



# Dublin North Region November Newsletter

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## Welcome

First of all, many thanks to all of you who commented or gave us feedback on our first edition launched at the beginning of October.

We would love to help you publicise your functions, events and initiatives, so please feel free to let us know what is happening throughout the region, and we will publicise it through the newsletter, facebook and twitter.

With Halloween now upon us, the bridge year is now truly up and running, with competitions, classes and leagues now racing ahead.

One of the big challenges facing the Bridge World is how to encourage new players, and in particular, young people, to take up the game.



**Michael O'Keeffe**  
**DNR President**



**Jim Mullally and**  
**Mary Rice at the RDS**

This is more than just a challenge for the Irish Bridge fraternity, it is a problem facing players, clubs and associations worldwide.

The CBAI was recently involved in the RDS at the very well attended & successful Over50's Show in the RDS, and while this is great, we also need to explore ways of attracting

those in school, college and starting out on their bridge careers.

**National Pairs and Teams**  
**Results on Page 2**

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In support of this, at the other end of the spectrum, Niamh Gormally, one of our Junior International Players, was promoting Junior Bridge at the Clubs and Socs Day in St Angela's College (NUIG) Sligo.



**Niamh Gormally  
at St Angela's, Sligo**

Attracting new members, of all ages to play is critical to any organisation, and Bridge is no different.

Any thoughts that you might have on this would be gratefully received.

## National Championships

Last weekend saw the annual battle for the prestigious Spiro and Coen Trophies. In the Spiro Cup (Mixed Pairs), where 108 pairs played, Valerie Hand and Thomas MacCormac were the epitome of consistency, with scores of 64.4 and 67.6 in the two sessions to take the title by the slenderest of margins - 0.95%. The leading players here were

1. Valerie Hand and Thomas MacCormac
2. Teresa Rigney and David Jackson
3. Maureen Pattinson and Bob Pattinson



**Valerie Hand and Thomas MacCormack**

In the Coen Trophy (Mixed Teams), 46 teams from all over Ireland competed, with Team Gorczyca, pipping Team De Raeymaeker at the death to take the title. The leading teams here were:

1. Wojciech Gorczyca, Eileen O'Donovan, Maria Whelan, Richard Elvin
2. Karel De Raeymaeker, Anna Onishuk, Aisling Considine, Kelan O'Connor
3. Philina Dowd, Maurice O'Leary, Brigid Shearman, Tony O'Gallagher



And never forgetting the exploits of DNR Players, an excellent performance, from the DNR, saw Fran Ronan, Sean Whelan, Mary Reid and Derek Howe take first place in the Area Masters Teams. Well done on a great performance.



**Fran Ronan, Sean Whelan,  
Mary Reid and Derek Howe**



## Irish Bridge Journal

The Editor of the Irish Bridge Journal, Una Walsh, is making a huge effort to appeal to new readers this season.

The Irish Bridge Journal will have 8 full colour pages in each issue, new articles by Thomas MacCormac & Enda Murphy etc. We have some copies of the September issue to send to you if you're considering taking out a subscription.

Just let me know and I can send some copies to you.

## Sonya Britton Trophy

The Sonya Britton Trophy is an annual match between teams from the NIBU and the CBAI. Each provides 6 teams; Open, Ladies, Officials,

Masters, Intermediate A and Intermediate B.

In August of his year, the CBAI won the trophy with a narrow 491 to 469 points victory. We were especially delighted to see Maureen Meade of Malahide RBC playing in the Officials class & her team's high VPs contributed to CBAI's win.

Comhghairdeas gach duine !

## IBU Simultaneous Pairs

Simultaneous Pairs are a great way to improve your thinking on relatively ordinary hands and to incorporate new ideas & conventions.

With very little time left, let the team at CBAI HQ know if you intend to participate. If you have played last year, your club will be included in the planning, but you might need to confirm the contact to whom the pack should be delivered and the number of tables you expect to have participating..

**IBU Simultaneous Pairs** dates are now Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Tues 4<sup>th</sup> November, Wed 5<sup>th</sup> November, Thur 6<sup>th</sup> and Fri 7<sup>th</sup> November.



## Christmas is Coming.....

If you're looking for presents for those bridge players in your life, there a plenty of interesting gifts available from the CBAI.



As well as supplies for your clubs, there is a wide variety of gift sets, including the very popular Andrew Robson calendar, china, pens etc.



For more information, contact the CBAI or click on the link <http://cbai.ie/1stop/gifts.asp?tab=4>

## Bridge Seminars

Following on from an excellent set of seminars with Anne Doyle, the next seminar will be held in the Malahide Regional Bridge Club. While targeting Inter B Players, anyone who feels that they might benefit is most welcome.

- 1st Nov: Weak 2's ( Paddy English)

At only €10 per seminar, this promises to be an excellent opportunity to both enjoy and improve your bridge. For details contact Mary Reid on [\(086\)1010698](tel:0861010698) or email [reid.maryb@gmail.com](mailto:reid.maryb@gmail.com)

## Charity Bridge (Foxhall)

Foxhall Bridge Club are running a Charity Bridge Tournament in All Saints Church Hall in Raheny on

- Sunday 30th November at 2.pm

Proceeds are in aid of St Francis Hospice, Raheny and All Saints Church. At only €10 to enter, any and all support, for this excellent cause, would be most appreciated.

And of course, all grades & standards welcome ! For tickets, contact, Dick Kiernan [0876392546](tel:0876392546), bJohn Treanor [0872318675](tel:0872318675) or DNR President, Michael O'Keeffe [0872136609](tel:0872136609).

## Duais an Uachtaráin

Every year, the new CBAI President holds the annual President's Prize or Duais an Uachtaráin. Held in the President's local region, this year's Duais was held on the last weekend in September in the Clarion Hotel in Sligo.

Suffice to say, this year's Duais was an outstanding success, with a record entry, and excellent weekend, and over €1,200 donated to charity to tackle Motor Neuron Disease.

President, Fearghal O'Boyle said, "*My heartfelt thanks to everyone who played in my President's Prizes in Sligo at the weekend. I am deeply humbled that so many of you came to play in this event and broke all entry records in the process!*"

*My thanks also to those who were unable to attend but who nevertheless sent their good wishes"*

As well as the formal bridge matches, both the President, Fearghal O'Boyle and the CEO, Paul Porteous accepted the Ice Bucket Challenge to raise funds for The Motor Neuron Disease Association.

Well done to both Fearghal and Paul and looking forward to hear how last year's President, Thomas MacCormack does following his nomination by Fearghal.



**Well Done to Paul and Fearghal**

The overall winners were

1. Sean O'Lubaigh - Martin Brady
2. Jeroen Lodewijks - Richard Elvin
3. Maureen Pattinson - Bob Pattinson

However, keeping the best wine until last, it was great to see a large number of Dublin North Region players who took part in Sligo and did us proud, with very strong performances among the superstars of the Irish Bridge world.

A special mention to the DNR Secretary, Kay McDonald and Catherine Quinn, who played exceptionally well and won second place among the Intermediate A players.



**Catherine Quinn and Kay McDonald**

## Education

Over the coming weeks, we hope to include a section here on all courses, classes etc which take place in Dublin.

If you know of any of these, please let us know and we make sure to publish these.



## Drogheda Congress



**Fearghal O'Boyle & Cathrina Bellew**

Each year, many of the Dublin North Region players, head up the M1 to Drogheda to the Bridge Congress, which this year was celebrating their 21st birthday.

Always a happy hunting ground for our DNR members,

it is always a great, welcoming and friendly event, and a credit to our Drogheda neighbours.

The DNR roll of honour this year included:

- ♣️ **Eamon Galligan (MRBC)** who was partnered by **Fiona Brown** (World and European Ladies Bridge champion 2012), who dominated the Congress Pairs from start to finish



**Warmest Congratulations to Eamon**

- ♣️ **Maureen & Declan Keane (CRC)** who walked away with the prestigious Grand Prix award, after coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Inter A Pairs, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Inter A Teams
- ♣️ **Aidan Synnott, Tom Heary, Richard Trehay & Evelyn O'Donnell (Glasnevin)** who won 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Confined Teams Prize
- ♣️ **Frances Ronan & Sean Whelan (MRBC)** who were in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Confined Pairs.

- ♣️ **Collette & Martin Walsh, (CRC)** who partnered Maureen and Declan Keane to 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Inter A Teams



**Maureen, Collette, Declan and Martin**

- ♣️ **Jeanne Colvin & Mary Deane (MRBC)** were joint 3<sup>rd</sup> in the B Pairs
- ♣️ **Joanne Lyons and Anna O'Donnell (CRC)** who finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Intermediate A Pairs

Finally a huge congratulations to Drogheda for a great Congress....see you all again next year !

## Peter McVerry

We were delighted to hear that the President of DNR Michael O' Keeffe and his wife Marie attended and won a prize at the Bridge Charity organised by Mrs Ann Taaffe in the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel for Fr Peter McVerry and the homeless. Well done to Michael and Marie !



**Michael and Marie with Peter McVerry**



## Limerick Congress



*Presentation to played in the 1st and 50th Limerick Congress*

If you thought Drogheda were doing well, Limerick celebrated their Golden Jubilee, with the 50<sup>th</sup> Congress being held there in October.

While less of the DNR players headed over to Limerick, those that did were rewarded with an excellent weekend.



*Celebrating the 50th Limerick Congress in style*

Some of the main results in the Congress were as follows:

### **Congress Pairs**

1. Gay Keaveney & Peter Goodman
2. BJ O'Brien & Mike Pownall
3. Tom McCarthy & John Russell

### **Congress Teams**

1. Maureen Pattinson, Bob Pattinson, Ger Connolly and Pat Liston
2. Gay Keaveney, Ranald Milne, Mike Pownall and Enda Glynn
3. BJ O'Brien, Adrian Thomas, Peter Goodman and Diarmuid Reddan

Well done to all and in particular to the Limerick Team who did an incredible job.

## Events Calendar

Over the next few months, there are a number of important events coming up.

### **November 2014**

- 31-2/11 IBU Interregionals
- 3-7 IBU Simultaneous Pairs
- 7-9 Donegal Congress
- 14-16 Dundalk Congress
- 14-16 Lady Milne Trials
- 21-23 Kilkenny Congress
- 21-23 Kenmare Congress
- 21-23 Lady Milne Trials
- 29 DNR Regional Pairs

### **December 2014**

- 5-7 Master Pairs

## DNR Regional Pairs

The DNR Pairs are coming up soon, so make sure you're planning this now. This is open to all pairs who are members of a club in Dublin North Region.

### **Masters - Cummins Cup**

Qualifier for the Davidson Cup, being held on 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 in Athlone.

### **Intermediate As - Moran Cup**

Qualifier for the Laird Cup, being held on 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 in Athlone.

### **Novices & Intermediate Bs - Dillon Cup**

Qualifier for the Civil Service Cup, being held on 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 in Athlone.

This is scheduled for Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 at 10am Malahide Regional Bridge Club. To book online, log onto

- [www.dnrbridge.com/styled/styled-25/contact-form-3/index.php](http://www.dnrbridge.com/styled/styled-25/contact-form-3/index.php)

Alternatively call

- Gerry McHugh on 086 264 2654



## Kirwan League

At last, with a fanfare of trumpets, the Kirwan League has kicked off. There has been a good entry at all levels, and we'll keep you updated as the results come in. As usual, Malahide has a particularly strong entry, but with 52 teams entered, there is a total of 16 clubs represented in what looks like being a great year of competition.

### Novices

In the critically important Novices Competition, there are 9 teams competing, which is up on last year. These are

#### Section 1

1. *Dennis (Lusk)*
2. *O'Duiginn (Malahide)*
3. *Mason (Glasnevin)*
4. *Finnucane (St Anthony's)*

#### Section 2

1. *McCormack (Lusk)*
2. *Costello (Malahide)*
3. *McLoughlin (CRC)*
4. *Rosney (Lusk)*
5. *Barry (Foxhall)*

### Inter B

This Section has the usual good entry, and typically is very tightly fought for the title, with many excellent players coming through. These 12 teams are:

#### Section 1

1. *Deane (Malahide)*
2. *McCormack (Swords)*
3. *O'Hara (Foxhall)*
4. *Hogan (Dublin Teachers)*
5. *Roughan (Lusk)*
6. *Moran (Glasnevin)*

#### Section 2

1. *Hamilton (Malahide)*
2. *McQuillan (St Gabriel's)*
3. *Carey (Dublin Teachers)*
4. *O'Brien (Iona)*
5. *King (Glasnevin)*
6. *Hickey (St Anthony's)*

### Inter A

This is always the most competitive section. With a large entry, there has been some changes to the format, with the 23 teams being.

#### Section 1

1. *Prats (C.R.C.)*
2. *Weafer (Malahide)*
3. *Nagle (Dublin Teachers)*
4. *McCarthy (Dublin Teachers)*
5. *Rogan (Whitehall Regional)*

#### Section 2

1. *Sherlock (St Gabriel's)*
2. *Cahill (St Marnock's)*
3. *Hooper (Malahide)*
4. *Gallgher (St Anthony's)*
5. *Walsh (Beaumont)*
6. *O'Brien (Glasnevin)*

#### Section 3

1. *Kiernan (Baldoyle)*
2. *O'Driscoll (Raheny)*
3. *Malone (Iona)*
4. *Harrington (Swords)*
5. *Miller (St Gabriel's)*
6. *McAllister (Malahide)*

#### Section 4

1. *Gallagher (St Gabriel's)*
2. *Kelly (Baldoyle)*
3. *McCaul (Malahide)*
4. *Treanor (Foxhall)*
5. *Ellis (Malahide)*
6. *Watters (Sutton)*

### Masters

This title is for bragging rights and like last year is dominated by teams from MRBC.

1. *Quinn (Malahide)*
2. *Caulfield (Malahide)*
3. *Ronan (Malahide)*
4. *Gilligan (Malahide)*
5. *Howe (Malahide)*
6. *Quigley (CRC)*
7. *Lawlor (Gate Club, Drogheda)*
8. *Keane (Balbriggan)*

**"May the odds ever be in your favour.....agus go n'éirí on t-adh libh go léir"**



## CBAI Diary & Playing Cards

The annual diary full of all the fixture information for the year has been distributed around the Regions. If you haven't ordered or received any of them, let us know – they are just €5 each.

The CBAI are also expecting the delivery of special value playing cards any day now. These are AIG Insurance company branded cards with their logo in a joint venture with the CBAI, and are available at a very special net price of €1 per pack.



The same quality as our standard Carta Mundi Diamond card, they will be available for all clubs and quantities will be rationed so that every club can be involved.

And even better, the CBAI will supply them to you **free of delivery charges!!**

Contact CBAI at (01) 492 9666 or on [info@cbaire](mailto:info@cbaire)

## Follow Us !

You can catch up with regular updates on

Our website :  
[www.dnrbridge.com/](http://www.dnrbridge.com/)

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/DublinNorthRegion?ref=hl](http://www.facebook.com/DublinNorthRegion?ref=hl)

Twitter :  
[@DNRBridge](https://twitter.com/DNRBridge)

We'd love to have you follow us and give us feedback.. and please be patient, we're learning !



## Dublin North Region Committee

Your committee is working hard to help and support all of the activities in the Region. Please feel free to contact any of us, if you feel we can assist or support your club in any way.

Our committee members are as follows:

Michael O'Keefe (Foxhall) *President*  
Martin McMahon (C.R.C)  
Mary Reid (Swords)  
Kay McDonald (Raheny)  
Teriona Rogan (Whitehall Regional)  
Liz Sherlock (St. Gabriel's)  
Margaret Rowland (Whitehall Regional)  
Phil Brohoun (Malahide Regional)  
Gerry McHugh (Foxhall)  
Aidan Synnott (Glasnevin)  
Norma Madden (Glasnevin)

We'd be especially interested in hearing what you'd like to see in our newsletter and how we can make it more interesting and relevant to you, your clubs and your members. If you have any news, events or information please let me know and we'll publish it on line

You can contact us at either :

- [martinmcmahon01@gmail.com](mailto:martinmcmahon01@gmail.com) or
- [secretary@dnrbridge.com](mailto:secretary@dnrbridge.com)
- [dnrbridge01@gmail.com](mailto:dnrbridge01@gmail.com)

## And Finally.....

**The Impossible**

**Dream- A Partner**

**who only gives advice**

**when asked.**



*With thanks to Bridge Bandit*

