

## WHANGAREI BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER



We have our new Junior night underway on Monday evenings. Thanks to Richard, Lyn and the team who support this evening to nurture our newer players. Four regular tables are in action and more are always welcome. Relaxed play with support on hand if you get stuck. A "Top Learning Tip" from Richard at the start of each session. A great way to learn and cement in the basics. We are starting our drive to find new students of the game with lessons to begin in Term 2 at the beginning of May. We ask **every player at the club** to please find one new person to bring to bridge lessons this year. There will be daytime and evening lessons available – now is the time to start putting feelers out and find your person to bring along in 2021.

**Whangarei Bridge Club Committee**

### **President's Piece**

I know hearing about Covid all the time is wearing people down or you don't care, but the practices being put into place are there to protect you all, so that we can continue to play bridge safely. We have all seen what happens if we reach Level 3 and don't want this to happen so please abide by the rules and look after yourself.

I want to thank Jane Stearns for her efforts in getting funding to enable the asphalt to be done in the carpark, \$20,000 towards the cost is amazing thanks so much Jane, for applying for the funding. VERY WELL DONE!!

Lee Walters, President



These locations 1. ONERAHI TAVERN 2. POROTI TAVERN 3. RUAKAKA TAVERN 4. THE GRAND HOTEL have made it possible for us to benefit from this grant. Be sure to thank the team at these venues if you visit, or pop in when passing just to say "thanks".

## **WHANGAREI OPEN 5A TEAMS TOURNAMENT**

Saturday 20 March

We hope many of our members will play in this tournament. Please **bring a plate of food** to support the event. We also need **a reserve team of 4**, ready to play if a team has to suddenly withdraw. Please let Lee know if you would be willing to play on a scratch team if needed at this event.

### **NATIONAL RUBBER BRIDGE TOURNAMENT**

Rubber bridge is a very social format of the game. Join in the fun and enter this year. Heats for the Auckland/Northland contest take place at the players' homes or a venue halfway between. Heats have been known to take place in pubs, ambulance stations as well as conveniently midway placed bridge clubs! The first couple of rounds are always within Northland. Last year an open and intermediate pairing won the National title. Only basic systems are allowed – so everyone is in with a chance.

If you would like more information on rubber bridge tactics or the competition – contact Jane Stearns. See this [flier](#) for entry details to the competition.

### **JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE IMPROVER SESSIONS WITH LEE**

Continuing on Tuesday evenings. 6pm prompt start. Session ends 6.50pm.

Players encouraged to attend the Tuesday playing session following at 7pm to put into practice their tuition.

Free to members. No partner needed.



**Stuart Love** has risen from Junior to Intermediate grade – congratulations Stuart and a real achievement in a year of Covid to advance so far with so few playing opportunities.

It was a 1, 2, 3 for Whangarei at the **Whangarei Pak n Save tournament** in February:

Winners: **Tania Brown** and **Neil Ruddell**

Runners Up: **Janice Johnson** and **Helen Brodie** (particularly notable for an Open/Int pairing)

Third: **Richard Bland** and **Margaret Hooson**

Top Intermediate pair: **Judith Byrne** and **Laura Maton**

A 2<sup>nd</sup> intermediate prize was given out as no juniors took part. Come on Whangarei Juniors – give a tournament a go! The 8B pairs and Swiss Pairs tournaments are always worthwhile for juniors and prizes are awarded for the top junior pair.

**Dargaville Swiss Pairs results:**

Runners Up: **Margaret Hooson** and **Richard Bland**

Third: **Patsy Walters** and **Lee Walters**

Top Intermediates and fourth place overall: **Laura Maton** and **Stuart Love**

**Kerikeri Open B results:**

Intermediate Winners: **Kevin Grundy** and **Kim Thomas**

Open: Third **Richard Bland** and **Margaret Hooson**

**UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS FOR YOUR DIARY:**

NZ Rubber Bridge competition – enter details [here](#) – cut-off date 31 March.

Paihia Quail Ridge Open 8B Pairs – 10 April. Enter online at NZB.

InterProvincials – Open, Women, Seniors, Intermediate Trials – held over 8/9 May. Enter online via NZB.

Congratulations to our **February series winners:**

Monday morning: **Len Dent** and **Margaret Hooson**

Wednesday morning: **Len Dent** and **Lyn Dickinson**

Thursday evening: **Cynthia Johnson** and **Lee Orton**

Friday morning: **Janice Johnson** and **Helen Brodie**