

It gives me great pleasure in presenting my 2021 report for the upcoming AGM.

I, along with most of you will be pleased to see the back of 2021(I can remember saying that about 2020)

COVID 19 had a huge impact on club and tournament play which was challenging to say the least. We had 2 tournaments cancelled, farewell luncheon for our old club rooms, Christmas party and many months of club play cancelled, Also Congress was postponed and many tournaments from neighbouring clubs also cancelled. I fear we are not out of the woods just yet as we wait to see what impact Omicron has, in the meantime, let's get on with our lives, **take all necessary precautions to keep yourselves safe, follow the advice from the MOH and NZB and we also have our protocol which can be found on our web site.**

### **Bay Pairs:**

Bay pairs have been played between 4 local clubs, Whakatane, TePuke, Tauranga and the Mount. It has been going for 70 years. The original purpose is to encourage junior and intermediate player to play in 5A tournaments. Last year it was about to fold as the organiser, Stephen Serle was about to retire and no one was willing to take the task on. Teri and myself attended a meeting to try to get a solution. The result is Christine Gibbons will take on the organisation, and in the past the host club provided soup and buns for lunch, this now will stop to take pressure off the host club and participants to bring their own lunch. Hoping for a good year this year with lots of entries. These tournaments are fun to play in and very relaxed. The first one is Whakatane on 27/3/22.

### **New club rooms:**

This has been an amazing experience watching the building rise up from the ground so quickly, and what an impressive sight it has been. We are still on track to be moving into the new building end of April despite Covid 19 delays. There has been slight cost increases with some products due to the effects of Covid and shortage of some products. The main suppliers have been amazing and have not increased prices despite some of the quotes being over 12 mths ago. The project is now full on installing with a lot of sub contractors working on site and this will be the case through to the end of February. We are looking at applying for additional funding to assist with final fit out and some additional aspects of the club rooms to ensure we have the best finished products for the project. Teri has been working on an application to TECT with the support of Omanu Beach Charitable Trust. Dawn Buxton has spent time and energy researching and planning our new kitchen with great results. Julie has been researching bi-fold doors to go between the main playing area and the small room. Thank you to you all.

The committee has voted not to increase table money and subs for this year due to the decreased cost of maintenance we had with our ageing building in the past. This may change next year, we will evaluate this at the end of the year.

### **Karen Martelletti:**

We were devastated in May of 2021 with the very sudden loss of Karen. Karen was an integral part of the bridge community not only in Tauranga but NZ. Karen has left a big gap with us all especially Kate, Karens partner, Tauranga Bridge Club, NZBridge and Julie who was Karens regular bridge partner. Karen has been and will be missed terribly. The winner of the Wed night singles will be presented annually with a trophy aptly named the Karen Martelletti memorial trophy. The Wed night singles have not been contested before due to Covid cancellations.

### **Thursday Bridge:**

The committee has been concerned about the small numbers participating on Thursdays, so we have made some changes with excellent results. Bridge now starts at 1pm, but the club will be open at 12 mid day for those who wish to continue with bringing lunch. The first Thursday of each month will be a Westpac mini tournament, then for those who wish to stay back, have a drink, discuss hands etc after bridge. There is also social bridge available for beginners who will be coached and if wished some 1 on 1 with Julie. We now find Fridays are needing more participants. This session is not handicapped and last year we had good numbers attending.

### **Lessons:**

Bren has been taking the lessons annually and very successfully for some time now, but sadly she is not available in 2022. Thank you Bren for the wonderful job you have done in the past. Graham Stern has put up his hand to take over along with a great group of supporters. There has been a lot of organising to get the lessons up and going and I didn't realise how much Bren did in the past. Lessons start on 10/03/22, so if you know of friends, family or acquaintances who would like to learn bridge, contact Isobel on 0211127151.

### **On the move:**

Our move in Feb to our new temporary home was a massive effort on many of our members and surf club members. I can't name you all for fear of missing someone out, I can single out Gilda for driving the project with the TCC, and Julie for persisting in getting the carpet over from the old club rooms, making our temporary home a lot less noisy and warm in winter. Thank you all. I hate to mention this but we will be doing all this in reverse in April/May.

With so much going on a lot of hours have been put in by our members in particular our committee:

Mike Nicholson. Responsible for our sponsors and keeping them informed.  
Jane Dekker. Treasurer  
Teri Logie. Administrator and club captain  
Julie Sheridan. Jack of all trades and IT  
Gilda Rowlands. Secretary  
Brian Cavit. Bridge mates  
Dawn Buxton. Cleaning and kitchen supplies as well as new kitchen planning.  
Sue Gibbons. Catering  
Anne Clarke. Past President  
Isobel McIntyre. Mon night convenor  
Michelle Larnder. Vice President (hooray) Mon night convenor and newsletter.

As well as responsibilities as above, it doesn't stop there as many other tasks are undertaken. Thank you committee you have done a great job in 2021.

Apart from the committee there are many unsung hero's within the club:

Pauline Taylor. Pauline has been chief scorer for many years. She has decided to retire from scoring this year. Thank you Pauline for all the hours you have put into scoring, you will be missed.

Grant Aislabie. Our lawyer who saw to the legal side of the negotiations with the new club rooms. Grant did all this Pro Bono. He spent many hours on our behalf. Thank you Grant.

Directors, without you directing Bridge would not be enjoyable. Thank you.

Julie Downes, Julie is the author of monthly edition of spadework's. Great work Julie and thank you.

Dealers/scorers. Someone has to do it so a big thank you to you all for your time spent.

Sarah Stacy, If you've ever wondered who puts up our posters for our tournaments and liaises with us over entries, it's Sarah. Thank you Sarah.

Jean Scott, welfare officer

Rae Holmes and Robyn Knight. They keep our garden looking nice.

Emma Barber, Runs a casual session on a Wednesday.

Bernie Robinson, Bernie was a wonderful help taking on any building jobs we requested and then again doing the same at the bowling club. A very belated thank you Bernie.

Bren, Annette and all the helpers with the lessons. Well done and thank you.

Partner Stewards, Annie, Carol Cullen, Michelle Larnder, Gloria Mouatt, Shirley Knight and Sarah Stacy. Thankyou.

Judy Bartlett who takes care of our bar and contents, thank you Judy.

Sadly, Anne Clarke and Brian Cavit have decided to exit the committee. Thank you to you both you have been valuable committee members. Anne spent 3 yrs as President and two more yrs on the committee. You will be missed.

We have a vacancy for secretary, let's hope there is a member who has the skills and is willing to take on this small but rewarding role.

The reason for the vacancy is because we will be losing our secretary extraordinaire, Gilda. She and Derek have decided to relocate back to Perth where their children live. Gilda, you will leave a huge gap in the club, we will miss you terribly. Gilda always so willingly takes on any tasks thrown her way and has done a sterling job during the new building project with the TCC. Thankyou Gilda and best wishes to you and Derek. Gilda has agreed to continue as secretary until we have a replacement or until she leaves, possibly April/May.

Sadly we farewell those members who have resigned from the club for various reasons. There have been 51 members resigned in 2021. You will all be missed.

Finally, Thank you to all our members for your support throughout this topsy turvy year and let's hope we have a more settled 2022.

Diane Rodger

President