

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk September 2025

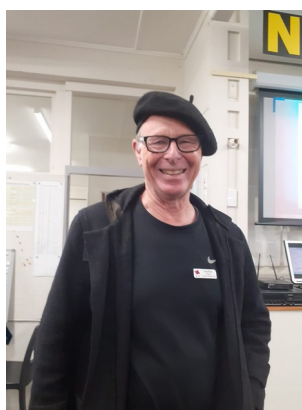


We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge

Wednesday Social Teams

We have 13 teams entered this year, including 6 players who only did the lessons this year! Well done to them for being brave, and thank you to everyone who is supporting them. "Encouraged" by the bottle of wine which one team member brings along, a lot of fun is being had, and we have 2 nights to go, ending on Wednesday 24th Sept.

At time of writing, BLUE team are in the lead, followed closely by PINK team. Everyone is getting into the spirit of things, wearing their team colours – ranging from elegant to outrageous.



Franklin Open and Intermediate Pairs Tournament, Saturday 20th September

Our next annual public tournament is the 5A/5B on Saturday 20th September – yes, that's only two Saturdays away. As of today, we only have 10 intermediate pairs and 16 open pairs entered, which only makes 13 tables. Only 5 of the 26 pairs are from our own club – please find a partner and put your name down. As always, we would be grateful for "plates" of food for the afternoon tea – either drop off at the club on Friday, or early on Saturday morning. Our club is famous for its home cooking!

Charity Fund-Raising Tournament for Special Olympics, Sunday 16th August

A happy and successful day's bridge was held in aid of Special Olympics, and we raised more than \$1700. A letter from Rowena Massey, Chair of Counties Special Olympics is appended at the end of this newsletter.

Upcoming Loveblock Pairs – NZ wide tournament

This will be held on Friday night, 17th October 2025. It's a nationwide event, with more than 1000 pairs all playing the same boards at the same time. Cost of entry is \$15 of which \$10 goes in aid of NZ Youth Bridge plus you get a booklet at the end showing all hands and how they could have/should have been bid and played.

Always a fun night – optional BYO bottle of wine, there will be coffee and cake afterwards, while we are waiting for the scoring. The club will provide the coffee and cake.

Because it would be helpful to have an idea of how many people are coming, we will be putting up a sheet for entries on the noticeboard, but you can just come along on the night.

Early advice of National Congress

NZ Bridge National Congress will be held in Palmerston North this year for the first time, between 8th and 15th November. Some of our experienced players will be going.

Melbourne Cup Day – Tuesday, 4th November

By popular request, this fun afternoon is back! Maestra Lynne Geursen has been persuaded to mastermind it again - there will be hats!! and prizes!! and raffles and sweeps!!

Please bring cash -- all proceeds from raffles and sweeps will be distributed as prizes.

1pm start, usual table money of \$6. Please bring a small plate to share while we're waiting for the race to start at 5pm. Put Tuesday afternoon 4th November in your diary – more info in October's Table Talk.



The Melbourne Cup Gals

Attendance at AED (defibrillator) demonstration at Possum Bourne

Our thanks to Robin Bennett for organising for some of our members to join a group at Rymans Possum Bourne for a demonstration and practical experience of using a defibrillator and doing CPR. And following on from that

Do you have a Pacemaker?

If you have a heart attack, the optimum treatment is a bit different if you have a pacemaker fitted. Anecdotally, we are aware that several of our members do have pacemakers, but there is no formal record. If you would like your name to be registered as having a pacemaker, and kept in case of emergency, please let us know in writing to the Secretary.



September Survey

Did you complete the survey which the committee sent out last week ? There are options for Monday/Wednesday/Friday players. The survey will help in planning our programme for next year – please take the few minutes needed to complete it.

Your Details in our Programme Book

It's been a busy year – have your details changed? Given up your landline? Changed your email address? Moved house?

Work is already being done on our 2026 Programme Book. If any of your details have changed, please advise our Club Captain Jonathan Taylor via email using captain@franklinbridgeclub.com

He might not reply immediately – he and Josie are off next week for 3 weeks in South America, including Chile and Argentina. We wish them a wonderful holiday.

Player News

- A recent email from John and Bron Fergusson tells us

"Great to hear from you. Amazing, we've now been in our little 'temporary' rental for over a year. At least it's warm, comfortable and convenient. And yes, at the edge of a local village, we found a disused doctor's surgery on half an acre, which we bought at auction in May. The builders are now gutting it, and we are trusting the Lord that we will be in it for Christmas, or early 2026. So we're all over plans, kitchens, bathrooms, and windows! We play at Shaftesbury but it's not Franklin, and our bridge has suffered. We miss you! Blessings to all."

- We have missed seeing some of our regular members recently, due to ongoing health issues. We miss Diane Conroy, Gina Sangster and Judy Collins, and send them our very best wishes.
- Alice Linn, on the other hand, is going ahead by leaps and bounds (almost literally) following her double hip replacement. Alice is now walking without any assistance, and looks forward to coming back to bridge as soon as she's allowed to drive again.

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



Fund raising event for Special Olympics Counties

On behalf of our athletes, Athlete Leaders, their families and our committee I am writing to thank the Franklin Bridge Club for its generosity in hosting a charity afternoon for us. This thanks goes to the committee who agreed to hold the event and for all their work in ensuring the event was advertised and the bridge ran smoothly. However, without the support and generosity of members, whether they played or not, the afternoon could not have been the success it was.

You raised \$1700.00 for us. THANK YOU ALL.

This is the equivalent of the funding for one athlete (travel and registration with the latter including accommodation, food and travel within Christchurch and all the resources at the venue), and for that we are very grateful.

We have 31 athletes working hard at maintaining and improving their performance in ten pin bowling, power lifting, swimming and basketball. Our total team will be 45 people, 31 of whom are athletes. Special Olympics require us to have one volunteer for every 4 athletes and, like all travelling teams, we take coaches and a manager.

The National Games are being held between the 10th and 14th of December and we will ensure that we keep you updated with all our fun and success. Being part of an event like this is a life changing experience and thanks to you, we are one step closer to changing the lives of 45 awesome people.

Maybe our motto applies to bridge "Let me win. But if I cannot win let me brave in the attempt".

Rowena Massey
Chair
Special Olympics Counties