

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk October 2026



We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge

This is our “winter” issue – the first one since early July

It's been a difficult winter for many of us – respiratory issues have affected many of us, and that cold south-west wind seems never to have stopped blowing. But the good thing about bridge is that it's indoors and unaffected by the weather!

We've held 3 tournaments since July – the big Auckland/Northland Regional Tournaments (over 2 days in July) attracted good turnouts – 17 tables for the Regional Pairs and 26 tables for Regional Teams. Franklin did not feature among the prizewinners, but everyone had a good time and these external tournaments earn valuable funds for our club.

As always, many thanks to the hardworking committee and volunteers who helped to make these tournaments such a success.

The 30th August Winter Junior Restricted tournament was also a success, drawing 11 tables on a Sunday afternoon. Winners north/south were “the old firm” of Maria Thorburn and Anthony Julian, while east/west was topped by Gina Sangster and Terry Shannon. It was good to see people from the last 2 years' lessons competing alongside more seasoned junior players.

And talking about novices – thanks to Terry Evans, we have a new information page detailing players who have bid and made Grand Slams this year. Among “the usual suspects”, is featured Julia Tong, who only did the lessons this year! A 6H slam with Terry Shannon on 25th September, and a 6C slam with Sandra Janssen on 26th August. Sandra also only did the lessons this year – a huge well done to these new players. Also a huge well done to Margaret van der Coer and Ken Craze, both in their 90s, who are also in the “Grand Slam” club.

To view and access the Slam & Grand Slam Club and the 70% Club information, use the Golden Button links on our club home page at <https://franklinbridgeclub.com>

NZ-wide Pairs, Friday evening 16th October

This is a nationwide event, with more than 1,000 pairs playing the boards at the same time across the country. Cost of entry is \$15, of which \$10 goes to support NZ Youth Bridge, plus you get a booklet at the end showing all the hands and how they could have/should have been played. A useful resource for “homework” should you feel so inclined.

Always a fun night, optional BYO wine, and there will be coffee and cake provided by the club after play is completed for the night and while we wait for the scoring.

Because it’s helpful to know how many players to expect, please either write your entries on the sheet on the whiteboard, or enter online. But you can just come along on the night.

Wednesday Social Teams

Always a fun series, with 12 teams competing this year. Everyone entered into the spirit of the series, wearing their team colours, none more so than Debby Naeff, representing “Black and White Team”. Debby turned up in a different eye-catching outfit each week – a black-and-white-striped prisoner’s costume in week 1 and a nun’s habit in week 4. Here she is with Jonathan Schnee, also on her team, who did the lessons this year.



The Overall Winners after 4 weeks were Silver Team, also containing a novice player, Sandra Janssen. As always, this series is a great way for our novices to meet new club members and have a variety of partners.



Player News

- Jim Buckland celebrated his 85th birthday in August, and a small group went to dinner at "Jessica's" in Pukekohe. Here he is with our former patroness Nelda Wormald, who herself celebrated her 92nd birthday this year



- Congratulations and our best wishes to Jonathan Schnee, who is to be married on 3rd October
- Congratulations to Jean and Robin Bennett, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August
- Best wishes to those who have been, and are unwell at the moment. We hold you in our thoughts

Signs of spring:

- Carol Moore was unable to be at bridge on a recent Monday night – midwifery duties called! Two sets of tiny twins were born in the evening to Carol's pedigree miniature goats – regular bridge partner Neil Miller was on hand to "help" with the second set. The adult goats are very petite – their newborn kids are tiny!
- Linda and Ray McKay's very cute miniature Vallais sheep produced very tiny lambs
- And for the 3rd year in a row, a Mrs Duck sheltered almost invisibly in the shrubbery at Sue and David Spencer's front door. Despite the comings and goings of humans (and the occasional "inspection"), she faithfully incubated a large batch of eggs, and eventually produced a dozen baby ducklings



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

