



Newsletter February 2022

Message from the President

Judy Forsyth



Greetings All,

What a great day Wednesday, 26th January was. Good numbers turned up, many resplendent in Aussie colours, to enjoy a day of bridge and the fanfare that went with that. Catering under Carmel Pollard, cooking by our resident chef, Chris McDowell, great organisation by Marjorie, smooth directing by Howard, some "interesting" boards dealt by Peter Rostron, decorations by Hilary Lewis and all their bands of helpers for each role in the day. Thanks to all who participated in the preparations and by coming along to play.

Sue Fielder has been busy organising members to give a short lesson as an introduction on the Friday morning's, **Help with Play**. These are too numerous to mention, but your help and guidance for this group is greatly appreciated. New lessons begin with Lyn Graham and Clive Klugman from this week, both in the day and at night. When they have finished their lessons, we look forward to seeing them join the club and the Friday morning group, then later in club sessions. We shall not break the news to them, just yet, what a wonderfully frustrating world they are about to enter!

Many thanks to Sue Fielder's husband, John, who put together the new front desk from the



Aussies - Sophie, Liz and Hilary

flatpack. John, I hope you didn't mind being volunteered by Sue?

Welcome to new Ballina Bridge Club's members who were approved at our management meeting. Home club members – Julie Daniel and William Keyte and Associate members – Cathy and Phil Hocking. I trust you all enjoy your Bridge and friendships at Ballina BC.

We will not place plastic bags on tables for collection of vouchers. Place vouchers together on the table and someone will collect as usual.

If you become positive to Covid at any stage, please follow these steps:

- Notify Howard Jeffery, Ken

Jones or Judy Forsyth. This will remain confidential.

- If you have been playing in the previous few days, notify your partner/s. (These are the only players who might be classified as close contacts.)
- Notify NSW Health.

Ballina Bridge Club is going NSW-Wide, thanks to Rebecca Rogers, our Northern Rivers representative on the NSW Bridge Association Council. The promotion of Bridge is going live to air in a 15 second commercial. Rebecca came up with the idea to promote Bridge in the Northern Rivers with all clubs being asked to contribute to the costs. She was asked to explain this idea to her cohorts in Sydney. They loved



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it and NSWBA has now offered to pay all costs for an advertisement to be aired in regional NSW.

This is the first time such a campaign to raise awareness of the game of Bridge has taken place. We are often asked what NSWBA does for the capitation fees all clubs pay - this is a super way to do something every club can benefit from.

After such a stagnant 2-3 years, we hope such publicity will pique people's interest in Bridge, whether they want to return to a game they have played before, or whether they are new to it and need to find

a club who can help.

BBC will not be identified as to where the ad took place, but we will all know!

Filming for the ad will take place on Monday, 14th February. We want everyone to star. You must bring your happy face, laughing and enjoying yourselves. You need to gather anyone (no need to be a bridge player) to come along at noon on this day. (Neighbours, spouses, partners, sons, daughters, etc) It would be great if we could fill our room for maximum impact. Pre-registration is necessary. If

you play bridge, register online in the usual manner. If you have organised for someone else to come along, go to the Calendar, Add filming Event and click on the link to Partners. This will bring up an email to Rebecca where you can send her the name/s of others you have organised to come.

For the period of filming only, masks will not be worn. We ask that you have your mask with you for prior to and after filming. All attending must be double vaxed.

Judy Forsyth -President

Australia Day Bar-B-Que

Howard Jeffery



A successful Australia Day Bar-B-Que and game of teams Bridge was held on 26 January. It started with a rendition of Advance Australia Fair which benefitted greatly because I was busy in the Director's Office. Following that, we got underway with a 6-boards per match round robin movement of 10 tables, 5 matches in the first session and 4 in the last.

After the first session, we were provided with lamb rissoles that Slammin' Sam Kekovich would have praised and beautiful Woolies sausages. What could be more Australian than that? The Bar-b-Queing was done by our own Gordon Ramsey, Chris McDowell. Actually, he failed the Gordon Ramsey test as when he dropped 6 rissoles on the floor, all we heard was a sotto voce "how did that happen?"

Carmel, conscious of what our diets should be, had prepared some excellent salads. They counter-balanced the lamb rissoles nicely, or maybe the rissoles won. A fabulous meal followed by Drumstick or a Splice, depending on what capacity was remaining after the first course.

At the half-way mark, the team with the second lowest number of Masterpoints was carving up the opposition, they were of course, the Carver team. Overall winners were determined by Mark's patented handicap system. Once again, he hadn't tuned it properly as his team, of which we were members, failed to get a place. More work to be done on that.

Winners were the Carver team of Chery, Sharon, Pin and Sue Fielder. Congratulations to them. Second was awarded to the President's team of Judy, Rebecca, Sue Burns and Kay Pearson. Congratulations. Overall, the team that got the most VPs were the Bushrangers of Chris, Colin, Rob and Ray. A very creditable effort.



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Play Committee Report - January 2022

Marjorie Askew



The Bridge year at our Club, and also nationwide and worldwide, is off to a somewhat 'stuttery' start with those 'uncertainties' lingering. Nevertheless it is great to see all those coming to the Club.

Looking forward:

1. 2022 Programme book:

These should be available in the next day or so. Please pick-up your copy next time you are at the Club; just one copy each please.

You'll see in the programme:

- i) all our 'special' events are scheduled, but of course we may need to be flexible if we have to re-schedule*.
- ii) Play Committee have decided to leave February fairly free of 'specials' as we see what unfolds....
- iii) We have not scheduled a Congress for this year but we may re-visit this later in the year.

2. Coming up in February:

2.1. 2022 Pairs Championships: These get underway this week: Thursday February 3rd and Saturday February 5th. Fingers crossed for 10 rounds, February to November, with best 6 scores averaged to determine winners.

Championship Divisions at Ballina BC, are defined by masterpoints as at 1 January 2022, thus: Novice <20, Restricted <100, B Grade <300

+ Open (masterpoints per each player).

2.2. Sunday Pizza Bridge February 6th from 4pm:

Come along for Cards and Pizza – and 'Yes' for just \$10. (See Poster on page 9)

If you don't have a partner you can nominate individually online or contact Lorraine Bryant who is Partner Coordinating. (NB: If you click on the event in the online calendar and click on Lorraine's name, an email link pops up for you – Technology!)

Indeed we're being looked after by the Lorraines – Lorraine Miller is our Event Organiser.

+ We may well organise into Teams – so you may find you're allocated good teammates.

3. Coming up In March:

Please start thinking about your partner and/or teammates for:

Harvey Norman Mixed Pairs: Wednesdays March 9 & 16. This is also our Club Qualifying Event for the NSW State Mixed Pairs, so red masterpoints at state championship level (see page 11).

Country Teams: Saturday March 12: Club qualifying for the NSW State and Country Teams and also a chance to enjoy a Teams Day at the Club. 9.30 am start; again red masterpoints (see page 10).

4. Change to Masterpoint Limit for Thursday Bridge:

This is to be increased to 300 per partnership from 1 February. Play Committee believes this will give more mentoring opportunities for improving players and hopefully encourage new players coming from our teaching programmes to try Thursday sessions. We'll see how this goes.

* Re-schedules: These will be announced at the Club, in our newsletter and by email. Club emails may be sent from 2 sources: 1. the Club membership database and 2. from the Booking System. So a chance for me to remind you:

1. If you're not receiving Club emails your email address needs updating in the Club database – please contact the Secretariat.

2. If you're not receiving emails specifically related to your bookings (ie confirmations, reminders, follow-up advice) you need to update your 'Profile' in the Booking System.

Then we can keep you informed.

+ Also Coming Up: Gold Coast Congress February 18-26

Good Bridging to all our members playing in this. If you haven't yet put in an entry, with events for all

continued on page 4



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Play Committee Report - January 2022

continued from page 3

Marjorie Askew



levels of bridge experience, and gold masterpoints, there's still time. Go to: <https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/46>

4. Events Gone:

4.1. Australia Day Teams Wednesday January 26:

As an esteemed Life Member said to me afterwards: It was just like the Old Days! Hopefully the 'Good' Old Days and Yes we all had a good time with Fun, Bridge and a Gourmet BBQ. Numbers of course were 'low-ish' but hopefully we have a good 'recipe for success' in 2023.

Howard as Director of the Day has reported on the event (see page2)

and you'll see the photos of all having a great time (page 5).

From me some thank-yous: Our Chef: Chris McDowell (and I suspect Jenny McD as 'sous-chef') Carmel Pollard and the House Team, Peter Rostron who went out the day before specially to deal extra boards to facilitate the movement, Howard as Director, Mark and Nick Humphry as board managers on the day, members who stood by as reserves in case of last-minute drop-outs, and everyone else who contributed – a great team effort.

4.2. Australia-Wide 2021-ish Open and Restricted Pairs Saturday January 29:

This event was cancelled. You'll

find the 2022 Australia-Wide events: Novice, Restricted and Open in our Calendar later in the year – we hope!

Most times in our newsletter, I invite members to contact me with your suggestions and feedback so Yes please do whether it's positive or negative; if the latter fine but preferably constructive. Or if I can be of help with your bridge at the Club.

Marjorie (Chair of Play)

email:

marjorie.askew@gmail.com

or call: 0459 023 907

Thanks to all our sponsors -

SOMERVILLE LAUNDRY LOMAX

SOLICITORS - BALLINA & LISMORE

**Harvey
Norman**



DANCER'S CAR CARE
MECHANICAL REPAIRS & SERVICING
13 Piper Drive, Ballina

Thai by Night restaurant is continuing their sponsorship this year by giving a \$10 voucher towards a meal in their River Street restaurant to two members each month who have a birthday in that month. A Birthday Book is on the front table for members to enter name and birthday (NOT year!!!) to be in the running for a voucher.

This time anyone with a birthday in January and February please put your name in as we have 4 vouchers ready to go. If more than two members have a birthday in the month then a blind draw will decide who are the lucky winners.

This restaurant gets excellent reviews on TripAdvisor.

- Rebecca Rogers | Publicity

Australia Day Photos



Winners are Grinner - Sue, Chery, Pin, Sharon



Second Place - Judy, Rebecca, Sue



Lucky Draw team - Rhonda, Marjorie, Cecily



Chef and washer-up boy, Chris



The Bushrangers - Colin, Chris, Ray, Rob (front)

Vale Paul Bradley



It is with great sadness that we learn of Paul's recent death and our heartfelt sympathies go out to his devoted wife, Jill.

In 1997, when the Club learnt of the Ballina Council's offer of the lease of land on North Creek Road, it was a wonderful relief. It wasn't long before the Committee accepted the offer and started planning. Paul became involved in assisting with the initial designing, fund-raising and the seeking of quotes and offered to act as the Bridge Club's Building Consultant. As quotes came in he suggested the quote submitted by Morgan homes be accepted, which after his discussion with Noel Morgan, was accepted.

As the building progressed Paul became great friends with Noel Morgan, the builder, who gave generously to the Club (also presenting The Morgan Shield for annual competition). Most of the sub-contractors gave extra services above and beyond their contracts. On looking back at Paul's generosity to the Bridge Club there were numerous cases. In the 1997-9 period he provided, freely, the sweets for our fund-raising Hungi events, he and Peter Tootell built the covered afternoon tea area, he built cupboards and shelves in the dealing room, he & Jill invited club members to their Lennox Head home for functions, he worked keenly to design future extensions to the club as well as helping members put in concrete paths and construct Edna Smith's toolshed.

At the Official Opening of the Club House on 18th September, 1998, Paul conducted the proceeding. It was a most memorable event, with such special guests as: Keith McDonald (President of Australian Bridge Federation), Larry Anthony (Federal Member for Richmond), Don Page (State Member for Lismore) & Gary Faulks (Ballina Shire) all who spoke highly of Paul's and the Club's efforts.



Besides our official guests, the Club made presentations to a number of local tradesmen and people who helped with the construction of the Club House and who had worked with Paul during that period. They included: Noel Morgan (the builder), John Wallbank (building designer), Graham Steel (surveyor), Terry Anderson (Northern Rivers Plasterboard), Wayne Shepherd (concrete contractor), Richard Steel (Cummings) , Mark Denver (creative timbers), John Maxwell (Solicitor), Warren Heapy (Window tinting), Ruth Ormella (Town Planner), Ron Baird (Shire Council), Bruce Hault (Ballina Taxis) and Allan Brown (Ballina Mayor). Paul worked with each of the above people on behalf of our Club to help make it what it is today.

It is with great respect and honour that we think of Paul Bradley and thank him for what he did so willingly and wholeheartedly, for the Club that we enjoy today.

John Fraser

Ballina Mah Jong Club News



Attendance at the Friday Mahjong has been up and down, 16 players one week but we are happy to report that 28 were present on 28th January.

Winners for the month of January were: 7th Lorna Simpson, 14th Susan Allan, 21st Gail McDonagh and 28th Jeanette Henwood.

Paul Smith



two more rounds.

The trump suit, Spades, presents you with a choice of playing the top two Spades and hoping the Queen drops or taking a finesse in either direction. You may lose a trick in trumps or not, hard

Your goal is to get
to this position -

and to have either defender on lead. If they lead a Club then you will make a trick as explained before. If they lead one of the red suits you can ruff in one hand and discard a Club from the other thus ensuring you only lose two Club tricks.

The current position, after drawing trumps is shown to the right. To get to the desired situation you now lead a Diamond which will be won by a defender. If they continue with another Diamond then you ruff in the South hand and play ♥A, ♥K and then a small Heart. This gets you to the desired configuration of no red cards and one of the defenders on lead. If they don't continue with a Diamond then you win the lead immediately and ruff the last Diamond yourself. If the defenders do you can achieve the de

North	
♠	K
♥	A62
♦	97
♣	Q54
South	
♠	74
♥	K85
♦	4
♣	J76

The double dummy analysis shows, of course, that a Spade contract can make nine tricks which you achieve by way of this, so called, 'end play' or 'strip and throw in'.

North	
♠	K1062
♥	A62
♦	A97
♣	Q54

West	East
♠ Q	♠ 853
♥ J3	♥ Q10974
♦ KJ10532	♦ Q6
♣ A932	♣ K108

South
♠ AJ974
♥ K85
♦ 84
♣ J76

3♠ S
Lead - ♦ J

All four hands looked like this and the majority of declarer's made nine tricks in Spades. The

National Open Teams is a tough game where even advanced declarer play doesn't score you some IMPs.

Bridge Trip to Townsville

On August 7, bridge players and friends will head off from Brisbane, meeting others from Canberra and Melbourne for a week's relaxation and bridge in Townsville. Townsville is called the capital of the north – a very scenic but often overlooked city. It has a number of unique features for a regional city including nearby Magnetic Island, which was named by one James Cook because he thought his compass was affected by it.

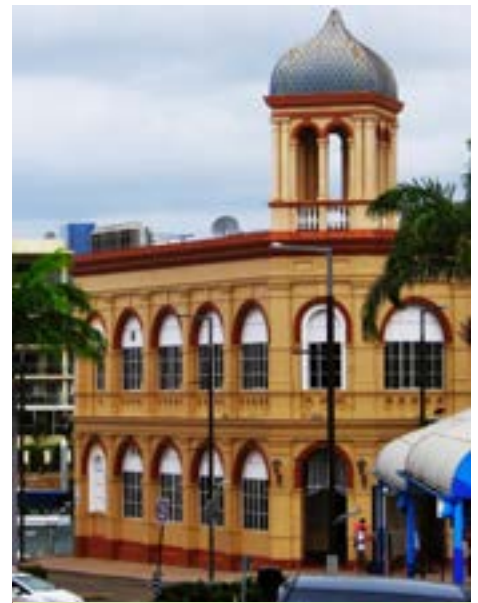
Our hotel, the Grand Chancellor is in the centre of town. The street art walking trail and heritage building trail start just a few minutes away. Many of Townsville's older buildings are 19th century buildings and are in excellent condition.

It's a short walk in the other direction to the Strand, which is a delightful 3km walkway along the ocean front. Or you might be distracted by their local brewery.

We will be playing at the Townsville Bridge Club on all days except our arrival and departure days. Townsville have proposed playing a teams challenge, which will be a lot of fun. We expect a stellar performance from our group.

We fly out of Brisbane and return a week later, sun-tanned and revived. The trip includes Bridge, of course, and also a trip to Magnetic Island, a visit to Billabong Wildlife Sanctuary and other activities on most days.

If you have any questions please call Liz or Howard Jeffery on 0414 392 110.



Burns Philip Building



Former Customs House



Queen's Hotel

Sunday Pizza Bridge

first Sunday each month

**4pm
Cards**



All for
\$10

**6pm
Pizza**



Event Organiser: Lorraine Miller

Please nominate online

Partner Coordinator: Lorraine Bryant

COUNTRY TEAMS 2022

BALLINA CLUB QUALIFIER



Saturday 12 March

Time: 9.15 for 9.30 am

Cost: \$15.00pp (\$60 per team)

Red Masterpoints at State Championship Level

Please bring your own lunch

The event is open to all players within our Region. Teams finishing in the top half the field will be eligible to continue to the Regional Final (or possibly direct to the Zonal Final) as part of the NSWBA John Arkinstall State Teams*.

Event Organiser: Marjorie Askew

Please contact Marjorie for help with teammates

Please nominate online: (Teams of 4/5/6 or as a Pair)

by: 5pm Wednesday 9 March

* For full Regulations go to: <https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sot>

Harvey Norman

Mixed Pairs

Wednesdays: March 9 & 16

Red Masterpoints at State Championship Level
(Weighting = 3.75)

Please nominate online

**Please try and find a mixed partner although
non-mixed pairs may play in the daily event**

Normal table money

Conditions:

1. Open to all members of Ballina Bridge Club
2. Event will be held as the regular Wednesday session.
3. Non mixed pairs may play in the daily event.
4. Substitutes will be allowed according to Ballina Bridge Club policy
5. Winners determined by best average score over the 2 rounds.

Event Organiser: Marjorie Askew

**This event is also our Club Qualifier for the State
Mixed Pairs Championships**