



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

January 2023 Summer Edition.

**from our Retiring President
Diane -**

Welcome to 2023. Wishing you all a very happy new year.

A friendly reminder that the AGM will be held on Wednesday 8th February at 6.15pm. There is not a lot of news over the last month, we have all been busy and pre occupied with Christmas, New Year, family and friends.

Can I encourage everyone to consider playing in the Bay Pairs this year, Whakatane, Tauranga, Te Puke and Mount. The date for the Mount has been changed from 28th May to 13th August, so please add this date to your dairies or check on tournaments on NZBridge web site.

Enjoy your bridge this year and stay safe,
Diane.

Thank's Diane for your leadership over the last 3 years and Ed. thanks her for timely contributions to **Spadework** over that time.

**Our Club Captain's always working -
Hi All**

New Year's Resolution – Learn something new this year. Directing, scoring, dealing? Learn what happens behind the scenes at your Bridge Club, in order for you to be able to sit down and play at each session.

You can offer help to the Directors, or stand behind the scorers as they are setting up and learn what to do.

Everyone can help by arriving on time, helping set up the cups, tea etc. Help out at tea time with the clear up.

You can help by staying behind at the end to tidy up, turn off appliances, lights, ensure that no one is left alone to finish scoring etc.

Please don't expect not to help in 2023.

Looking forward to a great year

Happy Bridge **Teri**

NB.Subs will be debited out of your Compa\$\$ account at the end of Jan, payable by end of Feb. You will get a statement at the end of January as usual.

. . . SOME HOUSEKEEPING/ ALTERATIONS

to your blue programme books

BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER INCORRECT -

please amend to 03 0374 0045537 01

Mt Bay Pairs date changed to 13 August 2023

The IP's (Interprovincials) were held in November online on Real Bridge.

Congratulations to 3 of our members who represented our Waikato/Bays Province in this event.

Megan Richards in the Intermediate - 4th overall

Rachelle Pelkman in the Senior - 2nd overall

Kate Terry in the Womens - 3rd overall

Waikato/Bays finished 4th overall out of 7 NZ Bridge Provinces

Welcome to new & rejoining members

Graham Boyd
Sue Wotton.

Anna Rutten
Cathy Parker

Marilyn Rangihika

Jenny Myhill

Bridge is a *partnership game*. Given that fact, let partner help you. Single handed *guesses* are just that. You either guess right or you guess wrong. If you allow partner to help you, you can change guesses into certainties. Also proper hand evaluation is a tool to assist you in your bidding. Without proper hand evaluation, you are not bidding, you are guessing. If you are an experienced player who does not evaluate the hand properly, you are an "experienced guesser" rather than a good bidder. You have developed good guessing skills due to your experience but if you do not use hand evaluation you will be wrong far too often. Bridge judgment must be a combination of experience and hand evaluation skills. Good guessing skills needs good luck.

Bidding skills needs less reliance on luck .

Source: www.edmontonbridge.ca

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays Nov '22	Mount Eliza Cheese Pairs	1st Margaret Wakelin & Derek Webb 2nd Joe Brown & Audrey Gardiner 3rd Kay Wright & Dot Skousgaard
Monday pms Nov '22	Great Spice Pairs	1st Kay Burnie & Michele Larnder 2nd Grant Rowell & Michael Crouch 3rd Diane Beveridge & Petrena Lovell
Wednesdays Nov '22	Bell Plumbing Pairs	1st Rosemary Wilkey & Tina Dudley 2nd Shirley Knight & Julie Sheridan 3rd Alan Currie & Julia Gardiner
Fridays Nov '22	Hayleys Pairs	1st Noelene Shrimpton & Bren Birss 2nd Audrey Gardiner & Jean Scott 3rd Riet Jansen & Sue Gibbons
Fridays Nov '22	Mount Hot Pools Pairs	1st Margaret Y Guy & Erika Schofield 2nd Nancye Ward & Brenda Macfarlane 3rd Barry Crosby & Joe Brown

Linley Hay has been riffling through the many exciting books in the Mount Bridge Club Library. She says, "I stumbled upon an absolute favourite" -

Double Without Trouble.

"It's such an easy read, very concise with its examples, so explanatory. 'Double Without Trouble' is a thin book, a little bigger than a pamphlet, covering most doubling situations i.e.

take out doubles
negative doubles
penalty doubles"

"9 on a scale of 1 to 10" says Linley. (They omitted the responsive double.) If you and your partner want to win, I urge you to pick up this book and add its tips to your bridge system arsenal."

And yes, who hasn't been annihilated by Linley's doubles?

So find this skinny book, 'Double Without Trouble' at the top of the library bookshelf, study and give Linley a fright. One copy is available now - 2 more on order and coming soon.

Double Without Trouble.

by Tina McVeigh

from the "House of Cards" series.

here's some great club news -

Grade changes

NZBridge Junior to Intermediate,

Mt Club Junior to Senior

Rachel Olsen

Ray Guy

Elaine Kingsford

Kathy King

Intermediate to Open

Gilda Rowland

Bren Birss

Well done all for your good efforts in 2022



Another chance to delve into entries penned by former Spadework Editor
LIZ BRISTOW.

Here's her editorial from **April 2005.**

"We're coming to the end of our Indian Summer but the blue skies are still with us and they keep up our spirits of being cheerful and positive. It was this attitude that prevailed on the recent Monday bridge sessions when a record **28 teams** competed. We are fortunate that our daytime sessions in particular are very well attended. Where else could we get 3 hours of enjoyment for \$2? Our tournaments have always been popular, so a rosy future stretches ahead with more bridge companionship and the essential charity tournaments."

In the same issue President **Jan Kirk** noted \$1000 was donated to Save the Children from their charity tournament.

Also, **Ray Guy** successfully had the older part of the roof (old rooms) replaced with coloured Zinaloom and the remaining roof painted to match.

The club was looking forward to hosting their first 3A tournament (23 tables) and **Joy Holmes** was welcomed as a new member.

Liz tells me every month it took 2 pax to collate the two A4 double-sided pages of **Spadework**, folded to A2 size and distributed to members.

Thank heavens for laptops and the internet now!

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

For many years now, some Monday and Wednesday sessions are sponsored by
Mount Eliza Cheese

Their **BLUE MONKEY CHEESE** was awarded "Gold Medal" and "Chef's Choice" Trophy 2022 by NZ Cheese. **BLUE MONKEY** is rich and buttery and great with crackers and fruit paste. Additionally Mount Eliza produce NZ's only raw milk cheddar.

To find these scrummy cheeses, visit
Farmers Market at Tauranga Primary School on Saturday Mornings 8-12am. Or take a trip over to one of the Bays best kept secrets – the great little Te Puna Deli
(behind Farmlands)

Jill and Chris Whalley. cheese@mounteliza.co.nz
ph 07 5495669



MEMBER ANNIE BARRY IS NOT LONG HOME FROM AN INCIDENT PACKED TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA.

Here's an excerpt from one of Annie's emails she has agreed to share . . . but I must warn Annie's Bridge partners to be wary of any count!

. . . I might say here that my Spanish lessons have faded into oblivion. I am managing to read some of it and can converse in short sentences but once they fire back at me in rapid staccato that's it...**finito!** And to be quite honest I hope we never get stuck in a Spanish speaking country again because things can get quite difficult.

For example, just two hours ago I purchased a great little Italian linen dress in a shop not far from our hotel. I had had my eye on it for a few days and done the exchange rate thing and it was very reasonable. Anyway having been in Buenos Aries for 4 days and sorted the pesos out it was relatively easy to just halve the peso amount to \$NZD ie. 8,500 pesos = \$NZ 43.00 . Each day I would check the visa statement to see that our calculations were working and was pleasantly surprised to find we'd nailed it!



Today I bought the dress for 85,000 pesos which I quickly calculated to be NZ \$42.00. Spot the mistake? Oh yes, I had missed the extra nought and when I checked our visa statement it was an astronomical \$NZ 444.00!! ' Oh sh** J.B look at this! You know the dress I just bought it's bloody well \$444.00, not \$44.00!' 'Now calm down Annie, just take it back and explain to them what's happened'. So I took all the docket and the dress and my passport back only to find they had shut their till for the night. She (the owner) was quite cooperative and tomorrow morning I am to be at her shop at 11.00am so that she can cancel the transaction with her bank. Hopefully this will be a smooth operation, if not I will have one very expensive piece of bloody Italian linen that looks like about \$40 bucks worth. Watch this space!

Well – the dreaded dress. Apart from a lack of sleep last night worrying about this bloody little bit of Italian linen, headed off to the shop in question knowing full well that perhaps they weren't so keen on refunding my \$444.00 even though they had agreed to it the day before. Surprise, surprise they told me they would not be able to refund...**"impossible!"** they said, "we cannot put money back on your card". Luckily the shop was only a couple of hundred metres away and I had already asked our hotel front desk if anyone was willing to come with me to translate if things went wrong. **"No problema"** they said and this is exactly what happened. Nicolas, the manager, happily accompanied me to the shop and gave them a lesson on how to reverse a credit card entry. Of course they weren't happy about it but in the end I got my refund and Nicolas got a big hug and a nice tip to help him through his day.

Following our years of covid change lockdowns and restrictions, NZ Bridge called for submissions about the contentious issue of ONLINE bridge. A Working Group produced the *interim* "A Future Strategy for Online Bridge".

- All strategy basically providing an environment for the game to grow and flourish whether in-person or online.
 - Nurturing and protecting in-person bridge
 - Recognising the social connection and community of club bridge.
- Recognising that "online bridge" will continue to evolve over time and, therefore, strategy needs to be flexible and adaptable.
 - Online play is only part of the mix.

It is recognised that some clubs don't and will not want to offer online bridge.
2023 will include the opportunity for trials and testing of the online strategy.

SOME POINTERS -

- Club online sessions will continue to be eligible for masterpoints.
- Masterpoints will not be awarded for hybrid events scored across the field, they can be awarded separately for in-person and online sections.
- There will be one weekend per month where clubs will be invited to run their tournaments online or in-person.
- Existing midweek tournaments, not on public holidays, may be run online or in-person.
- The National Congress will be held in-person.
- The Board acknowledges that there needs to be work on rules for online bridge. While these are formalised there remains an expectation that players will comply with the conditions of play, behave in an ethical manner and demonstrate good bridge etiquette.

Refer to NZ Bridge for more detail and explanation.