

# TABLE TALK

## OCTOBER 2024

TAURANGA BRIDGE CLUB | 252 Ngatai Road, Otumoetai 3110 | 07 576-5022 | [www.taurangabridge.co.nz](http://www.taurangabridge.co.nz)



Happy  
Birthday  
OCTOBER

Kay Beadle  
Maggie Grigsby  
Deidre Gunn  
Tony Hacking  
Neil Hobson  
Sandie Jordan  
Desrai Karl  
Sue Martin  
Debbie McBride  
Lorraine Murrie  
Jayne Neatherway  
Angela Newton

Lisa O'Dwyer  
Rebecca Osborne  
Bill Pook  
Steve Porter  
Sally Shaw  
Sue Sherwood  
Janice Simpson  
Cynthia Smith  
Barbara Stimson  
Lloyd Stone  
Ruth Sweatman  
Freda Thomson

Please make sure that your birth month is entered into Hello Club – no need to put the year



WHAT'S  
HAPPENING/COMING UP  
(Make a note in your diary)

- **Sunday Bridge** 12.45pm 3rd Sunday of the month.
- **October Etiquette** check our *Etiquette* section on the noticeboard - our topics this month: **Be A Smart Dummy & Table Talk**
- **Fun Over the Bridge** Sunday 3rd November 12.45pm Mt Manganui Bridge Club. We require teams from all Grades i.e. Junior (includes Novices), Intermediate & Open. Please pop your name on the appropriate list if you're interested.
- **Melbourne Cup Day** Tuesday 5th November **N.B. 1.30pm start seated by 1.15pm** We play our usual afternoon of Bridge then stay for drinks & nibbles and watch the race. The perfect opportunity to dress up!! Prizes for the Best Hat & Best Dressed Man. A plate per pair please for afternoon tea
- **Loveblock Pairs** Friday 15th November 7pm start (*seated by 6.45pm*). \$15 entry fee. The event raises funds for the NZ Bridge Foundation. Lovely packs of wine to be won. After play, all competing players will receive a booklet about the boards they've played. This event is conducted in 54 venues NZ wide.



## OUR SEPTEMBER WINNERS

M:	Judgement Day Pairs <i>Jackson Reeves Lawyers</i>	<b>Hugh &amp; Diana McAlister</b>
	Two Trophy Singles <i>Craigs Investment Partners</i>	<b>Judy Pawson</b> <i>The Tallis Tray &amp; The Don Gordon Trophy</i>
T:	Sticky Toffee Pudding Handicap Prs <i>Somerset Cottage</i>	<b>Heather Melville &amp; Graham Young</b>
W:	Junior Championship Pairs <i>Farmer Autovillage</i>	<b>Desrai Karl &amp; Mark Newman</b>
Th:	Handicap Teams #2 <i>Somerset Cottage</i>	<b>Hugh &amp; Di McAlister, Deidre Gunn, Keryn O'Brien</b>
	Hair Raising Open Teams #2 <i>Beach Road Hair</i>	<b>Stacey Hilton, Di &amp; Hugh McAlister, Graham Young</b>
Fr:	Sinking Feeling Handicap Pairs <i>Mount Drainage</i>	<b>Norm Silcock &amp; Tony Hacking</b>



**I write this from Starship Hospital where my son Liam is recovering well from successful heart surgery. I will provide a more in depth telling of that story in next months Table Talk! For part 1 of his story check out the May edition of Table Talk.**

I wanted this month to touch on a crucial aspect of operating the club that maybe you'd be interested in knowing more detail about. I speak of dealing, critical to our club sessions but maybe underappreciated because it is very much a behind the scenes activity.

The importance of dealing is obvious: without it we'd have no cards to play! We have four pairs of dealers who are rostered on for a month at a time and who generally deal a week or two ahead. They usually do a weeks worth of dealing in a single half day on a Monday morning.

If you've never seen the dealing machine in action it's quite fascinating. It's not an especially large machine, most people expect something bigger. It has a hopper on one side that the cards sit in and the boards are opened up and slot into the bottom of the machine. A camera reads the face of the bottom card in the hopper and tells a series of rollers which of the four slots in the board to put it in to. Rinse and repeat for all 52 cards! It all takes less than 10 seconds then the board is removed, closed back up and move on to the next board.

How does the machine know what to deal? It is connected to a computer that loads up a file supplied to us by someone administering the X-Clubs programme. That is how all the clubs that are part of X-Clubs are able to play the same hands and be scored across the country. And it's great for us because when you all complain about the cards you get we can pass the buck!

There is a schedule that the dealers work to so that they know what to deal for any given session. This changes depending on the typical number of tables for the session and whether pairs or teams is being played. This affects how many boxes are dealt but also how many boards need to be in each box.

How can you help out the dealers? The most important thing is ensuring that the boards go back into the box in numerical order if you're helping to pack up after a session. Also make sure you're careful when shuffling your cards that they're all facing the same way, otherwise it gums up the works when the dealing machine tries to read the back of a card!

But you could really help out by joining the team! Some of our wonderful dealers are stepping away from the dealing machine at the end of the year and so we're on the hunt for keen new dealers. No experience of any sort is necessary, everything you need to know you will be taught. You don't need to be an exceptional bridge player, in fact you don't even need to be a bridge player! Nor do you need to be tech savvy.

**If you're interested please let me or David know, or if you first want to know more about what's involved, talk to our fabulous VP Karyl.**

Mike.



*Similar to our machine.*



## BOUQUETS

**Nelma Kibblewhite** is stepping down from the position of Almoner. Nelma sends communications to our members on our behalf... Get well, Congratulations, Condolences. Nelma you have done a superb job THANK YOU!! We will miss you.

**Mike Bailie** you are our Superman!! Many thanks for the numerous tasks you have completed lately - parking signs up, steps waterblasted, back of building cleaned, letterbox attached (so next year we won't need to pay for a P.O.Box)

**Keryn & Steve O'Brien** thank you for donating the special paint & brushes for the back steps & for the letterbox. We appreciate your generosity

**David Fornusek** thank you for painting the back steps and also for disposing of all the items Muriel & Karyl 'discovered' were surplus to our requirements.

**Friday players** who laundered our Bridge tablecloths the week of congress - much appreciated

Heartfelt thanks to our 'retiring' Dealers... **Di Menzies & Jean Morris** and **Ruth Pepper & Ruth Sweatman**. You've all given years of service to the Club for which we are incredibly grateful and special thanks to **Di Menzies** who supervised the team which included teaching the new dealers.



# AN INTERESTING HAND (CLUB CAPTAIN) Hugh McAlister

♠ 4  
♥ AJ97  
♦ KQJ7  
♣ Q1053

♠ 86  
♥ KQ1082  
♦ 862  
♣ A97

**S deals, nil vul**  
**S declares 4S**  
**- lead KD**

♠ AKQJ105  
♥ 43  
♦ A9  
♣ 642

♠ 9732  
♥ 65  
♦ 10543  
♣ KJ8

## TIP OF THE MONTH #11 The Importance of Timing

**Bidding:** South opens 1S, West doubles and North responds 2H (natural, non-forcing). South likes her/his spades and jumps to 3S, which North raises to 4S.

**Lead:** KD. Spades and hearts are out, and the excellent sequence makes KD a clear winner.

**Play:** The KD lead gives you a chance to justify your aggressive bid of 3S!

*How would you plan the play?* It looks like you have 4 losers (1 heart, 1 diamond and 2 clubs). Your best chance is to hope West has AH (which is likely on the bidding), and you can throw a loser on a H winner.

### But how would you play? What can go wrong?

- First, you must play AD (lest West switches to a Club to knock out dummy's side entry).
- Many players would now take out trumps. You can take out 1 trump, but not two. (you likely need a trump entry back to your hand).
- Lead a small heart, West should duck the first round.
- Now back to hand with a trump, take out trumps, and lead a second heart.
- West will play AH, maybe take a diamond trick, but the AC gives you entry to dummy to throw a loser on the QH...contract made.

### LESSONS:

- |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1.</b></p> <p>A club lead stops the contract... unlucky for West. The KD lead is still the obvious lead.</p> | <p><b>2.</b></p> <p>Assume the defence will be unhelpful and hold up the AH one round...you therefore need a quick entry back to hand to run the hearts again.</p> | <p><b>3.</b></p> <p>This is another exception to the old rule "take out trumps first"...a trump was your only entry back to hand to play the crucial second heart.... "Timing is everything."</p> | <p><b>4.</b></p> <p>Note North's non-forcing 2H response (&lt;10 points, as a redouble shows 10+ points)</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## RESERVED PARKING PLACES



Many of you will have noticed that we have removed the Director & VIP parking spots & now have 4 'reserved' places. These are to be used by any of our members who have mobility/health issues (short or long term)

## AGM

**TUESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024. 6.30pm Drinks | 7pm AGM starts**

We have several Committee Members standing down at the meeting although they both will continue to assist the Club in several roles. Thanks to **Pat Ware (Past President) & Jackie Blue** for your committed service to the Tauranga Bridge Club.



The Club are looking for an individual to join the Committee to deal with our Grants Applications next year. We would prefer someone who has previous experience in applying for grants although Jackie will assist with the transition. Please contact Jackie if you would like further information.

NAIVETY AT ITS BEST!

♠ AK3	♠ 754	♠ J98
♥ J87653	♥ T2	♥ AK9
♦ 63	♦ AK87	♦ Q542
♣ K6	♣ 532	♣ JT9
	<b>Dlr S</b>	
	<b>Vul E/W</b>	
	♠ Q62	
	♥ Q4	
	♦ JT9	
	♣ AQ874	

Tuesday 15th October my partner & I played the 3rd week of the Call Me An Uber Handicap Pairs. Board 3 South was the dealer & passed, my partner passed, North passed and there was me at East with 11 HCP & a balanced hand. Gulp!

My initial thought was to pass it in however our opponents are both Grand Masters!! I'm a Junior, will move to Intermediate in the New Year as will my partner. So just a twinge or two of pressure!

What would you have done (or did you do?) 3 pairs passed the Board in.

I decided I wouldn't open 1NT (it's my understanding that you can do that in the 3rd or 4th seat), so I bid 1D. My partner bid her hearts and we played the board in 2H making 4. 3 pairs bid 4H. 52.23% for us. Phew!!

However... the Grand Masters were kind enough to take the time to explain...

- Neither of them would have opened with my hand
- One stated that West could have opened
- Rule of 15 was explained. HCP + number of spades in my hand. If the total comes to 15 or more, make your normal opening bid. If the total comes to less than 15, pass out the hand.

Learn something new every day. Love it!!

**Thank you Grand Masters for taking the time to teach us**

Responding to a Simple Overcall  
*House of Cards – The Bridge Book*

Trumps are far more important than points when deciding whether to respond to an overcall. Partner has shown a 5-card suit at least, therefore you can raise with 3-card support. You should have at least:

- 3-card support for a single raise
- 4-card support for a jump raise

You need to be careful about changing the suit after your partner has overcalled. Remember that the overcaller does not promise an opening hand. The fact that the opposition has opened the bidding lessens the chance of your side having strength for game unless you have a really good fit. All that your partner is really promising is a good suit.

Left hand opponent open 1D and partner overcalls 1S. What do you bid

♠ 32  
♥ Q65  
♦ K543  
♣ A1054

Pass. No fit and even though you have 9 HCP, there is no prospect of game.

♠ KJ32  
♥ Q65  
♦ 65  
♣ 1054

3s. You have 4 trumps

**Responding to a 1NT Overcall**

Respond to this bid just as you would to an opening bid of 1NT, bearing in mind that a 1NT overcall is stronger & shows 16-18 HCP. 9 HCP are now enough for game. Therefore with less than 9 & an unbalanced hand, responder makes a weakness takeout - that is, bids a suit at the 2 level which the 1NT bidder is expected to pass.

**Responses to a 1NT Overcall**

- Pass. 0-6 HCP balanced
- 2 of a suit 0-6 HCP & 5-card suit or longer
- 2NT 7-8 HCP balanced
- 3 of a suit 8+ HCP & a 5-card suit
- 3NT 9+ HCP, reasonable balanced
- 4 of a suit 7+ HCP & a 6-card suit

Partner overcalls 1NT after an opening bid of 1D

♠ KJ9854  
♥ 72  
♦ 92  
♣ J65

Bid 2S. No prospect of game. Partner must pass.

♠ KJ54  
♥ Q94  
♦ 10943  
♣ A7

Bid 3NT. You have plenty for game this time