



## Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated

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### Covid-19 2020 Mini Newsletter #9

Hi Taradale Bridge Players

So today we found how the Napier City Council has responded formally to our Business Case to allow our club access to Council land to build new clubrooms. We also have more information regarding members joining into sessions of Bridge Base Online (BBO). Our donation fund continues to increase which has been really appreciated as the committee grapples with no income and ongoing costs.

We more than welcome contributions to this mini newsletter and these can be emailed directly to Ash at [napfitch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:napfitch@xtra.co.nz)

**Bridge Activities** - back in the lockdown period, Julie Atkins started up BBO for novice players. At that time, I attached some information on how to get into playing BBO. I will **attach this information again** with *BBO Register for sessions with Julie* and *BBO Making a bid and Calling the Director*. The latter attachment has a link on page 3 to the NZ Bridge site which also has easy to understand instructions on: How to register and join a table; Tips for playing; and How to host a table.

- **BBO** - with the reality that bridge club sessions are unlikely to start until Alert Level 1 or a modification to Level 2, a number of our members have dipped their toes into the unknown waters by playing bridge on-line through BBO. It has not turned out as scary as one thought!
  - I have recently received an email from one of our members who has recently started playing bridge on BBO -  
*Thank you for introducing me to the BBO sessions. I have found it an amazing resource for solitaire, casual games and organised sessions. If we don't return to bridge soon, it would be nice if there were a list of names of people or partners that are seeking casual games online. That way, we can contact one another to arrange. If you like the idea, let me know and I will get permission from one or two others to add their names.*
  - As it could be some while before we are able to physically play bridge, members maybe wishing to play CASUAL bridge on line via BBO. CASUAL bridge can be solo, with a partner, or a group of four at their own table. For those who are wishing further information contact Sue Lambourn or Doreen Nunn. It has been suggested that a list of players (and their BBO "names") be drawn up and published in the newsletter. **If you wish to participate, contact Sue or Doreen. This can be done directly or through replying to our club email address.**

#### Taradale Bridge Club News -

- Last week we have had further generous donations to the club from our membership in response. Thanks again to all who could make this contribution.

**The Donation Total is currently at: \$1245!!**

- **Relocation of our storage items** - John Sowerby and a team of helpers have made short work of this shift this Wednesday with the unloading of the truck at the new storage facility taking only 40 minutes. A huge thanks to John, Kevin Homes, Joe Saenger, and Colin Dolley. Also, thanks to Jo Hayes, Margaret Williams, and Trish Patterson who have now completed a full inventory audit of the contents now in storage.
- **Update on our Possible Building** - it was with some trepidation I watched the Napier City Council meet on-line today to see how our Business Case application for Council land would proceed. The motions that were adopted by the Council are:

**That Council:**

- a) Approve in principle the Taradale Bridge Club locating at the Park Island Northern Sports Hub. This approval is given subject to the Taradale Bridge Club in conjunction with Council Officers working through stakeholder engagement, detailed design and confirming the club has sufficient funds to meet the full cost of the development**
- b) Facilitate a conversation between the Taradale Bridge Club and other interested clubs to work together in order to consider how they could possibly share a facility.**
- c) That officers bring to the Council options and costings to bring funding forward to progress this project.**

This is a great outcome for our committee albeit for us now the “real” work begins. We had great support during the discussions from a number of our councillors and they are being personally thanked.

**Hackers & scammers** - recently I included a commentary of one of our members who was close to be scammed. Believe it or not, another club member almost had the same fate and here is the person’s story.

On Tuesday morning I had a phone call from ‘Henry’ from *ANZ fraud department* saying I had \$1000.00 for Amazon & \$800.00 for iTunes on my credit card that was going overseas. As I don’t do either I was very suspicious and said so. He continued talking telling me he needed to load a program onto my computer to delete this scam etc. He sent me texts and told me to turn off my computer, cell phone, and iPad and he would ring back when it was done. All this took a lot of time on the phone with him talking, making polite conversation. He eventually did ring back, saying he needed more time as they were extremely busy. He was a very polite, well-spoken man who said he was working in Auckland and the call was being recorded for the NZ government. and he lived on Mount Eden road. He was Sri Lankan and he had done his schooling in Auckland. To cut a long story short, a lady from Wellington ANZ bank rang yesterday to say it was all part of the scam and they had managed to freeze my accounts before, far more than the above sums, were being taken overseas. I had to get my programmes on my computer all checked, some deleted, and new bank cards with changed PIN numbers at the bank.

**Warning to all: if someone rings up like this please get their name & phone number & say you will call them back, checking with the bank first.** I was lucky because I acted fast and ANZ were amazing. A lesson well learned! I share my story hoping that nobody else goes through this type of scam/ hacking experience as it wasn’t pleasant.

**Weekly Humour** - trickery is a recognised craft at the bridge table, sometimes with impressive outcomes as this “old man” shows us:

The rain was pouring and there was a big puddle in front of the pub. A ragged old man was standing there with a rod and hanging a string into the puddle. A curious gentleman came over to him and asked what he was doing.

‘Fishing,’ the old man said simply.

‘Poor old fool,’ the gentleman thought and he invited the ragged old man to a drink in the pub.

As he felt he should start some conversation while they were sipping their whisky, the gentleman asked, "And how many have you caught?"  
'You're the eighth,' the old man answered.

**Remember**

1. Contact either Sue L or Doreen N with your BBO login, email address and real name for a list of club members on BBO.
2. If you know a Napier City Councillor, give them a call of thanks for supporting our Business Case

Take care

*Ash*

Ash Fitchett  
Newsletter Editor