



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

March 2026

Editor: Julie Downs

Musings from President Michele -

We are now into week 4 of lessons and it is great to welcome another group of keen learners. We have a sizeable number of the group who are repeating lessons and they are making great progress. They also are very helpful to those who have no experience with the game. The teaching team this year is again Graham Stern and Michele Larnder, with support from Kay Burnie, Dianne Stevens, and Annette Dand dealing the boards.

We had a very good retention rate from the group last year. A major factor in this was the welcome players received when attending Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon sessions. A number are now venturing into other sessions, and this is where our more experienced players need to be mindful of behaviours that might be off putting for newer players. Treat bidding errors with tolerance and don't be too quick to give advice. It is appropriate to call the director when issues occur, explain why you are calling the director in a quiet and calm manner, offering reassurance that this is how issues are dealt with at the table. The experience and knowledge of senior players is a great resource for those learning the game, they will ask when they want to know. Give help when requested but don't offer – asking if someone minds if you give them advice puts them in a difficult situation – they can't really say no, and you have now highlighted their mistake. Remember the main reason most people play this wonderful game is for the mental stimulation and the pleasant social interactions. Whoever you are playing, the main goal should be to enjoy the experience - we all have a part to play in this aspect.

I would like to acknowledge two special club members this month. The first is Teri Logie. Teri has had a very stressful start to the season with the BridgeMates and the Compass software. She has spent many hours working with Bob Fern and Mike Neals to ensure that we have seamless playing sessions. Our change of format on Monday has been appreciated by the players but has involved a great deal of work by Teri to make it happen. The success of playing sessions is in the hands of the Club Captain, this is the key role in the club, one that Teri fills with experience, expertise, and excellence.

The second member I would like to acknowledge is Jo Craig. Jo has taken over the Monday night convenor role. Her informative and inciteful emails to the junior players are an inspiration. Monday nights are now another success story for the club.

Michele

Club Captain Teri types ...

Hi All - more dodgy weather lies ahead as we approach winter months. At bridge, we want you to be comfortable.

Wikipedia informs us: **Dressing like an onion** (the "onion look" or layering method) means wearing multiple, adjustable layers to stay warm and dry in varying weather. It involves a moisture-wicking base layer, an insulating mid-layer, and a protective outer shell, allowing you to add or remove clothing to regulate body temperature easily. This method is popular for winter adventures, commuting in fluctuating weather, hiking, and **playing bridge** ensuring comfort throughout the day.

The Key layers – Base Layer (skin layer). Choose moisture-wicking materials like Merino, wool or synthetics to keep sweat away from the skin. Avoid cotton. Mid-layer (insulation). Wear fleece jackets, down vests or sweaters to trap body heat. Accessories - Add scarves and beanies, closed shoes with socks to manage warmth.

Why dress like an onion? – versatility:

You can peel off layers when it gets warmer or during intense activity (**tea break**) and add them back when cold. Several thin layers will trap more heat than one thick garment and stops complaints.

The colder weather will be upon us soon - the temperatures will go **down** outside and the **complaints up inside**. We try to keep air conditioning at a constant recommended temperature. A third of the room will be fine, a third too hot and the others – too cold. So, come like an onion.

Happy Bridge Teri

Also - Please show courtesy and stop talking while the announcements are made and the director is giving instructions.

Push chairs in and leave the room tidy at the conclusion of play.

And Please top up your Compass a/c for next month's play.



CLUB RESULTS

Mondays March '26	Teams	1st 4 W's Pat Ware, Margaret Wakelin Derek Webb, Kay Wright 2nd BBO Friends Lyn Bailie, Annie Barry, Dianne Rodger, Rachel Olsen 3rd Bridgemates Julie Sheridan, Julie Downs Frances Ball, Gilda Rowland
Mondays March '26	Handicap Teams	1st Danger Mice Judith Robinson, Lynette Steele, Lois O'Donnell Elaine Genty-Nott 2nd 4 Diamonds Judith George, Brian Lomax, Bill Ridley, Robyn Knight, Kerry Crosby 3rd BBO Friends Lyn Bailie, Annie Barry, Dianne Rodger, Rachel Olsen
Mondays Mar'26 pm	F Shrimpton Memorial Handicap Junior Pairs	1st Catherine Laffey & Grant Laffey 2nd Susie Norton-Westwood & Ann Dorey 3rd Bryce Thompson & Amber Rowe
Mondays Mar'26 pm	F Shrimpton Memorial Handicap Intermediate Pairs	1st Rebecca Bartlett & Alan Withrington 2nd Janet Dunn & Joanne Bruce 3rd Peter Boynton & Jude Brown
Mondays Mar'26 pm	F Shrimpton Memorial Handicap Pairs Overall Result	1st Rebecca Bartlett & Alan Withrington 2nd Janet Dunn & Joanne Bruce 3rd Catherine Laffey & Grant Laffey
Wednesdays Mar'26 pm	Ultimate Motors Handicap Singles	1st Helen Charteris 2nd Pamela Pedersen 3rd Joe Brown
Thursdays Feb'26	Thai2Go Handicap Pairs	1st Noelene Shrimpton & Maria Paterson 2nd Lois O'Donnell & Judith Robinson 3rd Margaret Carmichael & Rae Holmes
Fridays February'26	Thai2Go Pairs	1st Graham Stern & Margaret Somers 2nd Frances Ball & Julie Downs 3rd Carol Cullen & Linda Ball
Fridays March '26	Life Members' Pairs	1st Audrey Gardiner & Graham Stern 2nd Marilyn Rangihika & Rosemary Wilkey 3rd Joe Brown & Rachel Olsen

Director: no South, I can't make an insufficient bid ruling when your partner stops at five and six is cold!

The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble but escaping once they're in.

Congratulations
to
Dianne Beveridge
who recently achieved the following rank change

*Club Master to
Local Master*

STOP PRESS

by now you've probably been alerted via **WhatsApp** to an new initiative launched this morning -

WhatsApp Mt Bridge club 'find a partner'

WhatsApp Messenger, commonly known simply as **WhatsApp**, is an American [social media](#), [instant messaging](#) Owned by [Meta Platforms](#), founded 2009. In 2015 there were 2 billion users worldwide - plenty of scope for attracting new members!

HISTORY

With so many new members being welcomed to our club, it is timely to refresh memories and give players a brief history of the Mt Maunganui Bridge Club. Formed in 1964 by a small band of 20, play was in each others' homes, then the Old Folks Hall, then upstairs at the Golden Sands Motor camp in Girven Rd. In 1975, when 40 players paid \$3 subs and 30c table money, they voted to become affiliated. A building fund was established in 1975 and in 1978 play commenced in our original rooms in Golf Rd. Enlarged in 1984 and again in 1991, the rooms then hosted 210 members. The club has witnessed many changes - silent bidding, a smoking ban, Spadework from 1997 and first computer purchase in 1986. In 2014 the Club held a Golden Jubilee celebration including a dinner at the neighbouring golf clubrooms, then bridge in our rooms. We moved to our present rooms in 2022.

The club is still going strong after our 60th celebrations two years ago, with over 300 members.

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A most successful day was hosted by our club Sunday. 8th March when 11 teams from each club, that's 22 tables, assembled to contest  
**"Fun over the Bridge"**  
 an annual event staged to sustain the goodwill between Tauranga and Mt Maunganui Bridge Clubs. The 'the toilet seat' trophy commemorates the late Graham Young, a long standing member of both clubs. Mt members heeded the call to battle with an animal theme - that is, to dress as an animal, and our rooms overflowed with lions, leopards, cheetahs and other big cats.  
 On the day, the trophy returned to the Tauranga Club who won the Junior and Intermediate teams, but were defeated in the Open section.



LEFT: Winners - Open Teams

Pride = Pamela Pedersen  
 Megan Richards  
 Alan Parkes  
 Graham Stern



Feline Elaine



twin kittens Carol and Flo



paws to match

**Worth remembering . . .**

*A main ingredient of success at duplicate bridge is to develop and maintain concentration. In particular it takes a disciplined person to concentrate throughout a session when holding bad cards. The tendency is to think "No exciting hands, lots of boring defence." Well, that is not a winning attitude. The other players at your seat are holding the same bad cards. Someone in your seat is going to win the section at the very least. Why can't it be you? Try to remain focussed because one of the game's charm is that you may be required to make a key call or play at any time.*  
- August Boehm.

*more bridge . . .*

A new session of Bridge is now offered on *Thursday nights* 6.45 pm to 9.30 pm. This is aimed at players who can't make it to Wednesday afternoon or work during the week and want the opportunity to talk, review and learn about hands and bids.

It is fun and casual - you don't need a partner. There is a table fee of \$4 cash, which covers the power, cuppas, and biscuits. Convener *Amber Rowe* hopes this session will be better attended as the time slot may suit novices shortly coming out of the lessons  
Make up a table and improve your bridge!

**Tournament Date change for**

**Omokoroa Novice, Junior and Intermediate**

Please note the date for these tournaments has changed on the NZ Bridge website to **Saturday 30 May** and will need to be amended in your programme handbook also.

This is the first time for many years that Omokoroa Bridge Club is hosting a tournament and warmly invites Mt Maunganui club members to attend. The Intermediate and Junior tournament will run all day and the Novice tournament in the afternoon of the same day. Omokoroa Inaugurate, **Ross Petersen**

*a recent announcement from NZB about the Auckland Bridge club follows a similar process to our Mt club some years ago to maximise use of resources and building space.*

Two clubs are delighted to announce that they applied for amalgamation with the Incorporated Societies register in January 2026 and received our Certificate of Incorporation as

"Remuera Bowls and Bridge Club Incorporated"

on 9 March 2026. After a lengthy process, this milestone marks the formal beginning of a new chapter together.

**The Journey to Amalgamation**

"Following strong support from members of both clubs, we embarked on an exciting journey to unite two of Auckland's most cherished sporting institutions. Auckland Bridge Club (AKBC), founded in 1929, and Remuera Bowling Club (RBC), founded in 1895, are joining forces to create one vibrant, welcoming community".

The bridge club premises at 273 Remuera Road were sold in December 2025. The new shared home will be the redeveloped bowling club site at Dromorne Road, facing Market Road in Remuera.