



*Feb.*  
*2026*



*Keeping  
you  
informed*

Welcome back to everyone who has had a break over the Christmas/New Year season- may 2026 be a wonderful year for our Club and for all of you, individually.

As I write, much work is being done in the background to prepare for our Congress. Please help by checking through the bidding boxes carefully when asked, and if you own any of the "odds and sods" that are on top of our cupboards, please take them away.

You should have received notice of our AGM in March, together with a call for nominations to the Committee- all positions are vacated each year so do put your hand up if you'd like an officer position (especially mine). There is room, too, for 'Ordinary Members' of the Committee, so consider this as a way of contributing to the running of RBC.

Well done to everyone who played in our Congress- the atmosphere in the room was great and we received lots of wonderful feedback about our hospitality.

Congratulations to Mike Fulwood for the coordination, there are lots of things to arrange beforehand and many little details to attend to over the weekend.

Thanks to all those who helped set up on Friday and worked in the kitchen over the weekend- a special mention to those who were playing and still jumped in to help tidy up through the day.

A huge vote of thanks goes to Helen Hansell who put in a lot of time on kitchen duty- coordinating the food donations and the helpers. She was there at the start and end of each day, making sure there was an abundance of food on offer, continuing our reputation for superb catering (as well as making sure the finances and prize money was all in order).

I look forward to next year!

Nia Parker  
President

## Grand Slammers

There were three grand slams in the Teams Event at Congress 7S (names unavailable).

## 70% ers

None this year so far.



## Your Bridge Club Needs You

The Club is desperately short of Directors. When our Club Directors go off on their holidays the slack has to be taken up by the other Directors. It does place a burden on their time. Janice Hawker is taking off for a well deserved holiday shortly, as are the Roygoyskys, and Barry Shackles often goes North for his holidays. Their absence leaves a shortage of directors.

If we don't have up and coming directors, the club will be forced to pay outside people to come in and this will have a bearing on our table fees.

So please consider taking on the position of Director. All training will be provided.

## Rosters for setting up and clearing away

Rosters have been made up for members to assist in the setting up and clearing away of the refreshments during the sessions. This takes the onus of the same people setting up all the time.

The system is **half working**. **People dutifully clear away, when the Director calls our the initials responsible on the day, but quite often people don't come in early enough to set up.**

I have been guilty of this myself, when I wasn't aware that it was my time on the roster.

**SO PLEASE - CHECK WHEN YOU ARE ON THE ROSTER AND COME IN 11.45 AM TO HELP WITH THE SETTING UP.**

You're Invited to...

## Tuesday Night Bridge

- Numbers are up (5-6 tables).
- Pleasant, relaxed and friendly atmosphere.
- Great mix of newer and experienced players.
- Designed for an early finish (usually by 10.30 pm).
- No partner? Not keen on night driving? We are here to help! (contact Nicky 0424427251)

**Come and join us!**



Just look how  
relaxed we are!  
*Steve and Helen in their  
Ugg Boots!*





7 & 8 February	Congress
14 <sup>th</sup> February (Sat)	Bridge Lessons begin
25 <sup>th</sup> February (Weds)	President's Trophy
27 <sup>th</sup> February (Fri)	Committee Meeting

## Au revoir Jane Ophorst



Recently, one of our long-standing members, Jane Ophorst, resigned from our Club as poor health makes it difficult for her to play bridge.

We have given her a plant to remember us by and hope that the day may come when she returns.

Jane was a much loved and highly respected member of the club and took many fledgling players under her wing.

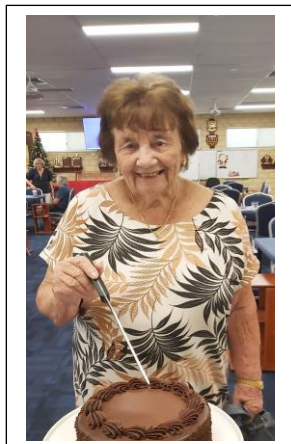
I was one of them. She asked me to play with her and I was horrified because I was no good but then people told me I was lucky to be asked to play with her. We ended up playing together for 3 or four years and she was always kind and patient trying to teach me to play better. There are other members too who benefitted from her knowledge and experience.

She was a fine player but a humble one and had a wicked sense of humour and liked to help players, **if asked**, who came to her table.

You are missed Jane but I know a lot of members still keep in touch with you.

Take with you the members' sincere best wishes and enjoy your retirement with your loving family. And enjoy your flutters at the Casino.

## Happy birthday Rita



Rita celebrated her birthday with a scrumptious chocolate cake. Much appreciated by the members on the day. Best wishes Rita.

# Introductory Morning Tea 31<sup>st</sup> January

The morning tea held on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2026, was a very successful morning, with quite a number of people showing interest in our game. Judging by the left over food, it was enormously successful.

Di said that there were 11 new people and quite a few former students who are now members attended.

An afternoon session, with Janice Hawker directing, was a very much enjoyed event.

Kerrie Kingston was kind enough to provide some pictures of the morning.



Rosemarie  
McKaskie sent me  
this one. Not to be  
outdone by youth,  
seniors have  
devised their own  
texting code which  
would seem very  
appropriate for  
quick texting.



Thank you Rosemarie McCaskie  
for this smile. I will never look  
at a Ferrero Rocher again in the  
same way.

## Royal Connection

A few days ago Richard was amazed to receive a letter postmarked Buckingham House and the Royal Insignia on the envelope.

Many will know that Richard's nephew (Graham Usher) is the Bishop of Norfolk in UK. Some of his parishioners are the occupants of Sandringham House, in north Norfolk. Just after Christmas each year the King and Queen go to Sandringham on holiday, and the Bishop and his wife spend the weekend as guests of the Royals. Graham says the Royals received over 10,000 Christmas cards, and as ever they were most kind and generous hosts. On the Saturday night Graham and his wife dined with the King and Queen and apparently the Norfolk pheasant main course was fabulous. The payback, of course, was that Graham had to hold the church service (and sermon) next morning!

When Richard first saw it,  
he thought he was  
receiving a knighthood.

Better luck next time



## Maurice Richards Memorial 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026



The winners of the Maurice Richards Memorial were David Clark and Andrew Marsh (insert). They achieved 65.36%. Here David is with Helen Hansell our Treasurer.



Yvonne Hoops and Marie O'Sullivan were the Under State Masters on the day. They came third with 54.2%. Marie was being elusive on that day with Andrew, so I don't have her photo. Congratulations to you both. Yvonne here with Treasurer Helen Hansell.

Once again, a very well run event with 18 pairs entered in the competition. Thanks to Roz Davey for her organisation and a big thank you to Di Brooks, who was Director on the day. Di had a rather eventful afternoon with Helen Rogoysky having to retire unwell and her husband (partner) having to leave to drive her home.

Di was left to work out the logistics of their retirement and I won't go into that here. Suffice to say it all worked out well.

Thank you to all those who helped in the kitchen with refreshments after the event and the tidy up as well.

Don't forget to look at the roster of kitchen helpers. It does help to spread the work around.

# Congress 2026

Wow! Congress was a hugely successful event. Beautifully orchestrated by Mike Fulwood. The day went without a hitch, thanks to many of the members contributing their time and expertise. A special mention needs to be given to Helen Hansell, our Treasurer. Helen was overseer of the refreshments on the day and our visitors were glowing in the comments on the food presentation and quantity of same.

The day went fairly smoothly for the Director, Neville and his assistant in training. Thanks to both of these gentlemen.



Congress 2026 in full swing.



Jenni Creedon and Lyn Bolton winners of the Super Novice with Mike Fulwood, Congress Coordinator.



Kimberley Zhao, Alan Cransberg, Nicky O'Connell and Mike Fulwood Team.



A sample of the refreshments on display on the Congress Day.



Steve and Helen Roygoosky were second placed winners in the qualifying pairs on Saturday.



Jenny Churchill and Pat Ditchfield were delighted to win the Rockingham best unplaced pair in the Novice Section. Here with Di Brooks President.



## February birthdays

2	Nicky Snare
4	Paul Bennett
5	Kimberley Zhao
9	Jen Green
11	Judy Minchinton
16	Michael Fulwood
18	Jane Ophorst
19	Deb Hurley
20	Marjorie James
20	Thelma Laverty
22	Pritchard Anne-Marie
23	Joseph (Jody) NcNeill

February is the birth month of many legendary figures across various fields, including music, sports, literature and politics.

Notable figures born in February:

Charles Dickens (Feb 7, 1812) renowned English novelist. Author of *Oliver Twist* and *A Christmas Carol*.

Abraham Lincoln (Feb 12, 1809) The 16<sup>th</sup> President of the USA. Famous for leading the country during the Civil War and abolishing slavery.

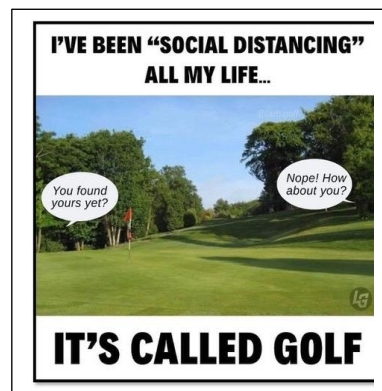
Bob Marley (Feb 6, 1945) Iconic Jamaican reggae musician known for hits like “No Woman, No Cry” and “One Love”.

Galileo Galilei (Feb 15, 1564) Italian astronomer and physicist who made significant contributions to modern science, including improvements to the telescope.

Michael Jordan (Feb 17, 1963) Legendary basketball player, widely regarded as one of the greatest athletes of all time. Known for his time with the Chicago Bulls.



# Janice's Jokes



## Spread the word

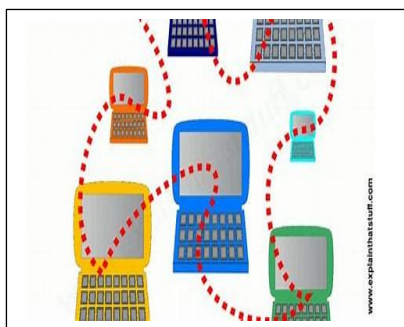
Please **spread the word about the Rockingham Bridge Club**, we would love more members. You can sign up online at:  
<https://rockinghambridgeclub.com/>



## Useful Links

**Club Website**  
**Club Calendar**  
**Club Results**  
**WA Bridge Association**  
**ABF Masterpoint Centre**  
**Focus Magazine**

<https://rockinghambridgeclub.com/>  
<http://bawa.asn.au>  
<http://abfmasterpoints.com.au>



## Contact us

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