



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

March 2025 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs

from President Michele -

To all our members, your dedication and support are what make our club thrive and grow. Each contribution, whether big or small, plays a vital role in building a community where everyone feels valued and empowered. Every time someone voluntarily gets up to help clean up the kitchen or put the playing boards in order after a session, orders the cards to help another player, provides transportation and helps in a myriad of ways, our club is a better place to be. We hope to see many of our members taking part in our multi-grade tournament on the 5th of April. As always, we need contributions for morning tea and help in the kitchen. Please put your names on the sign-up sheet.

Lessons are well underway with twenty players on Monday night and eight on Wednesday afternoon. All the laughter could indicate enjoyment or just a state of hysteria - time shall tell. Lesson teachers this year are Graham Stern and Michele Larnder.

Thanks to the support team of Kay Burnie, Dianne Stevens, Francis Ball, Flo Nield and dealer Annette Dand. Thank you to players who recommended the game to their friends, 50% of attendees are due referrals by members.

Well done to the rock moving team of Margaret Bowditch, Gordon Cameron, Teri Logie, Julie Sheridan, Kay Burnie and Dianne Stevens. The planter at the back entrance to the club rooms now looks much better. The contributions of the locals in the form of bottles and cans have now reduced - sadly not completely stopped.

I have had several communications with the council with reference to our parking issues on Monday and Thursday afternoons. At this point their only suggestion is for us to organise a shuttle. If members can carpool, it will reduce numbers while we investigate further.

As a committee we work hard to ensure that all sessions run smoothly. If you have suggestions for improvement, please tell anyone of us and we will see what we can do. Continue to enjoy your Bridge and the fine company that you meet playing the game.

Michele

Club Captain Teri writes ...

Hi all

We love the game of bridge, but it can be challenging as players learn to manage their emotions and maintain a positive attitude even when facing setbacks. *Or not.* However, the director's decision is final at the table, you can have a short discussion, *but don't argue at all.* You are welcome to bring it up at the end of the session.

If there's ever a disagreement about whether to call the director, then *you should call the director.*

Nobody should have anything to lose from having the director called! If the other team is in the right, the director will support them. And if not, then

(a) you were right to call, and

(b) they should theoretically be happy to be playing a fair game.

Finally, it's our Club's policy that you wear your name badges at every session, even if you know your name some of us don't it's so much more friendly if you can put a name to the face of the opposition. *Maybe*



Happy bridging everyone.



guess intelligently --- play bridge

What did the rock order at the bar?
Soda on the rocks.

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays March '25	AYC Handicap Pairs	1st Jenny Fraser & Richard Roberts 2nd Judith Wilson & Jean Scott 3rd Brenda Bleakley & Judy Bartlett
Mondays Mar '25 pm	F Shrimpton Memorial Handicap Pairs	1st Allan Goodhall & Emma Barber 2nd Rebecca Bartlett & Alan Withrington 3rd Diana Foster & Lucy Hollister
Wednesdays Mar '25	Ultimate Motors Handicap Singles	1st Helen Heuvel 2nd Fay Irwin 3rd Jane Furnish
Thursdays Feb '25.	Valley Rd Handicap Pairs	1st Joanne McLean & Tim Torr 2nd Sandra Murray & Eileen King 3rd Carol Jones & Kerry Crosby
Fridays March '25	Life Members' Pairs	1st Barry Crosby & Joe Brown 2nd Flo Nield & Graham Stern 3rd Nelson Hodgetts & Liz Gilbert

Fun Space

BRIDGE Couple at lawyer's office "Let me get this straight - you want a pre-tournament agreement spelling out the division of assets and custody of the cat?"

"I believe partner is using the 'law of total tricks'. They certainly had ME totally tricked!"

Help make Bridge enjoyable for all

Be seated ten minutes before play starts

Wear your name badge

Check that your phone is on silent

Greet your opponents before each round

Introduce yourself to people you don't know

Explain your system clearly and simply,
when asked

Be understanding of newer players

Be kind to your partner

Save training tips and reviews until after the
session

Acknowledge good play by your opponents

Let the Director or committee know if you
see players behaving badly towards their
opponents or partners

Thank your opponents at the end of the round

Don't gloat over a good result or opponent's error

Respect your Director

Thanking our Sponsors

April sees **Papamoa Mitre 10** sponsoring a Monday afternoon event. Retail manager Andrew urges members to take advantage of their 5x Airpoints offer this weekend. Also really great discounts on outdoor furniture, bbqs and sun umbrellas.

He says the move to the new store is still 18 months away but will be 2.5x bigger than the present shop.

If you can't make it this weekend, Gold Card folks get a discount anyway.

Please support

Papamoa Mitre 10

ph 07 5753847

Lucky as the **Mt Maunganui Bridge Club** is to have great premises and smooth operations, all this does not come without cost and a great deal of work from many, many members.

Such a contribution comes from a crew who host and cater for local **National Party** members. No, our club hasn't turned blue, but every second Monday morning of the month, since March 2023, 65 to 70 party followers meet in our rooms to hear from local and visiting MPs. Their meeting includes a generous morning tea for which the club charges \$10 a head, giving a clear profit of approx \$300 per event.

Spearheaded by Gilda, her team of Dianne, Jane, Isobel, Sharyn, Carolyn, Carol and Julie H share bimonthly duties, their time given freely and often contributing cooked items for the visitors.

Such a contributor recently, was home baker **Phil West**.

Phil says he's 'not a committee person' but like so many others in our club, likes to contribute where he can, including regularly mowing our lawns.

Asked where, why and how Phil acquired his baking skills, he explained that after being bored with Auckland accountancy, he and wife Gill bought Baker's Delight in Howick. So of course, date loaf and chocolate brownie are staples for Phil. Successfully they won NZ Franchisee of the Year 2001, ironically presented by then Labour PM, Helen Clarke. Subsequently Phil progressed to Subway franchises in Otahuhu (locals preferred KFC) and then Mt Wellington. But ultimately, Tauranga called and our club appreciates Phil's efforts.



So if like Phil and our other star bakers, baking's your thing, contributions will always be welcome.

"Bridge Players of the Month"

from Monday evenings

*welcome back to Chris Fowke

*training scorers Peter Boynton & Brian Breen
also -

*to those dedicated players returning to 2025
lessons

2 GREAT EVENTS . . .

Don't forget our

Multigrade Tournament on Saturday April 5th.

Contact is Gilda if you need help to enter.

AND - "Fun Over the Bridge" March 30th 1- 4pm
Team Event @ Tauranga Bridge Club.

Time to get the trophy back.

Please support these two happenings spiritually if you haven't entered!

To all Bridge Players,

NZ Bridge will in the coming days update the website with a new, improved design to make it easier for you and others in our community to find the information you need. The website address remains the same: www.nzbridge.co.nz

check it out - at first you could be forgiven for thinking you're on the Mt Maunganui club site!

CONSEQUENTLY

The NZ Bridge website have ongoing issues following the revamp it which are impacting on the database that sits behind it. So if you are wanting to enter a tournament - and are not able to do it on the NZ Bridge website as normal, contact the club directly.

With that in mind - **Cambridge Bridge Club** have contacted us and asked for our members to enter their
Junior and Novice Pairs

to be held this coming **Saturday 29th March**. Contact for the club is ccbc144t@gmail.com.

There is a lot of work in preparing and running a tournament - so all clubs appreciate as many entries as possible.