

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

Well, who would have thought 2021 would turn out to be another year of our Bridge Club being affected by COVID. Whilst we did get to play more bridge at our Club House during 2021, we did have to close our Club again and go back to playing bridge online for a few months.

Thank goodness for Kevin Tant, who did an amazing job organising weekly games online and even worked his magic on getting our Congress online. Our Congress in fact was a huge success with many more entries than we usually have. A BIG THANK YOU to Kevin for his ongoing efforts in getting us and our bridge games organised.

I would like to thank all of our Committee members, who have constantly worked to ensure that we could play in our Club House as often as possible. They have kept up with the ever changing COVID rules helping us apply the best health and safety practices at our Club. Literally they have kept us all safe and have been a fantastic Committee to work with. They are enthusiastic, stepping up to additional roles, without any complaints. They have taken on each challenge that COVID has presented us with and worked out solutions. I thank them for their friendship, effort and commitment.

We are extremely lucky to have members of our Club, who quietly and efficiently go about doing things for our Club that often aren't noticed or recognised. These include the maintenance of our gardens, the work our Directors do and building our Bridge Club and games through lessons. I thank Graham and Jim for their tireless work on our gardens. The gardens are always beautiful and I love looking at them.

I also thank our Directors, who keep us all playing, answer our questions, fix our mistakes and ensure we have a fun, confusing, challenging game of Bridge. Thank you for helping to make us better players.

Thanks also to Ross for running lessons for new players in 2021 and to Elaine for running lessons for us intermediates enabling us to continue to grow and improve our bridge.

Sadly we said farewell to a few of our beautiful women members during 2021: Di Samuel, who was President of our Club for many years and was a champion in getting the vision of a Club House to reality; Arlie Martin, Pat Thomas and Nan Saunders, who all loved their game of bridge and enjoyed playing with anyone; and Betty Simon, who was more choosy who she played with but who added character and was very knowledgeable on the game of bridge. We miss and thank them for the part they have played in our lives and in our game of bridge.

Whilst we have enjoyed our bridge in 2021, it would have been nice to have been able to have more social events. We did manage to celebrate Christmas and challenge our brains to a bit of Trivia. I love the trivia and enjoyed the night but I do think that I am more suited to dancing than I am to trivia 🤔🤔

I have been honoured to be your President over the last two years but I would have enjoyed it much more without the interruption of COVID. I would have loved to be President during a time when we didn't have all the rules, particularly the mask wearing. I would have loved having lots of BBQs and other social fun activities, but that was not to be. I am sadly leaving the role of President as I am hoping to travel during 2022, joining the many Grey Nomads on the road. I have been a member of the Committee since 2015, have enjoyed the many roles that I have undertaken and loved the many people that I have worked with. I am hoping that some time in the future I might again be a member of the Committee and who knows, perhaps even President again.

I thank all of our members for their ongoing support of our Club and I wish the new Committee every success in 2022.