



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

April 2025 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs



from President Michele -

I hope you all had a happy Easter even though the weather was less than ideal.

Our recent Multigrade tournament was a successful day and ran without any problems due the efficient teamwork of Gilda, Julie S and Teri, and our wonderful helpers. Norm Silcock is an excellent Director and this also adds to the smooth running of the event.

Our diverse membership does include some very talented players. Bettina Dudley and Marcus Dudley, also Marcus Dudley and Alan Parkes have had some notable wins over the past month in Open grade tournaments – the club is enjoying sharing their success.

We continue to have a very positive relationship with the Omanu Trust and have a successful resolution to the problem of the faulty front door. The current doors are not fit for purpose. If left ajar on a windy day a gust of wind can result in the doors being flung open and twisting on their hinges. These will now be replaced by automatic opening doors. Under our lease agreement, we are liable for 35% of the cost. This cost will be amortized into our lease and will be paid off over the next 21 year period – this means an extra cost to the club of \$250 per year. We have also agreed to appointing a building manager who will oversee the repairs and maintenance and will be a liaison person between the Trust, Surf Living Saving NZ and ourselves.

This will add another \$2275.00 per annum to our operations budget.

This month I would like to share with you excerpts from an article I use with our learners about the positives of the game of Bridge.

Bridge is more than just an enjoyable pastime. Scientific studies have shown that playing bridge has demonstrable benefits for mental fitness and brain health in seniors.

Specifically,

playing bridge is particularly effective at delaying the onset of Alzheimer and other forms of dementia. The complex rules, bidding structure, and social interaction...force the brain to create new connections and prevent the build-up of the amyloid deposits shown to cause Alzheimer.

Bridge has a reputation for being a game that demands strategic thinking, memory, and social skills. Beyond being a leisure activity, it is a complex endeavour that engages multiple cognitive processes. Its strategic nature can stimulate neural pathways related to problem-solving and planning. At the same time, the partnership aspect of the game encourages social interaction and emotional regulation for our cognitive health.

Happy Bridge. **Michele**

Club Captain Teri comments ... Hi all

Lovely to be inside playing bridge as the rain beats against the window!

Please remember the following -

Be the First to Smile at the table.

also - **Don't Gloat ...** Don't compliment yourselves on a bid or the play of the hand until the opponents leave the table. Also, don't thank an opponent for a good board or a trick you shouldn't get - especially if your card was a singleton and did not have to be finessed. Don't tell your opponents how lucky they were - just compliment them for their success.

Monday Afternoon Teams starting 16th June – 3 week event. The signup sheet will go up next month.

Lots of tournaments coming up - please support all the local clubs.

Happy Bridge **Teri**

Request from our Treasurer – Jane. Deposits into the Club Bank Account - please keep in mind that these are only reconciled at the end of each month, so you **will not** see them appear until the end of the month statement. Please ensure that you have **YOUR NAME** (especially if you are paying out of a company name or another named account) and

YOUR NZ BRIDGE NUMBER

against each deposit. It would be great if you could keep your account in credit.



Easter Bunny, thank you, visited and left eggs and selfies in the lolly jar!

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays April '25 **Papamoa Mitre 10.**
Pairs

Mondays April '25 **Kane Rd**
pm **Handicap Pairs**

Wednesdays March'25 **Luxe Cinemas**
Handicap Pairs.

Thursdays 2025 **Ultimate Motors**
Championship Handicap Singles

Fridays April '25 **Banks Ave**
Pairs

1st Carol Grant & Mike Nicholson
2nd Lyn Bailie & Derek Webb
3rd Trish Kidd & Carol Cullen
1st Philip Brown & Jude Brown
2nd Jo Craig & Lucy Hollister
3rd Catherine Laffey & Grant Laffey
1st Liz Dive & Judith Somerville
2nd Jane Furnish & Julie Sheridan
3rd Flo Nield & Richard Roberts
1st (93 year old) Margaret Carmichael
2nd Teri Logie
3rd Gloria Mouatt
1st Janice Simpson & Ross Petersen
2nd Noelene Shrimpton & Diane Moreland
3rd Annie Barry & Julie Downs

CONGRESS 2025

PALMERSTON NORTH

commences Saturday 8th November - Saturday 15th.
lots of events for all grades including seniors.

Accommodation available @
Massey University Halls of Residence
Sport and Event Centre enquiries to -

<https://sportandeventcentre.co.nz/>

20 Twin share rooms, \$150 per room, per night.
5 Management suites, \$160 per room, per night.

Also dorm style accommodation \$75 - \$85 per night per person.
Includes bedding.

For further information or to book a room contact Bridget
bridget@nzbridge.co.nz

more tournament successes for our
members . . .

Sat 12th April Matamata 8B contest . . .

1st - **Tina Dudley & Marcus Dudley**

4th **Murray Wood & Rachelle Pelkman**

(see below for more player achievements)

RECENT RANK CHANGES . . .

Novice to Certificate of Proficiency

Karen Musgrave

Jo Craig

Certificate of Proficiency to Club Master

Nikki Baguley

Brian Lomax

Club Master to Local Master

Jane Larsen

National Master to Life Master

Graham Stern

BIG WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Maria Paterson

Kay Hammer

Bridge Player of the month . . .

is stalwart **Margaret Bowditch**,
a Monday night player willing to help shift stones,
clear dishes and muck in @ our Restricted
tournament held 5 April, thanks Margaret.

Margaret and hubby **Gordon** are Monday night
players, graduating from lessons in 2019. "I only
knew 500" says Margaret and Gordon's mum,
Enid Cameron, had previously been a
recreational/social player at our Club.

Margaret and Gordon have tried Wednesday
night bridge but found it hard, but as kiwi fruit
and avocado orchardists, turned up for a rainy
Thursday afternoon session - no tree work that
day!

So hope to see you both playing again over our
wet and rainy winter days !

Supporting our Sponsors

- 2 BIG corporations** are supporting events in May -
1. **Seeka**, Corporate office in Paengaroa provide a
premier orchard to packhouse and produce to
market service.
- Forsyth Barr** for investments and advice. Returns
up or down? Ask Paul O'Driscoll, details p2 our
programme book

Sunday March 30th saw the third staging of **FUN OVER THE BRIDGE** held this time at the Ngatai Rd premises. This friendly contest fosters the bond between Tauranga Bridge Club and our Mt Maunganui Club.

This time, 6 Junior teams, 10 Intermediate and 4 Open teams vied for possession of the **Fun over the Bridge Trophy**.

Whilst our Junior team of

Elaine Genty-Nott Lynette Steele Dianne Beveridge Michele Rogers

excelled in their division, our Open players missed out.

Awarding of the decorative 'toilet seat' was down to the Intermediate section result - unfortunately an unresolvable scoring glitch meant no result for Intermediates who had played their hearts out - this meant a tie, and our two club captains amicably declared that the trophy remain with the Tauranga Club.



Mt President Michele graciously concedes defeat.



Intermediate and Open players wait . . .

below - victorious Junior Team excited **Elaine** and **Lynette**, stunned **Michele**, and **Dianne** (missed the announcement) with shell-shocked Teri



Success recently also for **Marcus Dudley & Alan Parkes** (below) **winners** of the first BOP pairs challenge of the year at Whakatane Sunday 13th April.
Kudos too to **Bren Birss & Graham Stern**, 5th overall.
Only three more challenges to secure the BOP Pairs crown!





Our **Mt Maunganui Multi Grade Tournament** was held Saturday 5th April.

42 pairs competed, travelling from Australia, Cambridge, Hamilton, Matamata, New Plymouth, Omokoroa, Putaruru, Rotorua, Tauranga, Te Aroha, Te Puke, Waikato, Whakatane with a good representation of our own Mt players.

Sponsor for the event was **Ryan's Doubling Glazing**, rep Jo Craig was there competing, as well as awarding prizes.



McLeans - Winners - Junior/Junior section, Joanne and Alan



Runners-up, Intermediate/Junior section Rebecca Bartlett and Judy with Jo Craig.



Winners Intermediate/Intermediate section Julie Hawkes and Marilyn Rangihika



always there - Barbi and Ross 2nd Intermediate/Intermediate section



Jo and 3rd placed Kay Wright (partner Hillary McKenna missing) Intermediate/Intermediate



Great showing by our two Open players,
Alan Parkes and Graham Stern,
4th in their section and 4th overall, congratulated by Jo Craig.

Judy Bartlett is our newest Life Member - here's lots about her early life . . .

I grew up in Elmslie Bay, French Pass on the family farm. It was remote, with no roads – the only way in or out was by boat. We did have telephones and a wharf and my uncle ran a dry goods store. We grew our own vegetables and meat, made our own bread and had cows for milk, butter and cream. There was no reticulated electricity, so we ran a diesel engine every day to provide power for the three houses and the guest house in the Bay. Everyone had to be in bed and finished reading by about 10pm when my father or uncle turned the engine off, as the batteries only provided power for a short time after that. My mother had an electric iron, but did not use it as others in the Bay might do the same and there was not enough power for that, back to Mrs Potts!

I had an idyllic childhood with my younger siblings and cousins, running wild over the hills, around the rocks, swimming, rowing dinghys in the bay, fishing off the wharf and learning to play tennis when a bit older. I started my education with Correspondence School for two years. We did have a post office in an out-building and mail bags were dropped off at the wharf by coastal traders coming through the Pass on their way between Nelson and Wellington every few days, weather permitting. The school re-opened when I was 7 in 1945, starting in our drawing room with an untrained teacher (who had been accepted for teaching training). There were just 5 of us - my two cousins, two children from the lighthouse (about a mile away by path) and myself in Std 1. In the early days my father kept in touch with the Marine Dept when Lighthouse

Keepers changed to ensure that the incoming Keeper had two school age children, thus keeping the school open. The actual Pass (between D'Urville Island and the mainland) is a dangerous passage - it has the second strongest natural current in the world, with reefs and whirlpools to navigate as well.

The tide runs for 6 hours in one direction, then there is 10 - 15 minute "slack water" and then the tide runs the other way for 6 hours. Above the lighthouse on the hill was a flagpole with two big black baskets hanging on a cross bar. They were used to advise shipping which way the tide was running by raising both or just one. We children were forbidden to row past the point at the western end of Elmslie Bay because of the risk of being caught in the current. Over the years there have been accidents and drownings.

Needless to say after Std 6 (age 12), it was time to move out into the world. For a year I boarded with cousins in Christchurch to attend high school, then spent 3 years at boarding school (Solway College) in Masterton. Another 3 years at Victoria University followed, after which I trained as a Secondary Teacher. After 6 years teaching, I married Jeff, whom I met at a Hamilton tennis club and we raised our 3 daughters.