



ANNUAL REPORT 2019 -2020

The 2019-2020 year saw a number of changes at the club. The first was the introduction of new technology. This included a new dealing machine and a new tablet based bridge scoring system. While not without some challenges in their implementation they were major advances for the club. They brought the club into line with the bigger clubs within the Wellington Region.

The second change, which was more of a challenge, occurred in the latter part of March. This was due the Covid-19 virus outbreak leading to the cancellation of club play and competitions. The impact of which extended to the cancelling of lessons and the deferment of the club's 50th Anniversary celebrations to 2021. After a bit of an initial shock, it has proven to be the right decision given the isolation approach taken by New Zealand.

As can be seen from the acknowledgements below the successful running of the club depends upon a very large number of members.

Acknowledgements

My thanks to the committee for the tremendous efforts that they have put in to make our club a success.

Dianne Lester (Vice President), Tracey Shields (Secretary), Yvonne Helps (Treasurer), Marcia Forsman (Editor, Table Talk), Nigel Horne, Rod Ferguson, Alan Savage, and John Antliff. A special thanks to immediate past President Nigel Horne whose guidance and knowledge has proven invaluable.

A lot of support has been provided by members outside of the committee. This has been essential for the successful running of our club and of benefit to all members. Special recognition goes to:

- ◆ Margaret Robertson Club Director and Learners Lesson Class Presenter.
- ◆ Tracey Shields producer of our programme book.
- ◆ Tony Davidson Tournament Secretary who retired during the year.
- ◆ Gaye McGill, Alan Savage, John Avery and Anette Austing as Partnership Stewards who had the difficult task of matching partners.
- ◆ Barbara MacDonald for organising our lunches for our tournaments.
- ◆ John Joseph for creating the deals all individually different and challenging.
- ◆ Kaye McCredie, John Antliff, Sue Fish, Nigel Horne and Kevin Stacey. Our Dealers who prepared some five thousand boards during the year:
- ◆ Sue Fish who purchases the vital supper and cleaning supplies.
- ◆ Richard Boodee our Auditor.
- ◆ Margaret Francis for organising our interclub teams.
- ◆ Christine De Roo Master Points Secretary.
- ◆ Colleen McCaw Trophy management.
- ◆ Our in club Directors: Margaret Robertson (Club Director), Lyn Mansfield, Christine De Roo, Tracey Shields and David Morel for directing our competitions.

Also a big thank you to those who acted as Playing Directors, those who assisted in the scoring, those who helped in the kitchen, manning the bar and cleaning up after tournament events.

Supporters

The club acknowledges with thanks the support given by:

Dianne Tredger from Harcourts
McCabe and Company
Summerset Retirement Village
Johnston Ebbett Holden
Travel Hub
Hutt Mana Charitable Trust
Pelorus Trust

Margaret McKeefry from First National
Guardian Funeral Home
Whitby Pharmacy
Bridge NZ
All over IT
Pub Charity

Where possible please support the organisations which have supported the club.

Membership

Membership throughout the year has remained steady at around 125 members. There are unlikely to be lessons in the 2020-2021 year. An active programme to seek out new members will need to be initiated.

Obituaries 2019-2020

During the year the club was sad to lose:

Dan Kolston a life member and Gretchen Lash. Our sympathies go to their families.

Learner's Lessons for 2019/2020

In 2019 eleven people attended the Learner's lessons, together with four of the 2018 learners.

The learners came from Tawa, Plimmerton, Titahi Bay, Churton Park, Aotea & Whitby. Over half found out about the lessons from a friend or relative, so this continues to be the best way to encourage new people to play bridge. Only two of the learners had played bridge before, but five had played 500 and/or Euchre.

Unfortunately three people pulled out of the lessons, one citing other commitments and the other two due to illnesses. Both of latter have said that they would like to come to this year's lessons. The remaining eight learners joined the club and seven settled well into playing on Wednesday nights, requiring little support from either Margaret or the Director. Of these seven, six are playing regularly at the club in 2020.

Financial

The club continues to be in a sound financial position. Our net income increased by \$888.85 to \$1,216.30 during the year. The new Dealing Machine and 20 Levano Bridge Tablets were purchased within the financial year. Grants totalling \$6,000 were successfully obtained to assist with the purchase of the Dealing Machine and Bridge Tablets. Total assets have risen by nearly \$7,000 to \$89,299.22. This includes term investments of over \$47,000.

Competitions and Tournaments Personal Achievements

Our annual matches against Paraparaumu and Kairangi clubs had a mixed outcome. We retained the Jackways Shield against Paraparaumu but lost by a slim margin the Kerr cup to Kairangi.

Eleanor Morel and Lorraine McArthur won the June 20th 2019 Open Tournament. They also came second overall in the Nelson Women's Pairs.

In the March 10th 2019 Multigrade Tournament Don Mather and Yvonne Helps came second,. Tracey Shields and Patti Poole were top Intermediate/ Junior pair.

Interclub

We had six teams entered in the Wellington Regional competition. Two Open Restricted, two Intermediate and two Junior teams.

Results

Open Restricted 2, captained by Yvonne Helps came 9th
Open Restricted 1, Captained by Margaret came 12th
Intermediate 2, captained by Kahu Livingston came 4th
Intermediate 1, captained by Christine De Roo came 7th
Junior 1, captained by Kevin Stacey came 10th
Junior 2, captained by Julie Kropp came 13th

Social Events

The Christmas party and prize giving were well attended and were a fun event. There were a number of Director's choice events during the year and these well supported.

Table Talk

The clubs monthly newsletter was successfully produced by Marcia Forsman. Copy from members is gratefully received.

In conclusion the 2019-2020 year finds the club in a strong financial position. Our membership has remained steady. There has been a loss of a learning opportunity due to the lockdown. To catch up we will need to initiate some additional "Bridge Promotion". Our membership has proven to be resilient and 2020-2021 finds the club in good shape. Going forward the emphasis needs to be on attracting more members while still being responsive to the needs of our existing members.

Kevin Stacey
President.