

OTAGO BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

1st May 2023

EVENTS AT OTAGO:

MONDAY 1st May	Teams – 7pm
TUESDAY 2nd May	Informal Practice – 1.30pm – All Welcome
WEDNESDAY 3rd May	All Comers 1.00pm
WEDNESDAY 3rd May	Junior/Intermediate – Pairs Championships 4
THURSDAY 4th May	Open/Senior – Pairs Championships 4
FRIDAY 5th May	Friday Bridge 10.30am

FRIDAY BRIDGE VISITOR: Bev Penny (Hastings) is visiting Dunedin, and looking for a partner to play Friday bridge on May 5th. She is an Intermediate grading, and will be Open next year. Usually plays Acol or Precision, but can play Standard America. If you are able to play with Bev please call her on 0211546332, or email bevpenny88@gmail.com

RESIGNATION: Sue Adam (Intermediate) – Thank you for your membership Sue. We wish you well.

BEREAVEMENT: Margaret Harraway (Open). It is with great sadness we acknowledge the recent death of Margaret. She joined the Club in 1999, and was a regular player in all competitions. Margaret held the role of Health and Safety Officer for a number of years, and was very proactive in this job.

Our thoughts and condolences go to Margaret's family.

FRIDAY APRIL HANDICAP LADDER:

1st Hilary Bisset 2nd Mary McQueen 3rd Michael Cooper

WELLINGTON CONGRESS:

Provincial Pairs

3rd Murat Genc and Anne Sommerville (Invercargill)

Swiss Pairs:

1st Brad Johnston and Leon Meier (ChCh)

MURHIKU TEAMS – INVERCARGILL



1st Sam Coutts, Brad Johnston,
Murat Genc, and Leon Meier
(ChCh)

2nd Marilyn Noye, Philip Noye,
Barbara Hutton and Lydia Turley

MURHIKU PAIRS

2nd Brad Johnston and Murat Genc

A great birthday weekend for Brad and Murat

BRIDGE HAND REVIEW – GRAEME STOUT

19		♠ KJ98654	Dlr: S
		♥ K	Vul: E-W
		♦ KJT2	
		♣ Q	
♠ A2	♠ 3		
♥ J97532	♥ AQT64		
♦ 4	♦ AQ		
♣ T832	♣ AKJ95		
	♠ QT7		
	♥ 8		
13	♦ 987653		
5	♣ 764		
20			
2			
Par: -2220			

The bidding was

S. NB, W NB, N 4S, E X,

S NB, W 5H, N NB, E 6H,

All pass

This hand comes from a recent night in the club's teams' competition. North/South were Chris Ackerley/Arleen Schwartz while East/West were Graeme Stout/Michael Joseph.

Chris's decision to pre-empt four spades is noteworthy. Many top players advocate opening weak 4711 (eau de cologne) hands at the four level. Chris has the right shape but both his singleton honours are likely to be worthless; the hand would have been much stronger if the queen of clubs was either the queen of spades or diamonds. However Chris is an exciting player who likes to put

pressure on the opponents and this strategy has served him well over the years. Besides, not all pairs will have discussed whether a double of four spades would be for takeout or penalties and Chris knew his opponents were not a regular partnership.

Michael decided the double of four spades was unlikely to be penalties when looking at the ace so bid his hearts. And Graeme bid one more for the road (wouldn't you, Murray Barron?). Michael was delighted to find the singleton honours in Chris's hand and quickly claimed the overtrick.

At the companion table Pamela Nisbet, with one eye on the favourable vulnerability, found the bold and profitable six spade sacrifice.

Thanks Graeme for this article – very much appreciated.

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MARGARET HARRAWAY - David Green has sent me some additional bridge information on Margaret, since I wrote last week's newsletter.

“Margaret first joined the OBC in 1978 when she was studying in Dunedin.

She played in a team with Henry Levy, Nina Hewitt, and Dai Redshaw. This team won the prestigious annual Teams event in 1981.

This was at a time when the Club had nearly 900 members and competition was strong”



Thankyou David for this information.

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CONGRATULATIONS:

WOMEN'S PAIRS – Blanche Wolken Trophy:

Off the Stick

- 1st Wyn Jones/Kaye Wilson
- 2nd Lorraine Peacock/Marilyn Noye
- 3rd Ann Wood/Barbara Hutton

Handicap

- Barbara Cowie/Ann Taylor
- Wyn Jones/Kaye Wilson
- Judith Laube/Diane Daly

OTAGO JUNIOR PAIRS:



- 1st Mark Wilson (Otago) and Tash Lundin (Ingill)
- 2nd Deirdre Bruce and Lyn McLaren (both Taieri)
- 3rd Trevor Murdoch and Jane Whitmore (both Balclutha)

CANTERBURY CONGRESS OPEN PAIRS:

- 1st Brad Johnston and Sam Coutts – great result guys

OTAGO SOUTHLAND 2023 INTER-PROVINCIAL TEAMS:

Teams to represent OS at the Inter Provincials in November have been announced by the OS Regional Committee.

Congratulations to you all.

OPEN:

- Brad Johnston and Sam Coutts (Otago)
- Pamela Nisbet and Murat Genc (Otago)
- Greg Buzzard and Moss Wylie (Invercargill)

SENIOR:

Ann-Maree Fox and Alan Geare (Otago)

Peter Hall and Peter McCaskill (Otago)

Graeme Stout and Jeff Miller (Otago)

WOMEN:

Donna Ruwhiu and Kristen Collins (Otago)

Anne Sommerville and Emma Strong (Invercargill)

Kaye Wilson and Wyn Jones (Otago)

INTERMEDIATE:

Genevieve Webb and Tim Webb (Otago)

Judy Russell and Pam Hodgkinson (Otago)

Viv Clifford-Marsh and Graham Dale (Balclutha)

BEREAVEMENT: It is with sadness we acknowledge the death of **Anne Hudson-Ramage (Senior)**. Anne has been a member of the club since the early 1990s.

She was a regular player at Women's Pairs and Friday bridge. Our condolences go out to her family.

**OTAGO BRIDGE CLUB
NEWSLETTER****22nd May 202****CONGRATULATIONS:****GISBORNE OPEN PAIRS (ONLINE)**

1st Graeme Stout and Jeff Miller

Great result guys

GORE JUNIOR PAIRS

1st Mark Wilson and Tash Lundin (Ingill)

2nd Alan Nicholls and Catherine Smith

RUBBER BRIDGE: Brad Johnston and Sam Coutts beat Graeme Stout and Pamela Nisbet to win the final of the Dunedin Rubber Bridge – well done.

They will now play off against the winners of Invercargill vs Wanaka, to find the pair to represent Otago/Southland at the Nationals. Best of luck.

BEREAVEMENT: It is with sadness we acknowledge the deaths of **Rod Waugh (Senior) and Chris Fogarty (Open).**

Rod and Chris were another two of our unsung volunteers who contributed quietly in the background, not seeking any recognition, but helping with week to week tasks upon which the rest of us depend upon. We acknowledge them both.

Rod was born and grew up in Dunedin, and worked in the insurance profession for most of his working life. He moved to Whanganui, before being promoted to Manager of Vero's Tauranga branch. He retired a few years ago, and returned to Dunedin. He was a keen Southern Rugby Club player in his early days, and until 6-8 weeks ago was still playing squash at a top competitive level.



Rod joined the bridge club in 2018.

He was promoted to the Senior Division in 2022, and then immediately won (by a clear 4%) the Pairs Championships with his partner Archie Crawford (left of photo). He was also a valuable volunteer at the Club dealing cards every week.

We thank Rod for his participation in the club, and our condolences go out to his wife Judy and family. (Thankyou to Greg Sligo for supplying this info).

Chris joined the club in 1994 progressing to the Open Division where he played and enjoyed his club bridge. Unfortunately Chris's work as a road surface consultant technician took him all over the South Island and he was often out of town on his bridge night.

In 2016 Chris offered his time as a helper at the lessons classes, and continued as a support person when the class graduated to the Junior Division.

Chris was the first to tell each class he was no star player but they all benefited from his quiet and patient persona as a mentor.

Chris enjoyed this interaction so much it encouraged him to return more regularly to the card table himself. Unfortunately ill health ended Chris's time at the card table as both a player and teacher in early 2022.



Outside of bridge Chris was known as “Mr Fixit” by family and friends, and revelled in salvaging any equipment for another day. Together with wife Linda they excelled on the dance floor and were busy on their lifestyle block on the city boundary.

CANTERBURY CONGRESS OPEN PAIRS WINNERS: Brad Johnston and Sam Coutts.



Board: 28	♠K85	
Dealer: W	♥K9852	
Vul.: NS	♦K875	
	♣5	
♠Q32		♠JT6
♥JT64	N	♥Q3
♦AT6	W E	♦4
♣976	S	♣AKQJT42
N ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	♠A974	9
N 2 1 4	♥A7	
S 2 1 4	♦QJ932	7 HCP 13
E 2 3	♣83	11
W 2 3		

Brad has sent me this hand from the recent tournament in Christchurch where Sam and him won the pairs. *“Here is a funny hand from the weekend that isn't exactly overly suitable for a national write-up; but is the sort of thing that could be worthwhile at a local level.”* It was from the Teams competition.

At the other table, it went pass, pass & Richard Solomon opened a gambling 3NT, which bought the contract. Their gambling 3NT opener denied so much as a king outside, so the defence was an open book.

Glenn Coutts's initial diamond lead was ducked ; and Glenn and partner Malcolm Mayer had no difficulty in untangling their AK/AK in the majors for a quick -1.

At our table we were playing against a couple of grandmasters (i.e. people you expect to know what's happening).

The auction was a also a little different (*with Brad as West and Sam as East*)

W	N	E	S	
P	P	1C	1D	
1H	2D	3C*	3D	3C - Denies as many as 3 hearts, shows good clubs
P	P	3H*	P	3H* shows Hx Heart, and unwillingness to defend
3NT	P	P	P	

I didn't want to play a 4-2 heart fit, and I had a diamond stopper. It seemed like a 'cheap' 4C bid as I could have 4 losers instead of just 3.

The opponents lead a diamond to the J and my A; and I could see 7 club tricks to take me up to 8 - but no real hope of another. I almost claimed - *"I won't insult you two"*, but then remembered Graeme Stout's sage advice I had previously sought on a problem hand for me.

A few years ago I asked Graeme how he'd play a hand after I'd gone down in the contract by trying to be too clever by half. He looked at me slightly weirdly and said *"Well, I'd start by running my long suit – and see what happens?"*. And sure enough this sage advice would have been enough to land my contract.

This strategy is a good one to remember, as often people have difficulty when they need to find lots of pitches in a short period of time.

So I decided to play some clubs and see what happened. I know NS have only three clubs between them so will need to find lots of discards.

- North has to decide on six discards and South five discards.
- Both North and South discarded encouraging cards in the majors
- Then North started discarding Diamonds.
- I sat up a bit straighter when they pitched the KD
- North decided to come down to Kx Kxx in the majors
- South pitched down to A A in the majors and Qxx in diamonds.
- I kept my diamonds and threw away my majors

I exited a major which South has to win – so took the immediate winners – the two aces and the QD - but then had only diamonds left so back to my 10D as my ninth trick – contract made!

However to make matters worse for the defenders, North was down to his singleton kings - KH and KS and had to guess which one to keep. They were incorrect; I chalked up an overtrick; and remembering Graeme's advice had turned my initial despair into a 10 imp gain on the board!

OTAGO BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

29th May 2023

CONGRATULATIONS:

AUTUMN PAIRS:

OPEN:

- 1st** Stewart Kerr/Tim Webb
- 2nd** Rudi Prent/Marilyn Noye
- 3rd** Wyn Jones/Adrien Dever

SENIOR:

- Mark Wilson/Margaret Wheeler
- Ann Hamilton/Mary O'Neill
- Bev Walker/Lesley Inglis

FRIDAY BRIDGE – MAY HANDICAP LADDER:

- 1st** Rudi Prent
- 2nd** Ruth Airey
- 3rd** Elaine McDonald

TAIERI OPEN A PAIRS:

- 1st** Nick Bailey and Sam Coutts
- 2nd** Murray Barron and Bob Gillanders

NEW MEMBERS:

We would like to welcome one new member, and one returning member to the Club.

Georgie Roberts (Senior Reserve). Georgie has transferred from the Wanaka Club. She is looking for partners, and can be contacted on **021 164 0208**

Julia McNaughton (Junior). Julia has returned to the Club after a few years break. She will initially be starting off slowly, and will play Tuesday afternoons, before beginning back in Juniors. She can be contacted on 4558416.

YOUTH BRIDGE WEEKEND: Christchurch 1st-3rd September.

Starts 7pm Friday and finishes Sunday 3pm.

Course is suitable for all players with at least the basics of playing bridge, and are under 25 as at 1 Jan 2023.

Cost \$120 – this includes cost of travel to and from ChCh, airport transfers, lunches and all course material. Billets are provided for out-of-town players.

Registrations to Paul Coleman youth@nzbridge.co.nz before 30th June