



# 2022 CONGRESS BULLETIN

OCTOBER 1 – OCTOBER 8 2022 • LION FOUNDATION CENTRE • BAY PARK, MT MAUNGANUI



TECT



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BULLETIN #4, Monday 3 October 2022



**NZ OPEN PAIRS WINNERS**

**SHANE HARRISON and**  
**ANDY HUNG**



**NZ RESTRICTED OPEN PAIRS**  
**WINNERS**

**JEFFERY REN and**  
**PREM SOUNDRA**



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Tuesday 4 October:

NZ Open Teams	9:30am + 2:00pm
NZ Restricted Teams	9:30am + 2:00pm
NZ Open Teams	2:00pm
NZ Restricted Teams	2:00pm

### Wednesday 5 October:

NZ Open Teams	9:30am
Round of 16	2:00pm
NZ Restricted Teams	9:30am
Intermediate Swiss	9:30am + 2:00pm
Open Swiss	2:00pm
Restricted Swiss	2:00pm

### Thursday 6 October:

Open Swiss	9:30am + 2:00pm
Restricted Swiss	9:30am + 2:00pm
Open Teams QF	9:00am
Open Teams SF	2:30pm
Junior Pairs	9:30am + 2:00pm
Intermediate Pairs	9:30am + 2:00pm

### QUIZ ANSWER (SATURDAY)

- 1) The celebrity bridge player who would have turned 90 this year is **Omar Sharif**.
- 2) The billionaire bridge players taught by Sharon Osberg are **Bill Gates** and **Warren Buffett**

Congratulations to **Jena Robinson** of the Thames club. We'll get the voucher to her.

### CAPTION THAT (SATURDAY) WINNER

Thanks to everyone who sent something in. Caroline Wiggins was the judge for this and has picked the winner because (in her words, she has a warped sense of humour). So congratulations to **Julie Downs** of the Mount Maunganui club!



Quick, he's not looking. Put the whoopee cushion there!

### RUBBER BRIDGE FINALS

The following will contest the finals of the 2022 National Rubber Bridge competition, Matches are being played at Mt Maunganui Bridge Club on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings (5th-7th October)** at 7.30 pm Spectators are welcome.

#### **Auckland-Northland**

Duncan Badley and Chris Marshall

#### **Waikato Bays**

Charlotte Jager and Tyrel Glass



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## Central Districts

Michelle England and Phil Beale

## Wellington

Joan Waldvogel and Joan McCarthy

## Top of The South

Chris Henry and Ann Baker

## Top of The South 2nd pair

Rosemary Hargreaves and Bev Hurst

## Canterbury

Tim Schumacher and Jan Alabaster

## Otago/Southland

Sam Coutts and Brad Johnston

## NZ BRIDGE JIN CLUB

Junior • Intermediate • Novice

A reminder of the **three free seminars** during the National Bridge Congress given by top teachers and players. They are particularly aimed at Intermediate and Junior players and are scheduled on days when they will be at the Congress.

Each will start at **8.30am** and will last between 30 and 40 minutes, enabling all to be able to start play at 9.30 am.

They will all take place in a seminar room upstairs above the main playing area at Bay Park.

### Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>:

**Malcolm Mayer** - "When to be aggressive: when to be passive"

### Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup>:

**GeO Tislevoll** - "How to improve your game with common-sense"

### Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>:

**Barry Jones** - "The penalty double has died and gone to heaven". When and why to double.

There are a small number of passes left for the JIN Club meet and greet with the Bridge Zone Crew at their house with finger food (or bbq) and refreshments on the evening of **Thursday 6 October** from 6:30 to 9pm. It's a chance to talk about your views on bridge, give feedback on the Congress and a general Q and A. see Barry Jones or Mereana Cullen asap for a pass.

## PLAYER PROFILE:

In this series of profiles, we learn about the players attending this year's Congress who have been "ever present".

Today, we meet Havelock North's Gary Duncan.

### When and why did you take up bridge?

I learnt bridge in 1968 as a 5th year medical student at Otago kibitzing in the common room instead of going to lectures.

I was posted to Hutt Hospital early 1971 and joined the Hutt Bridge Club.



### What are some achievements / highlights you'd like to share?

I enjoyed nearly 40 years at the club serving many years on the committee including 2 years as president plus some years on the Wellington Regional Committee many as President and 2 terms on the old NZCBA management committee. During this time, I worked as a Plastic Surgeon very busy in Public and Private and raised 3 children. Bridge was a great relaxation. In those early years I developed a partnership with Ron Humphries and our wives and families became close friends. In 1973 I think Ron and I qualified for the Wellington Intermediate Interprovincial Team and played in the IP championship held for the first time in



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the 2 days prior to the National Congress in Rotorua. I think this was an initiative promoted by Lionel Wright. We came second and stayed on to play the entire 8 days. I loved it and it became the first entry on my yearly planner.

## What are some memorable things about Congress?

I can confirm I have been to all Congresses so far and look forward to many more. I am a very average player qualifying for the finals every second year. I had a serious stroke 3 years ago and so I am very pleased to be able to play again at this level. As the years passed and Congress grew the Quality Inn playing rooms became too small and we spilled over into the Heritage Motel and then to the Gandhi Hall. For the Swiss Events top table was in the main playing room but the bottom was in the Gandhi Hall - some walk away often in the rain and with a "strong aroma" of curry. In the early days our main aim was to avoid the Gandhi but as we improved, we slowly made it to the main playing room and eventually to qualification for the finals.

The shift to Hamilton was initially hard but it quickly became our home and very familiar.

My best memories are all the wonderful friends I have made and all the amazing characters who play the game. I remember Lionel so well. It seemed to be his birthday every time we sat at his table. Others included Curly Del Monte and his family, Johnny Lenart and Peter Benham who seemed to be able to stay up all night and still play great bridge the next. My favourite bridge moment was making a dodgy slam on a squeeze against Geir Helgamo.

## What other interests do you have outside of bridge?

I have not yet retired from surgery but plan to soon to allow more time for bridge, golf and my garden / farmlet and family.

## COMPETITION: WHO IS THAT?

A \$50 restaurant voucher (which can be donated to someone at Congress) if you can identify the gentleman in this old photo who is present at this year's event. (Hint: It is NOT Patrick Carter). Answers to [nzcongressed@gmail.com](mailto:nzcongressed@gmail.com) (preferred) or 0212804746 or dropped off to me **by 1:30pm Wednesday**. Be sure to include your name and phone number. Winner informed by text and published in Wednesday's bulletin.



## CURLY DEL'MONTE AWARD:

This will be presented at the end of Congress for a player who demonstrates an act of excellent sports(wo)manship. If you would like to nominate someone, please write it down on a piece of paper, explaining why, and give it to Chief Director, Murray Wiggins.

## QUIZ:

Two questions again, and you need to answer both correctly to go into the draw for a \$50 restaurant voucher (which can be donated to someone at Congress). Answers to [nzcongressed@gmail.com](mailto:nzcongressed@gmail.com) (preferred) or 0212804746 or dropped off to me **by**



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**1:30pm Wednesday.** Be sure to include your name and phone number. Winner informed by text and published in Wednesday's bulletin.

The "father" of the modern game of contract bridge has a cup in the American Contract Bridge League named after him. Winning this is considered one of the greatest achievements a player can claim.

Questions:

- 1) Who is the aforementioned person?
- 2) He was a director and executives of a company involved with what mode of transport?



WITH ...

**Name:** Derek Bartosh.

**Club:** Auckland.

**Years playing Bridge:**  
This is my 4th.

**Congresses Attended:**  
My first live Congress, but I played the online Congress earlier in the year.

**Favourite convention:**

I like the CRO extensions of Michaels and Gerber.

**Bridge Highlight:**

Runner up in the Intermediate teams at the Congress earlier in the year and my partner and I were top of the datum in the Restricted Open teams. I haven't won anything ... yet!

**Favourite hobby outside Bridge?** Golf.

**What's your favourite place you have visited?** Japan.

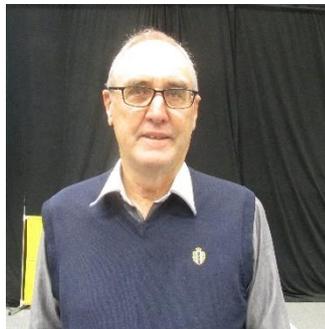
**Charles or William?** William.

**How do you like your eggs?** Fried over easy.

**Favourite cuisine?** Japanese.

**Finish the sentence. People say I am ...**  
analytical ... or anal (laughs).

**Final question. What does a perfect day start with?** Breakfast and coffee.



## RACE TO THE FINISH LINE IN NZ OPEN PAIRS AS AUSSIE VISITORS HANG ON.

### **Congratulations to Australia's Andy Hung and Shane Harrison, this year's winners of the Congress NZ Open Pairs!**

After 2 rounds of qualifying on Saturday, the field was split into 4 sections, creatively called A, B, C and D. The A section consisted of the top 28 pairs, B the next 28 and ... well you get the picture.

Going into the final session, **Shane Harrison and Andy Hung** were at the top of A grade, with a lead of 69 match points over **Ian Berrington and Graeme Tuffnell** with **Alan Grant and Anthony Ker** a further 29.6 back. A handy lead for sure, but not insurmountable. A Barometer movement was in use so players moved up and down after each 3 board round. This can sometimes lead to contracts being bid and lines of play being attempted that might not ordinarily happen.

**Shane and Andy** didn't have a great start to the final session and after 6 of the 9 rounds found themselves being chased by **Blair Fisher and George Masters**, who had started the session in 4<sup>th</sup> position. However, a strong finish saw them hold on and win the event by 52.6 match points. **Alan Grant** and **Anthony Ker** had a solid final session and held on to their third placing.

Helping Blair and George's run for the title was their result on Board 21 against Mark and Paul Hangartner.



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<b>Board 21</b>	♠ A 7	
North Deals	♥ J 9 8	
NS Vul	♦ Q 9 8 7 5	
	♣ J T 2	
♠ K J 4 3	N W     E S	♠ Q T 9 2
♥ 7 2		♥ T 5
♦ K 3		♦ A J 6 2
♣ A 9 8 4 3		♣ K Q 5
	♠ 8 6 5	
	♥ AKQ643	
	♦ T 4	
	♣ 7 6	

and Andy also had a strong finish with their last 9 boards scoring 27, 96, 83, 100, 23, 100, 54, 81 and 35.

So, a great finish to the event. The Aussies seem to have one over us in most sports at the moment. At least we still have the Bledisloe (Dieu merci!)

The B grade (renamed Plate) was won by **Jenny Millington and Barry**. The other two grades were renamed Consolation One and Consolation Two won respectively by **Carol Richardson and Andi Boughey** and **John O'Connor and Richard Stuart**.

North	East	South	West
Paul	Blair	Mark	George
Pass	1NT*	2♦**	X
2H***	2S	Pass	4S
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\* 12 – 15

\*\* single suit either major

\*\*\* pass or correct

The Jack ♥ lead was overtaken by the King with the King ♥ following. Then a switch to the 7♣ which went round to the Queen. The 10♠ then lost to the Ace and back came the 2, round to the 9 and the claim was made. Not many pairs bid the game so Paul and Mark may feel a bit hard done by but such is the nature of duplicate pairs and, as mentioned earlier, perhaps the Barometer format and their position on the ladder **may** have encouraged both Blair and George to push slightly (Blair, especially, is known for his extremely conservative bidding approach). Regardless, an 83% board which was the 2<sup>nd</sup> board of a strong run to the finish. Blair and George's last 9 boards scored (in percentages): 62, 83, 54, 69, 92, 15, 100, 100. Fortunately, as mentioned earlier, Shane





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## DOWN TO THE LAST 3 BOARDS IN THE NZ RESTRICTED OPEN PAIRS.

Pairs in which both players were ranked National Master or lower could choose to enter this event. They also had 2 rounds of qualifying on Saturday, and the field was then split into 2 sections: A and B. The A grade had the top 28 and the B the next 26. Leading the way going into the final session in the A grade were **Jeffery Ren and Prem Soundra** who had a 25.8 match point lead over **Nan Wehipeihana and Ruth Brucker** with **Clare Coles and Kevin Whyte** just 5.6 match points behind them.

The big move of the day came from **Graham Young and Shirley Bain** who briefly threatened for the title, finishing a solid third. It came down to the final set of three boards with **Jeffery and Prem** holding a narrow lead over **Clare and Kevin**. Thanks to a slightly better set, **Jeffery and Prem** held on to win by 22.4 match points. Both pairs were playing North-South which made it very interesting! The final set was boards were 13 through 15. On Board 13 Jeffery and Prem got to 1NT and made 3 (Bo Haglund says it makes 1).

<b>Board 13</b> North Deals All Vul	♠ 3 2 ♥ Q J 5 ♦ A K T ♣ J 9 5 4 2				
♠ K Q T 6 ♥ T 2 ♦ 8 4 ♣ A K T 8 7	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ 8 7 4 ♥ A 8 7 6 ♦ Q J 7 6 3 ♣ 3
N					
W   E					
S					
	♠ A J 9 5 ♥ K 9 4 3 ♦ 9 5 2 ♣ Q 6				

16 out of 26 for them as *defending* 1NT paid more. Clare and Kevin opted for a 2♣ contract. Unfortunately, their opponents, **Mereana Cullen and Kevin Birch**, got the defence right resulting in zero match points for them.

Here's the auction at Jeffery and Prem's table:

North Jeffery	East Eve	South Prem	West Brenda
1C	1D	X	XX
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

The decision to bid 1NT as opening strong) rather than 2C paid off well. Board 14 saw Jeffery and Prem score a near max 25 match points with Clare and Kevin scoring 22. So, it came down to the last board which, by happy coincidence, is also today's:



**To be (in slam) or not to be? (with apologies to W. Shakespeare)**

<b>Board 15</b> North Deals All Vul	♠ Q 4 ♥ K 3 2 ♦ A 8 ♣ A T 9 5 4 2				
♠ 9 7 6 5 ♥ J 9 7 ♦ K 9 5 3 2 ♣ 8	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ K J T 3 ♥ T 8 4 ♦ T 6 4 ♣ J 7 3
N					
W   E					
S					
	♠ A 8 2 ♥ A Q 6 5 ♦ Q J 7 ♣ K Q 6				



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Question: Is 31 HCPs enough for small slam? (or even a Grand?)

Non-Precision players will naturally open 1♣ planning to rebid the suit at the 2 level. The hand doesn't look particularly good and the ♣ suit isn't that flash – quantity over quality for sure. However, after it has been rebid after South's 1♥ that suit looks a hell of a lot better! South now has some reason for optimism. They'd quite like to know if partner has the King ♥. In any event, worth exploring surely? Jeffery and Prem clearly didn't think so, getting quickly to 3NT. Clare and Kevin, on the other hand, did decide to have a bit of a look. Missing 2 kings (which are conveniently located in the right place, although of course they are not to know that), they stop at 5NT. Both tables made all 13 tricks, earning 11 out of 26 match points – In their section, 2 pairs bid 6♣, 2 bid a slightly gambling 6NT and 1 pair in, **Joy Williams and Peter Daffurn**, went the whole way to bid and make 7NT. Not sure I'd recommend it as a general course of action, but congratulations to them for having a go and making it!

Bridge, like many sports, is often a case of "what if?" If Clare and Kevin had bid 6NT they would have scored an additional 11 match points and Jeffery and Prem 1 less. That's 13 of the 22.4 needed. So back to Board 13 in which they scored zero ... Superstitious anyone???

Anyway, back to Board 15. 44% of pairs played it in slam, a few more in 6NT than in 6♣ as well as the one in 7NT. 6 pairs had an exploration but stopped short.

So, back to the original question – Is 31 HCPs enough for slam? Answer: The slight majority verdict says no. But on a good day, with a wee bit of good fortune yes and on a great day, with a lot of good fortune, it's enough for a Grand!

A postscript to this – in Round 2 of the Restricted Open Teams, Clare and Kevin (team Stearns) found themselves playing none other than Jeffery and Prem (team Soundra). A good win to team Stearns so a *little* bit of satisfaction for them hopefully.

The Plate was won by **Rochelle van Heuven and Tim Rigter**.

## Only 1 suit in this deck apparently ...

Here's a *slightly* unusual auction where everyone seems to have forgotten there are 4 suits (plus no trumps) in the game:

East	South Heini Lux	West	North Alan Dick
Pass	2♦*	3♦	4♦**
5♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

\* 2 way multi

\*\* you choose the major partner

Here's the full deal:

Board 14	♠ K Q 7 5 4	♠ T 6 3
East Deals	♥ Q 8 3	♥ A 6
Nil Vul	♦ T 6	♦ J 3 2
	♣ K Q 6	♣ A J 8 7 2
♠ A 8		
♥ K 9		
♦ KQ8754		
♣ T 4 3		
	♠ J 9 2	
	♥ JT7542	
	♦ A 9	
	♣ 9 5	

Both Heini and Alan wisely decided that after 5♦ it was time to find the pass.



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“I made it easy for them,” says Heini, “I didn’t bid 6♦!”

With only 8 tricks in ♥ available and basically zero chance of playing it in 2♥, +50 for taking the 5♦ one light scored 24 out of 26 or 92% which was quite satisfactory!

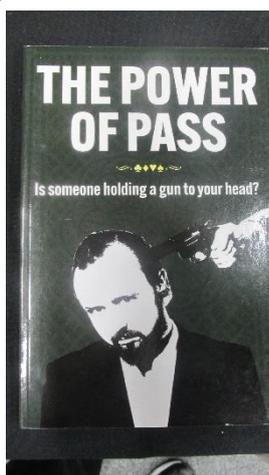
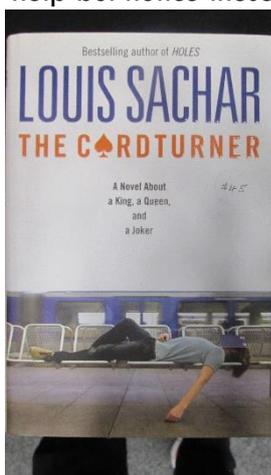
## MISSING IN ACTION

My bridge partners probably think I am talking about my bridge ability, but actually, I’m referring to the **trophy for the South Island Teams**.

**Colin Carryer** is the archivist for NZ Bridge and he has been trying to track this down. It hasn’t been seen for 40+ years! He has spoken to past winners from the 1980s and nobody can recall when it was last seen or presented. The best guess we have at the moment is that someone won it, took it home, and then before it could be given back, passed away and the trophy ended up boxed up somewhere. Unfortunately, we don’t have a photo of it, but, if you have **any** idea where this could be, Colin would love to hear from you. His email is [colincarryer@gmail.com](mailto:colincarryer@gmail.com)

## **Need some help / Got some time on your hands?**

Don’t forget to check out the **book stand** situated at the North end of the room. I couldn’t help but notice these two:



On the left is the novel that young Aengus Moore referred to as getting him interested in bridge (see Bulletin #3). On the right is one a certain unnamed partner of mine from Picton Club might benefit from ... It’s written by some bloke called Ron Klinger who I believe is an Aussie who is not too bad at the game.

**GRAND SLAM CLUB for Monday (all successful grand slammers will go into the draw to win 2 x \$50 restaurant vouchers. Drawn on Thursday morning)**

A very exclusive club today, much like the Putin Appreciation Society...

### Pairs session 3 Board 15:

Joy Williams / Peter Daffurn (7NT)

## TEAMS ACTION UNDERWAY:

Both the NZ Open and NZ Restricted Open teams got underway this afternoon. 62 tables in the former and 20 in the latter meant the room filled up a wee bit more.

Leading the way at this early stage are the **Stearns** team in the Restricted and the **Grant** team in the Open.

