



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

March 2024

Editor: Julie Downs

from President Michele -

We hope to see many of you at our first Tournament of the year - our 3A Multigrade Pairs on Saturday 6th of April. This will be closely followed by the 2nd Bay Pairs on the 28th of April (note this is a change from the 9th of June). Many thanks to our Club Captain Teri for the organisation of these events. Entry details are on the NZ Bridge website.

Lessons have got off to a good start with 4 full tables at both of our two sessions. There is plenty of laughter and the learners are having lots of fun grappling with the challenges of the game. The lesson teachers this year are again Graham Stern and Gilda Rowland. Thanks to the support team of Kay Burnie, Dianne Stevens, Barry Crosby, Alan McLean and dealer extraordinaire Annette Dand. We hope to see many of these learners join us at club sessions later this year.

Joanne McLean is the newest member of our committee and is already making an important contribution by taking over the Monday newsletter, partnership stewardship and convening of Monday nights. Joanne together with our newest Director Jane Furnish are bringing a sense of revitalisation to this session. Thanks go to Teri to all for her excellent training and support.

The Diamond Jubilee planning group have met this month to decide on the format of the day. Put a 'save the date' memo in your calendar for Saturday 19th of October - it looks to be a fun event.

I wish you all a very enjoyable Easter and I'm sure that there will be hot-cross buns and chocolate somewhere on the menu.

Michele

Another SAVE THE DATE - JUNE 9
Waikato-Bays DIRECTOR INITIATIVE....

Directors' Forum **June 9**, at
Matamata Bridge Club rooms.

Allan Joseph

a National Director and respected Directing Teacher will lead a group of speakers on a variety of topics of interest to Directors and aspiring Directors.

This is NOT a push to encourage people to take the Directing Exams but to support, encourage and educate current working Directors.

(Also look on NZ Bridge Website (My NZB) - Forums - Directing. Interesting reading).

Please add your name to the list at the Club if you wish to carpool from the Mt Club.

Club Captain Teri says "Hi All"

Hope 2024 is going well with you all.

The notice board shows the myriad of tournaments on offer, so we are spoilt for choice and no need to be bored on a weekend.

Thank you to our directors - both experienced and new. Thanks to those who are helping out in the kitchen and other duties, which in turn helps the director.

Everyone is welcome to step up.

On that subject - don't make decisions that the director should be making, even if you know the rule. Learn not to be offended when a director is called on you - you never know - it may be to your advantage. This is part of the game. The director is there to protect everyone and especially, the integrity of the game.

Try not to air any grievances to other members, come to me (or any committee member) - in the past month I have had so many 'complaints' passed on - second hand. I tend to ignore gossip, but we can only get better if we hear of problems direct.

There are printed slips of paper of our committee members on the notice board, and a glue stick so you can update your programme books.

Last advice - **Be the First to Smile.**



Happy Bridge Teri

Thursday Players

2020 saw the start of a new aggregate competition for a newly donated trophy and cash prize for Thursdays. *Rosemary Collins* created this award which is given annually to the player accumulating the most 'Thursday points'. Points are awarded for placings and event participation over the year. And of real note on Thursday 29th Feb **22 Tables** of players vied for a rung on this aggregate ladder. (Also of note, in March 2020 we were in lock-down and we all logged in for BBO Bridge-on-line to get our daily fix).

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays Mar '24	AYC Handicap Pairs	1st Marilyn Rangihika & Julie Hawkes 2nd Gloria Mouatt & Judy Bartlett 3rd Ross Petersen & Barbara Stimson
Mondays Mar '24 pm	Bunnings Pairs	1st Dianne Beveridge & Isobel McIntyre 2nd Rebecca Bartlett & Alan Withrington 3rd Brian Breen & Laurelle Breen
Wednesdays Mar '24	Ultimate Motors Handicap Pairs	1st Mary Keane 2nd Alan Parkes 3rd Audrey Gardiner
Fridays Feb '24	Life Members Pairs	1st Chris Gibson & Hanny Hepburn 2nd Annie Barry & Rachel Olsen 3rd Linda Ball & Laurie Bell

Bridge by the Stars

this month is for

Aries

Expert Arians can put exotic squeeze plays into practise this month.

Let's face it, you have plenty of confidence.

Here is your opportunity to demonstrate your playing skills.



BRIDGE MYTHS & FALLACIES FROM RON KLINGER

'ALWAYS LEAD TOP OF YOUR PARTNER'S SUIT'

No, no, no! If partner has bid a suit, that suggests the suit to lead, but the card led should be the standard one.

Top from a sequence, top from a doubleton, but otherwise not top.

Fourth-highest, M. U. D. or the lowest from three to an honour still apply when leading partner's suit.

Student in class has xxx facing AQJ in dummy. Player leads low and puts in the jack which holds. The ace is played next. Teacher asks why wasn't the finesse taken again? Student says: "You told us that only one of two finesses work."

ROAD BLOCK . . .

Bayfair flyover was closed on Wed night 28th Feb for resealing so all tired players had to use Ocean Beach Rd to get home, only to find a Random Breath Testing blockade in place.

Our player explained "no drinks Officer" to which the lady constable replied, "you must have been to bridge too!"

The club welcomes new sponsorship for a Monday night series.

15th April, 22nd April, 29th April (formerly Kane Road Pairs) is renamed the **Stuart Pedersen Memorial Pairs** instigated by Pamela in recognition of Stuart who was a club member until 2019. Pamela, family and members and are still affected by his tragic death and this sponsorship will serve as a continuing tribute to Stuart's memory. "Gone but never forgotten".

Thanking our Sponsors

we know so well



Luxe Cinemas

Two Tauranga cinemas, one in Papamoa East (formerly Tivoli) and one in Tauranga, where the Rialto used to be, upstairs in Devonport Rd.

Luxe theatres are family-owned boutique cinemas giving a special viewing experience with a wide range of films and documentaries. Yes, a Luxe lounge with local flavours and beers, wines and coffee available along with, of course, ice cream and pop corn.

Their beautiful leisure space is also available as a hire venue. Best to look on line for listings, bookings and more info.

CONGRATS ON RANK CHANGES

from **Certificate of Proficiency to Club Master -**

Judy Robinson & Diana Foster

worth repeating - a little Bridge humour from the internet ...

Alfred Sheinwold wrote "A real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in it". He also wrote:

"Count your winners and count your losers. If the total doesn't come to 13, count your cards."

worth knowing - Alfred Sheinwold was an American bridge player, administrator, international team captain, and prolific writer. Many BOP players use his system fondly called the **Te Puke System**, more correctly, the **Kaplan-Sheinwold** bidding system, developed and popularised by Edgar Kaplan and Alfred Sheinwold during their partnership, which flourished during the 1950s and 1960s.

The principal features of **Kaplan-Sheinwold**, as revised in the 1960s, are these:

1. Weak no trump. An opening bid of 1NT promises 12–14 high card points. Transfers are not used, and Stayman is non-forcing.
2. Five-card majors, with limit raises. A 1NT response is forcing and responder's double is negative. 3NT is the strong, forcing raise.
3. Minor suit openings are strong or unbalanced, or both, because the weak no trump handles all weak, balanced hands. A 1NT rebid by opener shows a strong no trump (15–17 HCP) and a 2NT rebid shows 18–20 HCP.
4. In response to one of a minor, responder shows a four card major if possible with a weak or moderate hand. But with values for game, responder first bids a longer side suit, even the other minor, and may rebid in a major. For example, the sequence 1♣ – 1♦; 1♥ – 1♠ may show a strong hand with long diamonds and four spades, but it may also be a "moderately strong hand *without* a spade stopper."
5. Weak two bids, including 2♦.
6. 2♣ is the only strong, forcing opening.
7. Defensively, simple overcalls are taken to have the same range as an opening bid, and take-out doubles emphasise distribution.

- thanks Wikipedia

Barbara Stimson, Secretary, *one of our newest committee members shares some personal history with Spadework.*

I was a postwar baby, born in Kent, England. I always yearned for adventure so in 1971 when my new husband's company offered him a job in South Africa I was delighted. Several promotions within that company saw us moving every few years to different and diverse parts of Africa, adding three children along the way. We loved to explore and every chance we had saw us driving across Southern Africa, visiting game parks, all the surrounding countries and sometimes landing us in some pretty hairy situations. We also spent three years living in a small coastal town in the Namib desert, which gave us huge opportunities for exploration. Eventually we settled in the Western Cape where the children could have an uninterrupted high school education.

That is when I first started to play bridge. I had three friends who needed a fourth for their rubber bridge and offered to teach me if I would join them. I had always been a card player and picked it up quite easily, playing with them and various other people for years. I also played with a group of French ladies, speaking only *français* the whole afternoon. I have never had so little to say for myself!

By 2000 my marriage had come to an inevitable and fairly amicable end, my boys had all finished school and I made the hard decision that for my future security I should move back to the UK. It was a pretty rough time for me but eventually I settled, landed a good job and made a few friends.

In 2004 I met and married Michael, the very best friend I ever had. We had a wonderful time together, travelling whenever possible including a couple of visits to my son in Tauranga. We fell in love with NZ and thought we would like to retire here. Permanent residence was granted and we arrived in May 2008. We both absolutely loved life here and explored our new country enthusiastically.

I joined the U3A Bridge group and picked up the game again. I soon realised I needed to play more, so with another lady in the group, I nervously ventured to the Tauranga club. I had never played duplicate bridge before but I loved it. I was hooked.

Our happy retirement was unfortunately short-lived as Michael was diagnosed with bladder cancer at the end of 2010 and after several surgeries and courses of chemo lost his fight for life in January 2012 at the age of 68.

So here I am, feeling almost like a Kiwi, still playing bridge and so grateful to have a pastime that allows me to constantly challenge myself, exercise my brain and belong to a welcoming and friendly club where I get to mix with so many interesting people.