



COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

BATEAU BAY

MAY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Irene Campbell ...	4 th May
Wynne O'Brien ...	11 th May
Marie Tucker ...	11 th May
Marilyn Scott ...	22 nd May
Mark Te Brugge ...	27 th May
Gary Heyting ...	28 th May
Jan Gibson ...	31 st May
Rhonda Innes ...	31 st May

SPECIAL MENTION

Doug Gerrard -11th May

Happy 100th Birthday

Although no longer playing bridge Doug is remembered with love and respect. He played for many years with the love of his life, his wife, Kiko. They are both extremely interesting people!

No longer enjoying the best of health they are quietly still residing in their retirement unit at Hamlyn Terrace.

And yes, Doug did receive his congratulatory letter from King Charles 111.



AGM NEWS

The Community Bridge Club BB Annual General Meeting was held on Friday 10th April last.

The club has enjoyed another steady year.

Positions changed slightly, and are now:

President	Carol Parker
Vice President	Sharon Versteegen
Secretary	Roy Cotton
Treasurer	Pam Townsend
Committee	Lynette Hannelly Noelene Hopper Merlyn Morris

We say goodbye to Wanda Little. She served on the committee for 6 years, helped with morning set up and diligently collected the table monies all that time.

Great dedication, and thank you Wanda, we all appreciate your commitment and support.

COMING EVENT

BridgeNSW Association

State Senior

Championships

26th to 29th May 2026

Parkview Room

Central Coast Leagues Club

See flier for further details.

PROMOTIONS

Jodie Summerhill is now Bronze National, and
Sue Eastman is now Silver Life



Congratulations!



Getting to know

Helen Motbey

Childhood

I had an unusual childhood in that it was nomadic, having to relocate because of my father's work. We moved house 10 times and I attended 7 schools in 12 years!! Making friends was easy, but keeping them was difficult.

It was 1970, Darwin was frontier town. As child it was exciting, exotic. The houses were on stilts; we spent most of our time outdoors, we went fishing and waterskiing; there were so many places to explore and the thunderstorms were amazing – until they weren't – i.e. Cyclone Tracy.

We were in Timor for Xmas in '74 and were stranded for 2 weeks. 50 years on, my memory of flying into Darwin remains as vivid as it was in 1975.

Family

Some members of our club may remember my parents, Ruth and Col Stephens. They retired to the coast in 1995 and mum joined the bridge club at Long Jetty.

Dad held an important position in the public service. He was responsible for the weights and measure conversion associated with Australia's transition to decimal currency. He also had oversight of the N.T.'s transition to self- government and in 1986 served in the position of Administrator of Christmas Island.

In 1977 mum purchased her bookshop. Books would fill our lives for the next 17 years! Mum's commitment to the business saw it establish an international reputation for its range of indigenous books. Her reputation afforded her the opportunity to provide start-up services to not-for-profit organisations seeking to establish their own business.

Career

My most memorable job was the time I spent at the Australian War Memorial (1990-2004). It was an amazing time as the Memorial was going through a renewal process.

There were 2 events of particular note:

☒ 1992 – *Dedication of Vietnam Forces National Memorial.*

This dedication was years in the making. These veterans had been shunned by our nation and were finally receiving the recognition, afforded other veterans had received. 25,000 veterans attended the event. The Dawn Service was held at the AWM, the emotion was palpable.

☒ 1993 - *Entombment of the Unknown Australian Soldier*

Remembrance Day – the day our unknown soldier was given a full military funeral and brought home and laid to rest in the Hall of Memory. This day was remarkable that it brought the community together and cemented the ANZAC legend as part of our national identity.

Passion

Living in the N.T. we did a lot travelling. We went to places unknown to our southern friends - Daly River; Bathurst Island; Ubirr Rock; Pine Creek; Fog Dam; Wangi Falls; Rum Jungle.

The history and natural beauty that we encountered feed my love of travel today. Every time we plan a trip to our interstate families, we go somewhere new. So much to see.

When we are not travelling, I spend my time crocheting; playing bridge and enjoying life on the coast.



Mum Ruth, with Maoliosa and Adriana.