



Newsletter of the Hutt Bridge Club November & December 2019

**President's Column: Raewyn Dowman

As the year draws to an end it is a very appropriate time to thank all members who have volunteered tirelessly throughout the year to ensure the smooth running of the club. To the playing committees, dealers, club recorder, tournament and interclub organisers, helpers and food providers, lesson helpers, Chris Jared for his IT support, and our committee, a big thank you. Our thanks also go to the directors who keep us "on track" and to Megan our personable Club Manager who is the cornerstone in keeping our club running efficiently and effectively for our members. I would also like to give a big thank you to Heather Jared who has organised the directors' schedule for the club for many years. Heather has now resigned from this role and Megan will take responsibility for the schedule commencing in 2020.

In the New Year we will confirm the date for our Annual General Meeting and at that time we will also be seeking out people who would like to join the committee. Some of the existing committee members have indicated they will not be standing again and I am also aware that a number of our members have already served in a variety of roles at the club. Therefore it is time for others to put their hands up. Please give this serious thought over the holiday period and if you are interested or would like more information please don't hesitate to talk to a current committee member, the manager, or your playing committee. Having people bring new ideas and energy are good for ensuring the club remains progressive.

Best wishes for a safe and joyful holiday break and we look forward to seeing you all at the bridge tables in 2020 with your "game face" on!

Happy bridging!
Raewyn

"FINESSE"

Office hours over Christmas

The office will be closed from Friday 20 December. Bridge commences Monday 6 January and there will be limited office hours during this week with the office being open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11am to 1pm. Normal office hours will resume Monday 13 January.

The Garage Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated items for our garage sale held on Saturday 2 November. Also a big thank you to those who helped with preparation and on the day. \$1,560 was raised for the club!



Upcoming tournaments

Waikanae Open
Hutt Multigrade

9 Feb
1 March

The Working Bee



Many thanks to those who contributed to a very successful working bee. The club looks great!

Bridge Successes

**** Waikanae Intermediate tournament:**
Congratulations to Dougal Watson and David Don (Karori) who won this tournament held on Sunday 10 November.

**** Interclub 15 Nov:** We hosted the final Interclub session for 2019 on Friday 15 November and once again it was a very successful evening. Thank you to Diana Pratchett for organising the catering and helpers throughout the year which contributed to the smooth running of the session. Congratulations to Intermediate 1 captained by Simon Webber on their third placing and the Novice team captained by Neil Sargisson on placing second overall. Also, congratulations to the following teams on their wins: Open 2, Intermediate 2,3 and 4, and Junior 1 captained by Marian Loader, Jill Herman, Kathryn Badcock, Hans Jorgensen and Joan Finley respectively.

**** Wellington Rookie League 2019:** The final results are in. Congratulations to Jacob Pilalis who finished 2nd overall and Neil Sargisson who took out 3rd place. Of note 7 out of the top 15 finalists were from Hutt Bridge Club.

Lost Property

Please note we now have a lost property box. This is situated at the North end of the playing room near the Christmas tree. Please check the box for lost items including systems cards that are left at the club at the end of play.

Library books

Please return any outstanding library books before the end of the year.

Date Change North Island Pairs 2020

Owing to a clash with the National Fieldays in Hamilton and the likely issue with both accommodation options and travel, NZ Bridge have made the decision to reschedule the North Island Pairs event to the following weekend i.e. 20-21 June 2020.

The tournament schedule on the NZ Bridge website has been updated to reflect this change. In addition please note that if you are planning to attend this tournament and you are also in an Interclub team, there is an Interclub evening scheduled for the night before on Friday 19 June 2020.

Congratulations to our November winners:

Monday:

Athlone Pairs

Cathy Gilmour & Shirley Williams

Tuesday:

Eric McCarroll Memorial Pairs

Lynne Bruce & Vil Gravis

Wednesday:

Brendan Foot Supersite Pairs

Jimmy Tiu & Paul Holder

Thursday:

Avalon Podiatry Clinic Pairs

John Ansell & Kieran Yates

Friday:

Sherwood Pairs

Catherine Chapman & John Ansell

*Monthly Member Profile:
Prafulla & Sada Hegde*



My mind says have a game of bridge, rather than write a profile. Anyway, I will write a few lines about Sada and myself.

We both come from a beautiful little seaside town in South India. Sada was working as a group medical officer in a tea estate, at a beautiful hill station. Our three daughters were six, four and two years at the time. The eldest was born with a heart murmur. Sada was very concerned about this. He was always reading medical journals. He found an article in the British Medical Journal about a famous cardiac surgeon Sir Barrett Boyce of Green Lane Hospital in Auckland, New Zealand. He was known to be a pioneer in the field of paediatric cardiac surgery. At the same time he noticed an advertisement wanting a doctor urgently at Balclutha Hospital. He applied straight away. Two weeks later a telegram arrived saying it was a two year contract and to please come within the month. Sada thought that this would offer a chance to consult the surgeon in New Zealand. My parents offered to look after our two younger girls, saying it was too much for me without home help.

In December 1967 three of us left India, me with a heavy heart. Sada could see this and arranged to bring the girls over. They arrived within three (long) months. We settled very well. My daughter was tested and didn't require any treatment. Such a relief!

In 1971 Sada decided to take up general practice in Wainuiomata, saying we will go back to India in a few years. Many years passed. Sada worked very hard and in 2008 he was awarded the Queens Service Medal (QSM). We are still here, Sada is retired and we are very happy. We manage to visit our parents once every two years for six weeks.

Our bank manager introduced us to the game of bridge in 1966 in India. We used to play at home. We continued to play in Balclutha and in Wainuiomata. We joined Hutt Bridge Club in 1981. It has been such a joy with great fellowship. It is brilliant for the mind and body. Our daughters tell us the bridge community has always kept us so well connected.

Vil's Corner

Last month's question was how would you play the following hand:

♠ AK7643	♠ 10
♥ AJ842	♥ 103
♦ 4	♦ Q8652
♣ 8	♣ AKQ103

The contract is 4H by West. The opening lead has to be a diamond to make things difficult. Otherwise declarer can play two rounds of clubs immediately and discard the losing diamond. North leads the ace of diamonds and follows with the jack. Don't fall into the trap of covering with the queen, it may be needed later to safeguard against being forced in trumps. Ruff the second diamond and play ace of spades and ruff a low spade. Then, play on hearts and duck one round. If forced to ruff another diamond, continue with ace and another trump. If spades then break you are home, and if they don't you could still make four club tricks, but starting by playing spades to set up your spade suit is the crucial play.

Here is an interesting Double Dummy problem from a recent session, Friday 28 November:

Board 5 Dealer N NS Vul

♠ 1074
♥ J10652
♦ 93
♣ KJ7

♠ AJ532	♠ KQ986
♥ 9	♥ Q843
♦ 7542	♦ Q10
♣ 1043	♣ Q5

♠
♥ AK7
♦ AKJ86
♣ A9862

A few NS pairs did play in 5C or 5D, making with one or two overtricks. Good bidding was thus rewarded. No pair should be expected to bid a slam, so a minor suit game with two overtricks scored close to 100%. But there were a couple of declarers in 5H, which, if it made, would have outscored the minor suit games plus two overtricks, 650 against 640. Unfortunately the declarers in 5H failed miserably. Could you have done better?

Put yourself in the North seat and play 5H given the king of spades opening lead. I have a prize for the best answer, and you have all the holidays to work it out, it should not be too difficult!

Thank you for all your contributions to the posers. The coming holidays from bridge will give you time to refresh and maybe take some new ideas with your partner. Why not do some reading? There is plenty on the 13Tricks.com website and hard copy books, both Tips and Quips and 13 Tricks will help you improve and add to your bridge knowledge and play.

I have a special offer for anyone interested if they don't have a copy already.

Best wishes for Christmas and the holiday period and happy bridging in 2020! Will your bridge vision also be 20-20? If you're serious about better bridge and better results, I can help steer you in the right direction, drop me an email anytime!

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Hutt Bridge Club is proudly sponsored by:



Finesse is a newsletter of the
Hutt Bridge Club

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Happy Bridging!