NORTHLAND CENTRE PAIRS

Forty-eight keen bridge players arrived at Whangarei Bridge Club hoping to secure a place on the podium. It was lovely to welcome Andrew Liu back to the club, this time partnered by Jane Stearns.

At the halfway mark, Glennis and Kees were leading the field in East–West, while Patsy and Lee were sitting proudly at the top of North–South. There was plenty of ambition around the tables, particularly when it came to bidding slams. Rumour has it that seven were bid during the afternoon by one person, although in reality there was only one. Fortune favours the brave, as they say — though occasionally it merely favours the person who remembered to count their tricks.

By the end of the day, our mixed Whangarei and Kerikeri pairing of Roger and Sulochna took the honours. Tania and Neil had to be content with playing the bridesmaids, while Kees and Glennis both Intermediates put in a very creditable performance to finish third. A thoroughly enjoyable day of cards, competition and just enough optimism to keep everyone bidding eh Patsy!!



RESULTS

1st Roger Bell
Sulochna Humphrey
2nd Neil Ruddell
Tania Brown
3rd Glennis Christie
Kees Lodder
4th Ross Longney
Deirdre Oliver

RAFFLE RESULTS

1st Kees Lodder
2nd Susan Towell
3rd Olive Dent



NORTHLAND CENTRE PAIRS



BRIDESMAIDS



3RD



4TH

CONGRESS

For those who don't use email, a bound copy of the daily results and all the shenanigans from the eight days is available for reading at the club.

WINTER WONDERLAND





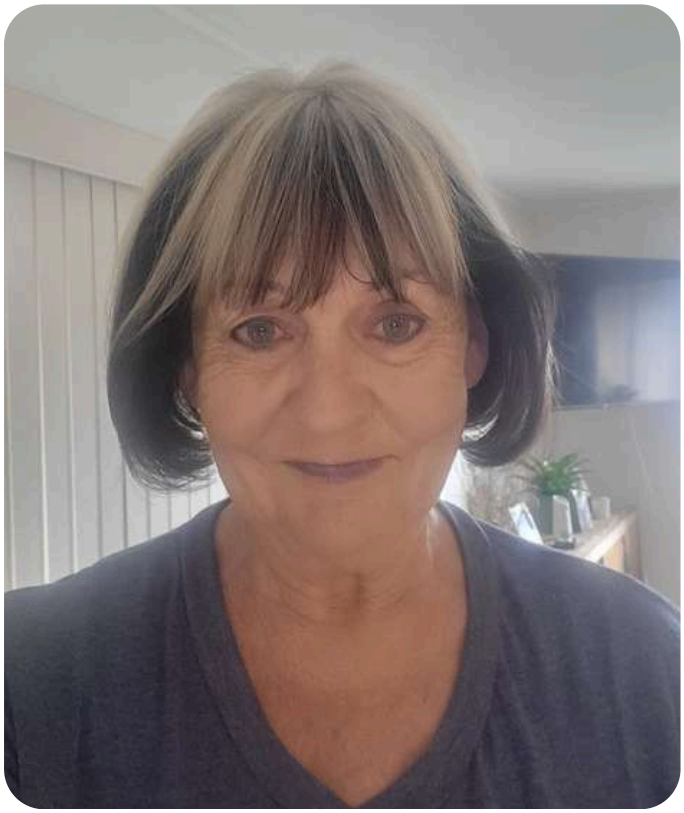




Thank you to Lee and her family who spent many hours creating this beautiful Winter Scene to bring Christmas to the Club.

HELPERS





Many thanks to Carol and Val who helped during the Northland Pairs Tournament. You rock.

HELPERS WANTED

Got a spare minute at lunchtime when you are at the club? We have some cups at the club that require cleaning for prize giving on 11 December.

They are in the boxes down the end of the room.



NORTHLAND CHAMPIONS 2026


1ST JUNIOR

Over the course of the year those who have excelled at tournaments have accrued points. We celebrate those who have gained recognition by being top in their respective divisions in the Northland region, well done.

Ann Lovich took out the top Junior.

Peter Ball was unavailable for the presentation as he had his Grandsons 1st birthday party, bless.

Patsy Walters gained status with the Open win. Hauntingly close just a mere 5 A points to become a Silver Grand Master.


1ST OPEN


1ST INTERMEDIATE

NORTHLAND CHAMPIONS 2026



INTERMEDIATE

The winning Junior team was Kerikeri.
Paihia took home the Intermediate Team Shield.
Whangarei triumphed in the Open Teams, with Patsy, Neil, Tania and John McIntosh making up the winning quartet.
The Wylie Salver, contested each year with all the Northland Clubs, is safely back in Whangarei's hands once again, much to everyone's delight at the club. A huge thank you to Glenis and Barry Palmer, Tania and Neil, and Patsy for bringing the platter home!



1ST OPEN



WYLIE SALVER

DEC 2026

Whangarei Bridge Club

Newsletter

EDITION #34

XMAS PARTY

PRIZEGIVING



12 DEC

11.30AM

Fellow bridge members, we'd love you to join us as we celebrate Christmas together and recognise those who have achieved excellent results throughout the year. Please note that these times are approximate and may change slightly. We hope to see you there!

11:30 am – Arrivals, mixing and mingling, with cake and sherry
11:45 am – Quiz begins, lasting approximately 30 minutes, while the tables are prepared for lunch
12:15 pm – Members will be invited to the food table one table at a time
12:30 pm – Lunch and dessert
1:30 pm – Prize-giving
2:00 pm – Bridge
4:00 pm – Finish

The committee wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the holidays with your friends and family, and we look forward to seeing you back at the bridge table in the New Year. Please stay safe on the roads.



DO WE HAVE SERVANTS?

It seems some of us believe that things miraculously tidy themselves up. Sadly, we have checked, and there are no servants hiding in the cupboards.

The same helpful people keep clearing up after those who live like kings and queens, so please look after your own cups and plates. And when the used tea bag container is full, empty it before it reaches royal capacity.

A little teamwork would be lovely. We wouldn't want El Presidenta to get grumpy, would we?

LAST CHANCE

Last chance to take back your books and grab a book you would like—then we'll start afresh in the new year

We need a volunteer to take over and look after our library—please contact Jayne or Lee



NEWS FLASH

Secret Santa reminder! Please bring a wrapped Secret Santa present costing no more than $5, plus a separate present for the raffles. Boxes are at the club, so pop your gift in one and let the lucky draw begin!



Upcoming Events

Sat 12 December
11.30 start
Xmas Party & Prize Giving

Jan 9 Open 8B
Craig's Investment Partners BOI
Swiss Pairs
KeriKeri

Jan 10 Open 8B
Craig's Investment Partners BOI
Pairs
KeriKeri

Holiday Bridge
Womans Club Rust Ave
Mondays and Fridays in January
Commencing 4 January 9.30am -2.30pm



Please note there will be no newsletter at the end of January while we take a well-earned rest from all that bridge-table excitement.

COLUMN



Peter Pan & Wendy

"Every night when I go to bed I will think about the mistakes I made that day at the bridge table." "Gosh," Wendy, "how will you get any sleep?" " Thats not very nice Peter."

" Peter did you know there are three kinds of bridge players: those who can count, and those who can't."

'Wendy, One advantage of bad bidding is we get practice playing atrocious contracts."

PROGRAMME BOOKLET

Our 2027 Programme Booklets will no longer be posted. You may pick up your copy from the Club.



TONI TURNS 90 !



Toni, one of our lovely club members, reached the tender age of 21 plus a few years last Saturday. At the bridge table, however, the numbers pale into insignificance when it comes to her play. Her bidding is sharp, her card sense is impressive, and her opponents would be wise not to underestimate her just because she has a few more candles on the cake.

It is all the more reason to keep playing the game. Even when the body does not always obey instructions from the brain, the brain itself remains as sharp as a tack, and Toni proves that age is merely a number, especially when there is a bridge table involved. Do you know how many of our members are over 90 and still playing? They may take a little longer to get to the table, but they certainly do not take their foot off the accelerator once they are there!

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Yovich & Co WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Results

Caledonia Cup
Daytime
Singles
Monday AM

1st Margaret Hooson

2nd Suniti Fry

3d Steve Timmins

Results

MWIS
Pairs
Tuesday PM

1st

2nd **Still Running**

3d

Results

Guy Fawkes Prs
Handicap
Wed AM

1st Adrienne Rehioui / Janice Johnson

2nd Heather Wright / Anne Groufsky

3d Kees Lodder / Len Dent

Results

Sapphire Prs
Thursday PM

1st Alan Pumfleet / Tim Boyd

2nd Gerda van Dijk / Jaco van Dijk

3rd Sandy Maihi / Anne Lovich

Results

Geranium Prs
Friday AM

1st Anneke Muijlwijk / Stanley Abrahams

2nd Margaret Hooson /Richard Bland

3rd Grant Algie / Matthew Johnson

Glen Bilton

Glennis (Glen) was born in New Zealand in 1934, her mother was Scottish and her father English.

She was an office worker and ended her career as an Office Manager.

Glennis recalls her first car with some mirth, a convertible Morris Minor, that you needed to use an umbrella when it rained and would have trouble making up a hill unless the petrol tank was full (the petrol tank being at the front of the car).

With her Ray, she had three children, Larry who has passed away, Karen who lives in Auckland and Denise in Australia

Always interested in sports Glen played lawn bowls in Blockhouse Bay, golf in Titirangi, and 500 at the Eden Roskill RSA.

Glen's travels have taken her to Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Fiji and Norfolk Island
She first learned to play bridge in 1997 at the Mt Albert Club (alongside a noted member of this club who was Arch Jelley (John walker's coach) who passed away only this year at the age of 104 -still an active bridge player).

Member Profile of the Month



Glen and Ray moved to Whangarei in 1999 and took further bridge lessons from Margaret and Norman Davidson and has been a member ever since.
A formidable Open Grade player, she has never been to Congress but is a regular tournament player finishing top in the afternoon session of our most recent tournament with partner Vanassa McGoldrick.

Both Vanassa and Peter Pan say that Glen is a delight to play with and always arrives with a system written out so you can remind yourself what you are both doing. She is always smiling and at 92 is an inspiration to everyone at our club.