



Empire Newsletter

JUNE 2013

Hi all

Hope you are keeping warm this winter. Remember coming to table tennis can provide some good exercise and help warm you up (providing you are not sitting in the cold hall for too long!!).

Midweek Club Emergency!

Both Melanie and Arthur have given in their notice as the organisers of the Thursday morning club. Melanie, now her children are older, is going off to pursue full time employment. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank both Melanie and Arthur for their hard work in running the Thursday Club and the general contribution they have both made to keeping Empire functioning for your enjoyment.

Merv and Eddie are happy to continue to run the Tuesday morning club – so thanks to both of them. However if you want to continue to have a Thursday morning session people are going to have to come forward to run it. Ideally two people but there could be a team of you on a roster if that works.

If we do not get any volunteers Thursday Club will cease to operate on Thursday 18th July...if you can help please contact any Midweek Club organiser or member of the Board.

Raffle

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets for our latest raffle. We made \$303.00 which will be very useful at present. The winners are:

1st prize - night and breakfast at the James Cook Hotel – Richard Pena

2nd prize - two tickets to Circa Theatre – Chas Wong

3rd prize - mystery one (scarf/hat, bottle of wine, Empire beer mug and notebook) – Joyce Skinner

Movie Night

We sold all the tickets to **The Great Gatsby** at the Light House, Petone on Thursday 13th June. 98 of us made it to the cinema and enjoyed nearly 2 and a half hours of glitz and glamour, a very Baz Luhrmann movie and also a pretty accurate portrayal of the Scott Fitzgerald's book. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets or made a donation. Raewyn has worked out

that when the GST has been claimed back we will have made \$1142.00 – another excellent contribution to the Club's finances.

We should also add it was very fortunate that we did not choose to have our fundraising evening on Thursday 20th June when we had the worst storm in Wellington in about 3 decades! Many members would have lost power that night and sustained damage around their properties – hopefully mainly tree damage and that you are all otherwise fine? A couple of us in Normandale were without power for 26 hours – not too good when there is a new baby in the house. Typing this two days later I am aware there are still houses in Normandale without power and that a large generator is providing power to many of us.

The Club on Thursday 20th June

We are pleased to say that the building suffered no great damage that night. However an awful lot of water came in, along with sand. Inside is definitely a bit of a mess – John went down to inspect and spent a lot of time doing what he could do to clean up. A big thank you from everyone John. A decision was made to not host the Friday Night Club on the 21st as a result.

We also found out that Marine Parade was officially closed as some very large trees came down nearby. Some buildings also lost their rooves so we were quite lucky. Although as you are all aware every time a storm happens the older building “loses another life.” There is very little we can do with it – the general condition has deteriorated further and this time lights in the committee room and toilets went out due to water.

We have had plans drawn up which basically replace this older building but do not expand the premises. This we feel is hopefully affordable in the present economic climate. We do need all the help we can get with fundraising so it is great news that both the raffle and movie night were sold out. We will of course need to be successful with applying for grants to proceed.



Driftwood from the sea - right up to the older building after the storm on 20th June



Marine Parade - many large trees were "torn" out of the ground (the Club in the background)

Winter Interclub

This is nearly at the halfway point of the season. Empire teams have mixed results, although we hope all participants have been enjoying themselves. It is good to see a range of participants from all sectors of the club playing.

Club Roles

The newsletter would not be complete without reminding you that we are still without a Chair and Activities Convenor. Without going in to any great detail you all need to be aware that there are very few people keeping the Club going for you! Note also the first topic in this edition....

Coming up....

TTW Wellington Open

This will be held on the weekend of Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th July. Details and entry form can be found at this link: <http://ttwblog.wordpress.com/>

Manawatu Veterans Doubles Tournament

Players over 40 years of age only! This annual competition is to be held on Saturday 17th August in Palmerston North. The day can be a lot of fun and the Club will organise car pooling for those interested.

Remember ... the club has 5 sessions per week – we hope to see you along at one or more of them – Monday evening, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, Friday evening and Sunday morning.

See the website for full details <http://www.empirett.org.nz/index.html>