

# Newsletter



## Protecting our Community

This is the perfect storm no one would wish for and yet here we are. Community viruses along with other winter ailments and rubbish weather, sadly but understandably, is impacting the Club significantly.

We continue to provide the opportunity for you to meet at the Club with several face-to-face Bridge sessions a week, and encourage you to practice all of the precautionary measures for your own good health, and others around you.

So, respectfully, we remind you:

### Face Masks

Wearing face masks protects yourself and others from Covid-19 especially when it is not practical to physically distance from others, like with Face to Face Bridge play.

### Testing and Isolating

If you feel unwell, have symptoms, or are a household contact of someone with Covid-19 please stay home and get tested immediately. Remember that RAT results do not always show positive in the first few days. Please stay at home until you are clear to return to the Club.

### Vaccinations

Covid-19 vaccinations provide very good protection against developing severe disease. If you've had Covid-19, you will need to wait 3 months before vaccination and booster shots are available after 3 months of the primary infection. Your first booster may not be sufficient for what is circulating in the community right now. A second booster is available now - please consult with your medical practitioner for advice if you are unsure.

## Hello Club

Top ups online are easy  
Go to [akbc.co.nz](http://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

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## Welcome New Members

We offer a very warm welcome to all of our newest members, and encourage you to participate in the Club's schedule of sessions, either online or face to face.

There are 636 Members registered with our Club at the moment,

*and Guess What?*

we have space for more!

Encourage your friends and family to join AKBC - sign them up today

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

## Upcoming Events

### ONLINE

Friday evening 29th July - a friendly online match between our clubs. The format is Teams-of-Eight. Be in a team of 4 pairs and play 4 matches.. 24 boards in total. Register on our RealBridge online programme 'Club vs Club'

Auckland Bridge Club

vs

Queenstown Bridge Club

Edmund Hillary Retirement Village Pairs

ONLINE - 4th August at 9.45am

Register on our AKBC website





# Wow!

*Director Sylvester*

This hand (North Board 21) Tuesday night, 19th July, registered 6.50 on the *freakiness* scale (where 4-3-3-3 scores 0 and 13-0-0-0 scores 10). Online, just seven of the 19 pairs reached slam - the others no doubt hindered by spirited interference by the opposition.

Board 21 Dealer N NS Vul		♠ - ♥ KQJ1085 ♦ - ♣ AKJ9853	♠ J8 ♥ A632 ♦ 1087532 ♣ 2	♠ AK9653 ♥ 97 ♦ AQ4 ♣ 106	NT ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ N 8 5 12 5 12 S 9 5 12 5 12 E 4 7 1 8 1 W 4 8 1 8 1
		♠ Q10742 ♥ 4 ♦ KJ96 ♣ Q74			
					Par +800 6x-4 W NS: 14 + 8 = 22 HCP EW: 13 + 5 = 18 HCP
NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Score	MP
Chris Fleming & Takayo Yanagisawa	Hilda Burgess & Rosa Mishkin	6♥ = N	♠ A	1430	36 0
Nicky Bowers & Joy Watkinson	Leslie Watt & Brent Mandel	6♣ = N	♦ A	1370	29 7
Beverley Morris & Allan Morris	Sue McKinnon & Bill McKinnon	6♣ = N	♦ A	1370	29 7
Ian Clayton & Bruce Marr	Denise Mayhew & Dave Garrett	6♣ = N	♠ A	1370	29 7
Chris Turner & John Penny	Sue Wedde & Jill Church	6♣ = N	♠ A	1370	29 7
Rebecca Osborne & Gillian Corbett	Bill Leach & Faisal Alam	6♣ = N	♠ K	1370	29 7
Les Gould & Maree Cudby	Jane Stearns & Cheryl Winsor	6♣ = N	♠ A	1370	29 7

*Results: Top 10 pairs in each section, First the Open*

Pos	No	Pair	Average
1	10	Giselle Mundell & Rena Kaplan	+2.54
2	53	Pam Livingston & Jan Alabaster	+1.87
3	1	Jo Simpson & Sam Simpson	+1.68
4	18	Elise Kotkin & Barbra Abraham	+1.56
5	47	Dale Lacey & Robyn Freeman-Greene	+1.48
6	38	Sandra Milner & Giza Fletcher	+1.38
7	6	Deirdre James & Peter Koorey	+1.17
8	26	Robert Case & De Mitty	+1.08
9	4	Tim Mountjoy & Trish Lacey	+1.06
10	49	John Buckleton & Mike Dunn	+1.00

*the Junior/Rookie / Restricted*

Pos	No	Pair	Average
1	28	Amanda Bublitz & Justine Hart	+2.25
2	26	Diane Donnelly & Vicki Adnams	+1.82
3	36	Kim Thomas & Kevin Grundy	+1.60
4	9	Maeve Doyle & Colin Speller	+1.40
5	17	Michelle Bloxham & Lorna Davies	+1.37
6	6	Steve Moore & Graeme Duhs	+1.36
7	46	Sue Glue & Michelle Gunn	+1.31
8	10	Betty Hopley & Terrey Durbin	+1.10
9	61	Noni Glew & Holger Henze	+1.08
10	51	Alison Pick & John Pick	+1.03



*Early sign of Spring in the Club garden!*

Not the Bledisloe Cup...

# Bridge Across The Ditch

12th July 2022

Covid and its ongoing aftermath have had a profound effect on our lives, not least on our favourite pastime. But there have been positives. One of these has been the development of the outstanding new online platform RealBridge, developed in Cambridge in the UK as a response to the widespread curtailment of face-to-face bridge. Many now see RealBridge as the go-to venue for the online game. While I am sure that we would all welcome a return to the good old days, it is certain that RealBridge is here to stay, and that it has opened up many new possibilities. One of these materialised on Tuesday 12 July, when no fewer than 248 players took part in a match between the Auckland Bridge Club and Sydney's North Shore Bridge Club. This was the culmination of much hard work between Auckland's Sylvester Riddell and North Shore's Gary Barwick, who must be congratulated in this hugely successful and enjoyable venture. It looks as though this will become a regular fixture, and it is likely to serve as a model for similar future events.

The Auckland Club asked me to provide a report on the event, so I coerced my mentor Biritich, the Russian Blue, into watching the session with me as it unfolded. Biritich is not a great fan of online bridge, but even he grudgingly admitted that this was an occasion that was most unlikely to occur live. The event comprised 30 boards with cross-IMP scoring, with pairs from each club playing alternate rounds as NS or EW to even out any bias. The large field was split into two, with 62 pairs in the Open section, and the same number in a Rookie/Junior/Inter-mediate section. The Auckland team was extensively supplemented by players from all over the country. Several pairs obligingly switched allegiance (temporarily, one assumes) to equalise numbers on the two sides. The hands featured an unusually large number of slams, 7 in all including 3 grands; my search for some statistics suggested that this is a fewer than 1 in 100 occurrence. Of course, not all of these were really biddable, but several pairs found the majority of them.

*Thank you  
Douglas Russell  
for this report  
and  
Sylvester Riddell  
for arranging  
this fun event*

*Biritich ->*







## Free Development Opportunity Online

### 12 Deals with Kieran Dyke

Friday 5th August at 7pm

Kieran is a highly successful Australian player who moved to London. He has played as a professional for over 20 years.

Have any questions ready for Kieran ( 'well-known players you have played with or against', 'the one thing you did that most improved your game' etc).

**Play 12 deals on RealBridge Online Auckland Bridge Club, then join the post mortem, and group discussion, led by Kieran Dyke, Bridge International player, from Australia, now playing for England.**

Did you make the right lead?  
Was declarer going to make it anyway?  
Find out after the game is over.  
Come along on **Friday 5 August at 7pm.**  
Details will appear on the AKBC site.





### 12 Hands with David Bird

Friday evening 15th July saw another unique event hosted by the club, many thanks to RealBridge and David Bird. 128 players played out 12 hands and then joined an online meeting with David Bird, the most prolific bridge writer in the world. The hands can be viewed [here](#):

and a video of David Bird's post match commentary is available [here](#)

Board 1		Dealer N		None Vul			
		♠ QJ53		♠ A1092		NT	
		♥ AKJ9		♥ 54		N 6 7 8 3 3	
		♦ A5		♦ K10432		S 6 7 8 3 3	
		♣ 653		♣ A4		E 6 6 5 9 9	
						W 6 6 5 9 9	
						Par -100 3♥X-1 NS	
						NS: 15 + 3 = 18 HCP	
						EW: 11 + 11 = 22 HCP	
NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Score	MP		
Eleanor Bradshaw & Prem Soundra	Tjeerd Dolstra & Paul Simons	5♥X-2 E	♥7	300	62	0	
Rhonda Graham & Christine Wilson	Terrey Durbin & Sue Eishauer	3♥= N	♥3	140	57	5	
Sandy Dravitzki & Pamela Dravitzki	Glennis Pearson & Marcus Pearson	3♥= N	♠A	140	57	5	
Joe Turner & Ann Grounds-Turner	Alona Ben-Tal & Gadi Ben-Tal	3♥= S	♥Q	140	57	5	
Rosemary Hargreaves & Monique	Pamela Jensen & Rae Cameron	2♥+1 N	♠A	140	57	5	

## Education Centre



Sunday mornings

Please note the next face to face is 7th August

No partner required

## Food For Thought *Director Patrick*

There is a widely promoted theory that hands which meet what is called 'The Rule of 20' can be opened at the 1 level.

In this case North has 10 points in high cards and has a 7 card club suit plus a 3 card spade suit.  $10 + 7 + 3 = 20$ .

So should North open ♣?

I don't believe so and I don't disagree with the rule of 20 as a general guideline.

Just because you can open at the 1 level doesn't mean you must do so. This hand seems even more appropriate for a 3♣ opening. Yes the hand is worth about 10 points. The lovely club suit is worth about 7 and a half points and the two major suit cards are worth about 2 and a half points.

There were 13 tables today. What did they choose to open?

7 tables pre-empted 3♣

3 tables opened 1♣

3 tables passed as dealer

In my opinion 3♣ is a much better bid than 1♣, but I would much rather bid 1♣ than pass. Just because you are not sure which opening is better do not pass instead. Bridge is a bidder's game. You seldom see players go to collect a prize after a tournament and say to yourself "they are a solid conservative bidder."

There is a piece of nonsense poetry. Could it have been written by a Scottish bridge player?

Twice armed is he who knows his cause is just

But thrice armed is he who gets his blow in fust

**Board 9**

**Dealer N**

**EW Vul**

♠ J75

♥ Q5

♦ 5

♣ AQJ10732

♠ K964

♥ AJ32

♦ K98

♣ 85

♠ Q108

♥ 1097

♦ AJ1076

♣ 6

♠ A32

♥ K864

♦ 432

♣ K94