

# Franklin Bridge Club

## Table Talk October 2024



**We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge**

### **The Loveblock Pairs, Friday evening 15<sup>th</sup> November 7pm for 7:15pm start**

This annual event is organised by NZ Bridge Foundation, and is played NZ-wide. Last year 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. Anthony Julian and John Bouwman were top of all-NZ in the novice pairs. Anthony and John were a first-time pairing, which made their win even more meritorious.

#### **So come along and play !!**

Write your name down on the whiteboard at the clubroom – we need to advise NZ Bridge Foundation in advance how many tables we will have playing.

All levels are catered for, and you get a booklet at the end, which tells you the possible contracts for every hand. \$10 of the table money goes to NZ Bridge Foundation.

We will stop for coffee-and-cake at 8.30pm or so, which the club will provide, and if you wish to, BYO bottle of wine – it's optional. Please be seated by 7pm, for a prompt 7:15pm start.

### **Our Own Tournament: Open and Intermediate Pairs, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

Our annual spring tournament was a great success, thanks as always to hard work on the part of many members. Unfortunately, we wound up with a half table in both the Intermediate and Open pairs, so thanks to our standby pairs for balancing numbers.

Special thanks to our frontline engine room: Acting Tournament Director Maria Casci, who did an awesome job, Directors Arie Geursen and Chris Glyde, Scorer Jonathan Taylor, and Sue Helleur and Judy Collins managing the kitchen. And special thanks to everyone who helped with setting up, cleaning up, cleaning the rooms, bringing morning teas – we couldn't have done it without you.

For the record the winners were:

Open: The young Howick pair of Lysandra Zheng and Tim Pan

Intermediate: Estelle Arts (Royle Epsom) and Sue Cockcroft (Auckland)

The top Franklin pairs (both in the middle of the pack) were:

Open: Sue and David Spencer

Intermediate: Bev Donaldson and Neal Phillips (our standby pair)

That is our final tournament of the year – again enormous thanks to everyone who contributed.

## Wednesday Teams

We had a great turnout for Wednesday teams – 14 teams meant 56 players (and 56 bottles of wine over the series) and with the addition of 12 different reserves, made a total of 68 players participating. Each night comprised 3 x 7-board matches, so a total of 84 boards played over the series. Every effort was made by Maureen to produce balanced teams, no teams of “stars” – just aiming for everyone to have fun.

Over the 4 weeks, Yellow and Silver teams swapped the lead and 2<sup>nd</sup> place, but after the fourth week, there was a clear margin for the winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Yellow
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Silver
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Red
- 4<sup>th</sup> Green

Well done everyone – see you next year !



The victorious Team Yellow - Margaret van der Coer, Dirk Mooy (Captain), Miriam Anderson, Grant Andrew, plus John Bouwman and Adib Essali



Silver Team



Red Team



Green Team

## A Night of Rubber Bridge

Because so many of our Monday night players were away in Mt. Maunganui at Congress, it was decided to cancel the scheduled Danes Cup event on 30<sup>th</sup> September, and instead substitute a night of rubber bridge. This is an unfamiliar concept to most of us, but Arie Geursen knows all about it, and 6 tables of us turned up to be instructed in the ins and outs. The play is the same, but scoring and tactics are very different -- Arie patiently led us through the principles and supervised play and we all had a good time (helped on the way by BYO wine). There was lots of chatter and laughter.

Hands are dealt out at the table, so there were no pre-dealt boards, shuffling and dealing skills were very varied! Playing skill levels ranged from Grandmasters through to 3 of this year's beginners. Tricia Logan

turned out to be very well informed – she used to help her Dad score rubber bridge tournaments many years ago at Christchurch Bridge Club (no Bridgemates and computers in those days).

Tina Hunter (beginner this year) found herself with an excellent hand, and partnered with Bev Henton, and with a bit of coaching from Arie, Tina bid and made her first ever 7NT grand slam – a great thrill.

Thanks to Arie for his guidance and patience.

## Use of “STOP” cards when bidding

NZ Bridge resolved to cease the use of the STOP cards throughout NZ, and accordingly they have been removed from our bidding boxes.

## Sunday Bridge

Sunday bridge ceased at “the end of the winter” on 29<sup>th</sup> September. If you are interested in playing at the club on an informal basis on Sunday afternoons, please advise the secretary by email [secretary@franklinbridgeclub.com](mailto:secretary@franklinbridgeclub.com) and if there is enough interest it may be reinstated.

## The Programme Book for 2025

These will be available at the annual AGM (we hope that you’ve written 1<sup>st</sup> December into your diary), which is when most of us do a “Barnes Dance” and sign up partners for the rest of the year.

- **Please** review the large printout on the noticeboard near the office, as it will be converted into our programme book in early November
- If **any** of your details have changed, or if you are new to the club, please write on any changes.
- Check to ensure that your name is there! If it isn’t, your name won’t be in the programme book.

## Player News

- **Margaret van der Coer** will be 90 in late October, and we will hold a morning tea for her in conjunction with Friday bridge on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. Bridge will start at the usual Friday time, and at lunchtime there will be birthday cake!
- Former Franklin player **Irene Bronlund**, who went to Taumanunui to live with her daughter following a stroke some years ago, is still going strong and living in a rest home in Taumanunui. She’s 93, and the rest home (Avonlea) provides a mobility van to take her to bridge on Fridays, but there are few players, so she also plays online.
- **Nice to see you back at the bridge table:**
  - **Diane Conroy** and **Judy Fawdray** after a winter (and more) of health issues
  - **Glenda Allen** back from 3 months on the Gold Coast
  - **Wendy Morris** and **Peter McNeil** visiting from the Coromandel on a recent Friday
- **John Bouwman** hopes to be back at the bridge table as soon as he can. After 3 ½ weeks in Middlemore, he returned home on 1<sup>st</sup> October where he is having regular attention from a physio, and has had several aides installed

- **Maggie Urlich** has had a great winter. Her Ireland-resident daughter Megan and 4 grandchildren have spent many weeks down here with Maggie. They went to Hahei and Wanaka, and just before they all went home, they went to an All Blacks match at Eden Park. They also went to the Captain's run – here's Maggie with Damian McKenzie. She must have given him some good advice because he scored the opening try and kicked all his conversions!



## Out and About in Franklin

The **Te Huia Train** from Auckland to Hamilton is making fare changes, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> October. Superannuitants have in the past travelled free all day, this has now changed to full adult fares in peak times – defined as 6am to 9.30am and 3pm-6.30pm weekdays. Off-peak travel continues to be free with a gold card.

And if you're on grandparent duty these holidays (now), children aged 5-15 are now half price on Te Huia. You need a special travel card called a Bee Card to travel on Te Huia.

There is a considerable gallery of photos on the club's gallery website, including photos of all 14 of this year's colourful Wednesday teams. If anyone would like a photo of their team emailed to them, please ask Maureen Nelson via email [msnelson.nz@gmail.com](mailto:msnelson.nz@gmail.com)

Access the gallery from the main web page under "Resources" link or [www.franklinbridgeclub.com/gallery](http://www.franklinbridgeclub.com/gallery)

May all your finesses work  
May all your slams be grand