



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

secretary@crockfordsbridgeclub.nz

Newsletter

Wednesday 1 April 2026

Dear members,

Following the Easter break, we look forward to the Teams night on the following Friday. In April, we start up the first of the series of NZ Bridge improver/ intermediate lessons, and we hope many and their playing partners will make the time to come along to the Sunday afternoon sessions.

Overview of upcoming events at Crockfords:

April

Friday 10th

Teams night

Sunday 19th

Improver lesson: Minimum, invitational, game forcing hands

May

Friday 1st

The Haigh Trophy match

Sunday 3rd

Improver lesson: Doubles

Friday 8th

Teams night

OTHER NEWS

From the AGM:

The committee much appreciated the support shown at the AGM including the discussion that followed the formal part of the meeting. Given the slowly declining membership, the discussion was centred around the retention of graduates from the beginner lessons and the ongoing support that is necessary to see recent graduates progress as active players. A follow-up phone survey of the 2025 beginner lesson attendees is being developed by a group of Senior players. Thanks to all who have supported this initiative, and we look forward to analysing the results.

Re Russley Village – Maples tournament:

This club tournament was cancelled due to only 9 tables being registered. The next club tournament is The Haigh Trophy on Friday 1 May.

We hope there will be more support from our members for this tournament.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fun Teams night Friday 10 April 7pm:

The next Teams Night of the year is Friday 10 April. As usual, Luisa has emailed a reminder to register for this event. Please register with Luisa (lucy.mini@hotmail.com or text 021 126 0922).

Improver/ intermediate lessons April – September program:

We have scheduled nine lessons, taking the last two of the NZ Bridge Improver lessons and seven of the Intermediate lessons. Lessons are all scheduled for Sundays from 2pm – 4pm at the dates listed in the table below, and including references to the respective topics. Our thanks go to the three tutors who have offered to share their expertise on these topics.

Topic	NZB reference	Date	Tutor
Minimum, Invitational, Game Forcing Hands	Improver lesson 9	19 April	PVL
Doubles	Improver lesson 10	3 May	PVL
Transfers	Intermediate lesson 1	24 May	RW
Checkback Stayman	Intermediate lesson 2	21 June	PVL
Competing over opener's 1NT opening	Intermediate lesson 5	5 July	BR
Competitive bidding – when we open	Intermediate lesson 6	9 August	RW
Competitive bidding – when we overcall	Intermediate lesson 7	23 August	RW
Michaels cue bid and unusual 2NT	Intermediate lesson 8	6 September	PVL
Weak 2 suiter openers	Intermediate lesson 12	27 September	RW

Tutors: Peter Van Leeuwen (PVL), Richard Williams (RW), Brian Rowland (BR).

FROM PAST EVENTS

Weekly results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to following pairs:

Week starting	Pair	Session	Result
16 March	Lia McCloskey and Emily Massey	Senior Reserve	65.08%
23 March	Kate Gidlow-Black and Emily Massey	Senior Reserve	68.65%

FROM THE OFFICE

Please remember to keep an eye on the notice board for tournaments in the area.

The Sumner Bridge Club will host its regular Saturday night of bridge this coming Saturday, April 4th at our Clubrooms at 57 Dryden Street. Starting at 7:00 PM (seated NLT than 6:45 PM).

A friendly request: please promote bridge to your friends in order to grow our membership numbers.

Sponsor feature:



**Celebrating a
life well lived**

We're here to listen, and help
you honour your someone
special and the things
they loved

Lamb & Hayward
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

0800 99 22 00 | lambandhayward.co.nz

We wish to thank Craig Mennie and the team at Lamb & Hayward for becoming Crockford's sponsors this year. Their financial support is very much appreciated.

Having operated for 100 years, they are proud to remain an independently owned Canterbury funeral company, with a reputation for the highest of service standards within the profession. Their goal is to provide families with a genuinely caring experience, that includes trustworthiness in all aspects of the service.

To this end they are working with Consumer NZ to lift industry standards in consumer protection and price transparency and are the first funeral home to have achieved a Consumer NZ Trusted accreditation

Contact: Craig Mennie:
Craig@lambandhayward.co.nz
Phone: 0800 99 22 00

On behalf of the committee, a very happy Easter to you all.

Kirsten Nissen
President