

Newsletter

August 2017

The Handicap Championship played on Thursday nights was completed in July and won by Joe and Barbara Keys. They had played steadily throughout the competition but a score of 60.63 on the final night propelled them up the ladder to finish on a total score of 276.12. Tony Pearson and Joan Darby Smith who had led the competition until the final round were the runners up with a total score of 273.44.



New Players. After ten weeks of lessons with Judith Howard, four new members Jodi Allison, Stephanie Golan, Barbara Cheffey and Trish Bruce have joined play on Thursday evenings. They found playing the cards a bit of a challenge but appreciated the warm welcome and encouragement they received from our regular members. We all appreciate the time and effort Judith dedicates to our beginners and her endeavours to make bridge and our club sessions as much fun as possible was acknowledged recently by a presentation of flowers. Bob Blackwell attended the Monday morning lessons and he will join Wednesday picnic bridge this week. *Pictured Trish, Barbara, Judith, Jodi and Stephanie.*



Benefit Night Thanks to everyone's generosity with donated items for the raffle table and then the very unstinting support for tickets in the raffles we raised \$611 for our local Volunteer Fire Brigade. Matamata's four man team will represent New Zealand and compete against Australia in November in Carterton. The money we raised will be added to their travel funds. Three of the Waterways competition team attended our "Benefit Night" and gave us an insight of what was involved in the competition and displayed the huge New Zealand trophy which had never been won by Matamata in the past. We wish them well. Thanks also to everyone who contributed to the supper which was much appreciated especially by our visitors from Morrinsville, Te Aroha, Putaruru and Tokoroa. The gross winners that evening were-NS Sonia Crawford and Ann Ring, EW Ken Yule & Noel Grigg. The net winners were NS Mavis Buchanan & Michele Liddle EW Nick Whitten & Val Waite.

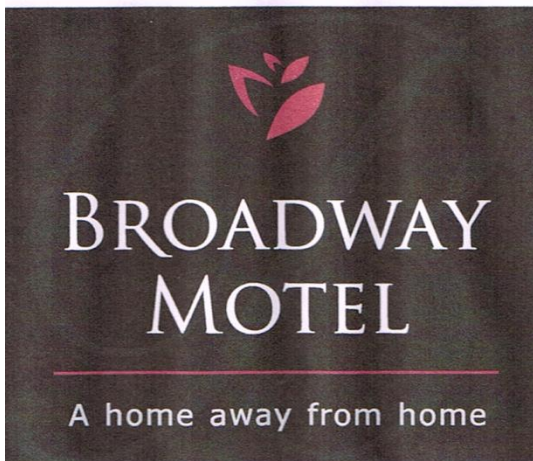


Waikato Area Pairs were completed at Morrinsville on the 20th of August. Five out of six rounds were to count and Lynette Morgan and Ian Bond were second overall. This was a very creditable result as a total of sixteen pairs completed all the rounds which began in Hamilton in February. Our club was very well represented with Lesley Quilty and Sonia Crawford placed fifth and Heather Kneebone and Anna Kalma placed ninth. It is very pleasing to see our pairs competing so well in the Waikato Area Pairs.

Lynette Morgan is now a Grand Master. You need 500 A points to become a grand master and that means Lynette has played a lot of good hands of bridge and been rewarded with some very commendable results over a period of time. Lynette has been an Open player since 1993 and became a Life Master in 2007. Being a Grand Master is something very special and we congratulate her on this wonderful achievement. In fact the Matamata Bridge Club is very fortunate to have four grand masters at our tables. Ken and Kathy Yule are both Silver Grand Masters and Lesley Quilty became a Grand master in 2008. *Pictured- Lesley acknowledging Lynette's achievement with flowers and a bottle of wine to celebrate on a Monday night.*



Interclub in Hamilton . The Waikato interclub teams event resulted in Matamata being placed third overall behind Waikato and Hamilton. The top two teams in each grade were then invited to play against the top two teams from Bay of Plenty at Cambridge on Sunday 28th August. Our Open and Junior teams were selected for the match which was a very commendable result but they could not replicate their good form so there is no good news to report.



Our next big day will be the Intermediate Tournament on Sunday September 17th. We are very fortunate to have a new sponsor, the Broadway Motel for this event so I hope as many locals as possible will be able to play and enjoy our last tournament of the year.