

Presidents report 2026

It is a pleasure to present my 3rd annual report on behalf of the Mt Maunganui Bridge Club. To our members, thank you for your continued support and active participation in the club. The playing vibe at the Mount is one of relaxed and convivial enjoyment of the challenging game of Bridge.

Finances

The Treasurer's report will show the club is in a sound financial position. The shared costs of running the Golf Rd building are in line with the predictions made when the club agreed to relinquish our premises and become a lessee of the Omanu Beach Charitable Trust. Without the continual concerns that go with owing a building, we can budget effectively for the running costs of the club.

Our treasurer, Jane Dekker, is retiring from the role this year. Jane took over as Treasurer in 2020. She brought her accounting skills from the corporate world and a new level of professionalism to the role. During her time, our financial affairs have been managed with precision and care. Jane's dedication has ensured our club remains on a stable footing and continues to grow. As President, it has always been reassuring that our accounting procedures and processes were transparent and accurate. We thank her for her work and wish her the best in the future.

Farewells

We farewell two valued committee members. Joanne McLean has been invaluable as the convener of the Monday night sessions and the providing communications with our junior players. She and her husband have left the country for 6 months to help look after a new grandchild in the USA. We hope to see them both back at the club later in 2026. Isobel McIntyre is resigning from the committee, but we will still see her on Thursdays as a convener and the organiser of the lovely prizes for our monthly mini tournament. Isobel has always helped with tournaments and is a valued member of the National Party hospitality team.

Sadly, we have lost some of friends this year, and our thoughts are with their families – may we remember the fun times they had at the Bridge table. We farewelled Jean Scott in October. Jean was President of the Club from 2009 to 2010, and over the years she has worked tirelessly for the

club. Jean is now living in Leigh with her family, and we wish her all the best for the future.

Lessons

2025 was a very successful year for our lessons, and as a result we now have a group of enthusiastic newbies who are keen to both improve their Bridge and take an active part in club activities. Thank you, members for your welcoming and supportive attitude to our new players – your role is vital ensuring that these new players enjoy the experience and become active members of the Club. A major factor in keeping our new players has been the informal Wednesday Bridge sessions. In these sessions, junior players can call on the advice of senior players to help with both bidding and play. Bernie Robinson, who joined our committee this year, has played an important role in the success of this session.

Skills sessions have also been well attended, and our junior players have appreciated the range of topics offered. The programme will be revised and refreshed in 2026 by the Teaching and Learning Committee.

Playing sessions

Monday and Thursday afternoons are very well attended sessions with anywhere from 16 -22 tables. Monday night numbers have increased with the influx of new players from the lessons. To provide more playing opportunities for our junior and intermediate players, we are running Monday nights on a two-section basis. We have experimented with this format during our Thursday holiday Bridge sessions, and this has proved to be successful. Friday is our only open session where play is not handicapped. This session is important for our experienced players and there is work to be done to ensure that the numbers increase.

Tournaments

We continue to attract good numbers to our Tournaments especially our July Intermediate/Junior/Novice Tournament. The team is ably led by Gilda Rowland, and the organization is now seamless. Visitors express how well the events are organised and appreciate the hospitality that is provided in the form of refreshments. Our raffle co-ordinator, Dianne Stevens does a sterling job selling tickets.

Player success

We must acknowledge the excellent results achieved by our players:

Winners - Waikato Bays Pairs: Marcus Dudley & Alan Parkes

Winners- Waikato Bays Teams:

Junior - Lynette Steele, Elaine Genty-Nott, Jenny Fraser, Richard Roberts

Intermediate - Bettina Dudley, Rosemary Wilkey, Ross Petersen, Barbara Stimson

Open - Bren Birss, Alan Parkes, Alan Currie, Graham Stern

Winners – Waikato Bays Intermediate Championship League: Bettina Dudley & Rosemary Wilkey

New Bridge Mates

Our club is dedicated to embracing innovative technologies that enhance our operations, member experiences, and overall growth. This commitment not only strengthens our club's capabilities but also supports our vision for a dynamic, future-ready community. As always introducing new technology is not without its teething problems. Teri Logie, Julie Sheridan and Jane Furnish have worked together to overcome these issues. Tauranga has acquired the new devices, and we appreciate sharing experiences with Mike Newton and Norm Silcock. Jan Spaans, the NZ distributor of the devices has also provided valuable support.

The Committee

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my committee for their invaluable guidance, support, and encouragement throughout the year. Each member of the committee makes a significant contribution to the successful running of the club. You will see their names appear several times below. Our Club Captain, Teri Logie, does an amazing job; ably supported by Julie Sheridan. These two are the “engine” driving the successful vehicle that is the Mount Bridge Club.

Thank you: Role of Honour

On behalf of the club – a heartfelt thank you to these members for their contribution to the smooth running of our Club.

Convenors:

Monday: Gilda Rowland

Monday Night: Joanne McLean

Wednesday Afternoon: Bernie Robinson

Wednesday Night: Teri Logie

Thursday: Isobel McIntyre, Michele Larnder

Friday: Barbara Stimson

Partnership Stewards:

Monday: Annie Barry

Monday Night: Joanne Mcleand

Wednesday Night: Gilda Rowland

Thursday: Carol Cullen

Friday: Annie Barry

Directors:

Jane Furnish, Helen Heuvel, Stephen Larnder, Teri Logie, Gloria Mouatt, Julie Sheridan, Gilda Rowland and Norm Silcock

Scorers:

Brain Breen, Barry Crosby. Julie Downs, Jane Furnish, Michele Larnder. Alan McLean and Teri logie.

Dealers:

Rebecca Barlett, Jenny Bronte, Jenni Calderwood, Barry Crosby, Kerry Crosby, Jane Dewer, Liz Dey, Alan Goodall, Julie Hawkes, Dixie Horne, Catherine Laffey, Jane Larsen, Jan Linwood, Sue Martin, Marilyn Ranghika, Cindy Sims

A special thanks goes to Barry and Kerry Crosby who have been dealers for 10 years

Newsletter – Spadework:

Julie Downs

Raffles:

Dianne Stevens

Gardens:

Teri Logie

Rae Holmes

Club rooms/bathroom tidy/rubbish removal:

Rae Holmes

Lawns:

Phil West

Lessons:

Teachers: Michele Larnder, Graham Stern

Dealer: Annette Dand

Coaches: Francis Ball, Joe Bown, Kay Burnie, Barry Crosby, Flo Nield, Dianne Stevens, Phil West.

Skills Nights Teachers: Francis Ball, Michele Larnder, Gilda Rowland, Judith Sommerville, Graham Stern.

National Party Hospitality team:

Coordinator: Gilda Rowland

Team: Carol Jones, Jane Larsen, Sharyn Martin, Isobel McIntyre, Dianne Stevens, Carolyn Toy

Casuals: Carol Cullen, Julie Hawkes, Riet Jansen, Michele Larnder

Refreshment purchases:

Helene Paterson, Judy Waldvogel

Maintenance:

Bernie Robinson

Bar:

Judy Bartlett, Stephen Larnder, Gloria Mouatt

Membership Steward:

Kay Burnie

Tournaments:

Steward: Gilda Rowland

Hospitality: Dixie Horne, Erica Schofield

Washing Tablecloths:

Annette Dand, Jane Furnish, Rae Holmes, Dianne Stevens

Cleaning chairs:

Kay Burnie

Welfare Officer:

Kerry Crosby

Programme Officer:

Teri Logie

Sponsorship:

Teri Logie

Website:

Julie Sheridan

Committee:

President: Michele Larnder

Secretary: Barbara Stimson

Treasurer: Jane Dekker

Club Captain & Administration: Teri Logie

Administration Assistant: Julie Sheridan

Committee: Kay Burnie, Isobel McIntyre, Bernie Robinson, Janice Simpson, Dianne Stevens

If I have missed thanking anyone - my sincerest apologies, and I do want to thank all members! So, with anticipation of a wonderful year filled with bridge, companionship, successful finesses, perfectly bid slams, and great times at the table, I wish us all the best in 2026

Michele Larnder