

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk June 2024



We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge

The Survey

65 people responded to our survey, thank you, with some interesting results and comments. Some people had put a lot of thought into their comments and suggestions – many thanks to everyone who did so.

The outcome(s):

- Tuesday bridge had very little support and has been discontinued
- Sunday bridge had reasonable support, please see separate item below
- Most members felt that the committee was doing a good job. Some comments were very encouraging to our hard-working committee

The First of the Winter Sunday Sessions

The first winter Sunday session was held on 5th May.

No table money was taken, and there was a Blue Hat in case a partner was needed.

7 ½ tables meant that 30 people were happily occupied playing a 26-board Howell movement (agreed upon by a “group” of directors!) This was followed by a complimentary glass of wine and a delicious pot luck meal. Winners on the day were Lynne and Arie, handicap winners were Christine Godding and Delwynne Homewood.

And a jolly good time was had by all!

Following interest expressed in the survey, the next Sunday afternoon bridge-with-potluck is going to be on

June 9th

chosen to avoid clashing with King’s Birthday weekend. You need to organise a partner, and be seated by 1.15pm for start of play at 1.30pm. Usual table money applies, bring a plate for the potluck meal.

Sunday **bridge only** will continue right through the winter months, until the end of September (29th September). Again, be seated by 1.15pm for start of play at 1.30pm, usual table money applies. You need to bring a partner - the Blue Hat arrangement was only to get the series started.

And then, on the **first Sunday of each month**, we will follow bridge with a potluck meal, so please diary this for :

- Sunday 7th July
- Sunday 4th August
- Sunday 1st September

After the end of September, we will review the level of support for Sunday bridge, and may opt to continue on. Come and play !

Farewell to the Fergussons

John and Bron leave on 24th June, to return to England to live. They have been such valuable members of our club and we will miss them. Their farewell will take the form of an afternoon tea following regular Friday bridge on **Friday 14th June**. Format as follows:

- Friday bridge as usual, please be seated by 10.15am for a 10.30am start
- BYO lunch as usual, and a partner to play with
- After bridge, usually between 2pm and 2.30pm, there will be a farewell afternoon tea, provided by the club
- All members are invited to the afternoon tea, whether or not you play bridge beforehand
- We'd appreciate knowing numbers for catering, so please RSVP to our Catering Manager, Neil Miller:

anmiller49@gmail.com or SMS/Whatsapp **027 275 7569**

Lessons and Supervised Play 2024

We have now completed 7 of the 10 lesson series, having had a break for one week to "just play cards". Teacher Maureen Nelson has been supported by a revolving cast of helpers, for which she and the club are grateful. We seem to have settled into a pattern of 21/22 students plus 7 or 8 helpers, meaning 8 tables, concentrating hard and trying to learn the wonderful game of bridge.

All paid-up members are very welcome to repeat any or all of the formal lessons without charge. Sometimes repeating a lesson or two really cements in what you learned last year.

Supervised play on Thursday nights (also 7-9pm) is held at the same time as lessons – a mini lesson in the committee room, then play continues in the south-eastern corner of our clubroom.

Player News

Lots of our players are escaping the winter weather, and heading off for warmer climes. Among them:

- Ilian Trifanov, his wife Nora and daughter Iva have just arrived in London for 4 weeks campervanning in England and Ireland



- Dennise Biddick leaves next week for 7 weeks away – starting in Athens and travelling around mainland Greece, on to Istanbul and Turkey, and on to southern Spain and Portugal
- Arie and Lynne are heading off this week for several weeks in Queensland. They very much look forward to meeting their brand new great-granddaughter, Charlotte Rose, born on 30th May. Keen tennis fans, they'll be watching the finals of Roland Garros, plus Wimbledon, there. They also hope to play a bit of bridge in Broadbeach.
- Belinda and Kerry will also be away in early June, on a cruise around the Croatian coast, followed by a week in Japan to watch their grandson motor racing
- Kay and Paul Wallbuton are counting the days until their cruise leaves from New York on 4th July. They are very experienced cruisers, but looking forward to this long one. They won't be home until the spring
- Kay and Paul's little granddaughter Eva Marie, just turned 5, is a paid-up member of "Girls can do Anything" – the little tot in the pink rugby boots is Eva Marie, playing for the Patumahoe Rugby Club's 5-and-under team. Uncle Eamonn is the coach.

When she's not playing rugby, Eva sometimes masquerades as a fairy (here on her 5th birthday)



- Also leaving in early July for Europe are Yvonne and Rolf – they start with a relaxing cruise from Belfast, then on to England and ending up in Zurich
- Bridge is for everyone! Royle Epsom bridge player Ian Handricks has had many health issues over the years, and in mid-March had a leg amputated. He's now doing well in rehab, and 2 weeks ago was able to invite 3 friends to the visitor's lounge at the hospital to play some bridge. (He'd been having serious withdrawal symptoms from no bridge). One of his main supporters has been Sue Jones, whom many of us know from Papakura. Here are Ian, Sue (at right) and in black is Elesa Wells, who is currently doing our series of lessons. Since this first visit, Ian has been holding court in hospital, and is seriously encouraging visitors to come in groups of 3 so they can play bridge with him



- The super-fit Gerald Baptist has managed to run a marathon! He used to live in Rotorua and always hoped to complete their marathon, but he says that one is enough! He's now bought an E-bike and plans to do the Alps-to-Ocean and the Otago Rail Trail later this year



- A happy day in a good cause – 10 Franklin players participated in the Papakura tournament on 23rd May in aid of Save The Children Fund. Henriette and Carol Moore were 4th overall, Diane and Richard Whitelaw and Alice Linn all won raffle prizes. The other 5 of us had a happy day too
- 9 Franklin members are away this weekend, playing in the 3-day Hawkes Bay Congress, held in Napier. May all their finesses work!
- We extend our best wishes to Diane Conroy, Dermot Murphy and Tony Morcom, who have all had recent surgery. We hope their recuperation progresses well.

Increase in NZ Bridge levy from 1st January 2025

We have received advice from NZ Bridge that their player affiliation levy will increase for both the 2025 and 2026 years. This levy is charged to the club every 3 months for players who have Franklin as their registered home club. Please note that this increase is not retained by our club – it is forwarded on to NZ Bridge.

The increase in levy will be added to our subscription invoices, issued in December. The increase will be \$5 for the 2025 year and a further \$4 for 2026.

Are you an “Xtra-mail / Spark” Customer?

One of our members recently fell victim to Spark’s procedures when their xtra.co.nz email account was deleted by Spark. As you may know if you are an xtra.co.nz email account user, Spark is now charging approx \$5 per month for these accounts and you do need to contact Spark to tell them that you wish to keep your email address alive.

Although they did manage to get the account recovered, it wasn’t straightforward and a significant number of phone calls and pushing was required to make Spark accountable and to have them restore the email account. Email is free from Microsoft and Gmail. If you wish to migrate from XtraMail to a free service it is possible to backup and transfer all your XtraMail but it is quite fiddly and takes some time.

If you need some advice on what to do and how to do it, please contact Terry Evans Jr directly, on his return from his holiday in Thailand

Out and About in Franklin

We note that a large new building is partly constructed on the site of the old Council Chambers in Manukau Road. A big sign advises that it will be a Health Hub.

Construction (and disruption) continues at the junction of East Street and Stadium Drive, where traffic lights are being installed.

The Gallery

There is a considerable gallery of photos on the club’s gallery website (access it from the main web page or www.franklinbridgeclub.com/gallery)

2024 Competition Winners

Keep a regular eye on the FBC Website as we update the winners of competitions as we progress thru the year. At any time you can check the winners list using the link on a laptop/desktop PC or tablet (not available to view on smartphones):

<https://franklinbridgeclub.com/2024winners/>

May all your fitnesses work
May all your slams be grand