

# Gold Coast Bridge Club Monthly Message – February 2012 (No 65)

## President's Message

It is hoped that all those New Year's resolutions are still being adhered to.

The forthcoming year will be busy for the Board of the club with two major issues being high on the agenda, namely the seeking of compensation for the land that has been resume by the Rapid Transit system and exploring the answer to the ongoing drainage problems associated with the car park during heavy rain. Members will be kept updated as developments occur.

## Board Items

There was no Board meeting in January, thus allowing the Board members to have a well earned break. The 1<sup>st</sup> Board meeting for 2012 will be held on 8 February. If any members have any issues that they wish to raise for consideration by the Board it is requested that these issues be presented in writing to the Board.

## James O'Sullivan Rankings for 2011

These awards are state based for the highest number of master points achieved by ABF members in each of the bridge rankings in Queensland. Members of the Gold Coast Bridge Club certainly excelled in the various categories:-

- All Ranks category – Andrew Braithwaite 6<sup>th</sup>, Paula McLeish 9th
- Above Grand Master category – Andrew Braithwaite 2<sup>nd</sup>, Paula McLeish 3<sup>rd</sup>, David McLeish 5th
- Gold Life category - Kevin Steffensen 4th.
- National category – Margaret Pisko 4th
- Regional\* category – Alan Jones 1<sup>st</sup>, Jeffrey Rowe 2<sup>nd</sup>, Norm Sprintall 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lesley Rowe 4<sup>th</sup>, Denise Richards 5th
- Nil category – Peter Staines 5<sup>th</sup>

What a great result for our Regional\* category with our members filling the first 5 places.

## Australia Day Celebrations

Several members assisted with the organization of the special Australia Day event which was held on Thursday 26 January. There was an excellent response with 20 tables enjoying the day. Lamingtons, iced vovos and damper together with traditional Australian music were the order of the day.

I would like to thank the members who took the time to dress in Aussie themed attire, and prizes were awarded for the best dressed pairs. Congratulations to Janet Wallis and Ann Bullock who scooped the pool with their Australia Day attire. The response by our members to our popular Australian celebrations was overwhelming, which highlights the fact that a little bit of organisation can create lot of fun.

## January Swiss Teams Congress – Sunday 8 January

The January Congress had 20 teams enjoying the day. I would like to thank our **sponsor Daydream Island Resort & Spa** for their generosity and also Alan Gibson who so ably directed on the day. Once again our members were magnificent for the contribution of food and snacks on the day thus adding to what was described by many who attended as a great day of bridge and enjoyment of the Club's hospitality.

## Role of Partner Arranger

The principle role of the partner arrangers are to find partners for visitors to the club and those members who partner may not be available to play through sickness or being absent on holidays. If a member is looking for a partner for any other reason it is that persons responsibility after checking with the partner arranger to ascertain if there is any member also wishing to seek a partner for a particular session to themselves make the necessary enquiries to acquire a partner.

## Car Parking

Some members already utilize the car parking facilities under Wings Resort. There are a large number of car parks on the 1<sup>st</sup> level of the resort which are designed for use by visitors to the resort, day spa customers and the Pink Poodle Bar and Restaurant patrons (which has now been closed for almost 2 years). Car parking facilities at the club have been an issue especially on busy days and the Wings Resort offers an alternative. There are no checks on entering or leaving the car park and as such members might consider using it on days when car parking spaces at the club are at a premium.

## Master Point Promotions

**Graduate** – Robyn Spooner, Marie Orme

**Club Master:-**Babi Westergaard

**\*Local Master:-** John Dean

**\*\*Local Master** – Judith Owens

**Regional Master:-** Suzanne Purnell

### **Thursday Bridge Lessons**

Kathy Johnson will be commencing bridge lessons on Thursday 9 February commencing at 9.30pm. The cost of the 8 lessons will be \$75 with the 1<sup>st</sup> lesson being free. Members are asked to notify anyone they know that may be interested in attending these classes.

### **The Contract Bridge Story**

Do you know a game where you say one thing and mean another? Where you dare your opponent to succeed? Where every move is controlled by rules? Where someone is called a dummy? Where divorce and broken friendships find common ground. Where some are vulnerable some of the time? Where retrospective analysis would beat a summit convention of nations? Of course it is bridge.

Contract bridge, refined by Harold Vanderbilt on a Caribbean cruise, has been played worldwide since 1925. With the scope of human ingenuity, it is evolving. Many construct their lives around it. Their other life, including non playing spouse or partner, recedes into obscurity.

Bridge is a game of bidding between partners to make an agreed number of tricks. Letting your partner know what you have or don't have in veiled bridge-speak a sanctified form of communication.

Even the defenders with disappointing cards can become absorbed in felling the enemy by hoarding their ace, king or cache of trumps for the kill. No one is bored. Boredom is not a word in the bridge vocabulary.

Bridge relies on cognition, memory, calculation, foresight, anticipation, consequence, acuity and educated guesswork. No wonder bridge is better than a prescription for the older player.

Bridge brings out the personalities in us all: - the dreamer, cowboy, entrepreneur, gambler, tycoon, competitor, hesitator, and stirrer. Let the play begin. (Courtesy of an article by Nana Ollershaw)

### **Future Events**

- **Henry Handicap Eclectic** – (Thurs 2, 9 & 16 Feb) – **sponsored Graham and Grace Henry**
- **Red Point Teams** – Fri 3, 10 & 17 Feb commencing 12.20pm) – **sponsored by a club member**
- **Gold Coast Congress** – (25 Feb – 3 Mar)

### **February Birthdays**

1<sup>st</sup> – Lol Garnett, 2<sup>nd</sup> – James Moodie, 5<sup>th</sup> – Valerie Fairlie, Judith Owens, 8<sup>th</sup> – Barbara Coxon,, 9<sup>th</sup> - Connie Isaacs, Margaret Watson, Michael Webb, Dale Wells, 10<sup>th</sup> - Connie Cassar, 11<sup>th</sup> – Derek Guildford, 12<sup>th</sup> - Pat Hinton, Rebecca Lawson, Tony Chrisp, Vernia Bullivant, Mary Dooley, 14<sup>th</sup> - Kevin Steffensen, Valerie Reuter-Buck, Ruth Tracey, 15<sup>th</sup> – Beryl McGregor, Helga Herling, Margaret de Mestre, Delma Christian, 16<sup>th</sup> – Monica Downey, 20<sup>th</sup> – Graham Henry, 23<sup>rd</sup> – Rita Morris, 25<sup>th</sup> - Di Hodges, Janet Wallis, Lindel Day, Noriko Nishigami, 26<sup>th</sup> - Dinah Davidson, 27<sup>th</sup> – Paul Keleher, 29<sup>th</sup> – Peter Leden

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### **Bereavements**

It is with much sadness that we advise that Basil Laphorn and Bryan Hunt recently passed away after battles with cancer. Basil was a Past President and board member of the club and in 2010/11 was chair of the QBA Gold Coast Zone Committee.

The memorial service for Basil and the funeral for Bryan were well represented by the Gold Coast bridge fraternity and I gave a eulogy on behalf of the bridge community at both services. The March issue of our quarterly newsletter will contain a tribute to Basil.

### ***Enjoy Your Bridge***

**Neil Raward**

**President**

*Please come with a smile and leave with a smile and treat your partner and opponents with respect and dignity*

**Players who require a partner - contact Denise Richards on 55 205 087**

**Or restricted players contact Shelley and Jim Moodie on 55 912 135**

**Member's Welfare – Denise Richards**