

BUNBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Newsletter February 2025

Congratulations

Pam and Alex Balloch reached a magnificent milestone in their lives together on January 29th with the celebration of their 70th Wedding Anniversary. Alex was involved in establishing the Bunbury Bridge Club in the 1980s and both Pam and Alex remain respected bridge partners at our Club.

Director Training

On January 12th a Director Training course was conducted for new and aspiring Directors and session Supervisors. The course was appreciated by the six attendees and proved to be very informative. Thanks are extended to Brian Wade for conducting the successful course.

Bridge Lessons for Beginners

Esther Saunders, the Club's Bridge Teacher, has begun lessons for absolute beginners. Sixteen players are attending with a number of people coming with a partner. Colin Saunders and Joan Gribble are supporting Esther with her lessons. We look forward to welcoming these people to the Tuesday night bridge sessions and becoming members of our Club.

Charity Week 17th - 23rd February 2025

Dot's Place Cancer Support Centre for Bunbury has been chosen this year as the charity to receive members' support. Dot's Place provides a range of services including practical information and emotional support. Table fees from the week, the loan donations from the Club's book library and other individual donations will be offered to Dot's Place later this year.

Congress News

Bunbury Bridge Club was well represented by five members at the Gold Coast Congress. Congratulations are extended to Chris Hollingsworth and Gwen Clarke for winning the less than 50 master points category in the Swiss Butler Pairs.

The Mandurah Summer Congress was attended by Colleen Skipsey and Brian Wade.

The Albany Congress will be held from February 28th to March 2nd. The Welcome Pairs will be played on March 1st.

The annual congress in Bridgetown, known as the Country Championships, is now renamed the BAWA Festival of Country Bridge. A survey was completed by those who attended the Championships in 2024. The analysis of the survey confirmed strong support for the continuation of the event. The information also highlighted practical considerations affecting actual participation and provided pointers as to how the event could be improved. The change of name to *BAWA Festival of Country Bridge* was made to encourage less experienced players to attend the event and to promote the social aspects of the weekend. The BAWA Festival of Country Bridge will be held in Bridgetown on August 30th and 31st 2025.

The Bunbury Bridge Club Congress will be held at the Club on the 26th and 27th of April, The Congress is now open for registration by logging onto myabf.com.au to enter. On Saturday 26th Duplicate Pairs (match point scoring) will be played in open and novice sections. On Sunday 27th Swiss teams (VP scoring) will be played. All members are encouraged to register for the Congress.

Bridge Partner Connection

If you are looking for a bridge partner anytime, please contact our Partner Organiser Liz Norton 0448 336 215 or place your details on the Club whiteboard.

Reflection

Several of our members are currently facing life challenges on a daily basis. We extend our support and best thoughts to them and their families.