



# Otago Bridge Club

Inc  
Established 1936



## SEPTEMBER UPDATE

### **Reminder: AGM Monday 16 September 6.30pm**

The AGM will precede Teams but will not be able to start the meeting until we get a quorum (40 members). Please be punctual so Teams is not late in finishing.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

New Members: James Blok, Denise Carter, Judy Cook, Case Heyneman, Kate Kavanagh, Gretchen Kivell, Lesley Larson, Marnie Thompson, Raylene Wilson, Gaye Wright, Bernadette MacGregor, Roger Routledge

### **AUGUST YOUTH CONFERENCE REPORT**

(supplied by Bradley Johnston):

The core philosophy behind the Annual Youth Bridge Weekends is fun, so when we (Kieran Mitchell, Matthew Baird, Nikolas Mitchell and Bradley Johnston) arrived at Christchurch we knew that we'd have a full weekend of fulfilling bridge ahead of us. Because the weekend is open to anyone under the age of 25, there was a very large skill gap – there were people who had started playing bridge three months ago up against youth provincial representatives.

In order to start shoring up this gap there were lessons held by more experienced players, including a lesson by James Coutts on the bidding and play of game hands. To lighten the mood there was also a multitude of events: "Individual" bridge where your partner switched after every board; a speed bridge section with a time of three minutes per board; a teams event; a "Play with an expert" session; and the perennial favourite of "Crazy bridge" – which is where the rules changed every board.

Are 2s joker cards? Are the partnerships NW and S/E? How do you bid with 2 calls apiece? among other variations.

Overall the event is set up to ensure that everyone has a moment in the spotlight, but we did bring home more than our fair share of the chocolate prizes. From when we arrived to scoring the final board, there was not a dull moment, which just highlights the primary goal of the event – learning to enjoy bridge.

### **BREAK IN**

We have to report that our Club Rooms were broken into on Saturday 24 August at 2.15am. There was damage to a window, nothing missing, and the culprit apprehended by the Police.

### **IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE Monday 9 September 7.10-9.30pm Seminar 3: Higher-level Bidding Gold Coin donation Tutors: James Coutts and Dean Eidler**

### **JUNIOR DIVISION::**

From 27 September the players in this division will be joining the Intermediate Division.

**FRIDAY DAY-TIME CLASSES** These classes have proved extremely popular with 36 attendees registered.

**WATER:** As the Council water supply is now of A Grade quality, the aging water filters have been removed from the kitchen. A hose is to be installed to enable the hot water urns to be filled efficiently and safely.

### **2014 PROGRAMME BOOK**

The Playing Committee are thinking about the 2014 Programme Book and are seeking advertisers to cover some of the cost of printing. If you, or anyone you know of, would like to place an advertisement in next year's book, please get in touch with Elaine McDonald 464 0639. Advertisers in this year's book will be contacted directly to ask if they wish to continue.

Costs are: Coloured print inside front, inside back and back covers \$130; Full page \$110; Half page \$60

If you have any suggestions for the programme for alternate Mondays, evening or daytime bridge, for 2014 please give them to a member of the Playing Committee as soon as possible.

**BADGES:** If you want a name badge give your information (name/number) to Judith McKinlay or to your convenor.

### HEATING CONTROLS

Please leave any adjusting of these controls to the Director and Convenor of your division.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

The Management Committee has scheduled a Strategic Planning Session on Friday 13 September at 5.15pm. Divisional Convenors have been invited to this meeting and if you have anything to contribute please pass on your thoughts to your convenor.

### SCRATCHY BOARDS:

The scratchy boards you have been seeing will be an on going item once a month. There will be one for Wednesday night, one for Thursday night and one on a Friday. Monies raised will be spend on hiring mobility taxis for anyone using a wheelchair. If you need this form of support let Judith McKinlay or your convenor know. Each scratchy board earns the Club \$55.

### FOR THOSE CHRISTMAS PARTIES DON'T FORGET OBC CLUB ROOMS FOR HIRE

Contact: Susan Johnstone 4761360

### TOURNAMENTS

#### Otago Swiss Pairs: 4 August

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Margaret Perley and Paul Freeland  
2<sup>nd</sup>: James and Glen Coutts  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Nina Hewitt and Dai Redshaw

#### South Island Pairs: 31 Aug-1 Sept

- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Graeme Stout and Jeff Miller  
4<sup>th</sup>: James and Glen Coutts

Congratulations to all these players.

### South Island Pairs

Well it was a bit like the Ranfurly Shield, a hotly contested tournament, a home game for Otago, but the spoils largely went North. It is often the case that our local bridge skills can only truly be measured when we take on some of the better players from outside of Otago. Of the 28 pairs, 4 players were from the North Island, and effectively they made off with the honour and the glory as winners of the South Island Pairs, and half of 2<sup>nd</sup> in the main event, and half of the winners of the Plate event.

Michael Ware, who arguably is New Zealand's best bridge player, was part of the winning pairing. He also has the amazing claim to fame of earning sufficient masterpoints in one calendar year to achieve Grandmaster status (a minimum requirement of 1000 combined A and B points, with at least 500 being A points). With earning at most 0.4 of an A point per Club night, it could take forever to get to this level, let alone with a year!!!

Otago was well represented in the final, with Graeme Stout and Jeff Miller finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the Coutts family finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> respectively. Other Otago players to feature in the final were Michael Atkinson and Peter Hall 6<sup>th</sup>, Peter McCaskill and Jeff Thompson 9<sup>th</sup>, Bob Lawrence and Ann Woodhead 13<sup>th</sup>, and Donna Ruwhiu and Kristen Collins 14<sup>th</sup>. Chris Ackerley with his Auckland and New Zealand partner was the other half of the winning Plate Pair, after their roller-coaster ride of 51%, 38%, 60%, 56%, and then 66%

One interesting hand from the qualifying session was this slam hand. Firstly can you and your regular partner bid it, and secondly can you make it? Try it on a heart lead.

1

♠ J9  
♥ AJ  
♦ AJT9753  
♣ A5

Dir: N  
Vul:

♠ QT82  
♥ Q  
♦ KQ6  
♣ Q9743

♠ 653  
♥ 7653  
♦ 842  
♣ KJ2

15  
11 4  
10

♠ AK74  
♥ KT9842  
♦  
♣ T86

Par: 980

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	2	4	6	4	4
S	2	4	6	4	4
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Hopefully the next time the South Island Pairs is in Dunedin it can be won by a South Island Pair. As to the Ranfurly Shield, will it be another long 56 years???

### SECURITY OF BUILDING

The last person out of the building must turn off all the lights and lock the front door. Locking the front door sets the alarm (so please ensure everyone is out).