



# Mt Maunganui Bridge Club



February 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs

## from President Michele

Welcome to 2023. Already the year has had its challenges and we have been very lucky in the Bay of Plenty to have escaped the worst impacts of the extreme weather.

However, even in our region landslides have meant the loss of homes. Thanks to Teri who has been co-ordinating with the Aero Club and had taken Bridge club contributions for people in Napier and Gisborne down to their centre. We did cancel 2 sessions on the Monday 13th February when the conditions in Tauranga were threatening and the rescue centre was being used as a response headquarters; we apologise for the interruption to our programme.

It is a pleasure to welcome 3 new members to our committee:

**Bruce Inglis Frances Ball Dianne Stevens.**

I am sure they will make a very valued contribution to the team. Many thanks to Diane Roger who has been an excellent President over for the last 3 years, I am very grateful she is staying on the committee to help me 'learn the ropes'.

Our condolences to the family of Jan Kirk who recently passed away. Jan made a significant contribution to the club as President in 2005 and 2006.

At the recent AGM **Julie Sheridan** was unanimously voted a **Life Membership**. Most members are well aware of the large contribution that Julie makes to the smooth running of the club. Over the last two years I have been on the committee I have seen first hand just how much time and energy she puts in. Her IT and organisational skills and knowledge of the game of Bridge are truly impressive.

Our club mission statement is -

**to provide a friendly, welcoming environment for all those who enjoy the game of bridge.**

As a committee our aim is to make our Bridge sessions run efficiently to ensure all players enjoy their game. If there are aspects you think we can improve, please talk to a committee member and we will investigate the matter.

I look forward to this year as President of an exciting and thriving club and know I will be well supported by an extremely capable committee.

**Michele**

**here's Club Captain Teri ...Hi All**  
Great to see everyone at the club. Looking for partners? Try the Partnership Stewards - Great way of making new friends and partners. Please don't be shy if you need a partner – they will pass your name onto the next person who contacts them – looking as well. The stewards do not actively phone around on your behalf. Some sessions have a global email that goes out. However, whichever is used, please ensure that you let the partnership steward know if you are no longer needing a partner, even late on the day. They still may be contacted and need to know.

Thank you to all the Partnership Stewards!

Happy Bridge **Teri**



2 Newbies!  
Our newest Life Member  
**Julie Sheridan**  
and  
Incoming President  
**Michele Larnder**

## Wheelchair

If anyone has a wheelchair they could lend or give the club it would be appreciated.



*The rest of your committee for 2023*

Michele Larnder *President*

Gilda *Secretary*

Teri *Club Captain*

Jane Dekker *Treasurer*

*Committee members - Julie Sheridan*

## CLUB RESULTS

Mondays Feb'23 **Ray White Papamoa Handicap Pairs**

(shortened to 2 results due to cyclone)

Wednesdays Feb'23 **Pacific Coast Handicap Pairs**

Thursdays Feb '23 **PMG Handicap Pairs**

Fridays Feb '23 **Teekay Trust Pairs**

1st Brian Lomax & Robyn Knight

2nd Bill Armstrong & Flo Nield

3rd Kay Wright & Gilda Rowland

1st Janice Simpson & Ross Petersen

2nd Michele Larnder & Helene Paterson

3rd Carol Jones & Liz Dey

1st Carol Jones & Kerry Crosby

2nd Michele Larnder & Helene Paterson

3rd Lynette Steele & Elaine Genty-Nott

1st Mike Nicholson & Carol Cullen

2nd Barry Crosby & Julie Downs

3rd Hanny Hepburn & Nancy Ward

Congratulations to our members who had  
Grade changes recently.

Kate Stannard > Certificate of Proficiency

Frances Ball > Provincial Master



Happy 10th Birthday to our logo.

For those that didn't know or can't remember,  
a design competition in 2013 resulted in  
adoption of our unique logo!

### BOOK REVIEW "Bachelor Bridge"

By David Bird & Simon Cocheme. Library **Number112**

**The Amorous Adventures of Jack O'Hearts**

This is one of my favourite books in our library, despite  
it being published in 1994!

It is about a very chauvinistic philanderer (and some of  
the language reflects this) who thinks he is God's gift to  
women and believes himself to be a great Bridge  
player. I found the stories very funny and enjoyed the  
Bridge play.

In each of the short 26 chapters he plays Bridge with a  
different woman in an assortment of clubs including the  
Cockney club (where bidding is in rhyming slang!) and  
a Gauloise-scented club in Paris.

Try it and see if it is to your liking!

*Bren Birss*

Thanks Bren and hope to see you bounding back to  
bridge soon!

### WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS

Murray Wood

Desrai Karl

Sandy Murray

Eileen King

Diana Foster

Also new - Wellington Club Manager, Bridget Hannaway,  
has taken over manager Richard Solomon's role for  
National Congress and will lead the organising team  
really well into producing a great National Congress each  
year, starting this September.

### Lessons 2023

2023 Lessons will begin early March. This year your  
committee is having a drive to attract learners from all  
our retirement villages. New will be daytime lessons  
**Wednesdays 1245hr starting 8th March**  
for 14 weeks.

Evening lessons are still available -

**Mondays at 1915hr commencing 6th March.**

If you know of someone who is keen to learn,  
encourage them to come to either or both sessions.  
Please promote our lessons with family and friends –  
'word of mouth' is our best promotional tool.  
Graeme Stern will be taking the Monday sessions and  
Gilda Rowland and Diane Roger are taking the  
Wednesday sessions.

If you can help with the lessons, contact  
Michele 021 042 7330 or Annette 021183 4741.

Assisting takes the form of sitting with a  
table helping the learners to bid and  
play the hands. From the lessons we  
get new players, and this is important to  
ensure the sustainability of our club.





#### THANKS TO RETIRING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike Nicholson  
Fay Irwin  
Dawn Buxton  
Sue Gibbons

**INTERESTING** . . . to look back to **Spadework May 2005** when **Editor Liz Bristow** wrote 'It's difficult to be cheerful sometimes in the face of the **devastating rainstorms** we've had in the Bay recently. When it happens on our own doorstep, then we feel helpless against the forces of nature'.

Your current ed. was curious and Googled '**BOP weather, May 2005 Tauranga**'.  
BOP floods Tauranga 634mm in May!!! Forty houses in Papamoa and 63 in Otumoetai were evacuated, schools closed, total 789 properties affected.  
For comparison, recent rain in Jan and Feb 2023 about 500mm - devastating for some residents and we feel for all and our bridge playing community in Hawkes Bay and Gisbourne.

Anyway, back to bridge matters and on to June 2005 when Kath Harvey joined the club and a one-session charity tournament raised \$600 for Age Concern

This item from "Bridge International" appeared, penned in the days when cards were dealt at the table before play commenced.

'The random deal is at the very heart of bridge. Many think that computer-dealt hands are the only true random shuffle and that the manual shuffle is imperfect. It's not often realised that the cards are badly shuffled at the average club. Most people only shuffle for 10 seconds and half-heartedly at that. In most cases, 80% of the cards in the pack will not have moved from their neighbours. We may have to insist on a 2 minute shuffle at every table to ensure a random and fair deal'.

### *Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Fund*

The Trustees of the NZ Bridge Foundation have established a fund to support our clubs and their members who have suffered loss and disruption as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle.

The affected Clubs and members will be encouraged to apply to the Foundation setting out their losses. The Foundation will then make appropriate payments when we are able. They really need your donations now. The Trustees have opened the fund with \$2,000 which has been matched by NZ Bridge.

Clubs and bridge players who would like to contribute to the fund are invited to do so by way of a deposit to the NZ Bridge Foundation bank account as follows:

NZ Bridge Foundation- Cyclone Recovery Fund 02-0466-0272518-026

Please include your name as a reference. Receipts for tax deduction purposes will be issued on request to:

[secretary@nzbridge.co.nz](mailto:secretary@nzbridge.co.nz)

Thank you for supporting this initiative and helping our bridge community.

**Please note** - Any foodstuffs donated to our local collection through Mt Bridge Club will not be wasted but donated to Foodbank. Thanks! There's a call for underwear- new that is - if you wish to contribute in this way. yep, a pair a day . . . not to Foodbank but to Cyclone Gabrielle victims.