

WHANGAREI BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER – MAY 2022



NEWS FROM OUR CLUB

Bridge clubs have found the going tough in the last couple of years. Out of 108 clubs in NZ less than a quarter have managed to grow. It was heartening for the committee to see that Whangarei had the largest increase in membership nationwide over the past two years, by some 24 players, sharing that honour with the Karori Club based in Wellington.

One of the reasons our club is successful is the welcoming and friendly environment all our members contribute to. Thank you to everyone who by being polite and respectful towards each other at the table brings the atmosphere for growth.

On Sunday we look forward to a very special afternoon courtesy of our long-time member and friend Judith Byrne. If you can play on Sunday 1 May – start time at 1pm – please bring a partner to join this event. More details in this newsletter.

We will see the return of our trading table after our tournament in May – so start searching out those items to bring along to help the club fundraise for the projects it hopes to undertake.

Whangarei Bridge Club Committee

A special afternoon of bridge with Judith Byrne

The clubrooms will host a very special bridge afternoon on Sunday 1 May starting at 1pm. Judith has been a member of our club and served on the committee for many years. Following her diagnosis and referral to Hospice, it is Judith's wish to put on an afternoon of bridge with the many friends she has made at the club over the years. Her bridge playing family will be along and all members are welcome. Judith is providing wine and nibbles at the close of play. No table money – this is Judith's treat to the members of the club. Please join in an afternoon of comradeship, fun and most of all bridge, with your host Judith.

Improvers Lessons Tuesday evenings

The weekly improver lessons with John McIntosh are very popular with over 20 members attending each session. Make Tuesday evenings a part of your plan to improve your bridge over winter. Starting at: 6.15pm learn a new skill or technique and get help on troublesome boards you have encountered. Play follows starting at 7pm – no partner needed.

TOURNAMENT ROUND-UP - APRIL

Congratulations to our Whangarei players in recent tournaments. It is great to see the club represented so strongly from our membership.

Paihia Open Pairs – congratulations to **Lee Walters** and **Patsy Walters** finishing runners-up. Congratulations also to **Kim Thomas** and the on-form **Laura Maton** who finished the top non-open pair and in 5th place overall.

Anzac Day charity tournament – congratulations to **John McIntosh** and **Roger Bell** winning the afternoon event. A total of \$350 was raised for Northland Helicopters.

Keeping up with the pace!

Please do your best to keep to the time allowed for playing the boards in each session you attend. Top tips to help speed up play:

- Keep an eye on the clock if in use

- Greet your table but don't download your day (until you've played the boards and have time to do so!)
- If you are dummy and looking after the scorer – wait for the opening lead and put down dummy – then enter the contract and lead.
- Save discussion on hands on any boards you play to the end of the round if there is time.
- Make sure all 4 players at the table agree the score before picking up your cards. Remember – once you've picked up your hand – you and your partner have no further say in the score if you disagree!

RANKS REPORT – first quarter 2022

Congratulations to our members appearing in the top 20 for their rank across New Zealand:

National Master: **Jane Stearns**, 16th

Provincial Master: **Janice Johnson**, 12th

Local Master: **Laura Maton**, 20th

Club Masters:

Laurie Brockliss and **Jayne Broome**, joint 4th

George McGirr, 18th

Online Inter-Provincial Trials 2022

A last shout-out to members to take part in the Northland/Auckland Inter-Provincial trials. This year held online via Real Bridge. The cut-off date for entry is **5 May** so enter online via the NZB website today. We have some very strong intermediate players and hope they will step up to compete in this prestigious competition.

Northland/Auckland Regional Committee

Club members are invited to step forward to be a part of the regional governance board for the Auckland/Northland region. For information on what this entails and the skillsets that are useful – contact Grant Jarvis
gjarvis@xtra.co.nz

Upcoming tournaments

30 April - Kerikeri – Dolphin Pairs

7/8 May – Inter-Provincial trials on Real Bridge

14 May – Whangarei - Open 5A pairs

This tournament will involve playing 60 plus boards during the day at tournament speed of 6.5 mins per board. Play will run from 10am to 7pm.
Entry fee: \$40

Help is needed at this tournament:

- A stand-in pair is essential – if you would be prepared to play if needed on the day and return home if not – please speak to Lee. You do not pay an entry fee if you play as stand-in pair.
- If you can spare an hour or so during the day to help – please speak to Lee for tasks in need of support.

11 June – Towai Cup – annual match v Kerikeri – this year held in Kerikeri.

- 2 teams needed of Open / Intermediate / Junior players
- Please put your name on the noticeboard if interested in playing.
- Club Captain makes selection.

The Broome intermediate / junior tournament which was cancelled will be held in the month of July - date yet to be decided. More news in the June newsletter.

Club results:

Tues eve Jade Pairs Winners: **Bernard Collins** and **Wayne Lockyer**

Wed morning Magenta Pairs Winners: **John Ward** and **Anne Rosandich**



Happy Bridging!