**ROTORUA BRIDGE CLUB PRESIDENTS REPORT - AGM 25 NOVEMBER 2021**

**Welcome to this year’s AGM.**

**"A year like no other, and hopefully one that won’t be repeated next year” was the introduction to last year’s President's Report. Unfortunately – not to be the case – with Covid 19 continuing to impact the club, with several member's sessions, tournaments, and the Club Championships all needing to be cancelled.**

**The year commenced very actively:**

**Summer bridge sessions saw an average of 7 tables.**

**The competition programme commenced on Wednesday 3rd February with a social night and 12 tables of players.**

**Beginner’s Lessons started on 10th March, with both Wednesday and Friday classes and 19 attendees. These recruits have gone on to become very active players within our club.**

**The Kelly Peirse Teams Tournament was held on 20th March with 120 players.**

**The House of Cards Touring Group played with members on the 17th May, bringing table numbers up to 15 tables. They plan to include Rotorua in their yearly trip.**

**The Mid Winter Dinner and new recruits' welcome was held on 9th June with 54 members attending. Great atmosphere with amazing food, enjoyable bridge, and introduction of the new recruits.**

**The Rotorua Open Tournament was held on 19th June, with our club house full of Grand Masters, NZ Rep Players, and Top Open partnerships. What an amazing experience.**

**In July, we introduced Monday Evening as an extra session to our bridge programme, attracting 5/6 tables of players.**

**Table numbers at all sessions were increasing, then, in August, Covid 19 hit again, which impacted on member’s participation. During the coming months, both Monday afternoon, then Thursday evening sessions were cancelled for the rest of the year. Monday and Wednesday evenings and Friday afternoon sessions continued, but with fewer active players.**

**As a consequence, there has been a negative financial impact for our club, which Kathryn will report on in her financial presentation.**

**On-line bridge and home bridge groups increased as we all strived to get our ‘bridge fix’.**

**In 2022, we will continue to offer all our sessions at the club for our members, with the hope that Covid 19 will not continue to negatively impact our game of bridge.**

**RECT Grant. The application to the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust for a grant to install another 2 new heat pumps and replace the bridge tablecloths was successful, and has been completed.**

**The Christmas Members Only Tournament on 4th December is proving popular, and highlights the camaraderie within the club.**

**In all – a very messy year, which has imposed many demands on the committee. Each of you have stepped up, and committed to your responsibilities in our ever-changing environment.**

**All of our sponsors have retained their support for the new year, and a new sponsor has also come aboard. A big thank you to each of you.**

**Ruth and Margaret have both been training understudies for the compass system and dealing, and Cathy continues to manage and update the web site.**

**Val and Roger competently managed the lessons and training programmes throughout 2021, with great results.**

**Some committee members are standing down this year:**

**Jody Richardson – secretary extraordinaire, and committee members Suellyn Caudwell, Marie Milsum, Rowan Friend and Jim Morgan.**

**Thanks to everyone of you who voluntarily gave your time and expertise.**

**Recruiting and retaining members will continue to be our focus in the coming year.**

**Thank you members for your patience during this difficult year.**

**Stay safe, care for yourselves and others**

**COLLEEN ALLEN**

**PRESIDENT 2021**