

Byron Bay Bridge Club Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with monthly club news

June 2026



President's Report

Hello to you all and welcome to the first month of winter. Up in the hills we have had so much rain...it's like walking through slush up here. Thank goodness for gravel driveways throughout the home property area.

Back to bridge...

Another good month at the club with our numbers staying consistent, visitors visiting and new members joining.

We held our first Club Team's Day last Friday and what a great day was had. We had 10 teams and the winning team was Fay Bogg's with team members consisting of Brian Sundstrom, Edna D'Cruz and Pete Quirke. Well done. A smorgasbord of complimentary snacks and drinks were provided by the club and prepared by our wonderful catering guru committee member Lorraine.

We have held two committee meetings in quick succession to finish up what was outstanding from last year. Catch up with the latest via Leo's committee musings later in the newsletter.

I have contacted a number of aged care facilities in the Byron Shire and unfortunately there aren't any residents who have expressed an interest in playing bridge as a part of 2025 outreach program. I'll keep trying as it was a

worthwhile concept. I also contacted Clive re bridge lessons in high schools as he has two 18yr old boys. Clive commented that most teenagers these days are too attached to their phones to consider bridge. Modern times hey, but again a worthwhile concept.

Congratulations to Sue Ryan and Graham Askey our Autumn Pairs Champions. Well done to you both. A reminder that the Club Championships will be held on 12th and 19th June

Our beginner's group is going very well. They are now playing parallel to our club game so that they can get used to playing over an extended period and join you all during afternoon tea. Please make them feel welcome. Kath Morgan will look after them while I am away in June.

For those long-term members who may remember Jim Roach. Jim played for many years at the Ballina Club and had visited our club over the years. A number of years ago he moved to the Gold Coast and passed away in early May.

Eda

There have been comments reported back to the committee about behaviour at our bridge tables. It is a subject I don't like having to repeat but feel I must. Bridge partnerships are also changeable and often this change has nothing to do with individual but who someone likes to play with. If a player wants to play with someone else then that's ok.

Code of Conduct

Players at our bridge clubs are asked to be aware of our agreed Code of Conduct which is set out below:

- Please ensure your mobile phone is switched off or on silent.
- Be polite and courteous to other players and your bridge partner.
- Greet each other before you begin play, welcome visitors, and provide introductions, if necessary.
- Be gentle and understanding with new players and support them by being patient and clear about your bidding explanations.
- Avoid criticisms and lengthy post-mortems at the end of play.
- Please try to catch up if play has been too slow at your table.
- Before leading, confirm with partner that you are on lead, and always place your card faced down.
- North/South are responsible for the boards and Bridgemates at the table. East/West are to pass the boards on after play.

FAREWELL TO WILLIAM KETYE



William is saying his goodbyes to the Northern Rivers and our bridge as he relocates to Hobart. He has purchased a home so it's definitely official. Thanks for being a part of our club and we all wish the very best. I'm sure your troubadour days will well continue.

Take note of what's happening in June/July in your club.

5th June regular weekly duplicates

12th & 19th June Club Championships
two rounds RED point competition

26th June Wine tasting

26th June & 3rd July
regular weekly duplicates

10th July **Committee Meeting**

10th July & 17th July regular weekly
duplicates

24th July & 31st July regular weekly
duplicates

June Birthdays Eda, Chris C, Kath
M, Howard, Liz, Ron,

July Birthdays Werner, Edna, Brad,
Patricia, Kadri, Teresa

We meet every Friday at the All Saints Hall - 1 Ashton St Bangalow . We ask that you be seated by 12.15pm for play to commence at 12.30. Join us for a social time afterwards BYO + glass

President Eda Bridgeman 0411 872 423/66930359

Vice President Eric Bridgeman 0435 123 404

Treasurer Neil McKenzie 0402 455 896

Secretary Leo Prendergast 0429 672 262

Partner Co-ordinator Peter Roger 0421635305

Masterpoints Helen Baker 0401 669 639

Afternoon Teas Lorraine McKenzie 0417 705 439

Committee Members: Kay Milne, Edna D'Cruz, Patricia Ellis, Edith Macauley, Ken McLean, Teresa

Ebenstreit, Cher Assuage

Committee Musings May 2026

The Committee remains concerned about the high level of noise in the Hall especially at the conclusion of play. It was agreed that at the conclusion of play members were welcome to leave if they needed to, once they had finished playing. However tables and chairs should not be packed away until such time as the last table had finished playing.

2026 lessons have produced an interested group of half a dozen players and hopefully will lead to them joining the club as regular players. A beginner level duplicate game will be played in parallel with our normal weekly games on Friday afternoon in the kitchen annex area for the next 4-6 weeks giving the beginners a chance to actually play competitively using bridgemates although at a slower pace than our regular games maybe playing 16-18 boards in the afternoon. They would however arrive at the same time as other members and break for afternoon tea at the same time allowing them to feel part of the club and to get to know other members. After six weeks we could then integrate them into regular weekly play. We also invite any current members who wish to do so to join the beginner group if they were still feeling not at ease in the regular weekly play.

The club has purchased Engraved glasses to be used as trophies for major competitions during the year. Eric had also created a trophy made from polished tree wood to use as an ongoing trophy for the winners of the teams day

Increase in visitor fee to \$10 table fee and the member fee to remain at \$5 for now. The Committee is urging all players to pay by either voucher or a \$5 or \$10 note. There will be a full review of all fees including both membership and table fees for 2027 with the likelihood that all fees will need to increase, especially as our regular weekly table fee for members was \$5 over a decade ago.

The Committee noted our thanks to Sue Ryan and the Lismore Bridge Club for providing the member contact booklet again for 2026.

Once the beginner group has finished the 4-6 weeks of parallel play we will start the intermediate learning sessions prior to Friday bridge for an hour each fortnight. We seek volunteers from among regular players for who may be willing to present a learning session.

As our club membership includes a limited number of qualified Directors we would like to encourage more members to become Directors. A Director firstly needs to learn and master the basics of bridge laws as well as gaining an understanding of running a duplicate event via Compscore and selecting an appropriate movement for the day. A Directors Learning Support Group will be set up to encourage members to become "club directors" able to manage the usual weekly duplicates game. We will also support club directors to then become "qualified Directors" by completing the online BridgeNSW quiz. Qual Directors can run red point and multi week events and rule on more complex or unusual issues arising during play.

Xmas drinks Friday 18th Dec will be held on our last day of bridge for the year. The club will provide a small amount of food and drinks for this low key get together to end the year.

The club has put a proposal to the Byron Anglican Parish to allow us to pay for and install air conditioning in the Hall at Bangalow. We are awaiting a reply to our proposal. A review of 9.30am trial start time in summer was deferred until after we have a response from the parish re the air-conditioning issue.

The new Bridge tables and covers now in use. A big thank you to Eda for making the covers.

Bridge2U outreach program in the Feros Aged Service is no longer happening. We are investigating whether any other aged services facility would like us to run a bridge game at their facility for residents.

Our Welfare Officers are Kay Milne and Eric Bridgeman – if anyone knows of a member who needs support please let Kay or Eric know so we can reach out to the member. Our Moderator is Peter Quirke to support any members who have a dispute or grievance to come to a resolution.

The club adopted an evacuation plan for the hall in the event of any emergency and a copy will be posted in the hall on the bridge cupboard. Under the plan if a member calls our "evacuate evacuate" in the event of an emergency all members are to simply leave the cards and tables in place and leave the hall as soon as possible and gather on the footpath outside the Church.

The club will approach both Brunswick Heads and Lismore clubs to set up an annual 'friendship' day when the three clubs get together to play bridge.