

Thank you

Last Friday night we raised **\$2,150.00** for **Liam Milne and Michael Whibley**. The support and generosity of our members and the spirit with which the Club got in behind to help fund Liam and Michael to Macau was fantastic. We sold a record 600 raffle tickets! One comment I heard: *"I'm really glad I joined the Wellington Club – only Wellington would do this"* and there were many other compliments too. It goes to show that our big bridge family is happy to rally round to help out when asked. The many donations of cash and raffle prizes from members were incredibly generous and your support on the night was truly appreciated.
Jenny Delany

Youth Bridge

In mid-June **Michael Whibley** and **Liam Milne** go to Macau to represent NZ in the youth team playing in the Pacific Asia championships. Their team-mates are **Susan Humphries/Nick Jacob** (Auckland) and **Nick Bailey/James Coutts** (Dunedin), with **Stephen Blackstock** (npc). Michael and Liam are two of a group of very promising juniors who have appeared on the Wellington scene in recent years. It's great to see them (and others) doing so well, the future of bridge locally and nationally looks to be in good hands.

Travelling to international events is not cheap – NZB pays a small proportion of the expenses, the players will have to find up to \$2500 each to cover the rest. The team's grateful thanks go to all those who so generously supported the Fundraiser last Friday night, and especially to Jenny Delany and the committee and to Allan Joseph who gave so much of their time to help out.

Wellington has other players competing in Macau too: **Alan Grant** and **Anthony Ker** are in the NZ open team, and **Michael Gibson** is in the senior team. You can follow their progress, and perhaps also watch them play, on BBO. The event begins on June 19.
S Blackstock

From the Committee.

Club Night Start Times - You MUST be seated by 7.20 pm

At this month's committee meeting it was strongly recommended we must create an easier environment for the BridgePads to work in. A significant problem is that having set up a movement prior to play it creates difficulties if latecomers are allowed to play. (This is a general problem in any event especially with the more complicated movements we operate under) but it is exacerbated by the BridgePads.

Therefore the Committee must advise that arrival times will be strictly enforced and latecomers cannot play. This is a decision of the Committee and not the director. If someone is going to be running close to time if they ring the Club in advance then the director can have the discretion to allow that because s/he can still set up the movement in advance. The BridgePads cannot be set up until the movement is certain.

Bridge Pad Operators.... "BPO's"

We need persons outside of the Directors to be trained in the use of the BridgePads which might appeal to those of you who volunteered in the past to score. This would then take the pressure off inexperienced directors who have enough to cope with immediately before the start of play. Apparently some clubs have both a conventional director and a bridge pad organiser and the system works well for them. This is of course no reflection on any director and if any director wants to operate both functions we should be delighted with that. ***If you are keen, please give your name to Allan Joseph or Dot.***

Directors exam...

Good luck to the 5 candidates from our club who are sitting their Directors exam on 23 May.

Housekeeping:

- Please note chippies and peanuts are now \$1.50 packet.
- The committee organised a fire evacuation drill last Tuesday. These will be held on various club nights at six monthly intervals.

Playing Numbers: It is interesting to see how consistent our numbers have been over the last five years – here are comparative totals of players for the calendar year to the end of April.

2005	3790
2006	3826
2007	3736
2008	3872
2009	3892

Tuesday night numbers have mushroomed over the last two years and this is due to the excellent beginners' lesson programme run by Alan Grant with organisers this year, Bridget Hannaway and Ruth Edgerton.

Beginners Lessons

Our next series of lessons start Tuesday 30th June for twelve consecutive weeks. Spread the word to your friends and neighbours!

The present series of lessons finishes next Tuesday 19 May. We have had 6-8 tables of new players and from Tuesday 26 May we hope they will join the main room and enjoy a whole new world of the best card game! If you would like to help these new players for the first few Tuesday evenings in June, please let Dot know.

Improvers lessons for Tuesday players (free of charge) are run by Kerry Geertson fortnightly on Monday nights 7.30 to 9.30pm. These are proving very popular - Kerry had 9 tables for his last lesson. On Monday 18th May he will be looking at leads and signals. If you want to join in, just turn up. Kerry's email is: coach@internet.co.nz

Jean Peche Memorial prize for 2008

Congratulations to **Liam Milne** who was successful (along with Nick Jacob (Auckland)) in winning the Jean Peche Memorial prize for 2008. This award is for the most promising player who is under the age of twenty-one years on 31 December.

Liam's recent international results include:

PABF Congress, Queensland, Sept 2008

7th - Final A PABF Stratified Pairs
2nd - Final PABF Youth Teams - losing to China 1 to take the silver medal

1st World Mind Sports Games, Beijing - Oct 2008

- Competed in U26 NZ Youth Team in World Youth Teams Championship
- Only NZ pair to make finals of World Youth Pairs (U28) – finishing 19th out of approx. 266 pairs.

Summer Festival of Bridge - Canberra - Jan 2009

2nd - Open Last Train
4th - AMP Men's Pairs
Qualified 15th out of 192 in South-West Pacific Teams to make round of 20 in the NOT, going on to beat 9th, 5th and 1st seeds before being knocked out in the semi-finals by Horwitz team. Final placing: 3rd equal.

Congratulations!

Recent Tournament results:

(apologies if we have missed anyone)

Centre Island Pairs, Palmerston North, 9 & 10 May

Our members in the top spots were:
2nd Tony Lenart & James Lee
3rd Michael Whibley & Michael Ware

Upper Hutt Multigrade, Sunday 10 May

1st Ken Barnett & Nebojsa Djorovic
2nd Lorraine Inglis and Helen Todd

Mixed Sex Pairs – 26 April

1st Sandra Pritchard and Graeme Norman
2nd Andrea Gluyas and John Davidson
3rd Mindy Wu and Anthony Ker

Paraparaumu Open - 19 April

1st Ray Gruschow & Graeme Norman
2nd Robyn Freeman-Greene & Dinnie Hall
3rd Max Wigbout & partner

National Teams Champs

Thank you for putting your names on the notice board. The teams will be selected shortly. The Wellington playoff will be held on 14 June at Victoria Bridge Club. Supporters please feel free to kibbitz... Good Luck Wellington Bridge Club!

DIRECTORS CORNER..

We have all noticed some of the following mannerisms in others.

- A player passes by slashing almost totally across the bidding pad when she/he wants their side to stop bidding.
- As Dummy, a player holds their hand hovering over a card before declarer makes a choice.
- Players who frequently communicate by sighing, tsk-tsking, face pulling, lip tightening, head shaking, dagger – staring and the like.
- A player whose partnership uses a discard system, displays their discard for partner to see before placing it on the table.
- In between rounds, a player who stands over the next table watching the play of a hand they are still to play later that session.
- Experienced players who verbally pounce on beginners who forget their bidding system and as a result get a lucky break and score a top board.
- After a 1H – 2H sequence, opener says ever so innocently, “Well I’m just not sure partner,” and then rebids 3H.
- A player who mindlessly continues to shuffle the cards while having a “post mortem” even though the next table is waiting for the board.

Sometimes unconsciously we may display some of these mannerisms and reactions as well. Continuous self education will gradually but steadily improve the standard of our club sessions. **Allan Joseph**

BBO Vu-graphs

Lots of our members are familiar with BBO (Bridgebase Online) and the wonderful Vugraphs available each week. Hopefully we shall see our 5 Wellington members on Vugraph at Macau in June. One of the regular commentators is alhollan1 and I asked him how the Vugraph all works. Personally I think the commentators are amazing – they spend hours and hours for our enjoyment. Thank you Al.

“For most tournaments, Roland Wald sends out email to people who have offered their services – a strictly voluntary job. The email describes the name of the event, the scheduled time vugraph will begin [shown in multiple timezones by way of well known cities [New York, LA, Sydney, London, Paris, number of boards for the set, description of the set [Final [ex F3] Round of 16 [ex. R16-1], Round Robin, etc], number of tables that will be on vugraph [and using which language] and often a link to the tournament’s home page, which isn’t always in or translatable to English.

I’ve noticed that tournaments from Italy, Scandinavia, parts of Europe and especially China schedule tables that have commentary just in English, with others in the native tongue of the host country. I don’t know if this holds true for other parts of the world, but am positive about the ones I’ve listed. The idea of separating commentary by language is at least twofold:

- 1) Same language encourages interaction of the commentators [some are good at that, others just focus on the given hand]
- 2) It gets confusing enough to follow threads when multiple people are doing commentary. Personally, I think 3 is optimal, 4 manageable and 5 or more a zoo. One exception is inclusion of a system guru who ONLY describes auctions/carding agreements for certain pairs. Example: Walter Johnson [bigtrain] is THE expert on RM Precision [the meckwell system where RM = Rodwell-Meckstroth]. I think it is great when we have a system expert at the table especially when a relay system is in play.

Roland then works some magical formula, assigns people to various vugraph “rooms” and sends out email with the assignments. There may be a different coordinator when the event has NO English tables, but Roland is multi-lingual [I’ve heard 11 or more languages] so who knows. ☺ Some tournaments do not use Roland to coordinate commentators. Recent examples are: Australian

Playoffs [their Team Trials] and The Cavendish from Las Vegas.

You may have noticed that sometimes you can chat with a commentator, other times not. The commentator controls that in his/her BBO Profile. Inclusion of “+++” in the notes allows anyone to send a personal chat to a commentator who is in a vugraph room. **(that’s how I met Al……. Editor)**

There are no documented rules or recommendations for commentators. Each has a unique personality. Some focus just on the play of the cards seen [double dummy] others analyze single-dummy [as you would need to do if playing]. The latter can give great insight into at-the-table thought processes, especially on defence by describing problems that partner may have by inability to see your hand. In Australia, Peter Gill is great at feeding insight into the personalities and histories of the players, teams and tournament. Personally, I love when a commentator relates stories from the greats of the past [no, not the 1990s – earlier than that ☺]. Another personal favorite of mine is commentators who pole fellow commentators about actions taken or not, adjustments to hands that would have them choose another action and systemic or conventional approaches that exist but may not be in the current player’s arsenal. Oh yeah – some commentators are very dry, others bring levity/humor to the show.

Do the viewers have a preference? If so – you should let somebody know either by sending Roland Wald email [roland_wald@hotmail.com] or a BBO chat [Walddk2] or posting something on the BBO Vugraph Forum.”

Billets - Reminder please:

We need more billets please – thank you to those who have offered. Our club is hosting a **National Youth Training Weekend 21-23 August 2009**. We will need to billet approximately 15 players. If you can give one or two of them bed and breakfast Friday 21 and Saturday 22 August (or even one of those nights) and possibly deliver them to the club in the mornings, please tell Dot or Jenny Delany.

CLUB RESULTS

MORLEY/BENNETT LADDER

- 1 Alistair Young
- 2 Gail Tippet

JUBILEE CUP

- 1 Karl Hayes & Murray Jurgeleit
- 2 Anthony Ker & Mindy Wu

PRESIDENTS CUP

- 1 Turei Haronga, Matt Sutherland, Christine Haronga, Ruth Edgerton.
- 2 Jan Borren, Jenny Borren, Tone Borren, Frances Blyth

AUTUMN PAIRS

- 1 Barbara Allen & Michael Stride
- 2 Gloria Crabbe & Brian Meads

Good Luck from us all to:

- **Liam Milne, Michael Whibley, Alan Grant, Anthony Kerr and Michael Gibson** at Macau in June.
- **Martin Reid** who is playing in a team with Tom Jacob, Michael Cornell and Ashley Bach at the 4th European Open Championships, Sanremo, Italy, 12-27 June. Martin tells us: [“It’s a championship which is open to all-comers, so it’s only a NZ team in the sense that we’re all NZ’ers –](#)

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