

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

FAREWELL AGNES RICHARDS



Life Member and Founding Member Agnes Richards passed away on 7 August 2021 after a brief spell in hospital. We fondly remember Agnes's dry wit and her enjoyment of the moment. A book will be on the front table later this month for those who wish to record anecdotes for Agnes's family.



PIZZAS

Pizzas, prosecco and Pavarotti are on at the club for **Friday 20 August at 6.00pm**. Bring along your home partner for some social time before play starts at 7.15pm.

If you don't usually play on a Friday, please come along anyway. Add your names to the list on the front table for catering.

The proverbial chocolate fish goes to the best Italian lookalike. Caesar? Bacchus? Romeo and Juliet? Donatella Versace? Verdi?

CLOSURE The club will be closed for all activities over three days at the end of September so the new air conditioning units can be installed. There will **no play on Thursday 30 September**. Play resumes as usual on Friday night 1 October.

TOURNAMENT THANKS



We hosted around a hundred people at our Multigrade Tournament on 1 August. We are grateful for the huge effort and many hours put in by so many of our members, and particularly Tournament Coordinator Anne Ricketts, to make this event run so smoothly and successfully.

RECYCLING

We like to recycle used items where possible.
Please put all paper, and only paper in the paper recycling bin



and put plastics and metal into the landfill bin.



FIRST AID

Just so everybody knows, the First Aid box is a green metal box on the floor by the fire extinguisher. Please make use of the First Aid requirements whenever needed. If someone collapses there are blankets and a pillow in the tall white cupboard under the picture rail. Emergency procedures are detailed on the noticeboards.

MEMBERS' CORNER

Contributions from members

I've started playing contract bridge, they say it helps the brain
 But adding tricks and counting trumps is driving me insane
 I once was bright and happy and content in every way
 But from the day I started, all my hair began to grey

It all began some weeks ago, they said "It won't take long"
 You wouldn't think such good advice would turn out quite so wrong
 "You'll pick it up no trouble if you've played some cards before.
 It may take several lessons ..." I need a hundred more

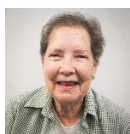
With positives and negatives, finesses left and right
 My head is overflowing, I cannot sleep at night
 And when they say I'm vulnerable I know they've got my measure
 They're keen to find my weaknesses, it seems to give them pleasure

"And bidding's so important, show your partner that you're strong
 Bur don't say seven diamonds, you're going to get it wrong"
 So 'cause my partner's not my wife I'll often take a chance
 But when we go down several tricks I cringe before his glance

In defence I'm nothing wonderful, I often lead their call
 Their faces see to brighten and they really have a ball
 My partner stares me in the eye and gives a sullen frown
 If I had led the two of spades we could have took 'em down

And doubling's something good to do, you only need a cross
 Miss Wilson marked my homework thus to show she was the boss
 The rules in bridge get broken I'm reminded all the time
 Though when I dare to do it, it gets treated like a crime

Perhaps I'm not a natural. Perhaps I'm just a fool
 Perhaps I didn't concentrate when I was still at school
 Whatever and wherever, I'm not to be a champ
 I'm just destined for obscurity or death from writer's cramp



... thanks to Janice Oakenfull

and the poet from Kaitaia