



Mt Maunganui Bridge Club

SPADEWORK

September 2025 Newsletter

Editor: Julie Downs

from President Michele -

As we welcome another month of camaraderie and competition, I want to express my thanks to each of you for making our club such a vibrant and welcoming community. Whether you're a seasoned player or just learning the ropes, your enthusiasm and sportsmanship are what make our gatherings so enjoyable.

This past month, we've seen some fantastic games, creative bidding, and — most importantly — lots of laughter around the tables. I'm especially proud of how our newer members have jumped right in, and I encourage everyone to continue sharing tips and encouragement.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events on the horizon, including the last two sessions of our skills nights and our **Fun over the Bridge** teams clash with Tauranga. Please keep an eye on the calendar and sign up early!

An especial thanks to the Tournament trio: Gilda, Teri and Julie S. They have developed a formula for successful tournaments due to their hard work and outstanding organisational skills. Our tournaments have gained a reputation as being enjoyable and very well run and all have been well attended. Thanks to Dianne Stevens who does a sterling job selling the raffles. The members who help in the kitchen and bring food also make a significant contribution to the success of any of our events.

Michele

Club Captain Teri's catch up ... Hi all, and please ...

>**Lead** with your card facing down.

>**Keep out of trouble** by keeping a personal score sheet

>**Don't rush** to pick up your cards at the end of a board, wait until all 4 players are agreed to the result.

These three tips could save a lot of angst.

Another tip – don't touch or pull out a card from your hand before your turn - for an experienced opposition trying to do a finesse, this is a huge flag for them that the finesse will work!

We are putting the 2026 programme book together at the moment. A list will go out for you to check your contact details.

Some notes for the coming year - 'Street', 'Avenue', 'Road' etc are to be removed from competition names (these are sessions without sponsors).

Monday teams to move to March, Wednesday teams move to May.

A Thursday teams event will be run alongside a pairs event in November.

Holiday bridge to also be held on Thursdays in January next year.

Our year will run one more week later in December 2026. The AGM on Wed 4th February 2026 and our Christmas party on 28th November 2026.

Happy Bridge, Teri



LEFT - happy visitors from Auckland - **Shirley Knight and Edna Nicholson** have enjoyed some Mt Maunganui Bridge sessions recently

CLUB RESULTS

Mondays Sept '25	Zita Reid-Abel Tasman Handicap Pairs	1st Derek Webb & Margaret Wakelin 2nd Bill Ridley & Sue Gibbons 3rd Riet Jansen & Bob Callcut
Mondays Sept'25	Zita Reid-Abel Tasman Pairs	1st Derek Webb & Margaret Wakelin 2nd Marion Kelly & Julie Sheridan 3rd Athol Ryan & Ronnie Ryan
Mondays Sept'25 pm	Tui St Handicap Pairs	1st Janet Dunn & Joanne Bruce 2nd Brian Breen & Laurelle Breen 3rd Rachael Fraser & Karen Musgrave
Wednesdays Aug'25	Forsyth Barr Champs Pairs Gross	1st Marcus Dudley & Rachelle Pelkman 2nd Alan Parkes & Bruce Inglis 3rd Julie Sheridan & John Sheridan
Wednesdays Aug'25	Forsyth Barr Champs Handicap Pairs	1st Peter Uffindell & Steve Larnder 2nd Teri Logie & John Strawbridge 3rd Jane Furnish & Peter Furnish
Thursdays Sept'25	Lodge Ave Handicap Pairs	1st Ngaire Short & Mary Pettigrew 2nd Julie Hawkes & Gydene Parker 3rd Barry Crosby & Barbara Stimson
Thursdays Sept'25	Cunningham Handicap Pairs	1st Dianne King & Rae Holmes 2nd Sharyn Martin & Pat Verran 3rd Cindy Sims & Sue Martin
Fridays Sep '25	Seeka Championship Pairs	1st Ross Petersen & Barbara Stimson 2nd Helen Heuvel & Margaret Somers 3rd Barry Crosby & Diane Moreland

BELIEVE IT OR NOT . . . from Spadework 6 yrs ago . . .

"The committee has received information that the Omanu Surf Club is to construct a two-storied building on the **vacant grass area behind our rooms**. Downstairs will lodge all their equipment such as inflatables, a boat and a gym, upstairs to house the office, training and board room. History has shown this plan was modified to the existing building incorporating our new bridge clubrooms.

and

this month is our **3rd birthday** in our upstairs rooms.

ALERT!!

Last night my partner put me to 7NT!
oh, how did you do?
Great, I made 14 tricks!

WELCOME to NEW MEMBER

Mike McKeown
and September Rank Promotion -
Club Master to Local Master
Michele Rogers

Supporting ourselves this time...

We need volunteers to help run a promotional "bridge table/game" at the Bay Home Show 11th and 12th October. Teri will liaise with tall Mike N to create a roster including Tauranga players. Helpers will no doubt get free entry as a bonus! Look out for Teri's 'soon to be generated' list if interested.

Good Luck

to Tina and Rosemary and Joanne and Alan, both pairs poised for fame as one more event remains for each in the Waikato Bays League Competition. Current leaders, Tina and Rosemary are off to the last of 8 Intermediate comps at Cambridge and the McLeans to their 6th Junior comp at Te Awamutu - with prize giving to follow.
AND Big Congrats to **Murray Wood**, our newest **Silver Grand Master**, joining previously awarded Silver Master, Rachelle Pelkman on the honours list.

Saturday 30th August saw **Tauranga Club** staging their annual tournament - a windy day, great to be indoors. Not such great results for some players, but Mt Club members acquitted themselves well -

3rd place getters Novice Section
Sue Ranger and Alison Thompson



3rd Junior Section **Alan McLean**, Tauranga
President Mike Newton and **Joanne McLean**,
spreading the good news.



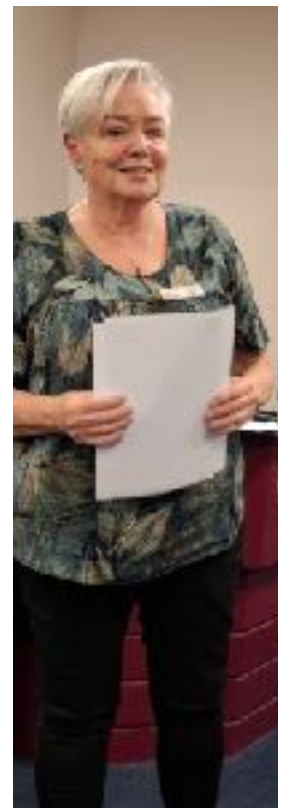
4th in Junior comp **Michele Rogers** and
Dianne Beveridge with emcee Mike



Best Intermediates 1st
Tina Dudley and **Rosemary Wilkie**



In the money **Teri Logie**
and (absent) partner
John Strawbridge
Intermediate comp



Sad to say farewell to popular
Kathy King
this month, off to join the
Cambridge Bridge Club.
Kathy shouted the Monday
afternoon players to a bridge-
themed afternoon tea -
thanks and good luck Kathy.



We members are privileged to share insights from impact player

MIKE RUDD

Mike, always ready to share a meaningful quip with opponents and partner alike writes

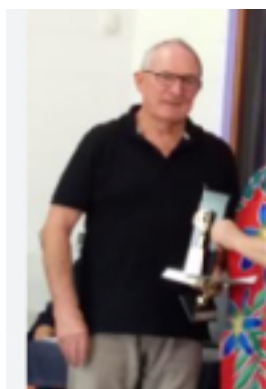
Seems to me there are only two main types of card games. The "set collection games" like poker, rummy, happy families, canasta, cribbage, brag and snap; and "trick taking games" like whist (different variants), 500, Bezique, pinochle and of course bridge. Of all of these games my belief is that bridge is the one that is so absorbing, to the point of addiction, that once it has been sampled the other card games rarely feature at all in a card players attention.

Like many of the post-war baby-boomer generation my childhood memories include card games played with family and friends. My grand mother was a fanatical player and attendee of whist drives and my parents regularly played canasta, cribbage and whist with their friends in our house. I remember having moved from UK to New Zealand with my parents in the early 60's playing 500 at my school, Otahuhu College. So I reckon that turning to bridge in adulthood was a pretty seamless and natural move.

The early days of my bridge career happened in 1971 in RAF Little Rissington in the English Cotswolds where I was learning to be a flying instructor. There was a more or less permanent bridge game going in the corner of the crewroom played in a casual rotation system by pilots between flights. I had never played or had any preparation but one day one of the more mature (probably late 20s!) officers told me to make up the 4 and there it was - hooked! It was called crewroom bridge (aka kitchen contract bridge) - no bidding or playing guidelines or conventions. The approach (a bit like the flying) was "seat of the pants", supplemented by WFITA (wet finger in the air), assisted by TLAR (that looks about right) and fuelled by testosterone to ensure ludicrous overbidding and cut throat play. I honed these techniques some years later on a loan tour flying from HMS Ark Royal (strike aircraft carrier) where the evenings in the Ward Room (officers' mess) were spent after dinner and lubricated suitably playing bridge using the same "systems".

It was to be over 30 years later that I tried my luck at "proper" (duplicate) bridge in the Clifton Bridge Club in UK. Unsurprisingly my early sessions proved somewhat of a shock (not just to me). I could play the cards pretty well but I had no knowledge at all of how to participate properly in the bidding auction or the etiquette guidelines which were very different from what I had been used to! My current partners might well say that is still the case. So I became a support teacher on a beginners course which taught me what i needed to know and, eventually, qualified as an English Bridge Union teacher.

Having re-emigrated back to New Zealand 5 years ago and joined the Mount Maunganui Bridge Club - a superbly run club with brilliant premises and a great membership group. I fear that my unconventional start to the game still lingers and I suffer from occasional bouts uncontrollable overbidding but I love the game and the sociability of the Club.



GRAHAM YOUNG died 11 September 2025.

Graham was a great man who set very high standards for himself and others, always wanting to assist in any way that he could. He definitely made a difference in all that he did, including our bridge world.

- on line tribute

Another successful **tournament**, thanks to Gilda, a team of dealers, a team of kitchen helpers, Steve at the dishwasher, Tauranga's Mike N directing and scoring, presenters Michele and Teri, room arrangers and cleaners, raffle promoter Dianne and not the least, the 28 participants, was held **Saturday 20 September**.
Spadework is happy to feature the great successes of our members on the day.



*Nikki Baguley & Elaine
Genty-Nott*
1st Junior pair



*Teri congratulates Jo Craig,
happy with 2nd envelope for
partner Lucy Hollister*
2nd Junior pair



Michele Larnder & Bernie Robinson
2nd Intermediate/Junior pairing



*of course! Tina Dudley &
Rosemary Wilkie* **1st
Intermediate/Intermediate
pair**



*Happy Joanne McLean & Marcus
Dudley winners, **Open/Junior comp***



*cleaned up the
Open/intermediates
1st Frances Ball & Joy Bates*



2nd Open/intermediate
Peter Uffindell & Steve Larnder