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This newsletter is also available on our website.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Taradale Bridge players. The year has passed very quickly as usual and we are now looking at our AGM and our Christmas celebrations. Please think carefully about your committee for next year. We do need new members and Alan would love some male company. It has been a privilege to be the president this year as the committee has been so efficient and hard working. We are hosting the very popular Christmas Cheer 5A point tournament on 23 November. If you would like to play you must register as it is always very popular. The committee would welcome ideas for our Christmas party – coming up sooner than we think. The new book for 2014 is being readied for printing. Special thanks to Phyllida and her team for the wonderful work they do securing sponsors for us. Finally, congratulations to the Intermediate team representing Taradale: Julie, Ngaire, Robyn and Chris who brought home the Clayton Cup. *Sue Tarrant*

SHIRES PAIRS Thanks to some extraordinary work from Convenor Therese, we had a great turnout for the Shires Pairs. It was wonderful to see all the newer players paired up with experienced players and having a great time at the bridge table. The final night was capped off with the committee providing a light supper. The Shires were won by Debbie Mackintosh and Jan Davis, closely followed by Murray Mills and Hayden Seal, with Pam Tremain and Julie Haslett third.



The serious faces do not reflect the enjoyment and enthusiasm of the event.

SUGGESTION BOX The committee continues to receive and act on suggestions received in the suggestion box. Recently there was a suggestion that the Fish & Chip Night has Burger King for a change. One of the main reasons for holding this night is to support the onsite restaurant and the club as a whole. The fish and chips are always delicious and popular.

HB SHIELD, CLAYTON CUP & ERICA HILL SALVER Taradale Bridge Club fielded teams in all grades which was hosted by Waipukurau this year. The Open team of Lyn Bowcock, Alison Hucker, Jan Davis and Ruth Spittle had a brilliant morning and were leading a very strong field at the break. Unable to keep up the momentum in the second session, they finished a very credible third equal. The Intermediate team of Robyn Andersen, Chris Hagen, Julie Haslett and Ngaire Bright came from behind to narrowly win the Clayton Cup. The Erica Hill Salver is a relatively new addition to the event and this was won by Havelock North with our Taradale Junior team of Linstead Castle-Allen, Henny French, Rachael Shaw and Cinnamon Thornton finishing second equal.



All smiles after a terrific day of bridge.

CLUB DIRECTORS EXAMS – 2 & 3 November 2013. Please see a committee member if you are interested in becoming a director.

✦GET YOUR ENTRIES IN FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER TOURNAMENT✦

RECENT RESULTS:

MAHINE CREAGH MEMBERS ONLY TOURNAMENT

1st Ruth Spittle & Jan Henderson 2nd Mary Marshall & Yvonne Whittle
3rd Cath Halpin & Yvonne Pitcher Top Intermediate: Margaret Atkins & Gwen Clark
Top Junior Pair: Cinnamon Thornton & Rachael Shaw.

NAPIER JUNIOR: A comfortable win to Rachael Shaw and Cinnamon Thornton.

HASTINGS OPEN: Diana Lees and Lynnaire Hampton 1st overall in a very strong field. Great results everyone.

INTER-PROVINCIALS & MORE:

I have played bridge for a good number of years and yet never known what the IPs are. Tournaments have always played a big part in my bridge, I love the competitiveness and the social side of a good day's tournament. So this year, knowing that my playing partner, Julie, and I are both going to Open grade next year, we decided to make the most of our last year in Intermediate by playing a lot.

I happened to see the notice for the IPs on the board and only needed to point it out to Julie and we were up for it. The trials were held at Palmerston North Club on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. We didn't know what to expect and fronted up with our friends Julia and Peter from Waipukurau. The IPs are played as pairs and the top two pairs of the field are selected as the team to represent Central Districts at the IPs in Wellington late November. Also trialling were the Open, Senior and Women's teams so there were lots of familiar faces. In previous years the IPs have been run in conjunction with National Congress so this year is something of a trial run. We had a good run through all sessions and Julie and I finished top with Julia and Peter second – the team to represent Central Districts at the IPs. Palmerston North Bridge were wonderful hosts and ran a super couple of days, despite the poor entries.

Central Districts have been very supportive of us in our quest to better our bridge and do well at the finals. Evelyn Hurley put us in touch with Scott Smith and we had a lovely Friday evening with Scott and Deb and discussed team tactics over nibbles and a glass or two of wine. This was a very valuable exercise for us in a very relaxed fashion. The next day the Napier Bridge Club had kindly invited us along to their team session with Noel Woodhall. Napier teams were participating in the Top Club event at National Congress. It was a great opportunity to confirm and hammer home the pointers we had learned night before.

We also attended the National Congress, another first for me. We played in the Intermediate teams with Julia and Peter and finished a disappointing 17th. In the Intermediate Pairs we had a good morning and a bad afternoon and finished 20th out of a field of 48. Julia and Peter stayed on to play the Swiss Pairs and won a closely fought battle to finish top – fantastic work – glad they are our team mates! National Congress is a huge tournament and I would encourage you to give it a go if you haven't been before. As I said, it was my first time and I quickly realised we were small fish in a big pond. There are some very intense, committed and brilliant players and it was great to be part of the event.

Finally, we know where we went wrong – we missed the slams. Not like us at all, we usually bid slams on the smell of an oily rag. We had the odd misunderstanding which we will hopefully iron out before we go to Wellington in November. Luckily we have a good relationship outside of bridge and at the bridge table so we are forgiving of each others errors. We communicate well – if only we could master the art of mind-reading! Many friendships have founded and floundered at the bridge table so it is good to have a partner who never gets annoyed when I flunk a cold contract or bid incorrectly.

So for those of you who don't know about IPs, look out for the notices next year and go and give it a go. It is a good chance to play against different competition and maybe get the chance to represent our centre.

Exceptional Scores

Grant Stichbury & Terry Stone – 74.17% Monday pm
Linstead Castle-Allen & Debbie Mackintosh – 70% and
77.92% on their way to winning the Puketapu Pairs
Bobby & Doug Couchman – 73.11% Tuesday pm
Yvonne Pitcher & Maggie Reddington – 70.95% Thursday
Mary Burney & Joy Rose – 75% Saturday pm

Have you have changed your
address or phone number in
the last 12 months?

If so, please let me know
before the 2014 booklet goes
to print.

Email taradalebc@xtra.co.nz
or Phone Ngaire 8445542

**CONGRATULATIONS TO CAROLYN YEOMANS APPEARING ON THE TOP 50 LIST OF NZ
WOMEN BRIDGE PLAYERS**

OUTCOME OF NZ BRIDGE – LEVY INCREASE PROPOSAL At a meeting held 10 October 2013, the Board resolved that player levy for 2014 would increase to \$20 + GST. It was also resolved to increase the Tournament participation fees from 50¢ to \$1 + GST per session. In light of this, at our recent committee meeting, it was passed that membership fees remain the same for 2014 and a small increase to table money was approved. Therefore, from beginning of 2014, table money will be as follows: \$3.00 per session for non-director sessions, \$4.00 per session with director.

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS: A reminder to all that unless there is a tournament in our clubrooms, there is bridge every Saturday afternoon starting at 1.15 pm. Everyone welcome to get a partner and come along for a relaxed afternoon of bridge and good company.

**WE NEED YOU
TO
JOIN OUR CREW**

**THINK ABOUT JOINING THE
COMMITTEE FOR 2014**

**AGM Sunday
3 November at 2 pm**

COMMITTEE: With the AGM early next month, please give some thought to coming on the committee. We need some new faces and we would welcome your interest. With several members retiring this year, we need some fresh ideas and enthusiasm to keep our club at its best.

THANK YOU: Big thanks to Julie and Mavis who have brought along the collectibles from New World for my granddaughter. Xanthe loves them and is getting quite a good collection now.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

AGM – Sunday 3 November at 2.00 pm.

HB Christmas Cheer – Taradale Bridge Club are the hosts this year- 23 November 2013. Entry fees and dinner bookings with entries please. Limited to 25 tables so get your entries in as soon as possible.

Christmas Party: Sunday 8 December, 11.30 am start with lunch in the dining room followed by bridge at 1.30 pm in the clubrooms. Cost of lunch is \$21 and there will be a notice on the board shortly for entries. Come along for a nice early start to the festive season.

ZELDA MORRIS – 9TH & 10TH November at Napier Bridge Club



CHRISTMAS CHEER TOURNAMENT

Lots of prizes, delicious lunch, great bridge and a festive meal afterwards in the dining room. See noticeboard for details of this tournament, arrange your partner and get your entries in early. Cost of entry is \$25 for tournament and \$30 for meal afterwards. Payment with entries please. This is a popular tournament and limited to 25 tables.