



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

July 2021 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs



from our President ...

Teri and myself recently attended a meeting at Te Puke bridge club to discuss how we can save the Bay Pairs competition. This competition has been going for the last 70 years and this year the current coordinator is retiring, there was no one prepared to take on the role and the real concern was that this competition would fold. I never realised the history of this competition and how it need's to be treasured. The purpose of this competition is to encourage junior and intermediate players to play in 5A tournaments, and the Bay of Plenty is the only area to run such a competition. Christine Gibbons from Te Puke has now agreed to take on the role of coordinator. The Bay Pairs consist of 4 rounds - the host clubs are Whakatane, Tauranga, Mt Maunganui and Te Puke. Traditionally the host clubs provide soup and rolls for lunch, but this will stop for next year and participants will be asked to bring their own lunch, this is to take the pressure off the host club.

Can I urge our club members especially our junior and intermediate members to take part in this friendly event next year. All of the events are listed on NZB tournament list. Hoping to see a good Mount representation next year!

I hope your all enjoying your bridge.

Diane

Club Captain Teri writes ...Hello All

Its been great weather to play bridge, wet and windy outside - warm in our club rooms. The rooms are welcoming and cosy. Aren't we lucky? Just a note about upcoming tournaments - now having first-hand knowledge of the organisation behind them, I really urge you to enter them and support us and our neighbouring clubs. We have a Restricted Tournament on Sept 18th. It will be played at home and the numbers will be restricted to 18 tables. Tauranga has the Novice, Junior and Intermediate Pairs on Saturday 28th August, please really consider entering - even if its your first tournament.

New players are around and about - they may be new to the Club and/or new to the Game. Be like our rooms - welcoming them, don't intimidate them, don't give unwanted advice and really work at giving them (and all) a really happy experience here. With that in mind, please use the partnership stewards - if you have a gap, contact them - there will be members out there who don't have enough partners yet. Become one for them.

Thank you. Happy Bridge

Teri

OPPORTUNITY to improve your bridge ...

Join the Wednesday afternoon casual bridge session

1pm - 4pm

Excellent attendance with over 20 people = 5 tables of mixed abilities.

No partner required, dry biscuit for afternoon tea!

Summer price \$2

Winter price \$4 (if heating required!)

FYI Phone Emma 5721347 or 0221274642

Request please from Julie S ...

for a working computer monitor if anyone has a spare one they no longer need and would like to donate it to the club.



CLUB RESULTS

Mondays July '21	Dorothy Aitken Handicap Pairs	1st Chris Gibson & Sue Gibbons 2nd Robyn Knight & Julie Sheridan 3rd Barry Crosby & Bill Ridley
Mondays pm July '21	Rialto Handicap Pairs	1st Phyllis Paul & Nora Pronk 2nd Dianne Beveridge & Rob Park 3rd Kay Burnie & Michele Larnder
Thursdays July '21	Rialto Cinema Handicap Pairs	1st Roy Cooper & Emma Barber 2nd Brenda Bleakley & Kathy King 3rd Diane King & Fred Clarke
Fridays June '21	Friday Champs Singles	1st Annie Barry 2nd Barry Crosby 3rd Flo Nield
Fridays July '21	Robertson's Menswear Pairs	1st Barry Crosby & Martin Van Der Meys 2nd Mike Nicholson & Carol Cullen 3rd Noelene Shrimpton & Kath Harvey

STOP PRESS
you'll all see that
Phyllis Paul & Nora Pronk
won
the Monday night
Rialto Handicap
Pairs and they did
it in style . .
achieving
74.63%
on the last night.
They won the
comp by an
impressive 20.40
match points.
Well done girls.

Welcome to new members . . . From Bren's lessons . . .

Lynette Steele
Donna Hall
Susie Asselstine
and . . . Alan Lawton
Karyl Anderson

Also, sad to say farewell to long-time member
Pat Hunter.

We hope she gets some bridge time at Ocean
Shores.

And **Mary Girvin** who has moved to Hamilton

Also from Bren . . . Tricky Bridge

There is a free app for phones and iPads
which has been developed to teach bridge to
children and young people. It would be
great to introduce young family members and
friends to bridge and hopefully get much more
involvement at an early age. Also it would be
good to suggest school newsletters mention it
if you have any contacts there.

Look for "**Tricky Bridge**" in your App Store.
Do download it and try it out yourselves!

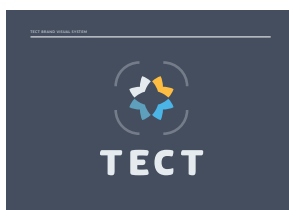
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The first two of our tournaments for 2021 have been successfully completed. Not only were they successful from a club perspective, but also because the sponsor, PMG, has had an excellent response from club members. So much so that they will be repeating their sponsorship in 2022!

Success in sponsorship comes from appreciation from both parties. The club needs members to both utilise these sponsors, and to engage with them sufficiently that they know we are club members.

At the back of our program book is a list of sponsors involved with, bakery, estate agency, hair care, clothing, footwear, cafe hospitality and much more. Please look to see if any of these can be employed for your needs. I personally can say that Great Spice is now my Indian Restaurant of choice.

Please let me know of other sponsorship successes - Mike Nicholson



Continuing our series 'Getting to know your Committee', this month we hear from . . .

Isobel McIntyre . . .

I am a first generation Kiwi, my father was from Devon England and my mother from Ireland. I grew up in a loving and happy home with four brothers and one sister. My childhood consisted of spending a lot of time at the beach, and swimming became my main sport where I competed at club level.

My husband Ian and I met through boating and have continued with our passion for sailing. We owned and ran a Kiwifruit and Avocado Orchard for some time, also experimenting in the growing of table grapes.

I started my career in Banking and quickly moved through the ranks, working in most areas. I was lucky in my career to be able to travel whilst training staff, and also being part of developing staff into Management positions.

I was transferred to Western Australia to manage an International branch, dealing with large Mining groups, and through this position I was able to sit and pass a Finance Paper through Tafe University. I obtained my Dealers Licence to negotiate deals between Mining, China and USA for the Bank, whilst also completing a course with the FBI of America on detecting fraudulent and counterfeit notes.

I was also invited to join the Chinese Business Council which enabled me to do Business deals with my limited Mandarin.

My husband continued in boating and sailing for East Fremantle Yacht Club, so we had very busy lives.

Unfortunately illness bought me back to NZ, but through my strong resilience, I recovered well. When Ian and I moved to Tauranga, I felt a huge gap of loneliness, until a dear friend of mine in Auckland (who is a top Bridge player) suggested I learn Bridge. Having no concept in the past of playing cards, I thought this was another foreign language to learn!! However I soon became addicted to the game and also the lovely people I am meeting and playing Bridge with.

My goal left in life is to be better a better Bridge player, having lots of fun and being a caring person 😊

Michele Larnder , Monday night mistress

reminds our Brookies that all the lessons they have had so far focus on bidding. Now Skills nights will teach exclusively 'How to play the cards'
Watch out Juniors and others!



Michele also adds a tip for Monday-nighters which is pertinent to all us bridge players . . .

Negative Inferences From The Opening Lead

Suppose that you are playing in a suit contract where you are missing the ace and king of a particular side suit. What can be inferred if the suit is not led?

If the opening leader held both the ace and king, this would normally represent a safe and strong lead. It's, therefore, safe to conclude that the opening leader won't hold more than one of the top cards in the suit.

Success for Mt Maunganui Bridge Club at the recent Bay of Plenty **Interclub Teams** challenge. This event is held annually at Rotorua and is part of the 'BOP' circuit Diane writes about in her column this month. **THANK YOU** Mt Maunganui member entrants.

OPEN Julie Sheridan with Marion Kelly & Bruce Inglis with Pam Clothworthy came 3rd
INTERMEDIATE Diane Roger with Lyn Bailie & Pam Pederson with Bren Birss came 4th
JUNIOR team who came 2nd and will be playing in the next round!

Helene Paterson with Michele Larnder

Kathy King with Rachel Olsen

Congratulations to all contenders.

News from NZ Bridge latest update . . .

Congress Plans are well in hand for our National Congress at a new venue in Mt Maunganui. Entry numbers look good so far, including a number of players from Australia (assuming the bubble is open). Fingers crossed all proceeds as planned. The programme is exciting, so you are encouraged to register.

Membership Recovery We all know that membership numbers reduced last year, primarily because clubs were forced to suspend the bulk of learners' classes. Our numbers dropped by around 1000, circa 7%. Other jurisdictions (Australia, America) have fared worst. On a positive note, our numbers are up this year. In the last 2 months we have seen a net increase of 721 members. The increase is due to the effort clubs are putting in with beginner classes and achieving very good attendance, and conversion to paying members.

To all our new players welcome, we hope you will enjoy this wonderful game as much as we do.



Blackjack anyone?