



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

November 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Down

for the last time in 2023

President Michele writes ...

Here I am writing a column for the last Newsletter of the year, but I only feel like I've been President for five minutes! I must thank a wonderful committee who have been infinitely patient and supportive; they give so much of their time and expertise to making our club a success. There are a myriad of other club members who provide support by organising the playing paraphernalia, taking away rubbish, dealing boards, scoring, mowing lawns, teaching, tutoring, carpentry, and generally helping to clean and tidy after sessions. There is a wonderful atmosphere in our club, and I thank you, our members, for your positive attitude and enjoyment of the game.

Earlier this month Stephen and I attended the Bridge Teaching Conference in Christchurch to learn how other clubs attracted, taught, and transitioned their learners. We reflected that the systems put in place by members such as Judy Bartlett, Bren Birss and Pamela Pedersen are sound and that the club has a good platform on which to build. The main problem that all clubs face is retaining the people who go through the lessons. All the participants at the conference agreed that providing a pleasant and supportive playing environment for new players was the key to success. Every one of us has an important role to play in ensuring new players enjoy the club experience.

Congratulations to all the prize winners who will receive their awards on

Saturday 2nd of December.

I wish you all the very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Michele

REMINDER 2024

Members will be invoiced for Subs in early January 2024, payable by end of Feb 2024.

Invoices will be emailed to all who have email addresses.

Home member \$60 pa. Associate \$37 pa. Bank account (no change) will be on the invoice and in the front of the program book, plus more details such as half year charges etc

Programme Books available soon!

Club Captain Teri notes ...

Wow the year has zoomed past! Thank you to ALL those (too numerous to mention) who did all the little and large things to keep the club moving forward.

Heading into the New Year – why not play with someone new? Encourage someone to play at a session they don't usually play? The "Paul Neilson Singles" on a Wednesday are ideal – a senior needs to play with a junior. Take this opportunity to put your name up to find a junior from Monday nights to play with you in this? Or why not grab a book from our library, there are plenty of resources there to help you learn something new in the New Year. Thank you to Chris Gibson for doing such sterling work as the librarian!

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and New Year – see you back here for Holiday Bridge

Happy Bridge -Teri

Biggest congratulations to new
SILVER GRANDMASTER
Nov 2023 Rachele Pelkman
Mt Maunganui

NOT TOO LATE to attend
Christmas Party Saturday 2nd Dec \$25

Tickets on sale now, preferably no cash - EFTPos or on your compass account. Thanks. 11am Punch and bubbles, 11:45am Prizes. Followed by lunch, fun and Bridge. *Draw for partners lol*

Dates for the Diary:

Holiday bridge starts

Monday 8th Jan 2024 1pm

Normal Bridge programme starts Monday

29th Jan 2024 1pm

AGM Wed 2nd February 6.15pm 2024



CLUB RESULTS

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Mondays Nov '23 | Paper Plus Pairs | 1st Margaret Wakelin & Jill Stewart 2nd Carolyn Parker & Julie Sheridan 3rd Pat Ware & Derek Webb |
| Monday pm Oct '23 | Shoe&me Handicap Singles | 1st Dianne Beveridge 2nd Phyllis Paul 3rd Liz Dive |
| Wednesdays Oct'23 | Cobb & Co Handicap Pairs | 1st Joe Brown & Diane King 2nd Patty Spencer & Julie Hawkes 3rd John Strawbridge & Liz Dive |
| Thursdays Nov'23 | Forsyth Barr Handicap Pairs | 1st Anne Cooper & Sharyn Martin 2nd Judy Duncan & Robyn Knight 3rd Annette Dand & Dixie Horne |
| Fridays Nov '23 | PMG Teams | 1st Julie Sheridan, Gilda Rowland, Ross Petersen, Frances Ball, Teri Logie, Michele Rogers |

“How should I have played that hand?”
“Under an assumed name”

SUMMER BRIDGE

MARK THESE DATES
in your new diaries
or whatever device
you'll use to remind
yourself in
2024.

Mondays seated by
1245 please
January 8, 15, 22
Wednesdays
seated by 6.45pm
please
January 10, 17, 24
thanks
to Gloria Mouatt
ph 5441834
who is partner
steward for
SUMMER BRIDGE
Visitors welcome -
\$7 table money



Our inimitable **Annie Barry** is currently on the first leg of a cruising adventure and doesn't mind sharing experiences with us - this time from **Cape Town, South Africa.**

Our hotel had the most incredible buffet breakfast we had ever experienced with absolutely everything on offer so with what was about to happen at least we were going to be well fuelled.

It was my turn to choose a direction and as it happened it was along the waterfront, heading towards the CBD. Up ahead was a half moon bridge crossing over one of the main thoroughfares and coming towards us was what appeared to be a walking tour followed by two young black guys.

As we got nearer the two black guys started to make a beeline for me and J.B. 'Bastards' I thought, 'I'm not going to get out of their way!'. Well what happened next was all rather a blur but one of them tried to shove an ice cream down my front (this is what I perceived) at the same time making a grab for my neck. I punched him in the face and kicked him "you f***ing bastard" I screamed, while J.B grappled with the other guy yelling "don't you touch my wife!"

With that my guy took off over the bridge with me in hot pursuit yelling to all in sundry to stop the bastard. The walking group totally ignored our pleas for help (maybe they didn't understand our lingo) so I kept on sprinting through them until the attacker was off the bridge. At that stage it was fairly obvious I wasn't making headway so I turned round and went back up the bridge coming face to face with the other one. I unleashed my water bottle on his head wishing it had more than water in it and went back to J.B. By this time eight or so police and security guys had arrived on the scene thanks to the CCTV cameras covering the bridge and half of them charged off to apprehend the culprits. The ones remaining interviewed J.B and me wanting to know if they had managed to grab my jewellery which I had oh so stupidly been wearing around my neck. I know, I know what you're thinking and normally I would always take it off but I honestly thought we were in a 'safe' area . Apparently not so on this particular bridge.

Meanwhile the police returned with four possible suspects but unfortunately not the guilty ones.

So lesson learnt – we have now double checked where it is safe to walk and today will be a stroll along a beachfront area. Interesting to note though - have you ever considered how you would react if someone attacked you? For me my response was probably not the best decision because I reacted on pure adrenaline. I mean what if he had had a knife? What was I going to do to him if I caught him? Launch my ageing body in a kamikaze attack on his back?

Imagine those headlines ' old age pensioner straddles attacker in foiled robbery'.

thanks Annie - please take care, we need you back as partnership steward extraordinaire!

... from on-line NZ Bridge if you haven't seen it . . .

The **Tauranga Bridge Club** hosted the
2023 Loveblock NZ Wide Pairs on 10 November

3A Tournament, All grades

Loveblock New Zealand Wide Pairs was contested at 51 clubs throughout the country. Two further heats were run as one club played the wrong boards and another had technical issues which could not be overcome. Each of the prize-winners received a pack containing two bottles of Loveblock wine. Of the top 10 scores, there were 4 in both directions (though the top 2 were East-West) while the other two played in Howell movements. An **all-Intermediate pairing** topped the North-South field.

Altogether, there were 856 pairs taking part in the 51 heats. The largest heats took place at Christchurch (19.5 tables), Waikanae (15), South Wairarapa/Masterton (14) Kairangi (13), Mt Albert, Royle Epsom and Wellington (12), Oamaru and Upper Hutt (11) Feilding, Franklin, Howick/Papatoetoe, Nelson, Picton/Marlborough, Taradale, Te Awamutu/Waitomo and Winton (10 each).

Among those taking part was 101 years young Arch Jelley who scored a very respectable 58.42% at Mt Albert. Thanks to the scoring team of Jan Spaans, Bob Fearn and Michael Neels who ensured that 49 of the 51 clubs had their scores recorded before midnight on the Friday evening. We anticipate that the event will raise around \$14,000 for the New Zealand Bridge Foundation.

Don't forget - OUR SPONSORS

Paul O'Driscoll

Investment Adviser and his marketing team
from

 **FORSYTH BARR**

M: 021 615 912 | Ph 07 577 5728 |

**Will give a presentation at the club
Wednesday 29th November 5pm.**

Correction from last month:

In last month's obituary for June Nightingale, the dates of her Presidency were incorrect. She was Club President for 2015 and 2016. Further, the Golden Jubilee was in 2014, when Judy Bartlett was our President. June was Vice President in that year, but not part of the committee which organised the Golden Jubilee celebration.

- Judy Bartlett

Spadework

Wishes you Merry Xmas and good luck for Bridge in 2024.

Thanks to Carolyn Toy who has graced our clubrooms with the lovely Xmas tree and added some seasonal colour to our foyer. A spot of cheer for those suffering loss or recovering from covid or other ailments.

How do Santa's employees have to register their tax returns? Elf returns.

Another travel story comes from Graham Stern who recently returned from weeks in Europe with his wife, headquartering with his son living in San Sebastian, northern Spain. After Friday bridge, Graham recounted a few of his travel adventures which coincided with the rugby world cup in France.

After a cancelled flight to Lyon for a pool match, Graham managed to score tickets to a quarter final and a semi final.

Lucky enough to secure 3 tickets to the big final, Graham and three others headed for the stadium, looking for scalpers for the 4th ticket. But no, Graham missed out so instead headed to a packed Parisian Irish bar to watch the Kiwis play the South Africans. Ask Graham why he was ousted from the bar by French security guards . . .

with nothing "lost in translation . . ."

In Europe Graham and Mrs Stern successfully relied on Google maps to find their way around, following instructions from airports to catch trains or buses, get off at the correct stop. walk here, cross there and knock 3 times on the red door etc. Except they got off a stop too early in Majorca, had to wait an hour for the next bus only to find it retraced it's route back to the airport rather than continuing on around the Mediterranean island. Of course in Europe it's right-hand driving . . . so which side of the road will your bus stop be on?

Point in question was the Sterns visit to Lisbon, Portugal. By this time Google maps had proved it's worth so from the airport with their booked accomodation address entered "Heart of Lisbon" and duly via train, off at the designated station and a hilly walk through the beautiful old city for 20 minutes, Google announced "destination on the left in 10m". A lovely courtyard with other folks looking for accomodation too. And yes you've guessed it, Mrs Google indeed took them to the heart of Lisbon but no pension in sight. New directions started with " retrace your steps . . ."

I think I have finally made it big in my life. Today a representative from one of worlds biggest company said I have arrived. It was Google Maps.