

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk January-February 2025



We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge

Looking forward to the new year

Our first tournament is in 3 weeks' time - Saturday, 22 February 2025 – the Summer Swiss Pairs. Then there's a gap until the end of May. Please get your entries in early via the NZ Bridge website.

Our Catering Manager Dennise's son has suddenly announced that he's getting married on that day therefore we need some volunteers for help in the catering area – 2 people 9-10am, 2 people midday(ish) and 2 people around 4:30pm when we finish to help. Please contact Dennise directly on 021 409 394 if you are available to help at those times.

Upcoming Monday Teams Event planning

Monday **Patron's Teams** on **10-24 Feb** is approaching. Please ensure you sign up your team using the sign-up sheet on wall next to the office door.

Also, please start to plan your team for the **Monday Restricted Teams 7-28 April**. A sign-up sheet will go up in mid March.

Playing with "someone else"

The 14 novices currently playing in the Wednesday Welcome Pairs are enjoying playing with someone more experienced for this round. Playing with more skilled players is how our novices, juniors and intermediates learn to play better bridge.

Our Monday nights only have 6 or 7 tables, whereas our Wednesday sessions are regularly attracting 15-16 tables. While this is marvellous for Wednesdays, we would like to encourage a few more people to play on Monday evening. Give it a go! - it's not scary - many of the Wednesday players are also there on a Monday.

This coming Monday is the first of the Howes series (once a month for 8 months), then we have a Teams event, but the week starting 10th March is the beginning of the 3-week Edinburgh Pairs. Come along and try.

More Directors Needed

The absence of Teresa Phillips (see Player News) and the impending winter absence of Arie Geursen has emphasised our need for more people to train as directors. Jonathan Taylor has really stepped up (Thank you Jonathan) to cover Director duties whilst Teresa is recuperating, with a big help from Henriette convening sessions and Kevin and Tricia on the scoring, but we do need more Directors in the Club. Please contact Arie if you are interested to learn.

Repairs and Maintenance

The carpet in the playing room has been stretched and smoothed out, with 4-5cm of carpet removed from each side of the room. Thank you to those who helped clear the room and set it up again afterwards.

Thank you to David and Sue Spencer for providing a gardener to sort out our front garden and weed at the back. It is much appreciated.

The Franklin Bridge Club PCs have all been upgraded to Windows 11 this month to keep us safe and current. See separate comment at the end of this issue.

Parking

Please avoid parking in the spaces which are designated for Plunket – these are ALL the diagonal spaces on the righthand side as you drive in from Edinburgh Street entrance. Kevin Birch kindly allows us to park in the evenings on his business property, which is behind the Bridge Club. Otherwise please park over the road at the Town Hall/Library carpark if the rear and front lawn of our Club are full of cars.

Player News

- Ken Craze turned 90 on Wednesday. We celebrated with him at bridge on Friday 31st January, with a birthday cake and a song. Thanks to Judy Collins for baking a delicious birthday cake and Sue Helleur for decorating it.



- Prior to Christmas, Ann and Jock Anderson were awarded the 2024 WDC Mayoral Award for services to the Onewhero Community. Ann has served for many years on community boards, school boards, hall committees, rugby clubs and residents and ratepayers' groups. Ann and Jock move to their new home in Possum Bourne on Monday 3rd February. We wish them many happy years together there.

- Teresa Phillips has had a tough start to the new year – a bout of Covid, followed by severe asthma and then she broke her leg out on the farm while mustering sheep. You won't be surprised to hear that Teresa *“crawled to her quad bike, brought the sheep in, put the dogs away, and then went to A & E”*. We wish her well for a speedy recovery!



- Congratulations to Christine and Henk Egelmeer on the arrival of their new grandson, Tijn
- Debbie Braks is a welcome new member – please add her details to the Directory in your 2025 Programme Book
 - Debbie **BRAKS** - Ph 021 243 1194 - Email debbiebraks@hotmail.com
- The Gold Coast Congress starts on 1st February at the Convention Centre at Broadbeach and runs for a week. Quite a few of our more experienced players are going. We wish them all well and hope to hear how they get on.
- We know that some of our members meet socially to play bridge – what a happy way to pass a couple of hours. And two groups meet weekly in their homes – not just playing but talking about how hands could be played and improving their bridge. A pre-Christmas gathering of one group in Mary Tarbitt's beautiful garden was enjoyed by 6 x M's and an S . . .



Miriam, Sandra, Mary Mc, Marilyn, Mary C. Mary T was in the kitchen, Maureen took the photo

- Many of us were following the tennis all through January – Auckland, followed by the Australian Open. Some of us were lucky enough to attend a session or two. Mary Crawford, a keen tennis fan was photographed at Stanley Street. It's a long wait now until Roland Garros at the end of May.



- Practising for the Gold Coast, Kevin Birch and Pam Browne came top at the Tauranga Congress Restricted Open Pairs tournament held over Auckland Anniversary weekend. They achieved a total of 120%, second place had 111%, so they were very clear winners – well done.

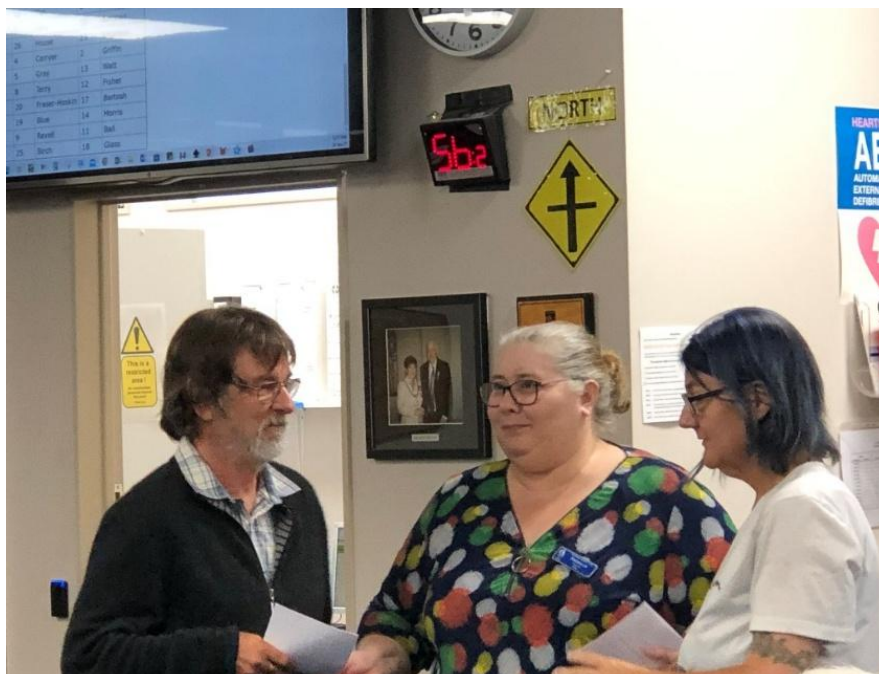


Photo by Kevin Griffin

Are you on Windows 10 or less?

Microsoft has announced that it is stopping updates for Windows 10 in the third quarter of 2025. Microsoft wants consumers to upgrade to Windows 11, but PCs older than 4-5 years old *probably* won't be able to install and run Windows 11 due to some strict requirements of the hardware - the innards of a 5yr old PC is pretty old in technological terms. If you are still using Windows XP, Windows 7, or any other lesser version than Windows 10, you are very at risk of virus, phishing and malware attack. If you are on Windows 10, you need to consider upgrading to Windows 11 within 2025.

Out and About in Franklin

Won't it be great when the electric trains start their service from Pukekohe on Monday 3rd February!

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