



17 November 2025

Newsletter No 6 for 2025 Congress 2025

Palmerston North was a huge success with record numbers. The success of the event goes down Bridget and Matthew and their respective teams. A special thank-you to everyone involved.

We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Palmerston North Club and its members. Apart from giving up bridge at their club for a week the members helped in many ways.

The staff of the Conference and Function Centre were equally marvelous going out of their way to ensure the week was a success. It was good to see the bar being supported as players hung around sharing their bridge stories.

Next year we have an arrangement in place with the Distinction Hotel to deal with the overflow. The Hotel is closer to the Conference and Function Centre.

The event was held in good spirits, restaurants in and around the square were well supported, and apart from a few hiccups with parking, available parking made it easier.

Throughout the week I constantly had people approach me with compliments and accolades. Whilst there were question marks around Palmerston North as a venue everyone, I spoke to said it was the best congress on record.

The only criticism was the length of the lunch breaks. We appreciate an hour and half may appear a long time, but the directors must prepare play for the afternoon, and the staff require a meal break.

This year we changed the order of the event, playing the New Zealand Teams first. The reason was simple. The teams are our premier events and, in the past, when it came to celebrating the winners a huge number had departed for home. This year there was a full room for the prize giving.

Next year the 40th Congress will be held from the 7th to the 14th of November. Lock it into your diaries and let us make it even bigger than what happened this year.

Cheers Allan

