

# Franklin Bridge Club

## Table Talk December 2024



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

### **The AGM - Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

The AGM was held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, with 65 people attending. After the meeting and prizegiving, and complimentary drinks and nibbles, 46 members (11½ tables) stayed to play drawn pairs bridge. Some of the drawn pairs included Grandmasters with beginners, most people were playing with someone new. It was great to hear a happy and buzzy room, and good to see so many of this year's beginner's class at the AGM.

#### Change of Elected Officers:

As a single nomination was received for all club positions, the nominees were declared to be elected unopposed. New Committee members for 2025 are:

Christine Godding - Treasurer  
Dennise Biddick - Catering Manager  
Henk Egelmeer - Property Manager

Gifts (and compliments and appreciation) were presented to retiring officers Kevin Griffin, Teresa Green and Neil Miller.

Although she's not retiring (thank goodness), a gift was presented to our President, Linda Thornton, in acknowledgement of all the expert work she does pro bono for our club, including the upcoming changes as required by law to our Constitution

A list of the 2025 committee can be found inside the back page of our 2025 programme booklet.

#### The Discretionary Prizes

As well as the prizes competed for on regular club nights, the club awards 3 discretionary prizes each year. The winners are chosen by 3 of our Grandmasters, and backed up by data from Compscore. This year's winners were:

Trevor Welch Trophy – Vicky Pearson  
*(for best first year player)*

Holwerda Cup – Maria Thorburn  
*(for most promising player amongst the recent juniors)*

Maria Schintz Trophy – Terry Evans Jr  
*(for most improved player)*

## Playing with “someone else”

You were able to collect your new programme book for 2025 at the AGM. When booking your partners for the coming year, please consider playing with someone less experienced for a competition or two. Playing with more skilled players is how our novices, juniors and intermediates learn to play better bridge. Christine Egelmeer asked from the floor at the AGM for the committee to consider releasing the 2026 books in advance of the AGM, even if only online for people to download.

The Committee has made some changes to our playing programme for the upcoming year. Other than the Monday night Howes Championship Pairs, we have opted for nearly all 3-session events.

### Final sessions for the year:

Monday	16 <sup>th</sup> December (Holiday Bridge*)
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup> December (last night of the December Pairs)
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> December are Holiday Bridge*

### Bridge restarts:

Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> January (Holiday Bridge*)
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> January (Holiday Bridge*)
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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

## Looking forward to the new year:

Our first tournament is on Saturday, 22 February 2025 – the Summer Swiss Pairs. Then there's a gap until the end of May.

Wondering when Easter is next year? Good Friday is 18<sup>th</sup> April.

(Know how Easter is calculated? It's the first Sunday after the full moon after the autumn equinox.)

## The Loveblock Pairs

The annual nationwide Loveblock Pairs were played on Friday night 15<sup>th</sup> November, and we fielded 14 ½ tables. Nationwide 915 pairs played, and 54 clubs. Although we were unable to repeat our 2023 top placing, we all had a fun night.

NZ Bridge advise that the Loveblock tournament will be played in October next year, to avoid a clash with the new dates for the NZ Bridge Congress.

## New Equipment

Have you noticed the new ceiling fans in the playing room? If you haven't, it's because they're so lovely and **quiet!** The club spent \$42,000 on repairs and maintenance over the last financial year, including \$37,000 on the asbestos removal project, and \$8,000 on the purchase of 2 new air conditioning units.

## New Features on our Website – [www.franklinbridgeclub.com](http://www.franklinbridgeclub.com)

Over the past few months, the Club Web Site has been significantly enhanced.

Firstly, the site has been made a little more “mobile” friendly such that most pages work well on smartphones, tablets and of course on standard PC and laptop.

There is now a “**Winners**” link which will show the winners of all competitions as we progress through the year. For any competitions that have trophies attached, you can see the photo of the trophy and the full list of winners since the beginning of time by clicking on the link. This information was compiled a few years ago by Chris Glyde and is now stored electronically.

Under the “**Resources**” link you can access Table Talk, and under “**Sessions**” link, you can download and print the 2025 Programme in A4 PDF format to stick on your fridge door. “**Resources**” has the Gallery, Useful links and the link to the 2024 Lessons slides our refreshed Club Rules. The rules are also printed in the Programme Book for your convenience.

Please also note that the session hand records are now accessible on the Results Web site by clicking on this link after you open result for the session:

Click on the NS or EW Pair for a full display of that Pair's performance.



If anyone has any suggestions about new content they wish to see, please drop an email to [captain@franklinbridgeclub.com](mailto:captain@franklinbridgeclub.com).

## Parking

Recently, parking at our club has become a contentious issue with our neighbours. The Committee is sorting it out, but in the meantime, please avoid parking in the spaces which are designated for Plunket – these are ALL the diagonal spaces next to the Plunket Building on the right-hand side as you drive in from Edinburgh Street. Kevin Birch kindly allows us to park in and around his business property behind the club rooms. Otherwise please park over the road at the Town Hall/Library carpark. Please don't get into arguments with our neighbours about who can park where and when, it's more complicated than you think.

## Player News

- Trevor Robb turned 80 last week - we celebrated with him on the night before, with a card and a bottle of wine, and we sang “Happy Birthday”. Caroline Griffin made a delicious birthday cake
- We are sorry to be “losing” Jenny Odom, who with her husband Rick is moving to Motueka before Christmas. We wish them well in their new home, and yes, Motueka does have a bridge club!

- And also sorry that Snowy White - one of this year's beginners - has put her Glenbrook home on the market and hopes to move to Wanaka in the new year. There is a nice bridge club at Wanaka! Bridge – and golf – are a wonderful entree into a new community
- We are sorry to record that Father Peter Gray died in Orewa on 15<sup>th</sup> November. Father Peter was a member of our club for many years, when he was parish priest at Pukekohe. Always with a twinkle in his eye, and known for his sometimes outrageous bidding, he will be missed by many in the bridge world

## **Out and About in Franklin**

The Town Hall is having asbestos removal performed, and generally upgraded. The work started on 25<sup>th</sup> November and is due for completion in mid February 2025.

Also undergoing building work is the popular Hawkins Theatre, in Papakura, which will be closed completely from 21 December to 31 March for essential building upgrades and replacement of the air conditioning.

Have a happy and safe summer holiday.

***May all your finesses work***  
***May all your slams be grand***