

January Newsletter

Paul Marsden wrote in the Weekend Australian about the effects of covid on bridge, mainly, that face to face play has declined, and online bridge has greatly increased. Although tournament bridge resumed last year, the numbers were down by about 50%. With new variants of covid evolving, it is not going to go away anytime soon. It will be interesting to see how it affects bridge this year.

Meanwhile, Malanda Club is thriving. The new premises are proving to be very good, and our membership has increased slightly. The premises are easy to access, and there is plenty of parking space. This is a good thing, as last Monday, we had a record attendance. Eight and a half tables had to be set up. So far, face to face bridge in Malanda has not been affected by covid.



Vale Anna-Maria (Mieke) Van Raders



It was with great sadness that we learned that one of our long time members passed away suddenly last Wednesday. Mieke and her Husband, Jack, were regular players in Malanda, and Atherton, and were much loved by everyone who knew them.

Her friends and fellow bridge players gathered at her house in Peeramon on Sunday to farewell her. Her Daughter gave a brief summary of her life, and then her friends were encouraged to relate their stories about her. It was a lovely gathering, on a fine, sunny day.

It is sad that you can play bridge with someone for many years, and yet know very little about them. Mieke had led an amazing life, and I wish that I had taken the time to ask her about her life. I guess it's because we arrive at bridge, say our quick "hellos", start playing, have a short break for afternoon tea, finish playing, clean up, then depart.

These days, some of us linger for a while, and partake of a glass of wine. This is a good thing, as we finally have a chance to socialise.

