

Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK



May 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs



from our President Michele

It is with sadness we farewell four of our club members this month: Cathy Burgess, Jose McDonald, Sybil Anderson and Gerald Kelly. Our thoughts are with your friends and family at this time.

As we approach winter the cooler days and evenings mean a game of Bridge is even more inviting. I hope you have organised your calendar for lots of games over the next few weeks. Our sessions are made possible by having willing and knowledgeable directors – we have very few of these talented people at our club. Please show respect for those who are willing to use their expertise to run our Bridge sessions, we can't do without them!

Lessons are coming to an end over the next few weeks, and we will be welcoming our learners to sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays. Thank you very much to our teachers: Graham Stern, Megan Richards, Pamela Pedersen, Gilda Rowland and Diane Roger. Many of us are enjoying the pre-bridge improvers session run by Rachele Pelkman– she is sharing some excellent tips which hopefully we are applying in our play.

We are fortunate that National Congress will again be held at Mt Maunganui in September and it would be great to have a good contingent of players from our club competing in the competition.

Teri will keep you up to date with how to enter and other relevant information. Coming up in July we have our Junior, Novice and Intermediate pairs tournament – start organising your partnership now. The wonderful thing about Bridge is there is always something to learn. Working with a like-minded friend to learn new skills is an important part of growing a successful partnership. Make the most of opportunities to expand your repertoire – it is rewarding.

All the Best in Bridge - Michele

STOP PRESS - Continuing to bring kudos to the Mt Club at the **Katikati Intermediate Tournament** on Sunday 14 May were members

Barbara Stimson & Ross Petersen 3rd overall, closely followed by

Diane Rodger & Lyn Bailie 4th overall, closely followed by

Tina Kennedy & Marcus Dudley 5th overall.

Club Captain Teri writes ...

I do hope you are enjoying your bridge? We love it that we definitely have increased in numbers at all sessions.

At any time we can expect to welcome new players to the club, either new to the club or brand new to the game - the beginners coming out of lessons soon for example. Please be very kind, because you don't know how people are feeling or who they have to support them. I remember the first time I played on a Wednesday night. A person criticised my play and I did not go back for 3 months. Most players have stories of hairy things that have happened to them early on, and we all know someone who left the game totally because of this.

One last thing, the person playing South has the advantage of seeing all the names in the bridge mates – which means two people at any one table may not know your name, so please wear your name badge. Maybe three don't know it - depending on your partner's memory!

Happy Bridge - Teri

Achievement Congrats to the following -

Ronnie Ryan - Local Master

Pamela Jones - Certificate of Proficiency

Bev Smail - Club Master

WOW - this amazing hand was dealt for players Board #15 Friday 12 May 2023!

After two no bids, what you would bid holding north's hand? See the full hand and compare your bids to our own experts below!

North

♠ KQT654

♥ KQJ7643

♦ -

♣ -

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays April'23	Papamoa Mitre 10 Pairs	1st Noelene Shrimpton & Shirley Knight av=59%
		2nd Pat Ware & Derek Webb av=58.98%
		3rd Diane Moreland & Barry Crosby av=58.78%
Mondays May'23	PMG Monday Teams.	1st Sundowners Julie Sheridan - Julie Downs - Annie Barry - Frances Ball
		2nd Wakeful Knights Derek Webb - Pat Ware - Margaret Wakelin - Shirley Knight
		3rd Mrs Brown's Boys Barry Crosby - Bob Callcut - Graeme McLean - Joe Brown
Monday pm's May'23	Seeka Champs Pairs	Novice Winners Rebecca Bartlett & Alan Withrington
		Junior Winners Mick Werren & Sue Werren
Wednesdays Apr'23	Tivoli Cinema Handicap Pairs	1st Marcus Dudley & Judith Somerville
		2nd Brian Cavit & Dianne Gibson
		3rd Janice Simpson & Rosemary Wilkey
Thursdays Apr'23	Mount Hot Pools Handicap Pairs	1st Carol Grant & Flo Nield
		2nd Jan Payne & Sue MartinVanDerMeys
		3rd Brenda Bleakley & Diane King
Thursdays May'23	M H Rogers Optometrist Handicap Pairs	1st Julie Hawkes & Jan Payne
		2nd Annette Dally & Michele Rogers
		3rd Roy Cooper & Isobel McIntyre
Fridays Apr'23	Andy@Ray White Pairs	1st Carol Cullen & Mike Nicholson
		2nd Noelene Shrimpton & Diane Moreland
		3rd Audrey Gardiner & Jean Scott
Fridays May'23	Forsyth Barr Pairs	1st Noelene Shrimpton & Diane Moreland
		2nd Bren Birss & Mike Nicholson
		3rd Annie Barry & Flo Nield

continuing our regular monthly feature . . . **BOOK REVIEW**
Our esteemed **Marcus Dudley** shares some secrets of his success due to this recent read -

121 TIPS FOR BETTER BRIDGE by Paul Mendelson.
Number **141** and **179** in our library.

Do you want to improve your bridge without spending hours studying or enduring long lectures from partner? Look no further than **121 Tips for Better Bridge**. Mendelson has been one of my favourite bridge authors for his clearcut style and cheery anecdotes. Each tip is no more than one and a half pages long, so it's an ideal bedtime read or perhaps during your daily downtime. There is something for everyone from the junior straight out of lessons to the most seasoned player. I've been getting my feet wet in tournaments recently such as the Bay Pairs, so the section on successful pairs strategy has been invaluable to me, and played no small part in my recent Wednesday night win!

If you've felt like your bridge has been missing that 'oomph' factor or you're not sure where to improve your game, check out

121 TIPS FOR BETTER BRIDGE by Paul Mendelson.

A little JOKE

A Mt player loves voids. Once they had only 12 cards including a spade void. Director comes over and finds the Spade Ace under the table and gives it to the player. "Now you've gone and ruined my whole hand" player says.

Again **CONGRESS** is on 23 - 30 September 2023.

So convenient for Mt bridge players - you only need to travel to **BAYPARK ARENA**, plenty of parking, food available and a bar for afters (or before if needed). Please consider the following: Wouldn't you like to play? See our notice board for ideas on which session you may like. Novice and Junior players especially catered for!!

Do you have accommodation you can offer? Would you like to be a standby player? You can nominate the day you would be available, it's a fun and cheap way to dip your toes into Congress. We will also be looking for Caddies, either yourselves or someone you know? Not hard work, again you can nominate the days you can attend. I amused myself last year, by finding a big hand - then clandestinely following it down the line and seeing who played it. And the looks on faces afterwards. Anyway, Early Bird tickets available to the end of August.

Thanking you in advance
TERI - Congress Executive Manager

. . . and condolences from Mrs Brown's boy, who observed after opponents bottom board, that we all have a bottom.

Dealer: S Vul: NS	North ♠ KQT654 ♥ KQJ7643 ♦ - ♣ -	
West ♠ 3 ♥ T952 ♦ QJT4 ♣ KT62		East ♠ 72 ♥ A ♦ A987 ♣ AQJ973
	South ♠ AJ98 ♥ 8 ♦ K6532 ♣ 854	

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M.H.Rogers Optometrist

has been supporting our Club since 2015.
If you can't read this print,
 head to 257 Maunganui Rd or ph 5752225
 and consult Murray.
 Fittingly, Murray's wife Michele came 2nd with partner
 Annette in the recent
M.H. Rogers Handicap Pairs

Full hands for Board #15 Friday 12 May
 compare your bidding decisions to these club
 experts

Julie Sheridan

North has 7 hearts and 6 spades. I would open 1H then maybe 2C from East, X from my partner and 3C from West. N rebids 5S and 6S from partner.

Easy when you can see all the hands.

Graham Stern

In my opinion . . . N hand is not a 2c opener. N should open 1h intending to reverse and rebid spades. East will either double or bid 2c.

If E bids 2c south should double showing spades. N knows there's a spade fit and just needs 1 major ace. West should respond to partner's 2c with 3c.

I think if N bids 4c this may show a void and spade support. South has no wasted values with his 3 little clubs but with nothing to say will bid 4s. Maybe north should still try looking for slam by bidding 5s. South maybe should realise that all north is looking for is a spades for slam and bid 6.

Easier to come up with that when you see all the hands of course!

SAD TO NOTE THE PASSING OF THREE VALUABLE CLUB MEMBERS.

Jose McDonald
Sybil Anderson
Cathy Burgess

Both Jose and Sybil were tardy comers to sessions, but we loved them never-the-less, Sybil for her immaculate dress style and shoes, Jose for her amazing smile and quick wit.

Watch our scrolling screen of past champs where Jose features regularly, particularly Monday Champs Singles which she won in 2013.

Many caring club members attended Jose's funeral where we learnt she was the last of 9 children, born in Upper Hutt. She trained as a typist and when the family moved to Cambridge, met husband Bill and they farmed sheep then dairy in the Waikato. Jose had three daughters and moved to the Mount in the 90's and although Jose's daughter Heather and husband Bill died unexpectedly, her family swelled with 8 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

When our club tenanted the old bowls clubrooms, Jose pointed out her frequent appearance on the champs honours board there. Too infirm for bowls, Jose played more bridge and from 2008 to 2013 was editor of Spadework, following on from Liz Bristow.

Daughter Tracey addressed bridge club members in her eulogy, thanking the club for tolerating her Mum's lateness arriving for sessions, and we all remember if a walking stick was left behind, it belonged to Jose.

Jose and good neighbour Noelene enjoyed 'date nights' each Friday - a DVD and 'spiked drinks' and oh! the consternation when video shops closed. However they soon signed up for Netflix and continued meeting up through the 'secret door' between their two properties.

Tribute too to Cathy Burgess, always a willing club participant including kitchen duties, scoring and supporting tournaments with husband Graham.

