

# What's Trumps?

The Newcastle Bridge Club Newsletter #8 - December 2013

## A new year ahead

Welcome to your end-of-year newsletter. There has been a small hiatus in newsletter production due partly to there being little of great consequence to report from committee meetings but due mainly to the extended absence of its editor.

Rest assured, committee has been meeting and functioning well over this period to the extent that here are a few reminders worthy of your attention.

2014 is just around the corner which means time for subs and a new programme. Booklets are ready for collection and subs for the year are:-

- Full membership \$35
- Full pension membership \$30
- Associate membership \$25

Please get them paid promptly if you have not already done so.

## Library Facilities

Committee took the unprecedented step at its last meeting of abandoning the library facility that has been available to members. A disappointing decision perhaps but whilst a few books have been excellent references for members endeavouring to improve their skills it was felt that the information and guidance in those books could be accessed from other resources. Disappointing also that some of the better books have gone missing which is a sad reflection on the integrity of some members.

## First Aid Kit

One other item meriting attention is the contents of the first aid kit provided by the Club. Eileen Sellers has been looking into the needs of members in this regard and offers the following comments.

In accordance with the club's strategic objective to 'foster and promote enjoyment of bridge' in the past year the Club instigated an evacuation plan

and upgraded the car park. Most recently, the first aid kit has been updated to meet current standards regarding duty of care.

The kit is located in the cupboard near the rear entrance, the door of which is clearly marked with the distinctive green cross logo. The contents of the kit, mainly bandaids, clean dressings and sterile gloves, are provided as simple aids *to treat very minor injuries*. There are no oral medications as provision of these is prohibited by law.

**In the case of a critical health event such as a fall, dizziness, fainting, vomiting or severe headache, it is important that an ambulance be called by dialling '000'. If in *any* doubt call an ambulance.**

While awaiting the ambulance, provide comfort and support to the injured party and if appropriate, keep them warm. A thermal blanket is provided in the kit for this purpose. Minimal intervention is the key to not causing further harm. Do not elevate or massage limbs or apply creams. Cool running water should be immediately applied to burns. Drinks should not be offered and the victim should not be moved.

Hopefully, there will be no need for the kit or this information in the future. Enjoy your bridge!

## Roy's Crossword

Have you seen it on the webpage? Have you tried to answer the clues? Give it a go and if it is not too late there is a prize for one lucky member who submits the correct solution.

## Congress Results

Members have been active in local congresses since last reporting. Without going into too much detail a few notable successes have been:-

- Port Stephens Teams:  
1<sup>st</sup> Atkins/Hill/Wagstaff and Atkins.
- Taree Teams:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Broughton/Wilks/Simes/Johnson.
- Central Coast Almost Summer Teams:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Broughton/Wilks/MacLaurins.
- Brisbane Waters Restricted Teams:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Brouwer/McConnell/Ritchie/Pletz.

Full results for all congresses are available through the NSWBA website.

Whilst on the subject of prize winners, committee needs to issue a timely reminder concerning the eligibility of who qualifies to win prizes at the Club. *Rules and Regulations* state that to profit from prizes on offer for specific events, the player must be a financial member of the Club. That does not preclude anyone playing in the event or for them to be awarded any session masterpoints they may gain. Put simply, non-financial members do not qualify for prizes.

### **The Tuesday Christmas Luncheon**

An update from your erstwhile, intrepid reporter Stewart Roach.

Newcastle Bridge Club vice-president Bruce Webster praised Allan Goodwin for his efforts in promoting the sport when making a presentation to him on behalf of 55 members at the Tuesday Bridge group's Christmas luncheon at Elements Cafe Deli on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bruce credited Allan and his brother Peter for the resurgence of bridge resulting in record numbers for the Tuesday session. The brothers took up the reins of directing when Neryl Babbage retired after building table numbers up to around 10 a session.

Over the past few years Tuesday's sessions have reached 18 tables as was the case on December 3<sup>rd</sup> before the luncheon. Bruce said Allan was one of the first directors to split the session into two groups and congratulated him of his efforts.

Allan had a stroke earlier this year and is making a good recovery although he is not back to playing at present. Peter is now controlling the Tuesday group which has been bolstered in the ranks by players from Wayne Morgan's Wednesday night classes, which continue to attract good numbers.

Wayne showed his ability as a player as well as a first-class mentor during the year. Starting in January he qualified for the Grand National Pairs in Canberra with Rod Bell. He then won the Brisbane Waters pairs with Jill Blenkey and the teams event with Rod Bell, Alison Lea and Sue Pullman. He excelled in November taking out the Saturday

three-week pairs event with Jill Blenkey and the Tuesday three-round event with Effie Roach.

His Wednesday night teaching sessions now include pairs play as well as the coaching but will be in recess over Christmas and New Year to resume on January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Rookies Judy Dwyer and John Burns celebrated their success in the three-week Tuesday pairs handicap event by winning the east-west section of play on the day of the presentation. John may be seen in his other role as a musician, performing his Irish music at the Bennett Hotel, Hamilton on the third Sunday of each month.

### **Seasons Greetings**

To you all from Committee, have a safe and enjoyable Christmas period with best wishes for improved performances in the New Year.