



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024
Christmas Edition

We are back on our own stamping ground! Despite concerns that we wouldn't be back by Christmas our builders, Buterin L'Estrange, overseen by Fyaz Gill of Fabric Architecture Studio managed to complete by the beginning of December. Our man in the van was again happily organising relocation of all things large and small which he has so generously been storing in his home and a determined band of bridge goers donated much valuable time fitting it all back into our lovely renovated clubhouse. Christmas decorations went up in readiness for the first major event, our Christmas party! More on that later. Our thanks to the Long Jetty Hotel for their extremely generous rent free accommodation enabling us to continue playing bridge without cost.



Our first bridge day back in our very spacious digs and what better way to celebrate than with champers and Mary McFadden's legendary fruit cake



Bridge competition news

Results

Our club –

- Spring pairs (Oct) – Nola Daly and Berenice Air (1st)
- HiLo pairs (Nov) – John Aldridge and Colleen Milne (1st)
- Black Swan pairs (Nov) – Keith and Susan Woodbury (1st)
- Premises Anniversary pairs (Nov) – Peter Cloughessy and Alan Raward (1st)
- Charity Day (Nov) – John Redfearn and Norm Berger
- November pairs – Kerrie and Peter Johnman (NS), Gail Beverley and Colleen Milne (EW)
- Club open pairs – Kerrie and Peter Johnman (1st)

Other clubs –

- Cairns Tropical Spring Congress (Oct) – Brian Richardson and Matt Raj Mal (2nd)
- State restricted teams (Nov) – Jane Stephens, Colin Kleinig, Lucy D'Ambrosio, Kevin Hughes (3rd)

Congratulations to :

- Lucy D'Ambrosio and Kevin Hughes who came 5th with 69.6% in the Australia Wide Restricted pairs in October. Well done guys

Coming up

Club swiss pairs – Wednesday 18th (9.30 am)



Player promotions

Due to our relocation for the last several months, our records have been rather fragmented but this hasn't prevented us from distributing a large number of player promotions at last week's session. Congratulations to all those receiving promotions!

A special message

Our thoughts are with Georgina Tearne, who has been quite unwell. Georgina has sent a message to CCBC members thanking us for our welcoming and friendly environment during her playing sessions with us.

A member's travel story ...

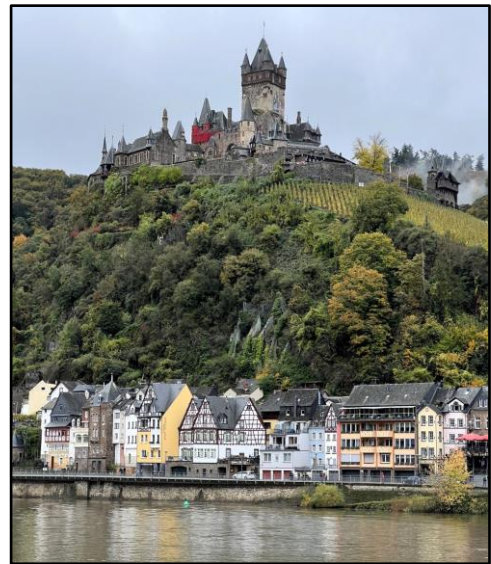
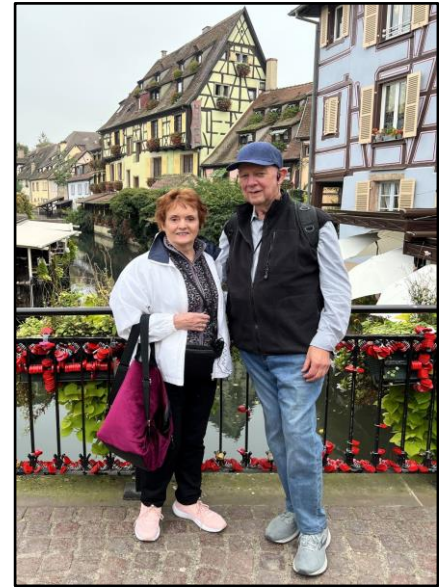
Chrissie Flanigan and hubby have recently returned from their European holiday and here's Chrissie's travel log

Ready to set off on our 14 day European river cruise on Scenic Crystal, all packed with plenty of warm clothes- (it was getting cold and damp in Europe!) we ventured towards Basle (via Singapore for 2 nights & Zurich for one). We sailed on the Rhine & Moselle with almost daily stops to see all the sights (mainly castles & buildings of interest) plus plenty of shopping at quaint villages. Nearly forgot to mention the beer tasting and tucking into a 'Pork Knuckle' in Germany, plus the wine tasting at most of our stops.

My most memorable day was at Arnhem. My father had been involved in that battle - he was a RAF Rear Gunner on a Lancaster and was awarded a DFC, only one of a handful of Rear Gunners to collect his medal from the King, as most were awarded posthumously. It was a poignant yet illuminating experience.

Back on board to relax and have a drink or two of the fully inclusive wines & spirits, enjoy dinner and be entertained by a variety of different acts. After two weeks aboard we disembarked at Amsterdam, for a further two nights before hopping on the Eurostar overland & under the channel to London, for another week of sightseeing, shopping & shows.

With a mountain of cases (there were 4 of us travelling together) we headed back to Sydney stopping again in Singapore for 2 more nights. I'm still recovering from the jetlag! - (that's my excuse why my Bridge is getting pitiable results!!!)



John's lessons

Will begin again in February. Look out for emails on future developments.

The CCBC Christmas party!

What a way to celebrate our newly renovated clubhouse! We began the day with a morning bridge session then cleared the decks and set up for dining and dancing. Our new Catering Manager, Sue Woodbury began her new CCBC career running, ordering food and supplies, creating programs and timelines and getting together a band of elves to put it all together. Our thanks to all our wonderful members who pitched in with cakes, slices, savouries, and all other things food which went onto the tables during the day, and a big thank you to the workers who tirelessly christened our new kitchen utilities. Sue and Keith – you absolutely rock!





Are you into podcasts?

I've been listening to Jess Rowe lately and some really interesting personal chats with people like Tim Minchin, Sarah Ferguson, Tina Arena, Jamie Oliver (and his latest book which has just been banned in Australia!) and many more. Recommend!

And if you want something bridge related and fun, try – 'Sorry Partner', a podcast about bridge and the worldwide community of bridge players, presented by bridge partners and besties, Catherine Harris and Jocelyn Startz. Combining laughter and learning, the program aims to connect with beginners and experts alike. Sarah Bell talks about not making mistakes, the psychological aspects of managing herself, and trusting her gut. Plus, she shares her top tip for developing players. Check it out where you get your podcasts – ie Spotify, Apple, etc or Google "Sorry Partner".

Last thoughts



Enjoy your Christmas wherever it takes you and be kind ...

Jill Wildey

Editor