



Waikanae Bridge Club

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022

Membership

Our membership numbers are healthy with a gentle inflow of new arrivals.

Committee

The 2022 committee had the usual busy schedule which sometimes required decisions to be made very quickly. In particular I thank the Secretary, Rae Lutman and the Webmaster, Shelley Ross, both for their regular informative communication with our members and also for instantly responding to the occasional need to broadcast an urgent message.

Over the last two years Secretary Rae Lutman put untold hours into developing accurate and comprehensive electronic files of our documents. Similarly, Treasurer Margaret Gordon picked up the xero system newly introduced by Nicky Bradley and made the club accounts into reliable, accurate and timely financial records. Maureen Pratchett singlehandedly managed our increasingly complex IT needs over this time. The efficient running of the club is largely due to the unflinching work of these skilled volunteers.

Vicky Young and Shelley Ross move off the committee this year. Vicky has served as Vice President, President and Committee member for eight years. Shelley managed much of the refurbishment work. We are grateful for Vicky's and Shelley's many contributions to running the club and we are pleased that they both plan to continue their support in a number of roles.

Tournaments

National The Waikanae Open Tournament in February 2022 was cancelled due to Covid. The scheduled Multi Grade Tournament in July and the Intermediate/Junior Tournament in November both took place face-to-face. Ongoing sponsorship from Susie Mills Lawyers, Parkwood Trust and Waikanae Funeral Home allowed the club to run these events showing a slight profit. The Loveblock NZ-wide pairs was held at the club as usual, attracting twenty-six pairs.

Local The annual Interclub fixture with Paraparaumu Bridge Club was played at Waikanae, with our club retaining the shield. The annual Quadrangular Tournament did not take place due to the inability of the three neighbouring clubs to field teams.

Regional Kapiti Horowhenua Area Pairs was played online once a month from March to November. Uptake of this tournament was affected by the online/face-to-face dilemma. Thanks go to Graham Cheater for chairing the tournament's steering committee from its inception and to Margaret Gordon and Rae Lutman for providing financial and secretarial support for this regional event.

Online play

Club play went online briefly during the lockdown and there is an interest among some members in online play. Given that our club exists for people in our community to play bridge with other local people, face-to-face play remains our predominant mode.

Refurbishment

New carpet was laid in June 2022, the last step in a major refurbishment of the clubrooms that has been taking place over the last three years. We have improved the heating in the playing room, repainted the interior, updated our computer and scoring devices, erected new shelving, put in underfloor insulation as well as a ground moisture barrier, installed two air conditioners, bought new side tables and completely rebuilt the bathrooms.

This work has involved a capital cost of around \$120,000 of which around \$77,000 came in the form of grants from community funding organisations. We are grateful to Anne Erwin for her work in securing the grants and the committee members who liaised with the providers.

Lessons

Beginners' lessons attracted thirty-six learners in 2022, our biggest number yet. Improvers' lessons were taught later in the year by both Graeme Norman and Graham Cheater, six lessons in all, helping raise the skill level throughout the playing membership. The club is lucky to be able to benefit from the expertise of our leading players.

Social Events

In spite of Covid restrictions the club managed to schedule a few social events. Members gathered to commemorate the reign of Queen Elizabeth and enjoyed St Patrick's Day, a pot-luck dinner and a wine and cheese afternoon.

Other Users

2022 has shown continued regular use of our premises by the Kapiti Coast Quilters Guild, the Kapiti Embroiderers Guild, the Girl Guides and the Friendship Force. We have other inquiries currently under discussion.

The club is indebted to all these skilled and generous people who are willing to volunteer their time and energy into making things happen for the club. I offer my personal thanks to Graham Cheater and Vicky Young for their advice and guidance during my term of office.

Adrienne Dale

President