

Alan Dick

The Waikato-Bays Regional Committee wishes to put on record the many contributions of Alan Dick, who recently resigned from this Committee after many years of service to the Committee, the Region, to Rotorua Bridge Club (BC), and to NZ Bridge in general.

Alan is a staunch member of Rotorua BC, having joined in 1969, after attending lessons there. He took to bridge like the proverbial “duck to water”. Before long his many talents were recognised, and he was coopted onto the Committee. Alan served as Club President 3 times – in 1981-83; 2016-17; and 2023-24. In the words of Ruth Lewis, who joined Rotorua BC in 1987, “Alan was the driving force of the Club”.

Alan was an early advocate for the use of computers, he was one of our earliest IT specialists, and he used his skills to assist Forestry companies in the early days. He also used them, in partnership with Neil Dravitzki, in the early development of bridge scoring systems locally.

Alan’s energy and talents led him to the Regional Committee (then “Centre”) in the late 1980’s. He served an initial term on the Committee, then as Chairman. He has been described as a “good Committee member – he lets others do the talking, then makes critical observations.” “He was always very well organised”, says his long-time friend and bridge partner Heini Lux. “Committee work kept him really busy”. Alan was made a Life Member of Rotorua BC in 1990.

Alan is an accomplished bridge player. He and his partner won the Rotorua BC Championships no less than 12 times, between 1981 and 2024. He was made a Grand Master in 2019, and in his eightieth year, last year, he accumulated a creditable 14 A points to add to his tally. In addition, Alan has been an accredited Club Director for many decades, and is still active in the role at regional events.

Not one to rest on his laurels, Alan heard the call and returned to the Regional Committee in 2018, taking on the onerous Chairman role once again, in June 2022, a role which his deteriorating health forced him to relinquish in late 2025. During this time, Alan distinguished himself as a leader, championing a number of initiatives, and keeping an energetic group on task.

Alan is highly respected for his work at National level also. Our long-serving National Secretary, Alister Stuck, describes Alan as “a superb person; I appreciate what he has done for bridge over many years”.

Alan’s other love, apart, of course, from his lovely wife Margie, is sailing. Many years were spent pottering on his boat at the Tauranga Marina, until he sold it last year. He has been involved with “Sailing for the Blind” for many years, and still goes out with them.

Alan, we thank you; we appreciate you and salute you for all you have done for bridge in this country; and we look forward to many more tussles across the bridge table.

Waikato – Bays Regional Committee, March 2026