



**Taradale Bridge Club
Incorporated**

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June 2020 Newsletter

Hi Taradale Bridge Players

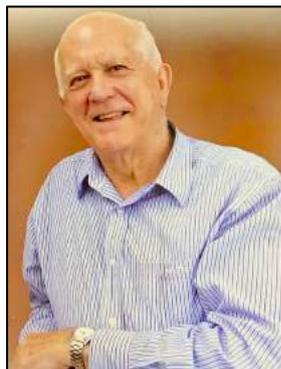
Welcome to Covid-19 Level 1 (and monthly newsletters again!) and it was gratifying to see our club sessions so well attended despite the potential tentativeness to be in public again. As members will note, the committee has not been at rest during the lockdown periods and have had the pleasure of negotiating the return to a Taradale site for our routine bridge sessions. Our lessons are starting again so if you have friends who wish to learn the great game of bridge, get in touch with Ruth Spittle (phone 027 2494336 or 8734526). It appears that Napier Bridge Club have rescinded their initial agreement and are not allowing us to continue our lessons on Thursday afternoons in Napier, so we have had to arrange an alternative venue being at the Taradale RSA. See the **attached flyer** for more information as it updates the changed venue from what we advertised in the newspapers.

Upcoming tournaments, being run by Taradale Bridge or local Clubs -

- 4 July - Junior Pairs 3B **Flyer attached**
- 12 July - Mahine Creagh (club members only)
- 8 August - Open Pairs 5A
- **Other Club Tournaments**
- 18 July - Napier Open Pairs
- 25 July - Havelock North Open Swiss Pairs 5A
- 26 September - 3 October - National Bridge Congress in Hamilton

Results – as you are no doubt aware several bridge sessions have the winners accumulated over the whole year i.e. Monday morning, Monday evening, Tuesday afternoon, and Thursday afternoon. The Wednesday evening bridge sessions are accumulated over a month and the recent results for those have the following winners of the month.

Competition	Winners
Wharerangi Pairs (Wednesday Night) - In March, oh so long ago!	Norman Knight & Ash Fitchett



ALISTER BUCHANAN

8 June 1944 – 9 June 2020

Sadly, Alister Buchanan has died peacefully, after a courageous battle with cancer. Alister was a member of the Taradale Bridge Club for many years, although Napier was his home club. Alister had a tremendous enthusiasm for bridge both as a player and as an administrator. At the Taradale Bridge Club, he played regularly on Tuesday afternoons, and also played and directed at other sessions. Alister also played and directed at the Havelock North and Hastings Bridge Clubs. He served two terms as president at the Napier Club and was awarded the honour of life membership. Alister also made a tremendous

contribution to bridge administration as a member of the Central Districts Regional Committee and as the long-serving treasurer of the Hawkes Bay Bridge Congress Committee for 16 years. In all his administration, Alister was meticulous and efficient.

Back in 1985, Alister learnt to play bridge at the Dannevirke Bridge Club. When he and Noeline retired to Taradale, Alister joined the Napier Bridge Club, where he soon became the rock of the club. He was the IT go-to man and came in at all hours to sort out problems. For the last 4 years Alister ran 'Friendly Friday' sessions at Napier for novice and beginner players.

In recent times, he had a group of regular bridge-playing partners who will remember him as a gentleman at the table. Alister was a very steady and reliable partner who had a real flair for the game. He practised hard, steadily improved and became a Grand Master in 2012, and eventually achieved a creditable total of almost 2000 masterpoints.

Alister represented Central Districts in their Seniors team at the Inter-provincial finals four times. Some of his great results (with various partners) were winning the Zelda Morris 10A pairs, coming second in the NZ Seniors pairs and reaching the semifinals of the NZ Rubber Bridge Tournament.

Even when battling illness, Alister continued playing in tournaments, achieving good results and really enjoying bridge. Right at the end, during lockdown, he (like many of us) played regularly on BBO.

The Hawkes Bay bridge world has lost a fine player whose passion for the game was evidenced both in his joy of competing at the table and in his wonderful support to the game with his administrative skills.

Our thoughts are with Alister's wife Noeline and his family at this sad time.

Noel Woodall

From the Committee

- Fundraising - we have formed a sub-committee of Jan Davis, Margaret Hall, and Trish Patterson.
- Charity Tournament - the charity this year has been decided as Age Concern. The Charity Tournament will now be held on Sunday 23 August, commencing at 1.15pm.
- Junior Tournament - this will go ahead as planned although at a reduced cost as we will not be providing lunch. **Summerset, Hawke's Bay, are the sponsors for this event.**
- Arthur Willoughby Tournament with Havelock North will run on Sunday 28 June. This tournament is run yearly between Havelock North and Taradale with pairs representing the clubs gleaned from committee, helpers, and other contributing members of the club. Last year it was held at Taradale with a win for the club. This year's play commences at Havelock North at 1.30pm.

From The Co-President Desk - Jo Hayes



Isn't it great to be back at Bridge! I did play on BBO but much prefer playing with people at the table and being able to have a chat as well. Lockdown gave us all the opportunity to re-evaluate our lives, how we spend our time and what is important to us. It made me realise how much I enjoy the social contact Bridge gives to us all. Our sessions have been quite well attended this last week and numbers should increase as people become more confident about resuming their normal lives. A huge **Thank You** to all those who, over the last few weeks, were able to make a donation towards our club funds while we had no income. Your generosity confirmed what a wonderfully supportive membership we have and funded the unavoidable expenses incurred over the last three months. Thank you also to those who were able to support members living alone during the lockdown, providing social contact and often practical help as well. Our next challenge will be the move to Lodge Omarunui premises. I know many of you are pleased that we are returning to the Taradale area. There will

be compromises but together we will make this move work until our own clubrooms become a reality.

Taradale Bridge Club Rooms Update

As most of you will be aware, at their meeting on 21 May the Napier City Council agreed that Council:

- a. Approve in principal 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 the Taradale Bridge Club and other interested clubs to work together in order to consider how they could possibly share a facility.
- c. Direct Officers to bring to Council options and costings to bring funding forward to progress this project.

It is envisaged that other clubs will build in the same area with possible sharing of amenities. Several of the councillors were particularly supportive of our application. Emails of thanks were sent to these councillors and to Debra Stewart, the NCC officer we deal directly with. Neil wrote to the Lotteries Commission and ECCT to update them on progress.

Since then we have:

- Met with Debra at Park Island to discuss where to from here and to get an idea of the timeline. Debra hopes for the building to be ready in two years. She explained that plans have to be drawn up for the area, including for the supply of services and car parking. One of the first steps is to establish which organisations want to be included in the plan. She emphasised the importance of maintaining momentum and we intend to do this.
- Contacted Pirates Rugby Club who could be interested in building their clubrooms in the Hub. This will be followed up in July.
- Met with HB Indoor Bowls, another party who could be interested in building at Park Island. Again, in July we will follow up on this meeting.
- Made plans to meet with Napier Bridge Club to discuss our respective visions for the future.

In January we wrote to the HB Rugby Union to enquire about the possibility of building onto their existing building or being included in Phase 2 of their planned development. We have had a reply advising that the RU is not in a position to do anything at present and will be unlikely to be able to do anything for 12 months or more. They are not sure what is ahead for rugby after Covid 19.

Canadian Bridge Federation magazine for your reading pleasure, made available for all during Covid-19 times. Follow the link below and I recommend members read *The Intermediate Series* with the topic: **WINNING IMP STRATEGY - in bidding, declarer play, and in defence**

https://cbf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/BCCanadaJune2020EngFinal-opt.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0D0IF-do_NAYdZ788lMr3CSh9uHi7vFqKfOTMvaFett_EvWNERuq1P9JY



Back to our routine bridge sessions - Monday morning 22 June. The temperature was cool but the bridge play was hot!

NZ Bridge - please find **attached** the latest Newsletter from the Chair, Allan Morris.

Fundraising Committee -

Donations Update Amount (started during Covid-19) = \$3055. A thanks to you all.

With the possibility of our new building being up to two years away, your Committee want to make sure that our Building "nest egg" isn't eroded by possible rising building costs and the very low interest rates that it is earning presently. From Monday 22nd June your Committee have organised a number of ideas for fund-raising .which include:

\$50 Raffle With a limited number of tickets to be sold(\$2.00each). The Draw will take place when those tickets are sold and we will begin another raffle until interest wanes.

A Sales Table. This will be available at all our TBC sessions. Members are invited to contribute items such as Garden produce, Home-made preserves, baking (which must be in a sealed wrap), or any items that you feel would be suitable.

We will come up with alternative ideas as the weeks go by, so try to bring a few extra dollars when you come to Bridge there is sure to be something that appeals.

Your Fundraising Team are Jan Davis, Trish Patterson and Margaret Hall

Thanking you

Your Contact details - some of you may have changed your phone number since the Membership Booklet was published. Please update our records by giving your new number to the Committee. The same applies to any changes in your email address.

Do you know the origins of these old-fashioned sayings?

Here in New Zealand, we are a melting pot of slang. From our colonial roots to the blending of our many different cultures, we have many wonderful old-fashioned sayings. Here are a few of our favourites and their origins to share with you.

- **Pleased as Punch** – from the 17th century puppet show Punch and Judy, where Punch was always happy with himself after he had killed someone.
- **No spring chicken** – from the time New England farmers sold their newborn chickens in the spring.
- **Bite the bullet** – when there was no time to perform anaesthesia, surgeons told their patients to bite the bullet to distract themselves from the pain.
- **Blood is thicker than water** – when warriors shed blood together in battle, they were said to build stronger bonds than biological family members.
- **Break the ice** – still happening today, ships would break the ice to get to a port in order to unload their cargo. People break the ice with each other when meeting, to help relax everyone.
- **Sleep tight** – originates from the time when mattresses had to be tied onto bed frames with ropes to make the bed firmer.
- **Butter someone up** – an Indian custom when clarified butter was thrown at statues of gods to show good favour.
- **Go the whole 9 yards** – dates back to World War 2 when fighter pilots were given a 9-yard chain of ammunition to fire at the enemy. If he did, he went the whole 9 yards.
- **Cat got your tongue** – when the whip used the cat-o'-nine-tails was used by the English Navy for flogging, which left the victim speechless due to the pain.
- **Let your hair down** – from the time Parisian nobles could only let their hair down and relax at home, otherwise they'd face public condemnation.
- **Kick the bucket** – back in the days when slaughter houses put a bucket underneath a cow when they were about to kill it.
- **More than you can shake a stick at** – dates back to the time when shepherds controlled their sheep by shaking their staffs in the direction the flock should move.
- **Rule of thumb** – when a 17th century judge ruled that a husband could beat his wife with a stick if it was no wider than his thumb.

- **Saved by the bell** – to prevent people being buried alive, bodies in coffins had ropes attached to a bell they could ring if they weren't dead.
- **Waking up on the wrong side of bed** – the left side of the body or doing anything with your left side was seen to be sinister. Innkeepers pushed the bed against a wall, so guests had to get out on the right side of bed.

Monthly Humour – bridge players will always assist their fellow competitors if they ask for advice (after the boards are played naturally). Sometimes the advice freely given has the occasional hooks!

A doctor and a lawyer were talking at a party. Their conversation was constantly interrupted by people describing their ailments and asking the doctor for free medical advice. After an hour of this, the exasperated doctor asked the lawyer, "What do you do to stop people from asking you for free legal advice when you are out of the office?" "I give it to them," replied the lawyer, "and then I send them a bill." The doctor was shocked, but agreed to give it a try. The next day, still feeling slightly guilty, the doctor prepared the bills. When he went to place them in his mailbox, he found a bill from the lawyer.

A Special Thanks - to the club members who kept in touch with other members during the lockdown period.

Reminders

- 4 July - Junior Pairs
- 12 July - Mahine Creagh for all club members
- **If your contact phone number has changed then please pass this onto the Committee.**

Ash

Ash Fitchett
Newsletter Editor