

Franklin Bridge Club Table Talk December 2023



The Loveblock Pairs

We had a great night – and a great result -- on Friday night 10th November when we competed in the nationwide Loveblock Pairs. We had an optional potluck tea with wine at 6pm, then 10 tables got down to the serious business of playing.

Across NZ 856 pairs from 51 bridge clubs played the hands simultaneously, and the winners were our own Lynne Geursen and Grant Jarvis with an amazing 73%. Grant and Lynne have played together in this event for the whole 26 years that it's been running.

And our own Anthony Jarvis and John Bouwman were top of all-NZ in the novice pairs. Anthony and John were a first-time pairing, which makes their win even more meritorious.

A big shout-out too to Trevor Robb and Wendy Morris who were 9th overall and Susan Ormsby and Lance Panther who were 8th in the novice section. Arie Geursen came along to both play and direct our evening for which we thank him. A huge well done to everyone who participated.

Richard Solomon founder of the NZ Bridge Foundation, came on 22nd November to present the prizes to our winners and stayed to play for the evening.



John & Anthony – Novice winners



Lynne & Grant – overall winners

Loveblock Pairs - Report from the Sitemaster:

The results website went down for half an hour under the pressure. That probably didn't cause as much panic as at Cambridge, when half the town had a power blackout at 5.30pm. The lines company were saying it wouldn't be on again until 9.30pm! 16 boxes of pizza arrived at 6pm, and there was icecream in the freezer for afters. Club members were being redirected to other clubs to play, four went home because they didn't relish playing by light of cell phones! To everyone's relief, the power came back on at 6.45pm.

Melbourne Cup, Tuesday 7th November

Thanks to Lynne Geursen and her helpers we had a very happy afternoon wearing hats, "buying" pairs in the sweepstake auction, buying raffle and sweepstake tickets, playing bridge, and watching the race.

Before the field was published, two large sheets were placed in the clubrooms for people to "buy" numbers for a gold coin. Prizes were a \$50 note which were won by Gayle Askew and Diane Conroy. Bev Henton won the \$5 sweepstake Maureen Nelson took a selection of \$2 sweepstake tickets and was "rewarded" with both a 1st and a 3rd placing.

It had been advised beforehand that the results on the day for us were to be based on handicap, and the winners were

- 1st Caroline Griffin and Trevor Robb “bought” by Kevin Griffin
- 2nd Henriette Annabel and Kevin Griffin “bought” by Caroline Griffin
- 3rd Margaret van der Coer and Jim Buckland
- 4th Nelda Wormald and Sandra Sitton



Thursday evening supervised play:

There was disappointment at the cessation of Thursday evening lessons at the end of September, so thanks to a great offer from Chris Glyde, supervised play restarted on 9th November. Four or five tables of novices and helpers have attended each Thursday, the novices frequently commenting on how useful the sessions are.

The last session for 2023 will be Thursday 21st December. Chris hopes to renew the sessions in February or so.

Club Rules

Our programme book is a much sleeker version this year – thanks to Terry Evans Jr. for re-formatting it, doing a lot of work on updating and merging our database and sponsoring the printing of the booklets.

As part of the process the club rules which used to take up three full pages of our programme book can now be found on our website. There is a new link on the home page "Club Rules". Copies of the Club Rules are also pinned on the noticeboard.

Health and Welfare:

COVID is indisputably among us at the moment several members of our club have succumbed to it within the last month. We must be mindful that we sit at close quarters for 3 hours, handling cards which are then passed on to up to 14 other people.

If you have tested negative and feel well enough to come to bridge, please wear a mask, cough into your elbow, use the hand sanitiser. If you are in any doubt, ***please stay at home.***

Out and About in Pukekohe:

We note the considerable progress in demolition of the old Franklin Council Buildings in Manukau Road. The site is to become a private "Health Hub".

The AGM Sunday 3rd December 2023

54 club members attended the AGM and as well as "the usual" formalities of an AGM a resolution was unanimously passed:

The committee is authorised to spend up to \$50,000 to hire appropriate contractors to remove the textured ceiling coating in the club's building (because it contains asbestos), to repair the ceiling as required, including plastering and painting, and to update the ceiling light fixtures.

The committee plans to have this work done in the first half of 2024.

Change of Elected Officers:

As a single nomination was received for all club positions the nominees were declared to be elected unopposed. Flowers were presented to retiring officers Caroline Griffin, John Fergusson, and Nelda Wormald. Lynne Geursen has been appointed as our new patron and Terry Evans Jr. elected as the new Club Captain. The position of Training and

Development Officer is still vacant. A list of the committee can be found inside the back page of our 2024 programme booklet.

Most people stayed for the potluck meal after the AGM, and nine tables of drawn pairs (some interesting combinations!) stayed to play bridge after that.

A considerable gallery of photos of prizewinners is on the club's gallery website (access it from the main web page or www.franklinbridgeclub.com/gallery). Thanks to Terry Evans Jr. for setting this up and taking most of the photos.

Looking forward to the new year:

Our first tournament is on Saturday, 3 February 2024 – the Summer Swiss Pairs. Then there's a gap until the end of April. Wondering when Easter is next year? Good Friday is 29th March.

And a heads-up to think about over the holidays:

As part of her President's report to the AGM, Linda advised us that "We have been lucky to have Chris Glyde pass the director's exam this year, and we thank Teresa Phillips for her reliable and loyal services at club play. Jim Buckland is scaling back his work as director. This leads to a need for more directors so that we can develop a roster of directors, which will increase the reliability of having a qualified director at all club play and reduce pressure on directors.

Arie Geursen, formerly the Chief Director for NZ Bridge, has agreed to prepare and present a director's course in the coming year. Please consider whether you might serve the club and your own bridge development by taking the director's course when offered."

Final sessions for the year:

Monday	18 th December (Christmas Pairs)
Wednesday	20 th December (December Pairs)
Thursday	21 st December
Friday	15 th December (Holiday Bridge *)

Bridge restarts:

Monday	8 th January (Holiday Bridge *)
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Wednesday 3rd January (Holiday Bridge *)
Friday 5th January (Holiday Bridge *)

*Holiday Bridge – just come along, no partner required. If you don't have a partner, please look for one via the Whatsapp group, or come early to allow time for us to match you to someone. Masterpoints will apply if we reach the minimum standard: 2 tables and 20 boards.

Have a happy and safe summer holiday.

May all your finesses work,
May all your slams be grand.