

It is with pleasure that I present my first Presidents Report for this wonderful bridge club. I am honoured to be president for my first year and wow!! What a year we have had. Who would have envisaged what was to come.

Firstly we were faced with a global pandemic resulting in our club closing firstly in March and again in August. The committee were faced with this very difficult decision, but in the end Health & Safety won and the concern we had for our members. Great to see we all maintained our health throughout lockdown but our lives have certainly changed I.e. lockdown, BBO, closed borders, no visitors, social distancing, managed isolation, hand sanitizer, cashless club to name a few. A big thank you to all our members for taking on board the seriousness of what we were facing, for some it hasn't been easy.

The pandemic brought BBO to the fore, a big thank you to Kate and Karen from Tauranga Bridge Club for setting up the Mt/Tga sessions, and Julie for assisting members to log onto BBO. It became popular and was great to play against members on line. And from feedback it was an enjoyable experience.

Another major event was the proposal to join with Omani SLSC to share a new building on the current bridge clubs footprint. The resolution to progress with the proposal was voted on at our SGM on 13/1/2, 63 in favour, 8 not in favour and 6 abstained. The resolution was carried. We will move to the bowling club for the next 12 months while building is in progress. The date for moving is 20/21 Feb. We set up a steering committee to drive the planning and negotiating with the OSLSC, this committee comprised of 4 volunteers, Bruce Inglis, Warren Coventry, Julie Sheridan and Grant Aislabie (lawyer), I cant thank these 4 enough, their professionalism, loyalty and knowledge was outstanding and always had the best interests for our club and members. Grant Aislabie(lawyer) worked on our behalf free of charge.

Thank you Bruce, Julie Warren and Grant.

Other major events that happened during 2020.

Compass\$\$ was introduced. Jane Dekker did a Stirling job in getting us all on board, she spent many long hours getting this program up and going. This program was developed by Bob Fern, a kiwi living in the States. Simply put, it maintains a record of who plays, who pays and who got paid. Thank you Jane for the hours you spent on this and your expertise in setting it up, and Teri for assisting you.

Julie Sheridan was named as NZB volunteer of the month, a truly deserved award. Well done Julie. We had a second A/C installed this year to replace the old wonky one, TECT granted us 50% of the cost \$6217. Thank you TECT.

A big congratulation to Noelene Shrimpton who was awarded Life Membership, a very well deserved award.

We had the entrance way resurfaced at the beginning of the year, the committee felt it was a hazard especially for our members who have compromised mobility. We have had very positive feedback.

With all this activity throughout the year it is plain to see many, many hours of work has been put in by our members, in particular our wonderful committee

- Mike Nicholson. He has had such a busy year getting sponsorship for our program and tournaments. Mike also sends out part of spadeworks to the sponsors monthly so they know who has won their sponsored event as a thank you. Mike also is an excellent narrator.
- Jane Dekker. Jane is our treasurer. She spends hours on financial projects I.e. Compass\$\$, monthly reports, approving and paying invoices and keeping our spending under control.
- Teri Logie. What can I say, Teri is Club Captain and Administrator. Teri turns her hand to every request and goes well beyond both her roles. There seems to be nothing Teri cant do and she does it all so willingly, despite Teri working F/T. Thank you Teri
- Julie Sheridan. Julie can be found at the club rooms most weekends dealing and sorting out issues. As first yr President I have so appreciated Julies knowledge and guidance.

- Gilda Rowlands. Secretary. Gilda is another Stalwart of the club. Gilda is always available and does everything so willingly, her recording of minutes is excellent. She is the best secretary there is.
- Ann Clarke. Past President who has a lot of knowledge. Ann has agreed to serve on the committee again for 2021.
- Patty Spencer. Used to collect, balance and bank table money. Patty also keeps office supplies up to date.
- Brian Cavit. Keeps the bridge mates in good working order.
- Dawn Buxton. Maintains the kitchen and cleaning supplies.
- Robyn Knight. Robyn prepares the new program book.
- Sue Gibbons. Sue was responsible for vouchers. She is now helping with the catering.

What a brilliant committee. I feel privileged to work with you all and also to learn from you. The club runs smoothly because of the hours you all put in as well as your expertise.

Apart from the committee there are club members who also do a lot for the club.

- Thank you to our Directors, who give up playing the game we all love to direct.
- Julie Downes. Julie is the author of spadeworks. A very interesting newsletter Julie edits monthly. Well done Julie.
- Thank you to the numerous members who come in and do the dealing and scoring. Where would we be without these people. You are truly valued.
- Bren Birss. Wonderful teacher of bridge, as well as your helpers. You hold a very important role in the club. Thank you.
- Sarah Stacy who is our tournament secretary.
- Pauline Taylor. Chief scorer with Barry Crosbie as Pauline's 2iC
- Jean Scott. Welfare Officer. Jean and her team were much appreciated during lockdown.
- Sharon Rudolph. Has produced regular newsletters to Mon night members. Sharon has now handed this task over to Michelle Larnder. Thank you to you both.
- Harold Clotworthy who puts out our rubbish weekly.
- Bernie Robinson. Addresses maintenance issues as they occur. Thank you Bernie.
- Rae Holmes, our valued gardener.
- Emma Barber. Emma runs casual sessions on a Wednesday afternoon. Thank you Emma
- Partner Stewards. Thank you to you all, great getting partners for those who are looking for partners.

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 we only ran one tournament very successfully in 2020. Our 2021 tournaments, apart from Bay Pairs will be held at Tauranga Club this year while we wait for our new club rooms.

Bay Pairs were cancelled for the year 2020.

Nice to know congress will be held here at Bay Park this year. You will here more about this as the date gets closer.

Sadly Patty and Robyn have both resigned from the committee but both willing to help out where and when needed. Thank you to you both for all your input into the running of our club, you will be missed.

Sadly, we farewell those members who have moved on, either due to ill health or death or simply moved away from the area. You will be missed.

I am very proud of the Mount Bridge Club and incredibly proud to be the President. Thanks to every one for your support throughout this crazy year. Lets hope 2021 will be a good year.

Diane Rodger
PRESIDENT

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