



JANUARY 2025

Welcome to 2025! After a pretty hurried move back to our newly renovated club for our wonderful Christmas party, we all rushed off to enjoy our own festivities and the holiday break with families, loved ones and friends and managed to leave the club in a degree of organised chaos. All is well now as our band of hard workers have unpacked (mostly), reorganised, set up and rehung. Thanks to all who had a hand in this and a big shout out to all our members for your amazing support during the entire renovation process. Now we can enjoy! Our thoughts are with John Redfearn for a speedy recovery. In the meantime keep an eye on your emails for notification of when lessons will resume.

Bridge competition news

Congratulations to :

- Linda Dowling and Sue Morgan – straight out of lessons and came second on a recent Tuesday session with us with 56.77%
- Kay Manning teamed up with Brian Lilley and also put in a great effort – well done ladies!

Coming up :

- Summer Pairs (R) - Wednesday 12 February (1.00 pm)
- Individual Championship - Wednesday 19 February (9.30 am)
- BEP PLATE - Thursday 6, 13 and 20 March (1.30 pm)
- March Pairs – Friday 14 March (1.00 pm)
- CCBC Congress - Sat & Sun 22-23 March (9:30 am)
- Club Mixed Pairs - Wednesday 26 March (9.30 am)

Promotions :

- Bronze State Master – Lucy D'Ambrosio
- Bronze Local Master – Dorothy Rosewell, John Duxbury, Bella Beinart
- Local Master – Pauline Haydon, Margaret Prince
- Graduate Master – Trish Bamford, Brian Kelly



CCBC 2025 Annual Super Congress 22 and 23 March 2025

Saturday 22nd - 8.30am for 9.30am start
Swiss Pairs Three Divisions \$60 per person
(prizes dependent on entry numbers)

Open – 1st - \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100
Restricted – 1st \$250, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$100
Novice – 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50

Sunday 23rd - 8.30am for 9.30am start
Swiss Teams Three Divisions \$240 per team
(prizes dependent on entry numbers)

Open – 1st - \$600, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200
Restricted – 1st \$500, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200
Novice – 1st \$400, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

REGISTRATION via myABF, **PAYMENT** by EFTPOS and Credit Card on the day
Convenor Maree Kelly 0490048962
Email ccbridgeclub@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/CentralCoastBridgeClub

From the reading corner

So Anyway (John Cleese's memoir) ***(a book review by member Brian Kelly)***



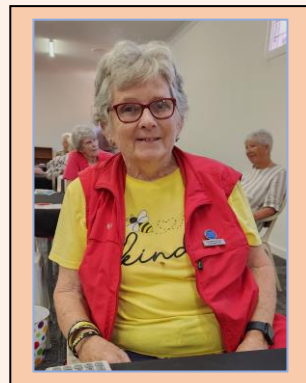
As a youngster, I became an avid fan of Monty Python, and in particular, one of its finest creative geniuses - John Cleese. I therefore thoroughly enjoyed reading his memoir "So, Anyway", which provides an insightful journey into the early years of a comedy legend. I found this book to be more than a celebrity autobiography. It's a captivating memoir that blends humour, reflection, and an intimate glimpse into John Cleese's journey from a shy youth to a comedic icon.

"So Anyway" focusses on Cleese's early life as an only child growing up in the quiet English coastal town of Weston-super-Mare in Somerset, his somewhat ordinary childhood and his relationship with his eccentric, anxiety-prone mother. I was in hospital while reading this, and I had to throw the book away to stop laughing (as I was literally in stitches)! The book covers Cleese's time at Cambridge University studying law, his interest in comedy beginning when he joined the Footlights Revue, his nervousness during his early performances, eventually leading to the creation of Monty Python's Flying Circus, providing a mix of personal anecdotes, philosophical musings, and insights into his comedic process. Cleese's memoir is written with sharp wit and self-deprecating humour. He candidly discusses moments of awkwardness, failures, and the fortuitous breaks that shaped his career. Personally, I would have appreciated more coverage of his later successes, like the incomparable Fawlty Towers series. Nonetheless, this memoir, published in 2014, stands as a testament to Cleese's enduring comedic legacy.

A member's story : Alison Heathcote

Alison moved to Australia in April 1986. She began playing bridge at the age of 12 in Ghana where her Dad was working at the time and without the luxury of television. Since her move to Australia and amongst other things, Alison has taken on a very different role. She is our very own waste warrior! Since 2004 she has been picking up and disposing of rubbish (including butts) from the streets of Terrigal and beach since in a self driven endeavour. In 2009 Alison introduced 'butts' bins to most of the seating around Terrigal for smokers and regularly cleans them out. It's not all work though - Alison has become quite the local celebrity as she often chats with locals and visitors and has now introduced the distribution of stickers to children to reward good behaviour! Alison states 'I have so much time for Mums and Dads who tirelessly look after their children. I am an Auntie and Great-Auntie - which is a much easier role as I get lots of love and no responsibility!'.

Last December, Lawrie McKenna (now the mayor) while on his regular walk to Terrigal beach invited Alison and three other local community volunteers (pictured) for afternoon tea, where they were each presented with 'Community Champion' badges in recognition of their contribution to the local community. She now wears her badge with pride to the bridge club – well done Alison and thanks for sharing!



Our best wishes to those members who have succumbed to illness and are recovering. Our thoughts are with you and hoping you can join us again soon at the table.

Heads up !

Now that we have our lovely new kitchen, the following is a timely reminder from the committee.

Our cleaners arrive two days a week, deliberately timed to clean after our two biggest days (Monday and Thursday). They are responsible for cleaning all the bathrooms and vacuuming and mopping the floors. They will also clean out the fridges – only on occasion if we ask - but this is not a standard weekly requirement and it is up to members not to leave unwanted food for others to deal with.

At all times it is up to all of us as members to clean up after ourselves, putting our cups and plates in the dishwasher, running them (or emptying) when needed and just generally maintaining a tidy playing area and kitchen. Please be mindful of this and not have false expectations!

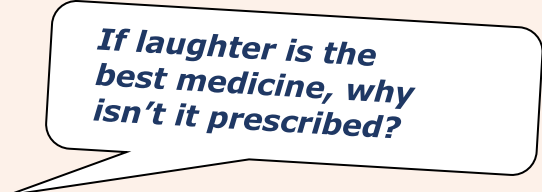
It is our club, it is up to each of us to pitch in and keep it looking tidy. While the cleaners are there twice a week, it is up to our members to maintain it on a daily basis.

At members' request, the committee has decided that it is time for us to head back to having a tea break during sessions and that will be instigated shortly. We will be taking a 10 minute break on Monday and Thursday afternoon so we can get a cuppa or do whatever we need to do and this will also hopefully enable the slower tables to catch up

Last thoughts



***Be yourself - everyone
else is already taken...***



***If laughter is the
best medicine, why
isn't it prescribed?***

Jill Wildey - Editor