

It gives me great pleasure in presenting my 2022 report for the up coming AGM. I am resigning from the role of president after 3 years as president and 2 yrs on the committee so this will be my last report. If I knew what was ahead throughout those following 3 years I would have run for the hills! But we have managed to achieve good outcomes despite the challenges, thanks to the wonderful committee and numerous members who gave their time and expertise voluntarily to the club. Our first challenge was COVID following a disastrous previous year. In 2022 we have learnt to live with COVID with minimal disruption. There is a protocol on the web site and members were constantly reminded to stay away if unwell. This helped maintain a safe place most of the time. If a member was unfortunate enough to contract the virus while at the club, all members were notified (confidentiality maintained) enabling them to take the necessary precautions. Table numbers increased throughout the year bringing us back to almost pre COVID numbers. Well done everyone.

We ran 4 tournaments this year, 3 in the bowling club and our last one in September was held in our new club rooms which was great and gave us a good chance to show off our lovely club rooms.

2022 was the year we finally achieved our new club rooms. Our old club rooms while served the club very well was getting past its use by date, requiring a lot of maintenance. Omanu surf club came to us with a proposal which was presented to our members via special meetings. The proposal was we forfeit our lease, they demolish our existing club rooms and they build a new purpose built building which will include new club rooms. The proposal was accepted by majority of our members. A trust was formed called Omanu Beach charitable trust. We watched the demolition of our club rooms and saw rising from the ground a new double story building housing the bridge club, NZ surf and Omanu surf clubs vehicles. A steering committee was formed, and I must make mention and thank Bruce Inglis, Julie Sheridan for representing us and also Grant Aislabie, lawyer, for representing us ProBono. We very much appreciate the work you three did on our behalf. Thank you. While the bowling club served us very well it was great to move over to our new club, the first game was 5th Sept. The move from the old club rooms over to the bowling club required a lot of work. The surf club helped with heavy equipment but the majority of work was done by our members. Moving back again was once again a big job. We were stunned by our members turning out in big numbers to help with the move and the setting up of the room. There are so many unsung heroes who willingly and financially gave to the bridge club. I won't mention names for fear of missing out someone but there was the cleaning of the chairs, painting (couldn't believe the tea wagon) developing the notice boards, moving gear over, providing morning tea, cleaning up, donating TVs, financing the blinds, donating furniture, cushions, walker, setting up the office (under Julie's direction) connecting the IT equipment and working in the kitchen, setting up the library and trophy cabinet. I can't thank you all enough, this is what makes our club such a special place. During the building process we applied for funding through NZCT to enable us to fit out the kitchen with quality chattels, and we were given \$30,000. Thank you NZ Charity Trust.

The new club rooms were welcomed three times, firstly by the trust for the public and invited guests, secondly the official opening on 3/11 with the PM present and

lastly on 24/9 the bridge club had our own celebration with lunch, bubbles and drawing for partners. I learnt something that day, bubbles and playing bridge with someone you haven't played with before was fun. I heard a long time member tell his partner he had 5 aces!!

I consider the new club rooms are well and truly ready for many years of great bridge.

LESSONS. Graham Stern took the lessons this year until he was suddenly called away on bereavement leave, Pamela Pederson and Megan Richards stepped into Grahams shoes with very little notice. On Grahams return he assisted Pamela and Megan. Thank you to you all, you did a great job as we got 11 permanent new members from the lessons. Isobel McIntyre and Michelle Larnder updated the welcome pack and Isobel also co ordinated the new enquiries. A big Thankyou to all of you who assisted with the lessons. This coming year we will be offering day time lessons on a Wednesday for those who don't like going out at night. We currently have 268 members. We had 29 resignation (51 in 2021 )for various reasons. We wish you well and know you will be missed, and 29 new members, 11 from lessons, 9 home and 9 affiliated members. A big welcome to all our new members.

Thursday bridge is now going well, not sure if it is the bridge or the wine at end of play!

Friday numbers have declined, we would like to see an increase in numbers there. Our existing honours board is too heavy for the wall in the new club, so Michelle Larnder has come up with a digital board. Thank you Michelle.

We presented the inaugural trophy in remembrance of Karen Martiletti for the Wed singles champ. This went to Pamela Pederson. Congratulations Pamela. We now have our H & S policy and Fire evacuation plan. These are found on our web site under club policies. I presented this to every session in one week so I hope you are all familiar with this. If you feel you would like a refresher please let me know.

We have found it a constant struggle to get sponsors during these troubled times we are experiencing. The committee have agreed on the following prize list. 3 week comp. 3 free sessions, 2 week comp, 2 free lessons, 3 week singles 3 free sessions and runner up to get 2 free sessions. We will still use the sponsorship money for prizes.

To run a club as successful as ours will only happen with all our voluntary heroes and we certainly have many of them. To start, we need a willing, hard working committee. Our committee consists of:

Mike Nicholson. Mike responsible for sponsorship

Jane Dekker. treasurer

Teri Logie. Admin and club captain

Julie Sheridan. It

Gilda Rowlands. Secretary

Dawn Buxton. Kitchen fit out

Sue Gibbons

Isobel McIntyre. Lesson coordinator

Michelle Larnder. Monday night co ordinator and newsletter

Fay Irwin

Kay Burnie

Thank you one and all for all the work you have put into the club this year. It has been a pleasure working with you all.

It is with regret that Mike Nicholson (our only male) Dawn Buxton , Fay Irwin and Sue Gibbons will be stepping down from the committee this year. You will be missed from the committee.

As mentioned previously there are many unsung heroes, I do need to mention some here,

Julie Downs - Author and editor of the monthly spadework's

Bernie Robinson - wonderful help with his expert carpentry skills

Emma Barber - Runs the casual Wed afternoon sessions for

beginners. Rae Holmes - every Sat removes the rubbish and other

sundry tasks Jan Payne and Carolyn Toy - for the Christmas decorations

Directors and scorers - thank you.

Dealers - thank you for your time willingly given.

I know there are many more of you who give your time willingly, I thank you. Gilda

Rowlands is our secretary extraordinaire, and last year Gilda was contemplating moving back to Perth but since then she has a change of plan much to our delight.

Gilda would very much like To resign from secretary but no one has put up their

hand for this role. If anyone wants to learn a secretary's role, Gilda would be the best person to learn from. She will stay on the committee this year but would like to

support and assist a new secretary, so if there is anyone out there who is willing to

take on this task please contact Gilda and she will tell you it's not such a big role now the big task are complete like building new club rooms. Thank you Gilda your a star.

It's been a busy time the last 3 years so now it should be plain sailing. I need to thank you all for your support throughout my time as President, I will stay on the committee for another year. I feel very confident handing the reigns over to Michelle Larnder, she will be a great President. Thank you all and have a great year of bridge and stay safe and well

Diane Rodger.