



AUCKLAND NORTHLAND REGION ..... APRIL 2025



# NEWSLETTER



Eds: Lysandra Zheng, Jane Stearns

## REGIONAL GROWTH

The Region is pleased to announce a **second consecutive year of growth** in membership numbers across our region. As clubs work hard to attract new players and improve their retention methods it is heartening to see our growth continue.

No other region has got back to their post-Covid levels seen in 2022, whilst our Region is forging ahead with strong growth. Our Region had set the goal of returning to 3,000 members by end March 2025. We have missed our target by 13 – but hope the figures below show how well our region's clubs are performing.

		2022 Mar	2023 Mar	2024 Mar	2025 Mar
Auckland/Northland	TOTAL	2853	2846	2920	2987
Waikato Bays	TOTAL	1959	1921	1921	1897
Central Districts	TOTAL	1785	1705	1718	1694
Wellington	TOTAL	2004	1877	1837	1849
Canterbury	TOTAL	1654	1626	1600	1602
Otago Southland	TOTAL	1426	1394	1389	1327
Top of the South	TOTAL	835	823	797	800
	GRAND TOTAL	12516	12192	12182	12156

## Auckland EASTER CONGRESS

It's not too late to register for this 3-day event!

Play your choice of tournaments and join the fun at Auckland Bridge Club!

**INT/JUN 5B + OPEN 10A PAIRS**  
**OPEN 10A TEAMS**  
**3A WALK-IN PAIRS**

SEE FLYER PAGE 9







## SUCCESS IN TASMANIA

New Zealand pairs put up an excellent performance in the Tasmanian Festival of Bridge. Two Aucklanders were at the top of the Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs, with **Ashley Bach** & Arlene Dalley and Hugh McGann & **Candice Smith** taking out both 1st and 2nd, with Ashley and Arlene also taking the silver medal in the Australian Open Swiss Pairs.



## AUCKLAND'S INTERNATIONALS

Although happening 400km apart, the two Teams events of 22nd March were both won by Aucklanders.

Up in Whangarei, the **100% Barrells Open Teams** were won by Team BADLEY (**Ian Berrington, Fuxia Wen, Paula Boughey, and Duncan Badley**) who brought home a convincing victory in the 16-team event, winning all 6 matches of the competition and finishing with a comfortable 10 VP lead.



In Rotorua's **Kelly Peirse Memorial Teams**, Team FRASER-HOSKIN (**Zachary Yan, Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin, Lysandra Zheng, and Tim Pan**) hovered between 2nd and 6th in the 24-team field until a 20 VP win in the final round allowed them to overtake Team PELKMAN and win the event by a much less comfortable 10 VPs.

All four pairs will be attending the APBF Championships in Hefei, China this May. Team FRASER-HOSKIN are 2/3 pairs in the Open, with Ian Berrington and Fuxia Wen playing in the Mixed, and Paula Boughey and Duncan Badley as the reserve pair for the Seniors.

**Support our APBF teams by playing the online Good Friday Fundraiser!**

5B INT/JUN SWISS PAIRS  
5A OPEN SWISS PAIRS

**\$30 PP**



OPEN: Vivienne Sexton, Jayne Broome, and Maureen Russ



JUNIOR: Anne Lovich, Jayne Broome, and Carlene Mason



INTERMEDIATE: Roger Johnson, Jayne Broome, and Cynthia Johnson



The Broome Double Shot Trophy

## "DOUBLE SHOTS" AT WHANGAREI

We return to Whangarei to congratulate **Vivienne Sexton** and **Maureen Russ**, two-time winners of the NZ Wide Pairs event, finding another success in the Broome's Family Pairs Tournament. Vivienne and Maureen scored a respectable 58.93% over the two sessions.

The combined Intermediate and Junior field comprised of a respectable 25 pairs and saw **Anne Lovich** and **Carlene Mason** taking out the Junior prize. Meanwhile, the Intermediates were rewarded with a brand-new prize...

While cleaning out the former Whangarei Bridge Club bar, club members came across a pair of nips once used for measuring alcohol, but now charmingly adorn a new trophy. The aptly-named "double-shot" trophy – awarded to the top Intermediate/Junior pair in Whangarei's Broome Family – was inaugurally presented to **Roger** and **Cynthia Johnson**.

Thanks to all those who supported Whangarei Bridge Club in this tournament, and above all, thank you to **Jack** and **Jayne Broome** for their generous sponsorship.

# Regional Championships

SEE FLYER PAGE 10

TRIALS: 3-4 MAY  
AUCKLAND BRIDGE CLUB

**The deadline for entering the trials is fast approaching!**  
**Enter before Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April to have your chance to represent the region.**

The trials will be held **face-to-face** at Auckland Bridge Club over the weekend of 3-4 May. Entry fee is \$75 for two days of play. Players must be able to represent the Region if successful at Palmerston North on the Thursday and Friday prior to Congress start, over 6-7 November.

**Many players had asked for the trials to be face-to-face - this is your opportunity to step forward and support this event. We want to put our very best team forward to challenge for the Dougal Maclean in 2025 – register on the [NZB website](#) today.**



# Out and About JANE'S JOURNEY



## JANE STEARNS

Our Region's chair has been visiting some of our clubs, meeting with key committee members and discussing the wins and challenges they face.

Jane's portfolio on the Regional Committee is club growth and supporting clubs to grow and retain their membership numbers.

### 1 Hibiscus Bridge Club

**First up: a visit to Hibiscus Coast Bridge Club.**



A beautiful setting in Edith Hopper Park, these clubrooms are a real stunner! Meeting with Club President Robert Chidlow and several members of a hard-working team, we had a helpful exchange of ideas with an outline plan of actions for the committee.

### 2 Papatoetoe Bridge Club

**Next stop was Papatoetoe Bridge Club for a meeting with President Mark Buckley and tutor Lance Bowden, listening to the challenges the club faces in its recruitment.**



The demographic of the area surrounding the club has changed over the years and bringing new people to the game is an area they most need support with. Although a relatively small club, they have some of the biggest participation rates, with the numbers of their members taking part in sessions and tournaments extremely high.

The club, with others, have been focusing on their constitution and going through all the steps necessary to meet the new Incorporated Society Act requirements. They have had added work as they are also a charity. They spoke also of their 'Ultra-Restricted' tournaments, as did Papakura and Franklin, which together with Howick provide support to novice players. These gentle introductions to a tournament format are proving a popular initiative, introducing players to travelling to other clubs to play.

## ARE YOU PREPARED?

## Has your club re-registered under the new Incorporated Societies Act?

See Page 7 for more information

### 3 Papakura Bridge Club

**The next stop was Papakura Bridge Club.**

I met with their secretary Barbara Stretton, tutor Claire Gunn and several enthusiastic committee members.

This year they had used the NZB social media campaign for lesson advertising and felt it had worked extremely well.

Claire told me she had 22 new students which was the largest intake in



a long time. We talked about possible retention methods and how they manage that important transition stage from lesson into play. I will be sending them some of the ideas we discussed and shared.

### 4 Franklin Bridge Club

**The last stop was Franklin Bridge Club.**

I met with Club Captain Terry Evans, tutor Maureen Nelson, and a very enthusiastic group from their committee.

Their clubrooms have a very prominent position in the heart of the town and their signage on the busy road front is a real asset to them. I admired their flier campaign from last year and learned that they were pleased with numbers from their NZB social media campaign this year.



14 had come to the first lesson with a further 4 expected in the second week. One challenge is to ensure the intake matches those leaving the club.

Although not keen to have too big a class, they recognise that if 19 members are taken off the register each year, they need 19 to be retained to simply stay even, and that may take 30-35 students to be achievable. Ideas were shared and I'm sending notes of our discussions through to the club.



*Watch this space!*

*Jane hopes to visit both clubs on Waiheke Island, Howick, Waitemata, Warkworth and Mangawhai later in the year.*

# DIRECTING TOOLS

## Allan Joseph's comprehensive course for all you need to know.

The course materials from Allan Joseph's excellent **Online Club Director's Course** are available to everyone.

This comprehensive course provides all you need to know for the reluctant director who helps out at club sessions, through to those wanting to qualify as a club director.

The materials include access to the recorded sessions, videos, slideshows, quizzes and practical scenarios.

Even though the course itself is mostly complete anyone can have access to the materials. Simply contact Allan Joseph providing the details here and he will enable your access to the materials, all of which are free courtesy of NZB.

Allan hopes to run these online courses for both potential club and tournament directors in future.

Look out for enrolment and start dates!



Get in touch with Allan Joseph:

**foodmaidnz@gmail.com**  
**027 468 8972**

Provide your:

- ❖ Full Name
- ❖ Home Club
- ❖ NZB Number

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR LAWS?

Even just as a player, it's good to be prepared and know what happens when things go wrong.

You've probably seen it before: you win the auction, and to your surprise, your RHO leads a card. You check, and they're not on lead.

**As the declarer, what are your options?**

### Need some help?

Take a look at Caroline Wiggins' handy [visual guide](#), or watch Ed Roggeveen's in-depth [YouTube presentations](#)

When the opponents make a mistake like this, you're allowed to **accept** it. If you do, *either*:

- ❖ Partner puts down dummy, but the trick starts from RHO, or
- ❖ You put your own hand down as dummy, and partner declares

And if you **don't accept**, the lead returns to your LHO. Now the mistaken lead is a **penalty card**.

Again, you have several options. *Either*:

- ❖ Impose no restrictions, but the card stays on the table and must be played when possible, or
- ❖ Require **or prohibit\*** the lead of the suit, in which case the penalty card is picked up

*\*If you prohibit a lead, the effect lasts as long as the correct opening leader stays on lead.*



# INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT UPDATE

A reminder to all of our clubs that the clock is now ticking on re-registering under the new Incorporated Societies Act.

## This is not a five-minute task.

There are processes to work through, including a review of your **club constitution**.

If you are an incorporated society and have not started this piece of work for your club - please start today.

**If your club does nothing: from 5 April 2026 it will cease to exist.**

Well done to all our region's clubs that have this "done and dusted".

If you need any support with this process at your club, please contact NZB Board member Anne Barrowclough who has helpful resources and is happy to offer advice: [Anne.Barrowclough@nzbridge.co.nz](mailto:Anne.Barrowclough@nzbridge.co.nz)

## REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

### Hibiscus Intermediate/Junior 5B Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter Thompson & Kevin Kemeys  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Blackie & Roger Smith

### Hibiscus Open 3A Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Tarbutt & Steve Boughey  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin & Grant Jarvis

### Mt Albert Junior 3B Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Zindh Waleed & Sam McNae  
2<sup>nd</sup> Peter Thompson & Kevin Kemeys

### Mt Albert Intermediate 5B Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bill Leach & Kerri McCrae  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sharon Gray & Shirley Xu

### Waitemata Restricted 8B Pairs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Leah Andrews & Graham Wakefield  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Leach & Kerri McCrae

**LOOKING FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN?  
CHECK OUT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS...**

# UPCOMING *Tournaments*

## AUCKLAND NORTHLAND REGION

**19  
20  
21  
APR**

AUCKLAND

### EASTER CONGRESS

INT/JUN 5B + OPEN 10A PAIRS

OPEN 10A TEAMS

3A WALK-IN PAIRS

**25  
APR**

AUCKLAND

### ANZAC DAY PAIRS

OPEN 8B

**27  
APR**

PAIHIA

### QUAIL RIDGE TWIN SILVER PAIRS

OPEN STRATIFIED 8B

**03  
04  
MAY**

AUCKLAND

### REGIONAL TRIALS

INTERMEDIATE

OPEN

WOMENS

SENIORS

**06  
MAY**

AUCKLAND (ONLINE)

### TUESDAY PAIRS

OPEN 8B

**10  
MAY**

HOWICK

### RESTRICTED PAIRS

RESTRICTED 8B

KERIKERI

### DOLPHIN PAIRS

OPEN 8B

**FIND YOUR EVENT  
[HERE](#) TO REGISTER**

*Dan Gifford*

**RUBBER BRIDGE  
COMPETITION**

SEE FLYER PAGE 11

A reminder that entries close for the rubber bridge competition on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April**.

Enjoy **twice the chances to win**, as our Region has two places to fill – courtesy of Tom Jacob and Malcolm Mayer winning the title for Auckland-Northland last year.

Register with **Grant Jarvis** ([gjarvis@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gjarvis@xtra.co.nz))



# AUCKLAND BRIDGE CLUB

## EASTER CONGRESS

Akl/Nthl Prov. Pairs	10A	69 - 75 Boards	Saturday 19th April	start time 9.30am	\$60	exp. finish 6.30pm
Intermediate/ Junior Pairs (min. required 20 pairs)	5B	50 - 54 Boards	Saturday 19th April	start time 9.30am	\$40	exp. finish 4.15pm
Congress Teams Includes Entry to Finals or Walk-in Pairs Monday	10A	70 - 72 Boards	Sunday 20th April	start time 9.30am	\$85	exp. finish 6.30pm
Walk-in Pairs	3A	50 - 54 Boards	Monday 21st April	start time 9.30am	\$40	exp. finish 4.15pm
Teams Final	10A	50 - 54 Boards	Monday 21st April	start time 9.30am	N/C	exp. finish 4.15pm

*Morning / Afternoon tea included*

**Lunches BYO**

**Entry fees** are per person

**Register** via the NZ Bridge website

**Entries close** 5pm Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025

*Please ensure your HelloClub Account has a balance sufficient to cover the entry fee which will be debited on the day of play*

*Prize money for top place getters will be paid to your HelloClub Account*

**Prize money all categories Top 3 + more**  
(subject to sufficient entries)



\$150



\$125



\$100



**CONTACT**  
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DOUGAL MCLEAN TROPHY

NEW ZEALAND  
**BRIDGE**  
A GAME FOR LIFE

# TRIALS: REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Compete for the Dougal McLean Trophy in  
a tournament where everybody matters!

Regional Championships held at  
Palmerston North @ 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> NOV

TRIALS 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> MAY | AUCKLAND BC

ENTER BY FRIDAY 25 APRIL



ENTRY FEE \$75 | PAY ONLINE TO 02-1264-0006590-000



TRIAL IN YOUR CATEGORY



.....  
INTERMEDIATE | OPEN | WOMEN | SENIOR

Two pairs to qualify in each category





DAN GIFFORD  
NATIONAL

NEW ZEALAND  
**BRIDGE**  
A GAME FOR LIFE

# RUBBER BRIDGE COMPETITION

Represent Auckland-Northland at the  
National Finals during NZ Congress  
**7:30 EACH DAY WEDNESDAY 12 – FRIDAY 14**

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ENTRIES TO GRANT: [gjarvis@extra.co.nz](mailto:gjarvis@extra.co.nz)

**ENTER BY SUNDAY 20 APRIL**

JUNIOR SYSTEMS ONLY



**\$1000 FIRST PRIZE**

Two pairs to qualify from **Auckland-Northland**

Tim & Lysandra who will represent NZ in China this year



Support our elite players on the world stage!

# Easter Friday Online Fundraiser Tournament

New Zealand's top bridge players have the skill, the dedication, and the drive to compete internationally—but getting there isn't cheap. Unlike other countries where elite play is fully funded, our players have to fund most of their expenses out of their own pockets. Let's come together as a bridge community of 12,000 to back our rising stars! Your participation or contribution helps ensure bridge remains an inclusive sport where talent, not finances, determines success.

Sign up here: [www.nzbridge.co.nz/events.html](http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/events.html)

Or donate here to support all NZ international players:  
[www.givealittle.co.nz/org/nz-bridge-foundation](http://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/nz-bridge-foundation)

