

Newsletter



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Welcome New Members

We recently invited all of our casual visitors to become members of Auckland Bridge and continue their support of the Club. We are delighted with the response, and the kind words received (sharing some of them below). There are 23 members to date who have embraced this initiative.

So a big welcome to you all and we wish you many hours of happy bridge playing.

I appreciate very much the opportunities, and ready support all that ABC offers.

Considering how much you do for bridge nationwide, and the enjoyment I have as a 'casual' member, I would be delighted to support the club by becoming an Associate member.

We are very grateful for the fabulous opportunities the club has given us with online bridge.

Happy to join as I have had such a lot of pleasure because of your club.

I've really enjoyed the on-line sessions run by the club and I appreciate they require time and dedication, especially from the directors.

It's been great being able to play in your Real Bridge sessions, and I'm more than happy to support the club in return.

If you know of anyone wanting to become a member please have them contact us by phone or email

Remember

Participation is key - play more, progress further, maximise your enjoyment..

Hello Club

Top ups online are easy
Go to akbc.co.nz website
Click the members tab at the top
Click [LOGIN TO HELLOCLUB]

Then enter your:

User name (*usually your email address*)

Password (*contact the office if you need to reset*)

please ensure you always have a credit balance

Modest price increase For online sessions

As most members will be aware, Auckland Bridge Club (AKBC) has been very active in introducing online bridge to New Zealand through the RealBridge application, utilising the Hello Club membership system. We are pleased with the outcome, and hope you have been too. Online sessions were 'a life-saver' for many during the pandemic lockdowns, and since. Many players are just not in a position to attend club sessions (no local club, limited mobility, health issues, no regular partner or partner unavailable for similar reasons, session day and time not suitable), and those players that can and do also enjoy the additional online sessions. Members have rekindled partnerships where a former partner moved to a different city or country. Retired members have started playing again. Perhaps most importantly, we also have the opportunity to engage with players from all over the country, players we would never otherwise have the opportunity to meet. With the generous assistance of RealBridge and overseas experts we have been able to offer a number of unique events: four sets of free lessons from Andrew Robson (240 pairs), Bridge against the Ditch (124 pairs), 12 Hands with David Bird (64 pairs), 12 Hands with Kieran Dyke (23 pairs), Friendly match vs Queenstown and Wanaka clubs. More are planned. It has also provided a great forum for supervised and improver sessions.

The financial outcome from all this work has been a reasonable contribution towards overheads (but not enough to compensate for the impact of the pandemic). We would like to be able to continue offering a full schedule of online sessions and need to increase the normal table fee from \$5 to \$6, effective 1 September. This might not be the last increase. We should also mention the possibility that the outcome of the current NZ Bridge online strategy 'consultation' could be to kill these sessions off at the club level.

A number of members have indicated to us that they are appreciative of the efforts of the club to introduce RealBridge to New Zealand at a fairly low cost to members. Should anyone wish to do so, it is simple to make a donation from Hello Club - and since we are a registered charity, your donations may be tax deductible.

12 Hands with Kieran Dyke

There were 23 tables for this event last Friday, the 5th. The cards were lively with a very thin slam available on the very first hand:

♠ 953
♥ K8542
♦ 97
♣ A84

♠ AQ1072
♥ A6
♦ AK
♣ QJ53

Only one pair found the slam and their luck was in when all three finesses worked.

The post mortem with Kieran Dyke was engaging and went on for about 90 minutes afterwards.

Session NS	1st	Susan Steedman and Dave Almond : 70.21% - (Mt Albert / Mt Albert)
	2nd	Sandy Dravitzki and Pamela Dravitzki : 64.79% - (Masterton / Richmond)
	3rd	Jenny Delany and Chris Woods : 64.17% - (Wellington / Wellington)
	4th	Michael Wilcox and Liz Wilcox : 62.92% - (Kairangi / Rotorua)
	5th	Shirley Lattimore and Diane Groom : 62.50% - (Christchurch / Richmond)
Session EW	1st	Christine Burton and Margaret Crawford : 67.71% - (New Plymouth / New Plymouth)
	2nd	Anthony Wilson and Rae Cameron* : 64.17% - (Auckland / East Coast Bays)
	3rd	Chris Fleming and Jessica Morris : 57.92% - (Auckland / Auckland)
	4th	Pam Bannatyne and Lynn Hall : 56.25% - (Masterton / Masterton)
	5th	David Knighton and Celia Knighton : 55.62% - (Warkworth / Warkworth)

Luckiest player was Dale Peak. When her partner had to leave she was first paired with Shireen Mohandes of RealBridge, and when Shireen had to leave to set up the zoom meeting, she got to play with Kieran Dyke. Not at all intimidated, the last hand saw her playing in 3NT scoring two bonus overticks for a 97.5% board.

The Freaky Corner *Director Sylvester*

On Friday afternoons there is a club session and online session playing the same boards.

East would have been delighted to pick up this hand on board 4 (registering 6.5 on the freakiness scale):

♠ AQ865432
♥ —
♦ K10986
♣ —

Of course partner was an almost complete misfit with:

♠ 97
♥ AJ852
♦ —
♣ AKQ852

However 11 tricks were still available in ♠.

East would have less thrilled to pick up these cards a few hands later:

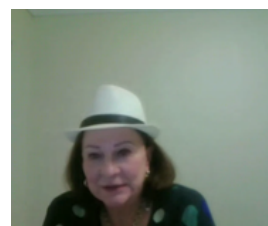
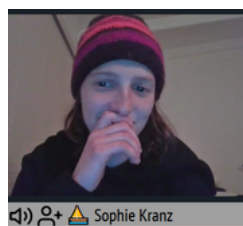
♠ 96
♥ 9874
♦ 9873
♣ 983

I guess that is the luck of the draw.

Friendly Club vs Club match: Auckland vs Queenstown & Wanaka

On Friday evening 29th July we hosted a friendly match online between our clubs, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was a Teams-of-8 format which is common in the UK but new here: your team is made up of four pairs and you play four matches, one against each of the pairs in the opposing team. We had four teams, so 64 players in total. Douglas Russell directed.

Our junior team (the Ab Fab Team) really go into the spirit of things as you can see



The Queenstown juniors (with help from Paula McTaggart who was drafted to play for the other side) took it away with a storming last half.

Cheryl Winsor and Faisal Alam took top place in individual results - see following.

Everyone is looking forward to a rematch.



Overall scores

Pos	No	Team	Score
1	6	Queenstown Jun	+73
2	1	Auckland Open	+44
3	7	Auckland Mixed	+40
4	3	Auckland Int	+1
5	4	Queenstown Int	-1
6	8	Wanaka	-40
7	2	Queenstown Open	-44
8	5	Auckland Ab Fab	-73

Cross-IMPs

Pos	No	Pair	Average	Total	Bds
1	7	Cheryl Winsor & Faisal Alam	+2.81	+1013 / 360	24
2	1	Patrick Carter & Julie Atkinson	+2.66	+957 / 360	24
3	6	Chris Wood & Karen Wood	+2.50	+899 / 360	24
4	3	Kevin Birch & Takayo Yanagisawa	+1.74	+628 / 360	24
5	4	Mary Christensen & Georgia Mahoney	+1.56	+560 / 360	24
6	6	Joanna Booker & Paula McTaggart	+1.53	+550 / 360	24
7	8	Georgie Roberts & Lynne Fegan	+1.46	+524 / 360	24
8	1	Sylvester Riddell & Mark Robertson	+0.99	+356 / 360	24
9	7	Bianca van Rangelrooy & Mark Lynn	+0.92	+330 / 360	24
10	3	Bruce Fenton & Heather Robertson	+0.23	+82 / 360	24

Food For Thought

Director Patrick

♠ 108743

♥ A872

♦ AK83

♣ —

Partner opens 1♣ and we are initially very optimistic about game. Two aces and a king are excellent values. We start by responding our longest suit with 1♠.

Partner rebids 2♣ and our optimism vanishes. Hands with no fit and shortages in each other's suits play very poorly. Even if partner had 14 points, which would give us 25, normally enough for game, we would still be well advised to stay low.

This is a 2♥ rebid. There is no need to panic and pass 2♣ even though partner should have 6 of them. The only game that we might make is 4♥. If partner can raise to 3♥ we are worth a go at game. But if partner gives preference to 2♠ we should pass like a shot. On the actual hand partner has an easy pass:

Board 1	♠ J	
Dealer N	♥ KQ9	
None Vul	♦ QJ9	
	♣ KQ9853	
	♠ AQ52	♠ K96
	♥ J1054	♥ 63
	♦ 102	♦ 7654
	♣ A106	♣ J742
	♠ 108743	
	♥ A872	
	♦ AK83	
	♣ —	

It is a simple sequence. Why did only 1 N/S pair out of 15 duplicate those bids?

For undisciplined Norths who continued with 2NT and emerged with 8 tricks consider how you would like the hand if I moved the K♦ into the spade suit:

♠ J
♥ KQ9
♦ QJ9
♣ KQ9853
♠ K8743
♥ A872
♦ A843
♣ —

For the 2NT bidders, the good news was that partner had 11 points. They could have had a lot fewer. Unfortunately that meant some of them bid 3NT.



Winners of the Edmund Hillary Pairs

Stephen Goodman and Bruce Inglis



Thank you
to our sponsors for supporting this event





Upcoming Events

Improvers Session for improving and junior players
- Wed 10 August - 7.15pm - online.

ARNC Interclub - Round 6 of 9
- Friday 12th August - 7.15pm.

Akarana Swiss Pairs 5A
- Saturday 20 August 2022 - 10am - at AKBC

Mt Albert Junior only session
- Saturday 20 August 2022 - 1pm - at their club

Summerset at Heritage Park - Billie Tohill 3A Pairs
- Saturday 27 August - at AKBC

Summerset at Heritage Park
Tudor Biggs Rosebowl
and Traude Leidl Junior Cup - 5B Pairs
- Saturday 27 August - at AKBC

Club Sessions

Face to face sessions are being assessed frequently to consider additional sessions. We encourage your continued support to play at the Club and help increase the numbers

Tuesdays - 7.15pm

NB: Tuesday night club sessions this month are **PAIRS** - *not a teams event as advertised in the booklet*. Please come along with your partner as we will love to see more people attending

Wednesdays - 2 sessions: 11am and 7.15pm
Lesson at 6.45pm with Patrick for those wanting to learn more

NB: Evening session - you do not need to have a partner *..just come along*

Fridays - 11am

Thursdays - Supervised session at 9.30am with a lesson and play beginning at 10am

See our [RealBridge](#) page on our website for the extensive schedule of **online** sessions

NB: Sundays - Supervised sessions are only online for August & September, starting with a lesson at 9.30am - play begins at 10am



Can You Help ?

**SPONSORS
WANTED**

Do you know of a business that might be prepared to sponsor an online event. It could be a one-off, a month long series or (preferably) on a more regular basis?

We would love to discuss the benefits with anyone who may be interested so please let the office know contact details

Improvers Session RealBridge Online

Encouraging Junior Members to play

Wednesdays
7:15 pm

21 Boards
7 rounds of 3 boards
Finishing around 10pm

T&C's

- You will need a Hello Club Account
- A professional Director will be directing the session
- This is not a supervised session, meaning you cannot ask for help with how to play or what to bid.
- Please be online with your partner by 6.45pm
- For help with getting on RealBridge please see the instructions on AKBC's website



Contributions & Content

Send any ideas, photos and stories you may have to Kim for inclusion in future Newsletters.