



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

# SPADEWORK

May 2024 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs

Welcome to our May edition of Spadework from  
**President Michele.**

It has been a busy month and congratulations to our senior and intermediate players who have had some notable successes at recent tournaments. Our efficient editor Julie Downs has provided a record of this month's achievements.

This week we graduate 21 learners from our 13-week lesson programme. They have found that Bridge is not easy but that it is great fun. The lessons have been packed with questions and laughter

(I think we have missed teaching them that Bridge is a serious game).

The big challenge is to ensure these graduates continue to play Bridge at our club. On Monday nights Annette Dand and I will be running a transition programme in which we will extend the new players with etiquette and play tips that will help them when they play in club sessions.

On Wednesday afternoons the club has a casual drop-in session that is a great learning ground for new players. This session was started a few years ago by Emma Barber and now she is ably supported in the running of these afternoons by Bernie Robinson. These two are doing a great job and this session will be useful to our new players.

Lessons only work with the support of players to help the learners understand the lesson. The team this year has been Kay Burnie, Barry Crosby, Alan McLean, Phil West, Dianne Stevens, Annette Dand and me. A special mention for Annette who has dealt all the boards for both sets of lessons. Our lessons have been well taught by Graham Stern on Monday nights and Gilda Rowland on Wednesday afternoons. We are very lucky to have these two very skilled Open players teaching our beginners.

Monday nights are becoming popular again. Our able Directors, Jane and Teri together with committee member Joanne are providing a well-run fun night. They now have included spot prizes – the 1st pair to bid 3NT, the 1st pair to go down in a contract by 3 etc. It has brought a new atmosphere to the session, and it is good for our learners in the training rooms to see.

Next month is packed with teams' events in our programme and includes the inaugural Battle of the Bridges with Tauranga on 30th June. I hope you have found some friends and are coming along to enjoy one of the best formats for playing Bridge.

All the best in Bridge **Michele**

This player plays very slowly. They are asked to speed it up a bit. Reply: "I'm sorry, but I can't think and play bridge at the same time."

**Club Captain Teri asks to**

**Please note - you too can Help!**

By arriving on time, having confirmed your partner  
**the day before**

(not last week please, they too have a full life).

You can also offer help to the Directors or stand behind the scorers as they are setting up and learn what to do. You are never too old to learn! Help in the kitchen – before, during and afterward. You can help by staying behind at the end to tidy up, pick up table numbers, sort boards, turn off appliances, lights, ensure that no one is left alone to finish scoring etc.

**Or see following list of jobs done by a myriad of unsung heroes: -**

- >washing dish towels,
- > checking the tray under the water cooler for overflow,
- >checking session results are correct,
- >dealing approximately 1008 packs of cards for ONE month,
- >buying stationery,
- >printing stuff,
- >emptying rubbish bins in the toilets and kitchen,
- >convenors who open rooms and help members enjoy Wed afternoon social bridge,
- >restocking toilets with paper,
- >restocking the blue tubs with 4 pens (why do all the pens land up on table 13?)
- >extra dealing for tournaments and parties,
- >membership changes,
- >dealing with compass account queries,
- >updating the website,
- >take in money,
- >bleach cups,
- >wipe out the fridge,
- >travel to shop for aforementioned fridge (milk) and for biscuits and drinks, unpack the shopping.
- >newsletter contributors
- >groundsman and handyman
- >fund raiser morning tea helpers
- >partnership stewards
- >lessons tutors and helpers
- >almoner
- >wheelchair and disability assistants
- >barpersons
- >tournament secretary, organisers and providers
- >program book assembly
- >sponsorship
- >Xmas and special functions organisers

The list can go on, but the **Editor** said I had to cut it short.

**So, you can help – by arriving on time and be seated at a table smiling at your partner!**

Happy Bridge **Teri**

## CLUB RESULTS

Mondays May '24	<b>Dorothy Aitken Handicap Pairs</b>	1st Richard Roberts & Jenny Fraser 2nd Margaret Wakelin & Barry Crosby 3rd Sue Gibbons & Patty Spencer
Mondays April'24 pm	<b>Stuart Pedersen Memorial Pairs</b>	1st Judith Somerville & Nikki Baguley 2nd Sue Werren & Nick Werren 3rd Emma Barber & Dorothy Low
Mondays May'24 pm	<b>Seeka Championship Pairs</b>	1st <b>Novice Pair</b> Jo Craig & Nikki Baguley runner-up Novice Pair Linda Rae & John Rae 1st <b>Junior Pair</b> Alan & Joanne McLean runner-up Junior Pair Sharon Long & Dianne Beveridge
Wednesdays April'24	<b>Teekay Trust Handicap Pairs</b>	1st Alan Parkes & Megan Richards 2nd Dianne Beveridge & Fay Irwin 3rd Liz Dey & Bryden Lane
Thursdays May'24	<b>M H Rogers Handicap Pairs</b>	1st Jan Wilbur-Smith & Emma Barber 2nd Julie Downs & Judy Waldvogel 3rd Graeme Boyd & Bernie Robinson
Fridays May '24	<b>Forsyth Barr Pairs</b>	1st Barry Crosby & Graham Stern 2nd Shirley Knight & Frances Ball 3rd Hanny Hepburn & Liz Gilbert

## Bridge by the Stars

### Gemini

Your 'split-level' personality is sometimes difficult for your partners to accept. You can be brilliant - you can be bad! Try for some consistency in your bidding and play. It will pay off.



## congratulations to members ...

Joanne Bruce and Nikki Baguley  
who achieved **Certificates of Proficiency**  
also Emma Barber, new **Club Master**

Also congrats for recent tournament success

**Bay Pairs Round 2 @ Mt Maunganui Club 28th April**

1st Murray Wood & Rachelle Pelkman

2nd Alan Parkes & Graham Stern (also winners recently  
at Taupo)

**AND**

1st Junior Pair Sharon Long & Nikki Baguley

2nd Junior Pair Isobel McIntyre & Judith Somerville

**AND**

**Bay Pairs Round 3 @ Tauranga Club 26th May**

2nd Julie Sheridan & Marion Kelly

6th Diane Rodger & Lyn Bailie

7th Ross Petersen & Barbara Stimson

**AND**

**Katikati 5B tournament 19th May**

Ross Petersen & Barbara Stimson,  
a creditable 2nd place overall.

**AND**

**Te Puke Restricted 25th May**

1st Juniors Bob Kidd & partner

1st Junior/Int Pair Bryden Lane & Joe Brown

**ALSO** - good luck to **Julie Sheridan & Marion Kelly** who  
are 2nd overall in the three challenges in BAY PAIRS thus  
far. Final and 4th event @ Te Puke 23rd June.

## Bridgies & Brookies

Tutor Graham Stern reports this year's Monday  
learners had their **graduation** and last revision  
this week.

Concurrently, Gilda's Wednesday group also wind  
up with a presentation and nibbles.

Brookies now can cement their skills with  
support from Annette Dand and play on Monday  
nights and/or join the Wednesday social bridge  
group fostered by Emma Barber & Bernie  
Robinson.

Members, please partner, encourage and  
support our 20+ new players using green pens  
and no doubling please.

## PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS



This month, Mt Maunganui Hot Pools  
**"Best surprise you will get in the Mount.  
Great pools that  
refresh and relax at the same time"** says  
a reviewer.

Reasonably priced for us Tauranga residents  
and good for soothing and supporting  
new joints after surgery!

Soak it up and please,  
express the club's appreciation for their  
sponsorship when you visit.

NZ CONGRESS – NEW VENUE FOR 2025  
There's a new venue for 2025 for the premier event,  
**NZ Bridge Congress.**

Venue: Palmy Venues | Palmy Conference + Function Centre  
(venuespn.co.nz)

Main Street, Palmerston North

Change of date: 8 - 15 November 2025. To be held in November from 2025. Outside school holidays to reduce travel and accommodation costs, reduced clashes with international events and away from other long weekends.

**AND**

you should be arranging partners and team mates for the last Tauranga Congress at Bay Park 28 Sept - 5 Oct 2024.

There's extra teams events, fun stuff and events for all levels.

www.nzbridge.co.nz/congress for entries and info, or see the poster on our notice board.

## 2024 Regional Championships

With the entries for the Regional Championship trials not reaching the minimum needed in each division, the teams for Waikato-Bays were chosen from the existing entries and have now been finalised.

Congratulations to the following team members for the 2024 Regional Championship Teams Competition:

**OPEN:** Michael Ware, Hugh McGann, Blair and Liz Fisher, Sam and Jo Simpson

**WOMEN:** Jenna and Christine Gibbons, Kate Terry, Judy Pawson, Rebecca Osborne and Gillian Corbett

**SENIORS:** Rachelle Pelkman, Murray Wood, Yuzhong Chen, Gary Foidl, Di and Hugh McAlister

**INTERMEDIATES:** Megan Jolly, Leanne Curry, Lyn Bailie, Diane Rodger, Bettina and Marcus Dudley

## Teams events in June

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> of June.** Playing against **Tauranga Club** for the afternoon, fun to be had by all. Ideally, we need equal numbers of teams, everyone playing in their grade. So, the format is still under discussion with Tauranga, but it will be a good social afternoon.

**Monday Afternoon Teams starting 17<sup>th</sup> June.** These will be any combination of grades and scored on Gross and Handicap.

**Wednesday Evening Teams starting 12<sup>th</sup> June.** Each team comprises two senior and two junior/novice players. Seniors play against seniors and juniors against juniors. Last team entered may not be able to play if numbers are uneven so sign up quickly.

**NB More Junior Pairs** needed for Teams on Wednesday Nights June 12, 19th and 26th please - add name to list or see Teri.

**Did you know** on page 6 and 7 of your programme books has a variety of information that you should read? For example, Wednesday – Paul Nielson Singles – Rules.....

## Kiwi Success in Bangkok

New Zealand did not send official teams to the 9th APBF Open Bridge Congress which was held in Bangkok 18<sup>th</sup> until 27<sup>th</sup> May this year. However, two self-funded New Zealand teams did attend including two of our Mt Maunganui members. **Aotearoa New Zealand:** Wayne Burrows – Clair Miao, Steph and Tom Jacob and **Rachelle Pelkman – Murray Wood** in the **Mixed** event who finished 10<sup>th</sup> out of 20 teams in their event. They finished 26<sup>th</sup> out of 54 teams in the Consolation event.

## If you can't get enough bridge -

An online Swiss Pairs fundraiser is being held on the Matariki Holiday (Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June) online.

Funds raised for this event will go towards supporting the NZ International team's effort at the World Bridge Federation championships in **Argentina** in

October. (yes, Argentina current inflation rate 290% - Perhaps our Bridge Blacks will meet the Puma Players)

Loveblock Wine sponsors will donate wine packs to winners of the 4 categories as well as one lucky person will win a spot prize for free entry into 2024 Congress (non-transferrable courtesy of New Zealand Bridge).

Friday 28th June, two Swiss Pairs sessions starting 10am \$35.00

Register online at [nzbridge.co.nz/events.html](http://nzbridge.co.nz/events.html)

\*Open Restricted: any pairings National Master Rank and below. Loveblock Wine sponsoring a twin pack of wine to winners of four grades (Open, Restricted Open, Intermediate and Junior). Spot prize for one person - free entry to NZ Bridge Congress.



**Life -** We cannot change the cards we are dealt - just how we play the hand!

Courteous reminder -  
"Please do not come to bridge if you have the symptoms of a cold, coughing, congestion or not feeling well.  
thank you. "

