



Bridge Over Niagara



Welcome to Bridge Week 2004!



CRTC-A

Captain's meeting	12:00 noon
Round Robin Match 1	12:45 – 2:45 p.m.
Round Robin Match 2	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Break	5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Round Robin Match 3	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Round Robin Match 4	9:15 – 11:15 p.m.
Hospitality Room opens	11:00 p.m.

See the Program for details of team match-ups in the Round Robin.

Organizing Bridge Week 2004

At the national level, BW 2004 is organized by the Canadian Bridge Federation. We thank the CBF for promoting and supporting this national event. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the efforts of the CBF President and Zone III Director, Jim

Priebe; the CBF Web Master, Judy Goodwin; and the CBF Executive Assistant, Janice Anderson in organizing this week's activities at the national level.

At the local level, an active team of volunteers is required to ensure that all the amenities required for such a major event are in place. Some of these details include the following: arranging for a suitable playing site, getting the required number of appropriately sized tables, organizing the nightly hospitality menu, transporting players from the airport to the bridge site, printing and copying facilities for the program and daily bulletin.

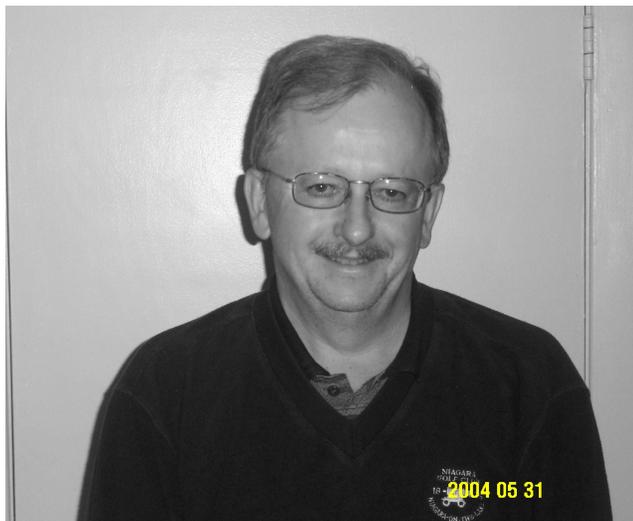
Fund raising is an important item since the local organization is financially responsible for several of the items listed above. The local committee has been very active in this regard and we have received tremendous support from the community, as you will see from the number of ads in the Program. Please support our sponsors and let them know that you saw their ad in the Bridge Week Program and on the "Sponsors Wall of Fame" in the Hospitality Room.

The local volunteers are collectively known as "The Niagara Organizing Committee". On the following pages you will find a photograph of each member of the NOC and a few words of greeting. When you run into these dedicated volunteers at the playing site, please let them know that you appreciate their efforts. They have worked hard for the past 12 months to ensure that you have an enjoyable week here in St. Catharines.

To all the players, thank you for participating in Bridge Week 2004 and good luck to you all. The NOC is looking forward to an exciting and fun-filled week. Not everybody can win, but everyone can have a good time. If everybody leaves with fond memories and smiles on their faces, win or lose, then the NOC will feel that it has all been worthwhile.



**Greetings from the Co-Chair,
Paul Thurston**



For many years (Jo-Anne might say too many!), I've enjoyed the hospitality of a variety of host organizations and cities while competing in the CNTC. My fondest memories are, of course, of Saskatoon (1996) but each one of the Bridge Weeks I've attended has had something memorable about it

Bridge Week 2004 is a small portion of payback for those memories and that hospitality, as well as Niagara's efforts at helping this great event grow and flourish. It's been almost one year in the making and, sadly enough, in eight too-short days, it will be over again for another twelve months.

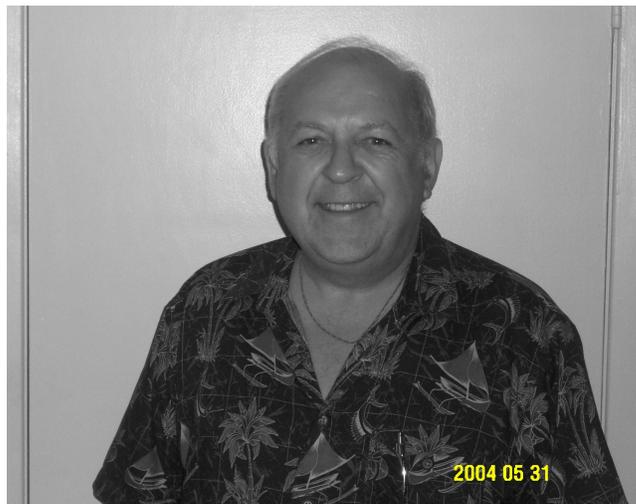
In the meantime, our Niagara Organizing Committee members that you'll meet in these pages and on-site, along with a fantastic group of volunteers, has arranged for what we hope will be a memorable event for each and every one of you. Enjoy!

**Greetings from the Co-Chair,
Fred Andreychuk**

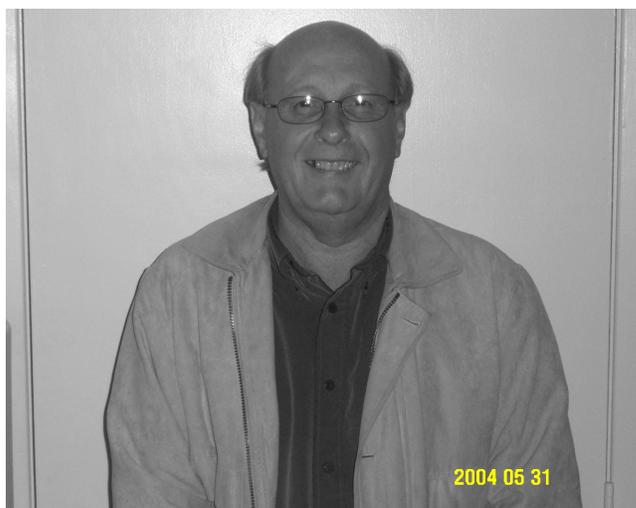
Hello fellow bridge players! As co-chair of the Niagara organizing committee, I would like to welcome everyone to the beautiful Niagara area for Bridge Week 2004. I have been involved with the negotiations with the hotel staff for rooms and playing facilities, as well as soliciting sponsors for

our program and hospitality. I have had many years experience chairing the Sectional tournament here every February, am chairman of the upcoming Regional tournament this November in Niagara Falls, and serve as Vice President of Unit 166.

Good luck with your games and enjoy your stay.



**Greetings from the Treasurer,
John Mackay**



Hi! My name is John Mackay and I am the Treasurer of the Niagara Organizing Committee, part of a fantastic team that is going to make this a memorable event. I will also be your daily recorder and will be reporting the match results to Jude at CBF headquarters. Good luck to everyone.



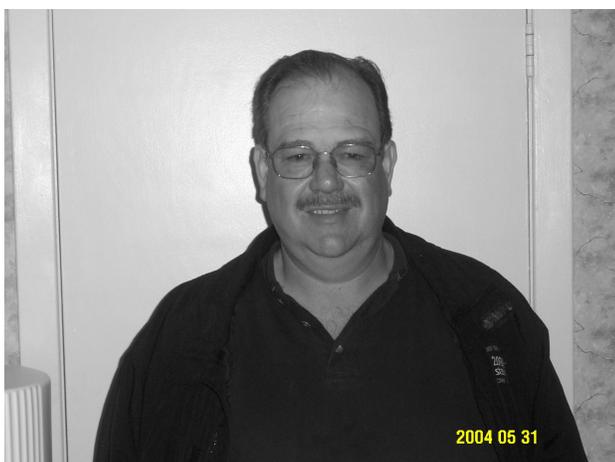
**Greetings from the Food Services Chair,
Jo-Anne Thurston**



On behalf of the organizing committee, I would like to extend an invitation to all of the players to join us in the post-game Hospitality Suite, Niagara Rooms A and B. Doors open at 11:00 p.m. each evening. Tonight we will be having cheese, crackers and veggies. Watch your daily bulletin for details about the evening snack fare for future days.

In addition to some fine Niagara wine and local brewery products, a varied menu of food will be offered nightly. Juice, coffee, muffins and fruit will be available each morning starting at 9:30 a.m. in the same location.

**Greetings from the Bridge Base Coordinator,
Lane Byl**



I will be broadcasting the CNTC finals on Bridge Base Online. BBO is a free website for bridge enthusiasts to learn, play, or just watch through the Vugraph feature. With BBO Vugraph you are able to have a ringside seat at some of the world's most important bridge events.

If you would like to join, visit www.bridgebase.com, click on the box marked Bridge Base Online and do the download for the appropriate format. Then click on the new symbol on your desk top and sign on as a new player to give yourself a name and password. From there you can learn how BBO works and then enjoy. If you see me around the hallways do not hesitate to ask me for assistance of any kind.

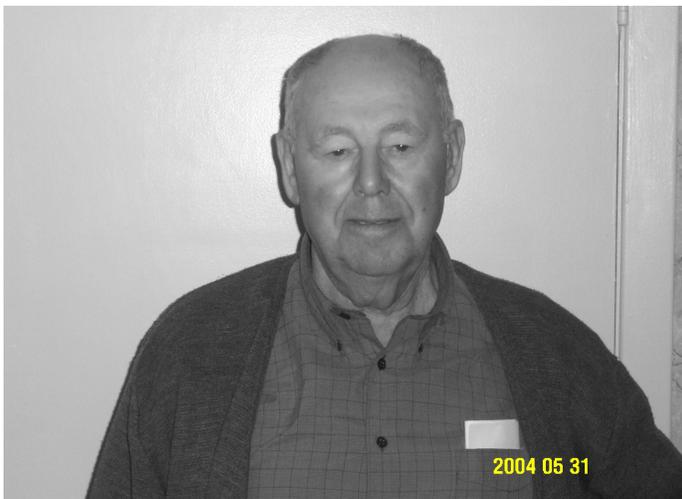
**Greetings from the Hospitality Services Chair,
Lorna Johnson**



I, and the staff of volunteers at the Hospitality and Information Services desk, would like to welcome all the players to the Canadian Bridge Championships. We look forward to being able to assist the players and their guests in enjoying their time here in the Niagara area. Please make sure you drop by the Hospitality and Information Services desk at least once to pick up your Registration Gift Bag. The desk will be open for about 1 hour before and after all games except after the last game of the evening. The volunteers at the desk are looking forward to helping

you find other things to do in the area when you're not competing at the table. Information will be available about wine tours, golf, restaurants, as well as area maps. We hope all the participants take some time to enjoy a few of the many other things Niagara has to offer beyond friendly people and exciting bridge!

Greetings from Niagara District Bridge Association Liaison, Len Byl



I am an avid bridge player and a member of the Niagara Organizing Committee. I have been a grape grower in Niagara-on-the-Lake for the past 40 years and a former "Grape King" of the Niagara Grape & Wine Festival. As growers for Andres Wines group of wineries, my wife Lena (President, Niagara District Bridge Association) and I have been able to arrange the supply of wine for various events in the bridge community, including Bridge Week 2004.

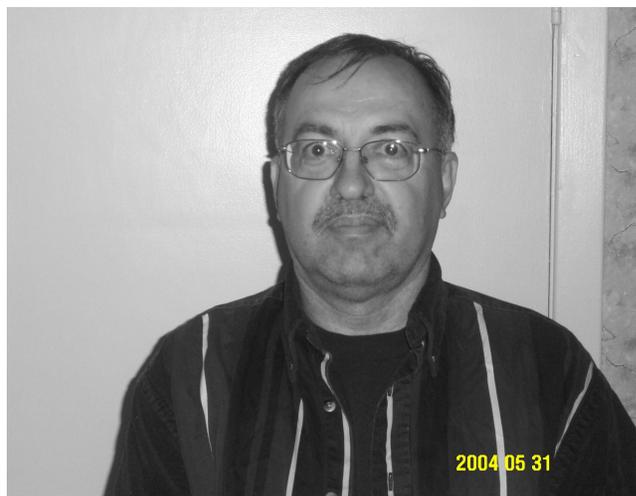
Greetings from the Daily Bulletin Editor, Jerry Smee

Welcome everyone. I'm the person responsible for making sure that this Daily Bulletin is available for you by 9:00 a.m. each day. We will be publishing 8 of them, Saturday June 19 through Saturday June 26, inclusive. If you have any interesting hands, exceptional offensive or defensive plays, or simply some good bridge stories that you think would be of

interest to your fellow competitors, please pass them on to me and I'll make sure they get published.



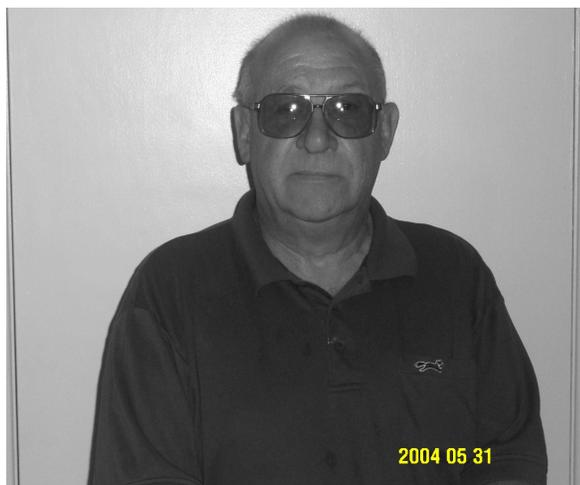
Greetings from NOC Member, Stan Dillabough



I am a retired antique dealer. I'm happy to have been one of the organizers of the St. Catharines bid to host the 2004 Canadian Bridge Championships. If you have questions or needs about the restaurants or activities in the Niagara region, I'm sure you will find our Hospitality Services Desk very helpful. If you need some help outside of their "business hours", please ask me. I'll be around the playing area most of the week.



**Greetings from the Bartender,
James "Butch" Cowell**



I started playing bridge about 2 years ago after retiring from General Motors with 37 years of service. In a short period of time, I have become very active in the bridge community in Niagara. I have a "Smart Serve" license from the Province of Ontario and will be ensuring that all dispensing and consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Hospitality Room is done "according to Hoyle".

**Greetings from the Transportation Chair,
Ernie Sibbett**



I am here to make sure that if you have any transportation problems (between the airport and the hotel, that is, not between dummy and declarer!), that the problem is solved. Please see me or the Hospitality Services desk if you have any needs in this area. Please enjoy your game and leave the driving to us!

**Greetings from the Caddy Master,
Fran McLister**



Hello. For the past 3 years I have been involved with the "Bridge Club" at Oakridge Public School here in St. Catharines. The members of the club are grade 7 & 8 students (mostly 8), so each year we pretty much have a new group. The club would not exist without the assistance of their Teacher, Mr. Sam Munderich, to whom we extend our thanks.

Some of the club members are really keen and hopefully will be great players in the future.

When I am "Caddy Master" at CBF Bridge Week 2004, most of my recruits will be members of the club. Others will be former club members and children or grandchildren of Niagara District Bridge Association players.

CNTC-A TRIVIA

Prepared by Paul Thurston

The competitors in this year's field have won an astonishing total of 55 CNTC-A titles. Leading the way with the gaudy total of 23 victories is the Toronto-Montreal veteran combine that includes George Mittelman, the individual leader with six victories, Boris Baran with five and Eric Murray, a true Hall of Famer who won the first CNTC in 1968 and three more since. Rounding out this impressive lineup: Joey Silver, 3 wins, Arno Hobart, 2, and Captain J.C. himself with 3.

Next in line with eleven Gold Medals is last year's winner, the mostly Montreal-based Fergani team that includes whiz kids Vince Demuy-Gavin Wolpert who almost weren't old enough to properly celebrate their first victory (but probably not their last) in Penticton. Captain Kamel has won three times while Nick L'Ecuyer, Darren Wolpert and Jurek Czyzowicz have won twice each.

The Alberta foursome led by Judy Gartaganis has a team total of five previous victories as does the John Duquette sixsome – thanks to the late substitution of Nader Hanna with his two wins.

Hoping home field advantage will add to their team's total of four CNTC victories is the Thurston squad – Paul lives in St Catharines while Rick Delogu grew up here and his parents are running B&B for their boy during Bridge Week.

David Lindop and Mike Cummings bring one CNTC title each to the Jotcham roster while Doug "Fuggy" Fraser adds his indomitable competitive spirit and two past victories to the Senensky group.

The McAvoy, Fraser and Ross squads each have one past title on their resume. For the others, maybe this will be a breakthrough year and we'll see new names on the Sam Gold trophy by week's end.

Whatever the final result, the Niagara Organizing Committee hopes everyone enjoys the competition, the social atmosphere and as much of what Niagara

has to offer as you have the time and energy to exploit!

CNTC-A History

(courtesy of the CBF via
<http://www.cbf.ca//Archives/030402.html>)

The first official CNTC was held in Toronto in 1980; however there were three previous play-offs to select a team for International competition. Beginning with the 1980 CNTC, club qualifying, unit finals and zone finals were held. Canadian Units were asked to bid to host the National Final.

The number of teams in the National Final has varied over the years, ranging from 12 to 28. In 2001 Unit Finals were eliminated. The CBF is currently planning on implementing more changes to the CNTC for the 2004 event.

1968 (Winnipeg) - represented Canada in 1968 World Team Olympiad. Eric Murray, Sami Kehela, Percy Sheardown, Bruce Elliott, Al Lando (NPC), Wolf Lebovic (ANPC)

1971 (Ste. Agathe) - represented Canada in the 1972 World Team Olympiad. Bruce Gowdy, Duncan Phillips, Gerry Charney, Bill Crissey

1977 (Toronto) - represented Canada in the 1978 World Championships. Don Cowan, Mike Cummings, Maurice Paul, Mary Paul

1980 (Toronto) - represented Canada in the 1980 World Championships. Allan Graves, George Mittelman, Eric Kokish, Peter Nagy, Eric Murray, Sami Kehela

1981 (Ottawa - 14 teams) - represented Canada in the 1982 Rosenblum Cup - won Bronze Medal. Allan Graves, George Mittelman, Eric Kokish, Peter Nagy, Eric Murray, Sami Kehela

1982 (Regina - 14 teams) - played in North American playoff to select Bermuda Bowl team. Nicholas Gartaganis, Zygmunt Marcinski, Gordon Crispin, Voyteck Pomykalski



1983 (Toronto - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1984 World Team Olympiad. Mark Molson, Boris Baran, Allan Graves, George Mittelman, John Guoba, John Carruthers

1984 (Toronto - 20 teams) - won the Tri-Country Playoff and represented Canada in 1995 Bermuda Bowl. Subhash Gupta, Doran Flock, Gordon Campbell, Mike Chomyn, Bryan Maksymetz, Drew Cannell

1985 (Montreal - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1986 World Championships. Boris Baran, Mark Molson, Eric Kokish, George Mittelman, Pascal Menachi, Mark Stein

1986 (Ottawa - 20 teams) - won the Tri-Country Playoff and represented Canada in 1987 Bermuda Bowl. Michael Schoenborn, Harmon Edgar, Arno Hobart, Martin Kirr, Greg Carroll, David Turner, Laurie McIntyre(NPC)

1987 (Quebec City - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1988 World Team Olympiad. Mark Molson, Boris Baran, John Guoba, John Carruthers, Eric Murray

1988 (Vancouver - 20 teams) - won Tri-Country Playoff and represented Canada in 1989 Bermuda Bowl. Maurice Larochelle, Jean Bernier, Andre Laliberte, Jacques Laliberte, Raymond Fortin, Kamel Fergani

1989 (Montreal - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1990 Rosenblum. Mark Molson, Boris Baran, George Mittelman, Arno Hobart, Marty Kirr, Billy Cohen

1990 (Toronto - 22 teams) - won Tri-Country Playoff and represented Canada in 1991 Bermuda Bowl. Doug Heron, David Willis, John Valliant, Mike Betts, Randy Bennett, Ed Zaluski

1991 (Winnipeg - 22 teams) - represented Canada in 1992 World Team Olympiad. Ed Bridson, John Gowdy, David Lindop, Geoff Hampson, Boris Baran, Mark Molson

1992 (Ottawa 20 teams) - represented Canada in Tri-Country Playoff. Jim McAvoy, Duncan Smith, Michael Strebinger, Peter Herold, Jim Dickie, Bruce Ferguson

1993 (Montreal - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1994 Rosenblum. Michael Cafferata, Michael Kenny, Mary Paul, David Colbert, Michael Roche, Christopher Hough

1994 (Halifax - 20 teams) - won the Tri-Country Playoff and represented Canada in 1995 Bermuda Bowl. Winners of the Silver Medal at the Bermuda Bowl. Joseph Silver, Fred Gitelman, Markland Molson, Eric Kokish, George Mittelman

1995 (Toronto - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1996 World Team Olympiad. Joseph Silver, Fred Gitelman, Markland Molson, Boris Baran, George Mittelman, Eric Kokish

1996 (Saskatoon - 20 teams) - won Tri-Country Playoff and represented Canada in 1997 Bermuda Bowl. Nader Hanna, Doug Fraser, Michael Roche, Jim Green, Paul Thurston, Rick Delogu

1997 (Vancouver - 20 teams) - represented Canada in the 1998 Rosenblum. Michael Hargreaves, Gord McOrmond, Allan Graves, Joseph Silver

1998 (Montreal - 28 teams) - won the Tri-Country Play-off and represented Canada in 1999 Bermuda Bowl. Michael Hargreaves, Gord McOrmond, Allan Graves, Bryan Maksymetz, Joseph Silver

1999 (Toronto - 28 teams) - represented Canada in the 2000 World Team Olympiad. Ted Horning HNPC, Robert Lebi, Nader Hanna, Drew Cannell, John Carruthers

2000 (Halifax - 28 teams) - winner received a cash prize as a new WBF rule did not allow for a Tri-Country Play-off or spot in the 2001 Bermuda Bowl. Kamel Fergani, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Doug Fraser, Jeffrey Blond, Darren Wolpert, Jurek Czyzowicz

2001 (Montreal - 17 teams) - awarded a cash prize. Some of the winning team became part of the 2002



IOC Grand Prix Gold Medal team. The team also won the 2002 pre-Commonwealth Games event. Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis, Gordon Campbell, Keith Balcombe

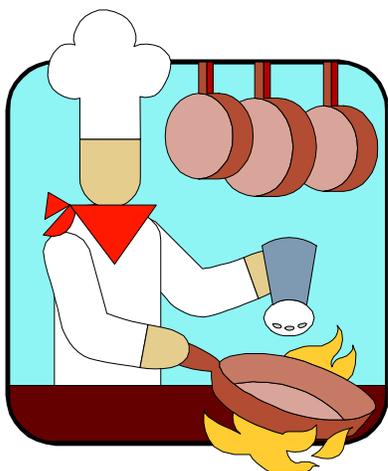
2002 (Edmonton - 18 teams) - played off against 2003 winner (Fergani) to determine Bi-Country Playoff team 2003. Fergani won this playoff. Bryan Maksymetz, Allan Graves, Gordon McOrmond, Dan Jacob

2003 (Penticton - 22 teams) - played off against 2002 winner (Maksymetz) to determine Bi-Country Playoff team 2003. Fergani won this playoff. Kamel Fergani, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Jurek Czyzowicz, Darren Wolpert, Gavin Wolpert, Vincent Demuy

Restaurant Review

by Paul Thurston

"Welcome to Duffs"



If you're a fan of Buffalo Style Chicken Wings, Duffs Pizzeria (at the corner of Facer and Niagara Streets, about 5 minutes by car from the Parkway) should be at the top of your list of "must visit" eateries while in St. Catharines.

While the popular finger food actually originated in the 1950's at Buffalo's Anchor Bar (about one hour away if you must make a pilgrimage), Duffs ranks as one of the

very best purveyors of mild, medium, hot, suicide (beware!!) or honey-garlic wings this side of the border.

To round out your meal, Duffs also offers a wide variety of other pub-style fare, most notably, some very good pizza. Try the white pizza, a house specialty that includes mozzarella, asiago and feta cheeses with olive oil, garlic, and spices and topped off with artichoke hearts, sun dried tomatoes and lots of yummy mushrooms.

Subs and salads, burgers and fries, lots of nibblers for appetizers and, did I mention, ice cold draft beer served by some of the friendliest staff you're likely to encounter anywhere.

If you get lucky and Bob Duff himself is on the premises, say "Hello", and ask for help with your bidding (or your partner's!) as Jean and Bob are players themselves (but not competing this week) and generous sponsors of Bridge Week. By the way, Duffs wings will be on Thursday evening's Hospitality Suite snack menu but don't wait until then – head over to Duffs and enjoy them fresh from the kitchen!

