♥ 1054
♦ 102	Contract 3NT by S	♦ Q753
♣ 76	Lead KS	♣ A95
	♠ A2	
	♥ KJ32	
	♦ KJ86	
	♣ J83	

Bidding: South opens 1NT (balanced, 12-14). West considers a 2S overcall, but decides against it because of vulnerability and too few points. North raises to 3NT.

Lead: KS would be standard (declarer may have AJx and be finessable).

Play: You duck the first spade, but East encourages with 4S (low encouragement), and a small spade comes round to East's JS and your AS. What now? Unless West has 7 spades and no other entry, you are in trouble.... as soon as you lose the lead to the AC, the opponents have 4 more spade tricks and you go 2 LIGHT

What can you do? You have 7 quick winners. Hoping to “sneak” a club trick before they play the AC is likely a forlorn hope. You must avoid Clubs and hope to make 2 more tricks in Diamonds. Play AD and another, finessing the JD, noting the 10D drops. You now go back to dummy (via hearts) and repeat the Diamond finesse. You can soon count up 9 tricks, contract made.

Lessons:

1. The bidding is straightforward... although North has extra values, her/his only response is 3NT.
2. The critical issue in play is to realise you can't afford to play on Clubs. There is only one way to make 9 tricks, and that depends on East having the QD, (but if East has 4 diamonds to the Q10xx, and ducks, only the computer would finesse the 8D! If East has doubleton Qx, you will go 1 light, losing to west's 10D. So East needs to have Qxx or Qxxx, as was the case here).
3. Note that as the cards lie you needed to get back to dummy with a heart to do the second Diamond finesse... play the hearts first and you will go light... everything depends on the finesse.



Ron Klinger

Champion Bridge Player
Author
Teacher
Commentator

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December 7th, 2025

2 workshops
Morning & afternoon
\$30 per session

Competitive Bidding
9.00am – 11.30am

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

The workshops are hands-on. Maximum of 120 people per session. BYO LUNCH if you're staying for the afternoon.

BOUQUETS



- The Club would like to extend their thanks to **Robin Brand, Desrai Karl, Janet Young, Judy McLeod, and Belinda Ford** for their fabulous help at our recent Novice, Junior & Intermediate tournament. Muriel was incredibly grateful for your 'hard' work.
- **Muriel Banks** you excelled yet again! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!
- Thank you to **Rebecca Osborne** (Club Captain) our Director on the day & Mike Newton (President)
- **Raewyn DeCleene** your gorgeous bouquets of freesias have bought members an immense amount of joy... Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Much appreciated.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S COLUMN



Our Club Captain is MIA (missing in action) currently playing Bridge with Kate, Hugh & Di in Pula, Croatia!!

Rebecca recently directed our Novice, Junior & Intermediate Tournament at the Club. Nearly a full house and a very successful day.

I LOVE playing tournaments and strongly recommend that if you haven't dipped your toe in the water that you do so in 2026. There is a Junior League and an Intermediate League and currently **Rosemary Wilkey** and her partner **Bettina Dudley** are leading with only one match to go!! We wish you all the best!!

IT'S A GAME OF CARDS

I absolutely LOVE my Bridge as many of you do. Sadly, there have been several incidents lately where members have been upset by others' comments &/or behavior at the table.

We come to Bridge to have an enjoyable session and we all do the best we can on the day.

BE KIND.

So many of us have all manner of challenges in our lives and Bridge is a 'happy place' to forget about everything else for 3 hours.

Please, please, please watch your tone of voice. The Novices are now fully integrated into Wednesday night and it's perfectly acceptable for them to refer to their 'cheat' sheets so be patient while they check out their next bid.

ASK BEFORE YOU OFFER ADVICE

We all know about 'coulda, woulda, shoulda' Please don't tell anyone what they did 'wrong' Ask first! When someone asks you for advice, again please watch your tone of voice and be mindful to give them one piece of advice, not a list.

HAPPY BRIDGING!

