

# Byron Bay Bridge Club Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with club news



## President's Report

April 2024

Greetings to you all

Welcome to a new bridge year and a new committee after the AGM held on 5th April.

We look forward to a progressive year for the Byron Bay Bridge Club.

Members voted to accept the new constitution. Some paper copies are available next Friday.

A number of our valued committee were away yesterday but below are those who were there. Absent Leo Prendergast, Lorraine McKenzie and Edith McAuley.

I won't say too much more as my report follows.

Happy bridging, see you around the table sometime soon.

*Eda*



We meet every Friday at the  
All Souls' Anglican Church Hall

1 Ashton St Bangalow

We ask that you be seated by 12.15pm  
for play to commence promptly at 12.30.

Table Fees

\$6 members/visitors \$8 Join us for a social time  
afterwards. BYO drinks & glass

Directory

President Eda Bridgeman 0411 872 423/66930359

Vice President Edna D'Cruz 0434 254 602

Secretary Leo Prendergast 0429 672 262

Treasurer Jeff Dolin 0455 315 099

Assist Treasurer Brian Sundstrom

Committee Members: Helen Baker, Kay Milne,  
Lorraine McKenzie, Starlette Beaumont, Eileen

Malabre, Edith McAuley

& Edna D'Cruz

## APRIL HAPPENINGS

**RED POINT DAY 19TH**

## MAY HAPPENINGS

**WEEK 1 3rd AUTUMN PAIRS**

**WINE TASTING 3RD**

**WEEK 2 AUTUMN PAIRS**

**19th May**



**HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

**Claudia Kiernan 10th**

**Brian Sundstrom 13th**

**Eileen Malabre 21st**

**And to anyone else we  
don't know about**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023-24**

What a difference a year makes! We started 2023 at the Cavanbah centre then with great excitement we relocated to the Bangalow Bowling Club. Our excitement was short lived and we have come back to the All Souls Anglican Church hall where the BBBC played many years ago when the Bangalow Bowlo closed down temporarily. I'm sure I can confidently say that we are now in an environment that we can stay and play in comfortably for many years as the hall meets the majority of the bridge club's requirements. Options for cooling and heating are still being explored and I'm sure with the incoming committee this too will meet with member's approval.

Since the club returned to the Bangalow area our membership base has grown. We are regularly achieving 9-11 tables and we hope to increase this again over the next 12 months. We have had the pleasure of old members returning as well as the addition of new members joining the Byron Club. Our popular afternoon teas are back courtesy of our members providing an array of homemade goodies.

This year we also saw the introduction of some new initiatives: a bridge club booklet connecting our local small bridge club members from Lismore to Brunswick Heads due to the efforts of Sue Ryan. We now have sponsorship for our club's major bridge competitions and we have introduced a handicap competition which runs from February to December quietly managed in the background by Pete Quirke. Once again our annual charity day was well supported by members. This year the BBBC supported Fletcher Street Cottage in the heart of Byron Bay.

A small club like ours is never successful without the efforts of members in the background. I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few by name.

The committee of 2023-24 have been amazing with valuable input being shared at our committee meetings. A huge thank you from me as you have made my role as President so much easier.

Special thanks go to Leo Prendergast, our secretary, who has spent an enormous amount of his personal time tidying up our BBBC constitution making it simpler for members to read and understand, has dealt with the bank to finally get a deposit card and has had dealings with the ATO providing proof that we do not need to pay any tax.

Thanks also to Helen Baker, our Masterpoint's secretary, who uploads your green and red points without you even knowing about it.

Thanks also to Greg Farrell, our treasurer for the last two years. The bulk of the club's finances have been placed into a fixed interest bearing account and the club runs financially from their main Westpac account.

So many of our members help out....from setting up our room, Fay Bogg dealing our playing cards in her own home, Lorraine McKenzie organising our afternoon teas after the retirement of Patricia Ellis who has been at the helm for many years. Kath Morgan for offering to do this year's beginner's lessons, Eric Bridgeman for being our enthusiastic Friday announcer with Peter Kiernan in his absence...Peter Roger, our partner co-ordinator, Claudia Kiernan always finding a member to share their story for the newsletter. Thanks to our Vice President Brian Sundstrom for organising our first Friday in the month popular wine tasting after bridge.

I would also like to thank the directors and computer operators for their time on a Friday. This year we have been able to offer a complimentary game to directors due to the financial health of our club.

Personally I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of our club. We hope, that as a committee, we have met your bridge playing needs over the last 12 months, both intellectually and socially.

Eda Bridgeman  
President April 2023-24



## DOUBLES by Paul Smith

Peter Hollands, an Australian representative and prolific YouTube video maker, recently discussed making notes of your system agreements. How comprehensive the notes are depends on how serious your partnership is.

Agreements are often made 'on-the-fly' at the table, generally when there has been a misunderstanding or a difficult hand to bid. But do you remember the agreement when the same situation occurs again two months later? This is where written notes come in handy.

Written notes can also sort out things that a system card does not have enough detail for. Recently, the hand on my left opened 1♣ and partner bid 2♣. My mind went to our agreement that we play Michaels cue bids (as the system card shows) and so this bid promises both Majors. The Michaels cue bid convention gives a special meaning to partner's call when they immediately bid the same suit as the opponent's have opened. But ... we also have an agreement as to the meaning of all overcalls at the 1NT level when the opponents open 1♣. A convention called TWERB.

This is where system notes come into play. Is 1♣:2♣ an example of the Michaels cue bid convention or the TWERB convention? Either could apply and your notes should sort out the ambiguity.

Peter Hollands provided a 33(!) page system notes document ready for the keen player to fill in with all their agreements. The final page caught my eye. Here Peter lists 30 auctions which contain at least one Double and asks "What are these Doubles?". Before getting

into some examples a little bit of terminology needs to be sorted out.

- **Opener** makes the first *bid* in the auction. (The dealer is the first person to call)
- **Overcaller** is the first person from the other partnership who makes a **Bid** or **Double** after the **Opener**. If the player to your right is the opener and you do not Pass then you are the **Overcaller**. If the hand on your *left* is the opener, your partner passes and you Bid or Double, then you are the Overcaller.
- **Responder** the partner of the **Opener**
- **Advancer** the partner of the **Overcaller**

### Peter Hollands Example 1

**W 1 Heart**  
**N double**  
**E 2 spades**  
**S double**

The Double by North is the takeout Double as covered in most beginners lessons. It doesn't hurt to revise what this call tells your partner.

1. Shortness in the suit opened - in this case no more than two Spades
2. At least three cards in each of the remaining three suits.
3. 11+ points

Some things worth noting. The *first* requirement is a shortage in the suit that you are doubling. If you have three, or more, Spades then **do not** double - you would mislead your partner. The second point is that you *must* have at least three cards in each of the remaining suits.

I sometimes hear people say after the hand is over "were you doubling for

Hearts?" This is wrong - no ifs/ands/buts or maybes. Just plain wrong. If you have Hearts bid them. The definition of a takeout double tells you it is "for" all the unbid suits. You may also hear "I had an opening hand, I had to Double". No you don't. The first two requirements must be met otherwise partner will not know what is going on!

That's the basics but there is more to it than this brief overview. Moving on, what about the Double by South? This is known as a **Responsive Double** and is made by the **Advancer** when the **Overcaller** has **Doubled**.

What does a Responsive Double tell your partner?

1. 6+ points
2. *Exactly* four cards in all unbid Majors (Hearts in our example)
3. Four or more cards in the unbid minors (both of them in our example)

Why not just bid 3♥ if you have four Hearts? Because partner has only promised three Hearts (see point 2, above). If you have *five* Hearts and sufficient strength then bid 3♥ directly - do not make a Responsive Double as you must have an eight card Major fit (your five plus partners guaranteed three).

### Peter Hollands Example 2

**W 1 spade**  
**N double**  
**E 3 clubs**  
**S double**

This is different because **Responder** has jumped to the three level. This may be the same as the first example ... or not. It depends on your agreement. A Standard System Card has an item on the front page "Responsive doubles through" which governs this example.

If your agreement is to play "Responsive doubles through 2NT" for example then this Double is for "Penalty" and partner is asked to Pass. But if your agreement is to play "Responsive doubles through 3♠" then the Double is **Responsive** and shows exactly four Hearts and at least four Diamonds. Partner is expected to take action based on this information.

### Peter Hollands Example 11

**W 1NT**  
**N Pass**  
**E 2 Clubs (1)**  
**S double**

1 Stayman

The simple way to look at this situation is that you are Doubling an artificial bid. You may, look at this in a far more specific way - a double in an auction where no suit has been shown, a situation where double shows an interest in Majors, etc.

Simple because there are so many different situations (what if the No Trump is a weak No Trump? What if they may/may not have a five card Major?) I like to find agreements that can cover as many different situations as possible.

My preference is to have a general agreement about the meaning of Double when the last bid was artificial. It is quite simple - penalty. In this example, the double by South would say to partner "the opponents cannot make 2♣". What would I need? Clearly a good Club suit and about an opening hand. Of course, the opponents are unlikely to pass the auction out but I am ready if they do. More likely is that partner is going to be on lead to a No Trump or Major suit contract and my double tells them that I think a Club lead is a good idea. Remember that the strong hand is sitting over you (assuming 1NT was a strong bid), so do *not* double when you hold ♣KJ873 because the lead you

are asking for will just make life easy for declarer.

This agreement covers not just this particular example but cases like

- Doubling a transfer bid after a No Trump opening (could be zero points)
- Doubling a transfer response to 1♣
- Doubling a response to Blackwood. (But only if the response is *not* a suit that has been shown in the auction)
- Doubling a 2♦ opening which does not show Diamonds
- Doubling a 2♣ opening which does not show Clubs.
- Doubling a Bergen response

Personally, I like conventions that are not specific to a situation but which, rather, can be used in many different situations.

## Summary

There are another 27 examples to consider in the Peter Hollands document. I would suggest that the sheer variety of possibilities where a Double can be used means that you need to have a small set of guidelines which can cover many situations.

As the partnership gets more experience then bring in more nuance. Like, how does the meaning of a Double change if partner has Passed versus partner has not had the chance to bid.

**COULD BE A BYRON  
CLUB MEMBERS  
COMMENTS  
AFTER BRIDGE  
ENJOYING A SOCIAL  
DRINK TOGETHER**



## MEET LORRANIE MCKENZIE

I was born in the Geelong Hospital Victoria in 1955. I am one of 5 siblings – 3 girls & 2 boys. My parents were from very different backgrounds, mum a sophisticated Melbourne girl & dad a country boy from the Geelong District. When they married they chose to live on the coast and that is where I grew up; a small coastal fishing village called Torquay. It is the gateway to the Great Ocean Road and it was a paradise for us when we were children. We had freedom to roam and explore the beach and surrounding bush with all the other children that lived close by. Looking back I am grateful that my life was full of love, kindness and security.

We all attended Torquay Public School, which was the only school in town. Our holidays were spent at home or on my dad's family's sheep farm in Anakie. No Queensland holidays for us! Torquay would be sleepy during winter and overrun with tourists during the summer. Until the surfers began to discover that we had surf, big surf & lots of beautiful beaches to surf. We also had cold weather and the winter was when the swell would arrive straight from the southern ocean.

The arrival of these adventurers added an exciting edge to our lives and introduced us to people from varied and far-flung places. Also, the abundance of available fit young men was not lost on any of the local teenage girls.

After I attended Oberon High School on the outskirts of Geelong (along with students from as far away as Lorne) I went to the Gordon Institute (now Deacon University) to study visual art.

I fell for a visiting Kiwi surfer and we eventually went to live New Zealand. My daughter Tori was born in Hamilton on the North Island. Very soon after she was born we travelled by train, ferry and bus to the town of Kaikoura where there was work and surf. There were a few

mad guys that used to surf near the freezing river mouths.

After a couple of years we returned to Australia and had lots of adventures – living for sometime in Darwin after the cyclone and South Australia at Cactus in a tent city.

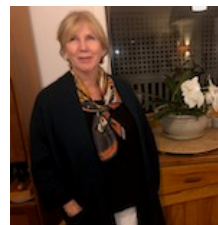
These were the days of the very early 70s and we were living the dream of living simply and just getting by.

Along with many other surfers we travelled up the East Coast and came to Byron Bay and stayed. For lots of complicated reasons my marriage failed and I was a single mother at 22. Luckily my sister Vicki was also living in Byron and I had support and still do from her.

We joined the tennis, squash and netball clubs and got to know lots of locals through the pre-school and school. At one time Vicki and I lived on adjoining 5-acre blocks at Cooper's Shoot. Our kids were little and we spent a lot of time together and only came into town when we could get the use of a car. Later on I met a local guy who was a friend of Vicki's and we ended up living together in Newrybar. He had a son and I was now mother to two children and totally involved in their school and their sporting activities.

My new partner owned a surfboard factory in Byron and we travelled extensively around the Pacific, Indonesia, North America, Mexico and Australia. I had never ridden a surfboard. However, my girlfriends and I did ride mats in some very big surf at Bells Beach in the early days. Now, I was windsurfing and SCUBA diving in some exotic, interesting places. After a couple of years we moved back into Byron to make life easier for all of us. We built a house in Paterson Street on the hill and enjoyed living close to the beach, school and amenities.

I needed more to do than just leading a hedonistic life and decided to go back to university in Lismore to study teaching. This decision changed my life. When I started I was a mature age student of 29. I loved the challenge and went on to get a



Master of Education whilst working in a local primary school. My first teaching position was in Lismore at a fabulous progressive school. I was originally employed to teach Creative Arts K-6, which involved visual art and dance. After six years of casual teaching I gained a permanent position and was put onto kindergarten. I taught for over 30 years and specialised in early literacy. I still enjoy tutoring a few students now. I met Neil at this school. We discovered that neither of us were happy in our domestic situations at the time and needed a chance to live our best lives.

This process of change took a while and lots of difficult times for us to be together.

I am so glad we had the courage to make it work. We got married in 2003 after living together for a year in Ewingsdale. My daughter was visiting from England and Neil's children live close by. So it was a simple family celebration at our home in Bangalow.

In 2008, I applied for, and got a teaching exchange to Shipley, West Yorkshire. I wanted to see more of my daughter who has married a Londoner and was never likely to move home. During this twelve months exchange we often got to London and were also able to see lots of the United Kingdom and

Europe. It was an outstanding year for us both.

We are now proud grandparents to Tori's two girls, Ava 14 and Sophia 12; and Neil's son Luke's two children, Emily 7 and Hudson 5.

I have been very fortunate to be able to travel to England many times over almost 30 years to spend time and travel with my daughter and family.

They also visit when they can. In fact, Ava came to stay for a month over the English summer holidays last year.

We are enjoying very busy lives in our retirement. We belong to book clubs, a wine club, swimming groups, bike riding groups, the Byron Bridge Club and various social bridge groups. I am a member of the Bangalow CWA and very involved in helping to raise money for women and children in need. I am also a member of Ballina Art Society and love painting whenever I can.

There is so much more to tell but any more is likely to bore the reader - reflecting and sharing in the bridge newsletter has been an enriching process for me.

#### I hate computer dealt hands



"How's that for a splinter bid - Jack!"

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
STARLETTE BEAUMONT  
&  
MARGARET CUSSACK (BBC)  
WINNERS OF THE ROOKIES SECTION AT THE  
TASMANIAN FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE 2024**



[Back to Results for Tasmanian Festival of Bridge 2024](#)      [Show match-by-match results](#)

TFoB Rookie Swiss Pairs (March 2024)					
Results after 5 of 5 matches					
Place	Pair Names	Imps	VPs	W-D-L	Gold pts
1	Starlette Beaumont / Margaret Cusack (1)	89	77.74	5-0-0	2.34
2	Laura Best / Catherine Catt (5)	56	68.48	5-0-0	1.94
3	Nola Calvert / Rex Calvert (14)	49	64.70	3-1-1	1.37
4	Jackie Mair / Penny Padgett (4)	40	60.35	3-0-2	1.05
5	Victoria Vyvyan / Lea Coulston (12)	36	60.00	3-0-2	0.94
6	Laura Bauermeister / Christina Buell (2)	24	58.40	4-1-0	1.17
7	Jag Maharaj / Beth Taranto (23)	26	57.81	3-0-2	0.82
8	Gina McKenzie / Megan Anstie (21)	22	56.85	3-0-2	0.79
9	Mark Lyons / Sue Lyons (6)	17	55.33	2-1-2	0.50
10	Dmitry Beygul / Olga Poduskova (10)	14	54.39	2-2-1	0.60
11	Gillian Churchill / Tony Dix (15)	23	53.43	3-0-2	0.60
12	Anne O'Rourke / Sharlene Campbell (3)	-6	48.00	2-0-3	0.40
13	Margie Markos / Anne Donnelly (20)	-5	47.30	1-1-3	0.30
14	Nicky McKibben / Victoria Onslow (8)	-8	46.65	2-0-3	0.40
15	Anne Travers / Jill Kilburn (18)	-19	43.87	2-0-3	0.40
16	Ken Chilcott / Helen Philpott (9)	-27	42.26	2-0-3	0.40
17	Judy Palmer / Andrew Palmer (7)	-20	42.23	1-0-4	0.20
18	Chris Arnott / Jos Hewitt (22)	-29	42.12	2-1-2	0.50
19	Tony Preece / Garry Dazeley (11)	-29	41.57	1-1-3	0.30
20	Lynne Marszalek / Shelley Pope (19)	-36	41.35	2-1-2	0.50
21	Anne McEntee / Ann Burnett (13)	-40	37.45	1-1-3	0.30
22	David Wallace / Max Corney (17)	-45	35.40	1-0-4	0.20
23	Annette Bills / Diane Gain (16)	-52	34.46	1-0-4	0.20
24	Jenny McCormick / Pam Collins (24)	-76	31.26	1-1-3	0.30

Masterpoints are provisional until approved.

**Starlette & Margaret were placed 55 in a field of 60 pairs  
and ended up 10th**

**A great story of two upcoming bridge stars  
“young” to bridge**



# WINE TASTING

BYRON BAY BRIDGE CLUB STYLE

HOSTESS LORRAINE MCKENZIE

INTRODUCING US TO WHATS ON SPECIAL FROM  
THE LATHWAITE'S CATALOGUE

**DON'T MISS NEXT MONTH'S EVENT**

**3RD MAY**

**(\$5 PER PERSON WHICH INCLUDES SNACKS - THE BEST VALUE AROUND)**





### LOCATED IN BANGALOW

Hosting a fine range of First Nations Australian art displayed alongside paintings by Northern Rivers artists, Ninbella Gallery is located on the main street of Bangalow in Northern New South Wales.

We represent highly sought-after, award-winning artists and work directly with wholly Aboriginal owned art centres in remote communities such as Ampilatwatja, Yuendumu, Yirrkala, and the Tiwi Islands. Collectable Western and Central Desert artists include Willy Tjungarrayi, Minnie Pwerle, Makinti Napanangka, Ronnie Tjamitjinpa and Emily.

Among our other contemporary indigenous artists are Kurun Warun, Gloria Gardiner, Ethan-James Kotiau, Gabriella Possum and Melissa Ladkin.

Local contemporary artists such as Vlad Kolas, Hilary Herrmann, Tanith Kershaw, Beryl Miles, Saren Dobkins and Leah Anketell.

We are a member of the Australian and New Zealand Fair Trade Association and stock a select range of Better World Arts ethical giftware.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS FOR 2024**

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Towers**

**CARPETS  
RUGS & VINYL**

**Mullumbimby (02) 6684 2467**



