



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

secretary@crockfordsbridgeclub.nz

Newsletter

Wednesday 29 April 2026

Dear members,

The stunning autumn weather provides an encouragement to spend time outside, and we will feel refreshed when sitting down at the bridge table. We look forward to playing at the club tournament on Friday, sponsored by The Russley Village, and a week later to the Teams Night.

Overview of upcoming events at Crockfords:

May

Friday 1 st	The Haigh Trophy match, sponsored by The Russley Village
Sunday 3 rd	Improver lesson: Doubles
Friday 8 th	Teams night
Sunday 24 th	Intermediate lesson: Transfers

UPCOMING EVENTS

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



We like to take the opportunity to thank The Russley Village for their continued support as one of our main sponsors. The Russley Village specifically sponsor the cost of our bidding pads and a club tournament.

This is a Crockfords mixed grade tournament, and you play with a partner of your choice. Prizes will be issued to top placings and to best Junior/ Intermediate pair. Please register your pair on the board in the foyer or by notice to the office before Thursday 30 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.

Improver lesson: 'Doubles' on Sunday 3 May at 2pm:

The next and also the last improver lesson for this year will be: NZB [Improver lesson 10](#) (Doubles). 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.

Following on from this Sunday's lesson, we have scheduled 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
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).

Teams Night Friday 8 May at 7pm:

The next Teams Night of the year is Friday 8 May. There will be a reminder email to register for this event. Please register with Luisa (lucy.mini@hotmail.com or text 021 126 0922).

OTHER NEWS

Update on beginner classes:

From Monday 25 May, we will be welcoming new graduates from our beginner classes to join the Junior section of the Monday night session. We much appreciate the members who have attended the lessons for their valuable input to mentoring their play. The new graduates will continue to have mentoring support during the first weeks of play in the Junior section. We will appreciate any experienced players who can offer their time with helping the beginners getting up to speed.

We are also looking ahead to the next set of beginner classes starting Wednesday 10 June at 1pm. Flyers are available at the desk in the foyer and at the director's desk. Our best promotion for learning to play bridge is through our membership's encouragement. Please pick up flyers and distribute across communities of interest.

Online lessons for your newer members start in May - NZ Bridge initiative:

Options: Sunday, or Tuesday, OR BOTH for just \$8

Declarer Play in No Trump:

Sunday 10 May 4pm - 6pm and Tuesday 12 May 7pm - 9pm

Declarer Play in a Suit Contract:

Sunday 24 May 4pm - 6pm and Tuesday 26 May 7pm - 9pm

Registering is easy:

1. Go to nzbridge.helloclub.com
2. Put money in your account
3. In Calendar, click on the lessons you want to attend

Participants receive a link to RealBridge prior to each lesson, followed by an email after the lesson with the learning material.

FROM PAST EVENTS

Weekly results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to following pairs:

Week starting	Pair	Session	Result
13 April	Elena and Peter Udy	Thursday pm open	64.56%
20 April	Robert Whitla and Lisa Cescon	Senior Reserve	67.92%

FROM THE OFFICE

Club Celebrations:

Congratulations to Anne Holwell and Peter Bullion who came third in the 5B Tournament at Otago Bridge Club on Sunday, 12 April 2026.

On Friday, 24 April, the Prime Minister attended the monthly National Party lunch meeting. The liaison person would like to thank the Committee for their assistance and being available on the day, namely Kirsten and Rob. Neelam, the Club's cleaner, also did a great job in getting the Club presentable. Thank you very much.

Please see upcoming tournaments on the notice board.

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.

Happy bridging!

Kirsten Nissen
President