



Charles Page, John Brockwell, Campbell Macrae at the Great Barrier Reef Bridge Championship. PHOTO: AMY HAYDOCK

Spotlight on Coast at bridge contest

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as well as regional Queensland.

The major prize will be the John Brockwell Trophy for which around 300 players



FRIENDLY FUN: Brisbane's John Morris and Sunshine Coast's Arch Morrison at the 22nd Great Barrier Reef Bridge Championship at St Ursula's College. PHOTO: AMY HAYDOCK



at bridge contest

Over 300 players gathered

YEPOON Bridge Club hosted the 22nd Great Barrier Reef Bridge Championship for the first time since the event's inception over the long weekend at St Ursula's College.

The championship has attracted around 300 players including some of the very best players in the world and Australia to play in the pairs and teams events.

World champion Ashley Bach from New Zealand flew in for the event as well three members of the Australian team (Peter Gill, Justin Mill and Peter Hollands) and Queensland team representatives from Brisbane, Therese Tully, Paul Wyer, Malcolm Carter, Tony Hutton and from Townsville; Betty Hobdell and Rosemary Glastonbury.

The event has also received strong support from local Bridge players in Rockhampton and Yeppoon

as well as regional Queensland.

The major prize will be the John Brockwell Trophy for which around 300 players will be competing with venerable former ABF president John Brockwell to present the trophy in person.

John lives in Canberra and was largely responsible for the starting the championship over 20 year ago.

The event has previously rotated between Cairns, Mackay and Townsville but for 2017 Yeppoon Bridge volunteered to organise the event.

Queensland Bridge Association manager Kim Ellaway said it was the bonds of friendship that kept people coming back to the game.

"They make friends for life, and we hear that story everywhere we go," she said.



About 300 players attended the 22nd Great Barrier Reef Bridge Championship.

PHOTO: AMY HAYDOCK

Over the last two years tournament organiser Campbell Macrae and convenor Dick Metcalf have worked tirelessly to get the event off the ground.

They have attracted sponsorship from a number of local businesses as well as support from the Livingstone Shire Council and state member Brittany

Lauga, found accommodation for players as well as a venue that will suit the playing needs of 300 bridge players.

So well have they done that the event is closed to further entries.

It also has a waiting list of entrants just in case someone does not make it to Yeppoon.



Member of the Australian Bridge Team Peter Gill (open division). Peter travelled from Sydney for this competition.

The championship has attracted some of the very best players, in Australia and internationally including New Zealand and South Africa.

"We are very pleased the Yeppoon Bridge Club will be utilising the college's facilities, as they host the Great Barrier Reef Bridge Championship," said St

Ursula's College principal Catherine Dunbar.

"The college's hospitality and catering staff, as well as support staff, have been working with tournament organiser, Campbell Macrae, and convenor Dick Metcalf, and we are confident that our venue and staff will provide for a great championship weekend."

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