



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

secretary@crockfordsbridgeclub.nz

Newsletter

Wednesday 15 April 2026

Dear members,

This week, we have scheduled the first of a series of NZ Bridge improver/intermediate lessons. We encourage members and their playing partners to prioritise a time commitment to join these Sunday afternoon sessions.

Overview of upcoming events at Crockfords:

April

Sunday 19th Improver lesson: Minimum, invitational, game forcing hands

May

Friday 1st The Haigh Trophy match, sponsored by The Russley Village

Sunday 3rd Improver lesson: Doubles

Friday 8th Teams night

UPCOMING EVENTS

Improver lesson: 'Minimum, invitational, game forcing hands' on Sunday 19 April at 2pm:

This year, we will start the series of lessons with an important lesson: NZB [Improver lesson 9](#), (Minimum, invitational, game forcing hands). We hope many will take up the opportunity to improve and challenge their playing skills by attending these practical and interactive sessions. Please bring along a partner if possible. Cost is \$5 pp to cover cost of handouts and other overheads.

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.

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).

The Russley Village - Haigh Trophy tournament Friday 1 May 7pm:



We like to take the opportunity to thank The Russley Village for their continued cooperation as one of our main sponsors for Crockfords. Please see more information at end of this newsletter.

This is a Crockfords mixed grade tournament, and you play with a partner of your choice. Please register your pair on the board in the foyer or by notice to the office before Wednesday, 29 April. The table fee is \$10 (paid in cash on the night), and it will be wonderful if you can bring a plate to share for supper.

Beginner Lessons:

Is it a puzzle
or is it a game
of cards ?

**Learn to play
Bridge...**
the best card game in the world!

Crockfords Bridge Club
218 Riccarton Road, Christchurch
<https://crockfordsbridgeclub.nz/>

Our next round of beginner lessons begins on Wednesday, 10 June 2026 at 1:00pm. This 12- week course includes comprehensive lesson notes and is perfect for anyone keen to learn the game.

If you know friends or family who might be interested, please encourage them to join. Flyers are available in the foyer and at the Director's desk—feel free to take some to share!

FROM PAST EVENTS

Weekly results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to following pairs:

Week starting	Pair	Session	Result
30 March	David Carter and Emily Massey	Senior Reserve	67.13%
6 April	Emily Massey and Lia McCloskey	Senior Reserve	67.56%

Teams night 10 May results:

We had 16 teams playing in the April Teams event - eight teams in each section. Attendees were 19 from Crockfords, 38 from Christchurch BC, 5 from Lincoln BC and 2 from Sumner BC. Congratulations to the two winning teams:

Red section ('Team Oranges'):

Lei-Anne Dobbs, Estelle Boivin, Pam Butler, Joanne Deely



Green section ('Just Gremlins'):

Emma Fitzgerald, Finley Duncan, Leo Hammond, Kat Holmes



FROM THE OFFICE

Reminder as per the newsletter:

The entry form for The Haigh Trophy match, sponsored by The Russley Village, for Friday, 1st of May. Either put your name on the entry form or let the office know that you want to register. Entries closes on 29 March. A sharing plate for supper will be much appreciated.

Again, we thank Rob for the hard work re the bathroom renovations.

Thank you to the members who have paid their subs for 2026. There are still a few members that still has to paid yet. It will be much appreciated if this can happen before the end of April as the Club is being charged by New Zealand Bridge for membership and levies.

Ilam Toyota is renting the car park from us. So, whilst it might be a bit inconvenient at times, it is good to get some income. Please be aware of traffic.

Sponsor feature:



**THE REASSURANCE
OF QUALITY**

The Russley Village is known for premium design, layout and extensive facilities that deliver an uncompromised lifestyle during retirement. Offering a blend of crafted independent villas, terraced houses and apartments, The Russley is a complete and comprehensive community.



**THE RUSSELY
VILLAGE**

YOU SIMPLY HAVE TO SEE TO FULLY APPRECIATE

Telephone 03 357 9392 | russleyvillage.co.nz

THE RUSSELY VILLAGE

The Russley Village has been a Crockfords sponsor for a number of years. Our sincere thanks to the team there for this much valued support.

The village is set within 8 acres of award-winning gardens and grounds, and offers traditional villas, terraced houses and modern apartments for independent living, as well as the Ashley Care Suites for rest home or hospital level care.

With lovely amenities such as the Russley Homestead, the Pavilion, a large swimming pool and hot tub, cinema, bowling green, café and licensed restaurant, there are many activities to enjoy. Friends and family are always welcome.

If you would like to look around the facilities, phone Jeanette McEachen on 021 918 996. She'll be happy to take you on a wee tour.

On behalf of the committee, happy bridging and greetings to you all.

**Kirsten Nissen
President**