



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

secretary@crockfordsbridgeclub.nz

Newsletter

Wednesday 13 May 2026

Dear members,

As we are planning the merging of new graduates with the Junior section of the Monday night session we are also looking ahead to the next set of beginner classes on Wednesday afternoons starting second week in June. Your help with promoting the opportunity to learn playing bridge and its associated personal benefits is hugely beneficial to the future of our membership.

It is also worth noting that the remaining Sunday afternoon lessons will focus on selected topics from the more advanced Intermediate lessons prepared by NZ Bridge. We highly recommend members make use of these opportunities to upskill their play by taking part in these lessons.

Overview of upcoming events at Crockfords:

May

Sunday 24th Intermediate lesson: Transfers

June

Friday 12th Fun Teams night

Sunday 21st Intermediate lesson: Checkback Stayman

Friday 26th Nola Mather tournament

UPCOMING EVENTS

Intermediate lesson: 'Transfers' on Sunday 24 May at 2pm:

The next lesson on 24 May will be: NZB [Intermediate lesson 1](#) (Transfers). 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 another six 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
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
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Tutors: Peter Van Leeuwen (PVL), Richard Williams (RW), Brian Rowland (BR).

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. 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 mentoring our new Junior players on the Monday nights starting 25 May to end of June. Please contact Kirsten or the office if you can help.

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.

FROM PAST EVENTS

The Russley Village – Haigh tournament results:

We had nine tables of members playing in the club tournament sponsored by The Russley Village. Congratulations to the winning pair of The Haigh Trophy: Barbara Geddes and Keith Mabin, and to the pairs who scored second and third places: Jan Barrow and Diane Findlay, and Naomi Kirwan and Kaye Buchan.



Fun Teams night 8 May results:

There were a total of 14 teams in the May Fun Teams night. With 32 people participating from the Christchurch BC, 17 from Crockfords, and people from Sumner, Rangiora and Lincoln, made a great representation of bridge players from the Greater Christchurch.

Red section (8 teams): 'Who cares?'
Joan Shields, Linda Ryan, Andrew McGowan, Maureen Power



Green section (6 teams): 'PURLS'
Linda Zhang, Pam Tibble, Richard Lapthorne, Sue Southern



Weekly results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to following pairs:

Week starting	Pair	Session	Result
27 April	David Carter and Kate Gidlow-Black	Senior Reserve	66.50%
4 May	Kate Gidlow-Black and Finley Duncan	Senior Reserve	66.96%

FROM THE OFFICE

Your assistance re promoting the upcoming beginner classes starting Wednesday 10 June at 1pm will be much appreciated.

Our premises will be in full use during the weekend. The annual Canterbury Chess Championship will be held at the club.

Sponsor feature:

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We would like to sincerely thank Whittle Knight for its on-going sponsorship of Crockfords.

Founded in 1966, Whittle Knight is a family-owned Christchurch real estate company that has proudly led the way in providing Canterbury homeowners with an individual and outstanding quality of service in property sales, residential rentals and property management, commercial sales and leasing, and valuations.

For many years the company has also enjoyed close links and associations within the wider community. Whittle Knight is a motivated team of professionals whom you can trust for their reliability and knowledge.

For further information, contact Jo Williams on 348-4149, email jo@whittleknight.co.nz, or check their website at www.whittleknight.co.nz.

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

Kirsten Nissen
President