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*This newsletter is also available on our website.*

## Seminar with Richard Solomon

The past weekend saw the club hosting a very successful seminar with Richard Solomon. Both days were well attended with 25 attending the novice/junior session on Saturday and a whopping 35 attending the Sunday session. Richard once again proved to be an entertaining and captivating tutor. Some of the newer players found that Saturday was a bit advanced for them in that they play very basic bridge but hopefully it gave them the encouragement to try and learn some new systems for their partnerships. Two tables stayed on after to play a short teams match and consolidate what they had learned during the day.

Sunday started early and several who had played the Dannevirke Open the day before were keen enough to come along. I think both Richard and our two Grand Masters were able to learn something from each other and Mary Marshall had “many good ideas on how to play” in Richard’s words.



The Saturday session listening intently to Richard’s lessons.



Ah, so that’s how I should have bid and played that hand!



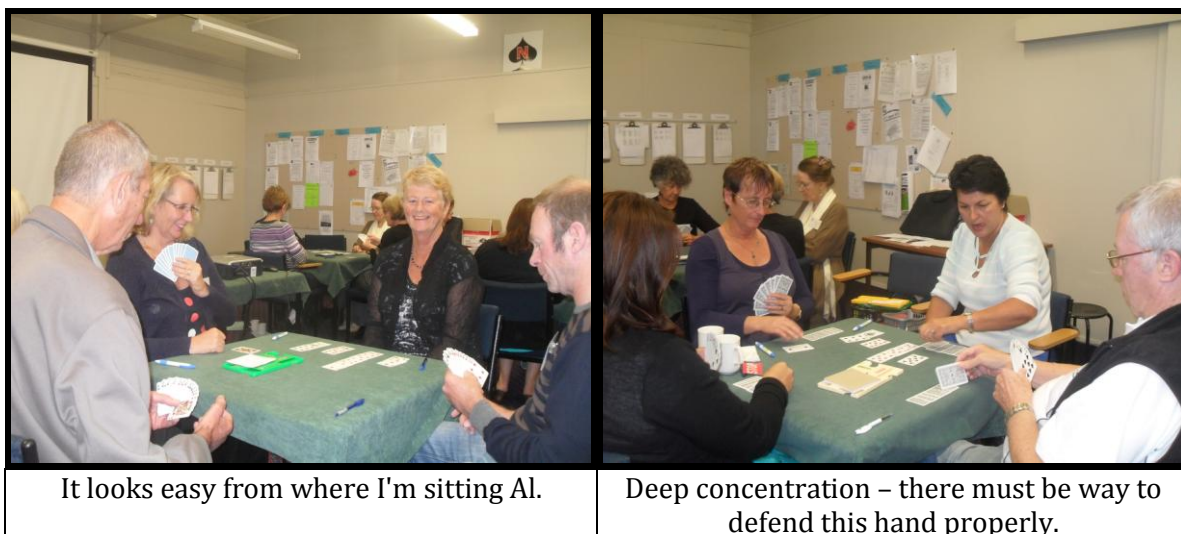
A powerhouse of bridge knowledge enjoying a well earned break



Playing and bidding the hands proved to be not as easy as expected.

The committee extend their thanks to Ruth and Dick Smithies in so generously offering their home and time to billet Richard. Also thanks to Cath Halpin and Robyn Andersen for supplying plenty of refreshing feijoas to keep us all energised. Thanks to everyone who attended and made it such a successful weekend. The committee applied for and received a grant from New Zealand Bridge which helped towards the cost of running the event.

This Friday Richard is the on board bridge host on the Bridge Babes Cruise to Vanuatu and four of our members are going too. Bon voyage and happy cruising to Sheryl Strudwick, Jan Carter, Leith Bell and Hazel Julian-Gould. With Jane Stearns and Clare Coles "at the helm" you will certainly be well catered for and kept on your toes. We look forward to a contribution to our next newsletter about the trip.



THE NEED FOR IMPROVER'S LESSONS – was highlighted by some who attended the seminar on Saturday. The club is currently researching running some improvers' lessons later in the year so we will be surveying you to find out what you would like covered in these sessions.

LESSONS – Lyn Bowcock is now a few weeks into the lessons with a good crowd of keen learners and some who are doing the lessons for a second time as a refresher. Lyn and her band of willing helpers are doing a fantastic job. It is up to us as a club to make sure they are welcomed warmly into the club at the end of the lessons and to promote their enjoyment of this wonderful game.

DANNEVIRKE OPEN TOURNAMENT – Saturday 13 April. Won by Carolyn Yeomans and Jan Whyte from a field of 30 pairs. Two great scoring sessions, 60.95% and 63.10%. Well done Carolyn.

TEAMS EVENTS – Have you thought of a name for your team for the teams event yet? The teams start on May 8 so get your thinking caps on. We hope to have some interesting sidelines to run in conjunction with the teams.

TARADALE CLUB: Please make use of the facilities provided by the Taradale Club when you come along for your weekly bridge sessions. Make up a group and stay on for a bar or restaurant meal after Tuesday sessions, especially good on a cold winter's night, or get a group together and dine before the Wednesday night bridge sessions. As members, we are included in the member's draw each Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening. You have to be there to claim the prize and several members' names have been drawn out over the last few months.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENT DATES:

18 May - Tiermey Pairs, Taradale

6 July – Taradale Junior Pairs

23 June - Taradale Charity Tournament

Queen's Birthday weekend – Hawke's Bay Congress

CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL – a nourishing chicken soup recipe that freezes well.

2 chicken breasts or four boned chicken thighs. Cut chicken into small dice and sauté gently with a chopped onion and 2 cloves of crushed garlic. Add in grated kumara, pumpkin, carrots and zucchini and sauté for 5 to 10 minutes. Add 1 cup of Jasmine rice, some green herb stock, salt and pepper and some curry powder. Add enough liquid (boiling water or chicken stock) to well cover the veges. Bring to boil and simmer for half an hour then add 1 packet Maggi chicken soup mixed to a paste with cold water and stir through. Finally add approximately 2 Tbsp of soy sauce. The quantities are not mentioned in this, just like making your own vege soup there are no specifics.