



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club



February 2024 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs

from President Michele

It is exciting to be back in the role of President and it is with great pleasure I welcome two new members to the team, Joanne McLean and Barbara Stimson. Barbara will be taking over the role of secretary.

Our strategic goals for this year include making play more seamless and efficient. To this end Julie Sheridan and Teri Logie have been busy trialling Web movements to use when we have larger sessions. This change has proved beneficial especially on Mondays and Thursdays.

However, this initiative does require the dealing of an extra 2 sets of boards for these sessions and we would like to see more people involved in this task.

Another goal for the club is to have more people who can Direct at our sessions. Jane Furnish and Stu Dumbleton are training with Teri on Monday nights to develop their skills. We will be running further sessions during the year and would like to see more people join the team.

Teri has outlined upcoming events in her article for this newsletter. 'Fun over the Bridge' is a new competition between Mt Maunganui and Tauranga, the aim of which is to engender a spirit of camaraderie between our two clubs. It would be great to see a significant number of members involved from Brookies to Open Players.

Lessons start on Monday 4th at 6.45pm and Wednesday 6th at 12.45pm in the club training room. 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, you can text either myself 021 0427330 or Annette Dand 021183 4741. The lessons take place over a course of 13 weeks, and you would need to be able to assist for a good number of times.

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. This year we will be working hard to not only have more people in lessons but also to retain them as regular players at our club sessions.

All the best of the season of Bridge.

May the cards treat you well.

Michele

here's Club Captain Teri ...Hi All Important Important Important Important Important

A few date changes to our programme - Please change them in your programme book.

Our Bay Pairs tournament is now on SUNDAY 28th APRIL (and not as advertised 9th June) – this was to accommodate a Directors Forum (all interested directors or 'wanna be' welcome)

The team events (Fun Over the Bridge) with Tauranga Club – advertised on page 3 in our programme book – has moved to **SUNDAY JUNE 30th**. The format and number of teams to compete is still to be finalised – but obviously we hope for a really good showing from the Mount!

A reminder – There are 4 tournaments in the **BAY PAIRS**. We would love to see our members support this on Sundays: - **Whakatane 14th April, Mount 28th April, Tauranga 26th May Te Puke 23rd June.**

You and your partner need to play in all 4 to qualify to win a prize. We congratulate our members who did well in 2023, played all 4 - Ross Petersen and Barbara Stimson, Marion Kelly and Julie Sheridan.

Tips:- Etiquette Part of Laws 73 and 74.

Inappropriate communications includes hesitation to play your card in your turn, heavy sighs, facial expressions or by showing an obvious lack of further interest in a deal or bidding by leaving your cards on the table whilst bidding continues.

Happy Bridge **Teri**

UPSKILL UPSKILL UPSKILL UPSKILL

There is to be a series of Intermediate lessons which will be held on the 4th Monday of each month.

No need to come with a partner. The first will be - Intermediate lesson - multi 2D

Monday 25 March

10 am till 12

Cost \$5.00

Your committee for 2024

Michele Larnder *President*

Barbara Stimson *Secretary*

Teri Logie *Club Captain*

Jane Dekker *Treasurer*

Committee members - Julie Sheridan, Dianne Stevens, Frances Ball, Kay Burnie, Isobel McIntyre, Joanne McLean

CLUB RESULTS

<p>Mondays Feb'24 Ray White Papamoa Handicap Pairs</p> <p>Mondays Feb'24 F Shrimpton Memorial Handicap Pairs pm</p> <p>Wednesdays Feb'24 Omanu Pairs</p> <p>Thursdays Feb '24 Valley Rd Handicap Pairs</p> <p>Fridays Feb '24 Teekay Trust Pairs</p>	<p>1st Kay Wright & Hilary McKenna 2nd Athol Ryan & Ronnie Ryan 3rd Audrey Gardiner & Linda Ball</p> <p>1st Grant Rowell & Andrew Pickering 2nd Dianne Beveridge & Isobel McIntyre 3rd Nikki Baguley & Sharon Long</p> <p>1st Megan Richards & Pamela Pedersen 2nd Peter Boynton & Mary Keane 3rd Phillippa Edwards & Mike Nicholson</p> <p>1st Patty Spencer & Julie Downs 2nd Sandra Murray & Eileen King 3rd Lynette Steele & Elaine Genty-Nott</p> <p>1st Carol Grant & Julie Downs 2nd Jean Scott & Shirley Knight 3rd Audrey Gardiner & Flo Nield</p>
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Bridge by the Stars
this month is for
Pisces
- the opening lead will prove to be the most crucial part of your defence. Try to refine your thinking. Discuss with your regular partner. Listen to their point of view.



Congratulations to our members who had Rank changes recently.
Club Master to Local Master
Michele Larnder
Kathy King

The committee wish to share an email sent recently by **Sarah Stacey** and also thanks for her donation. "It is with sadness that I must offer my resignation to the Club with immediate effect. I have always loved the Mount Club, and enjoyed being Secretary and Tournament Secretary. I wish to give the balance of my Account as a donation to the Club. I feel sad I never got to see your wonderful new building, but afraid my health didn't allow that. I do keep up with the results. I wish your wonderful Club all the very best for the future. I so enjoyed the years I played there, and the wonderful friends I had". God bless. *Regards. Sarah*

The club is also sad to acknowledge the resignations of long-term members Dorothy Harvey, Sue Wotton, Fred Clarke and ex-committee member Dawn Buxton.

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS



Keryn O'Brien
Steve O'Brien
Margaret Somers
Mike Rudd
Andrew Pickering
Keith Hitchcock
Brian Laird
Hilary McKenna

MISPLACED - A player had made a bad bid and gone for 1400. "I'm sorry" they said to partner, "I had a card misplaced." Asked partner innocently, "Only one card?"

Lessons 2024

2024 Lessons will begin early March.

Daytime lessons

Wednesdays 12.45pm starting 6th March
for 13 weeks.

Evening lessons -

Mondays at 6.45pm commencing 4th 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.

THANKS TO RETIRING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bruce Inglis
Gilda Rowland
Diane Rodger

and, noted from President Michele's 2024 report, these members will continue to make a significant contribution to the club. **Diane** was President 2020 - 2022 and ably led the Club through the negotiations with the Omanu Trust for the new clubrooms. **Bruce** will continue completing our funding applications and liaising with the Omanu Trust. **Gilda** has been our secretary since 2018 and as we all know, has kept many aspects of the club running smoothly. Also, noted in Treasurer Jane's 2023 Financial Report, the committee's focus shifted from obtaining new sponsorship to obtaining contracts for our clubrooms hire which has doubled our external sources of income.

Gilda took on the challenging and time consuming job of liaising with potential hirers and, with helpers, successfully ran four morning sessions for the National Party.

Thank you Gilda.

After Monday bridge last week a mock bridge tuition session took place under the auspices of Mel Auld, Marketing and Communications Manager for NZ Bridge.

As part of the NZB drive to attract new, varied and younger players, NZB will post photos of this simulated lesson on their website and promotional material.

Tutor, President Michele, explained the basics to yes, a varied class ranging from 8 year olds to septuagenarians. A few hands were played demonstrating what fun it can be to play bridge!

Non-bridge playing Mel, herself a Tauranga local, announced she will be joining our club and attending March lessons. Look out for NZB promotional pics, you may see someone you know.

History of Bay Pairs . . .

Bay Pairs resulted from early clubs, Kawerau, Rotorua and Opotiki forming and setting up challenges, starting in 1956.

Then in 1959, the Te Puke Bridge Club had been formed and the first ever Bay of Plenty Pairs Tournament was held, with each of the five clubs hosting a one day tournament: the first of its kind within New Zealand. This also was the first year of the Bay of Plenty Interclub Teams, an Interclub competition to be played separately from the Bay of Plenty Pairs.

Later, Whakatane Bridge Club was established and was invited to become involved with the tournament. Now six clubs were each hosting a one day tournament, with upwards of 30 tables. It was around this time that grading points were awarded. Pairs placing in the tournament were now getting "C" points.

In 1964 Mount Maunganui Bridge club was formed and was invited to join in both the Pairs and Teams events, though it was decided that the Pairs would be limited to six one day tournaments to be rotated through the seven clubs.

Over the years the Bay Of Plenty Pairs has become an "A" point tournament awarding an "A" point to the winners of each session and 5 "A" points to the overall Champion Pairs. The competition in its modern form consists of four rounds with each round counting.

Anniversary Weekend 27th January saw **Tauranga Bridge Club** hosting their annual congress.

Congress Restricted Open hosted 18 Pairs (open to any pairs combination except two open players together) and our club is happy to report

1st Flo Nield & Shirley Knight

2nd Michele Larnder & Helene Paterson

5th Diane Rodger & Lyn Bailie

and let's join Tauranga Club with congratulations to **Kate Terry**

on her recent selection to represent New Zealand in the Women's Team at the World Bridge Games in Argentina later this year. Joining Kate too are

Christine and Jenna Gibbons, affiliated to local clubs.

congrats to all.



"I'm sure I saw a mark here . . . "



"oh, here it is . . . "



"well lucky the bar fridge is clean anyway . . . "

Information is available on line or from Club Captain Teri about two upcoming events.

Firstly, **Waikato Bays 2024 Regional Championship Trials** will be held on-line 4th and 5th May. Intermediate, Senior, Women's and Open grades to be competed. Check NZ Bridge events for further info.

Secondly, **East Coast Bays Bridge Club** is conducting 7pm Sunday on-line Real Bridge competitions all year 2024. Enquire at www.ecbridgeclub.co.nz