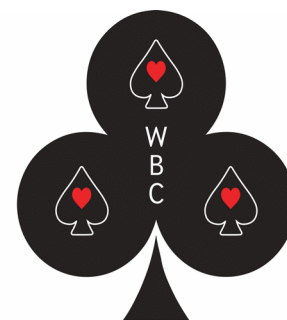


Warkworth Bridge Club

Newsletter –

Spring 2024



OUR CLUB

WITH HEARTS IN SPADES

Welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter – the newsletter to keep you up to date with events, competitions and people at the Warkworth Bridge Club. Winter passed us by without a newsletter – and in case you are wondering, spring does not start until the equinox on September 22nd when day and night are almost equal lengths.

Coming Up at the Club:

- Mondays –** Kaipara Competition – Sept 2, 9, 16, 15, 23rd
Sept 30th – Training session – Play technique and declarer play in 1NT
Singles Competition – 7, 14, 21st (different partner each session)
Oct 28th – Training session – Declarer Play in Suit Contracts
Zurich Competition – Nov 4, 11, 18, 25th
Christmas Special – Dec 2nd
- Tuesdays –** Anniversary Pairs – Oct 1, 8, 15th – remember AGM before play on 15th
Spring Competition – Oct 22, 29th, Nov 5, 12th
Christmas Pairs – Nov 19, 26th, Dec 3rd
- Wednesdays –** Mahurangi Trophy – Sept 25th, Oct 2, 9, 16th
Hibiscus Trophy – Oct 23, 30th, Nov 6, 13th
Holiday Bridge – Nov 20, 27th, Dec 4th
Singles – June 12, 19, 26th, July 3rd

Our partner stewards are very helpful in finding a partner if required. Contact Jeanette for Mondays, Vanessa for Tuesdays and Trudy for Wednesdays, contact details in bridge book.

Congratulations

Recent results from Club events are as follows:

- Monday:** The number of players and their grades at each session and overall competition varies with awards being given to those who are beginners from the last 2-3 years.
Drawn Pairs: 1st Colleen Hunter & Robert Elcombe; 2nd Karen & Graham Hartshorn
- Tuesday:** Individual – Steve Moore
Teams of 4 -
1st Frogs (Bill Crawford, Bob Stevenson, Ann Locke, Margaret Gibson-Smith),
2nd Turtles Kathryn Burgess, Steve Moore, Graeme Duhs, Ross Longney),

3rd Chemeleons (Helen Beckwith, Vanessa Barber, Dianne Knight, Julie Snowsill)
The Frogs jumped to the top, the Turtles couldn't move quickly enough, and the Chameleons did their usual thing and changed position. The also "rans" – or is that slide - were the Lizards, Snakes, and the Crocodiles.

Rita Collie Trophy - Jeanette Grimmer & Clare Sims
Rodney Pairs - Ross Longney & Murray Jurgeleit
Wellsford Pairs – Richard Norburn & Graeme Duhs

Wednesday: Championship Pairs – Ross Longney & Murray Jurgeleit
Rees Trophy – Bruce Snowsill & Julie Snowsill
Captain's Trophy – Jacque Biggs & Louis Biggs
Singles – Jacque Biggs
Brunei Trophy – Robert Elcombe & Sarah Gordon
Zurich Pairs – David Knighton & Celia Knighton
Congratulations to the winners and to everyone else who participated.

Welcome

Welcome to all our new members who have completed the beginner lessons this year. We look forward to seeing you at our regular sessions.

On 1st July, the first Monday session our beginners attended, we had 9 ½ tables – several more experienced players came along to partner our newer players. A great evening of bridge was enjoyed.



And Farewell

Marie Cooke has been a member of our Club for approximately 30 years. In the last few years she has played just about every Tuesday. Many of us have enjoyed the experience of playing with her as she was a very competent player. Marie played for the last time on 30th July and died just 2 weeks later. RIP Marie, you will be missed.

Thursday Social Sessions

Kathryn is hosting Thursday evening Bridge sessions at the clubrooms from 7pm. All welcome. "A gold coin Koha" covers the power etc. No need to book. No formal end time. The format is relaxed, casual, and social session with no computer scoring and occasionally with coffee & cake. Played boards from other sessions are replayed, or (with prior arrangement) the boards from any Beginner or Intermediate lesson or a special set of 28 boards that will test your Stayman and Transfer skills. Or you can set up your own challenges to practice. Short tips are given and sometimes a recap of bidding guidelines taught in the lessons. Usually, the Board selected for discussion is from Monday night, but recently the Tip was on a Wednesday night competitive board.

Those attending have stated the sessions:

- are relaxed, fun and enjoyable
- are providing more opportunities to learn
- have increased player confidence
- have kept engagement levels high

Currently those attending are 2023 and 2024 Beginners but all members are welcome to attend.

Tournaments

Several of our members have played in 11 tournaments from the end of March to end August. Graeme Duhs has played in 9; Steve Moore 7; Ross Longney 4; Alan and Jan France 3; and Richard Norburn 1. Playing in tournaments shows keenness to challenge oneself against others in the same grade and helps to improve one's play.

They are friendly events where we meet keen players from other clubs and three of our members above have played tournaments with partners from other clubs - met as a result of playing in earlier tournaments.

In addition to the Intermediate grade, there are also Junior grade tournaments. Any keen Junior members should consider playing in Junior tournaments to get more practice and to improve their play. Just ask any of the above if you would like to find out more about playing in tournaments. The major bridge event coming up at end September is the annual National Congress open to all players in each grade. We have a few members entered for Congress (held at Mt Maunganui) and there is still time to enter if you want to experience this major NZ Bridge event.

A quote from one of our regular tournament participants is:

"Against good opponents, don't go into a shell; be even more bold in your bidding."

Warkworth Annual Tournament

Planning is underway for our annual tournament – mark Saturday 18th January 2025 in your diary. Online registrations are open now. This is a restricted tournament which means no two Open grade players can play together. It is a great introduction to tournament play, especially for juniors. We will be looking for some assistance nearer the time from club members too as this is our chance to showcase Warkworth Bridge Club to the rest of the bridge players – mainly from the Auckland area.

Library

The committee is purchasing some recommended bridge books. We wish to keep it simple with a shelf on the bookcase used and open to anyone who might wish to borrow a book. We will have a notebook there for borrowers to note the book, their name and date. Please remember to return the book when you have finished so it is available for someone else to borrow. More details to follow at sessions as this gets underway. If any members would like to donate books to this library, please give the books to Sarah.

Interclub

We have 4 teams (2 Intermediate and 2 Junior) currently playing in the Auckland/Northland region Interclub competition. Play is online one Friday per month and began in March. Keep an eye out if you would like to be involved in this next year. It is a great turnout from Warkworth club – and all teams are doing well.

There are a number of local tournaments coming up – check them out on our website Tournament tab or go to <https://www.nzbridge.co.nz/events.html> as all upcoming tournaments are listed with details on how to register.

For more information visit our webpage, news, masterpoints explained.

Friday Fun RealBridge

Friday Fun RealBridge is every Friday night (except for interclub night) run by WBC – the link for the session each week is posted on the club website under the RealBridge tab. Non club members are welcome to play – so if you have bridge playing friends feel free to send them the link. This is a great way to improve your bridge in a relaxed environment. If you are keen to play but do not have a partner please contact Lynley and she will find one for you. Or if you have any queries about how RealBridge works and what's involved, again contact her. We would love to see some new faces – you just need a computer (or iPad) with a microphone and camera and it is like sitting at a table at the club. Being a Friday – BYO wine, gin and/or chocolate! No need to dress up – trackpants or pyjamas on your bottom half is all good (camera only captures your top half)!

Congratulations

Our very own Club member who joined from the 2023 Beginners' lessons was mentioned in

The King's Birthday Honours List 2024

An Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit: **Sarah Haydon**

For services to people with disabilities

Mrs Sarah Haydon has contributed to the leadership and ongoing modernisation of New Zealand Riding for the Disabled (NZRDA) for 30 years.

Mrs Haydon developed, implemented and trained a comprehensive Health and Safety Management System for NZRDA, and developed the Annual Operational Certificate and independent review process to demonstrate ongoing compliance, critical for the safety of riders, staff and volunteers for groups who deliver programmes to more than 3,500 riders. She began as a side walker and horse leader with Riding for Disabled (RDA) Auckland Central and served on the committee for 22 years as a treasurer and secretary. She has been a member of the National NZRDA Standards, Certification and Learning team for more than 15 years. She created overarching frameworks supported by policies, substantial training material and guidance, also supporting many RDA Groups with governance and strategic planning advice. This work helped RDA remain an internationally recognised therapeutic horse-riding programme. She served as a Board member and Chair of NZRDA from 2011 to 2020, during which she transformed the not-for-profit organisation to more effectively support the 49 groups nationwide, and more than 3,000 volunteers and staff. Mrs Haydon was made a Life Member of NZRDA in 2020 and of Auckland Central RDA in 2006.

Dates for your Diary:

Loveblock NZ Wide Pairs

Friday 15th November. Play usually begins at 7pm at the club with wine and nibbles beforehand. Cost to be advised but approx. \$20 per player. This is a NZ Bridge event where players from around NZ all play the same boards at the same time. Last year two of our members, Sue Nichols and Heugh Kelly, were the top Junior pair in the country! This was from 51 NZ clubs and 856 pairs competing – not bad at all!

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 15th October at 12 noon. This is before our usual Tuesday afternoon bridge session so please come early. The Companies Office has required all Incorporated Societies to update their Constitutions, and the Committee has prepared a draft for presentation at the AGM. The draft will be forwarded to you all with the Agenda of the AGM.

Scoring and Dealing

We are always looking for some assistance in the club in this area so all the work does not fall to the same few. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make sure our sessions run (generally) smoothly. A shared document has been sent out to those who participate in the dealing and scoring. Many thanks for filling this out. A hard copy is also posted on the noticeboard for anyone who prefers this system. Please then remember which competitions you have signed up to deal or score for.

North Harbour Challenge:

The North Harbour Challenge has been an annual event since 2012 and this year was hosted by the Orewa Bridge Club on Saturday 7th September with North Shore, East Coast Bays, Orewa, and Warkworth clubs competing. The other 3 clubs are much bigger than us and have proven dominant with wins in the past - North Shore winning 6 times.

That is until this year, yep - Warkworth won!!

Our Mixed Open/Intermediate teams were Murray and Christine Jurgeleit, Dianne Knight (who stepped in with 2 hour's notice after Ross Longney came down with covid), and Graeme Duhs in one; and Celia and David Knighton, Jeanette and Paul Grimmer in the other. Our Junior team was Robin Binkerton-Fisher, Margo Bubbert, Helen Kelly, and Oriel Heseltine.



Those present on Tuesday (L): Helen Kelly, Jeanette Grimmer, Paul Grinner, Dianne Knight, Graeme Duhs. And on Wednesday (R): Graeme, David Knighton, Robin Bickerton-Fisher, Margo Bubbert, Celia Knighton, Helen. Absent: the Jurgeileits, Oriel Heseltine

All teams contributed to the win with best performance by Celia, David, Jeanette, and Paul who won their three matches against the other clubs. A great result by our teams and we are proud of all 12 of you. The afternoon's bridge was enjoyable and proved we can compete well with the other clubs. Warkworth hosts next year's challenge.

Thanks to Graeme for his work in putting the winning teams together.

The Travels of the Knightons

While back in the UK this July Celia and David visited the Bakewell Bridge Club they helped to found in 1991. They enjoyed catching up with some of their old friends but were surprised to find that, since Covid, over half the membership play the identical cards at home online using BBO. Having come a cropper in the first week's competition, Celia and David ended their visit as outright winners, a satisfactory conclusion to their evenings' play. Meanwhile their hire car decided, independently, to open its windows to the rainy night – thereby hangs another tale.....

More Dates for your Diary – nearby tournaments

Auckland & Northland Tournaments you might be interested in

Sept/Oct	NZB National Congress – various dates – venue Mt Maunganui
Oct	12 th – Mangawhai Junior and Intermediate Pairs
	12 th – Mt Albert Restricted Pairs
	19 th – North Shore Junior Pairs and Intermediate Pairs
Nov	2 nd – Whangarei Restricted Pairs
	3 rd – Orewa Intermediate Pairs and Open Pairs
	16 th – Waitemata 3A and 5B Pairs (Open and Intermediate)
	23 rd – East Coast Bays Restricted Pairs

There are plenty more tournaments on the NZ Bridge website - check it out

Bruised Shin – this might apply to some of our members!

Giving a man his physical, the doctor noticed several dark, ugly bruises on his shins, so he asked, “Do you play hockey, soccer, or some physical sport?”

“No,” he answered. “I play bridge with my wife.”

How True

The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you sit at the bridge table.

Should you have an article or event you think we would like to know about, please contact Lynley.

Warkworth Bridge Club Committee

September 2024