



GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB

Issue No 204 - September 2023

President's Report from the AGM

Good morning,

Thank you for attending the 59th AGM of our club. It is nearly 3 years since I became President. Now it's time for me to pass the baton over to a very capable person in Carolyn Waters.

It's been a very interesting and challenging three years. My first role as President was to inform the members that we were closing the kitchen and letting go of our long term and much-loved kitchen staff, Chris and Carole. This decision was not made lightly but came as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, I spent the first month dealing with angry members via phone calls and emails. This was just one of many challenging aspects during the Covid period.

Attendance this past year has been down on pre Covid numbers but is marginally above 2022. This in part has been due to the wonderful education team we have. A special thanks is extended to our bridge teachers, Lynley Jenkins and Dot Piddington, for the great job they are doing. Also, encouraging all students to become members of our club.

Our Monday Rookies session is proving extremely successful and is continually growing. We now have a regular core group attending. As I mentioned last year, our past President Julie Wicks initiated this idea during the Covid period. Julie has also updated our procedures manuals, maintains the key register and is the editor of our monthly newsletter. Thank you, Julie.

A very special thank you to our hardworking Board (listed below). It's been an extremely cohesive team, all contributing and taking on other tasks when needed. We appreciate your contribution to the Club to make it successful!

- Viv Gillard using her experience mastered the Secretary's role. She made sure that all the documents were sent to the QBA when required and that we were totally up to date with ASIC. I could go on and on. She has recently trained Carolyn Waters so that she in turn can train the incoming secretary.
- Brian Pearson showed his managerial expertise by taking on tasks that involved reading pages and pages of documents and summarizing them for the Board. Brian has been an excellent Vice President and great assistance to me.
- Penny Grace has been Membership Secretary for some years and joined the Board last year to ensure that she is across all news. She has done a marvellous job. Penny is remaining on the Board.
- John Lemarchand took on the role of Treasurer. John is extremely diligent and is always looking at ways to improve his role. John is remaining on the Board.
- Greg Tosh is our "go to board member". He has assisted as Secretary, Treasurer in the early days and most recently as the maintenance person. Greg has such an endearing personality and always ready to help when asked. Greg is remaining on the Board.
- Deb Roots, although new to the club, put her hand up to help in any way needed. Her can-do attitude is fantastic. She is continually encouraging beginners at lessons to start playing in the Rookies sessions.
- Cheryl Hensel put her hand up to do the club diary over the last 2 years. Cheryl has an even temperament which is fantastic when discussing contentious issues.
- Carolyn Waters joined the Board six months ago and took over the demanding role of Secretary. This gave Carolyn the opportunity to become acquainted with how our Board operates and learning the administrative and legal ropes.

Allow me to share with you a few of our achievements during the last 3 years.

- We now have larger tables and covers.
- We have moved from a paper trail to an electronic system.
- We meet all our legal obligations to the ATO.
- Our ASIC register is up to date.
- We increased the number of events at our club.
- Our social events, held during and after competitions, are popular eg. The King's Coronation
- We installed security gates in the Entry and Exit driveways.
- We have set in place a selection criterion for Life Membership nominations.
- While the Board is looking after the present period, we have been very conscious of ensuring the future of the Club, primarily the Telstra land. The club of course would like to purchase the Telstra land and the Board is in constant contact with Telstra so that we have the first opportunity to do so.

Many thanks to all the Board members for your hard work. I would like to thank members who have put their name forward for the new Board.

You are aware that our club is maintained totally by volunteers except for Peter Lester. Peter looks after the sausage sizzle, cleaning, the beautiful garden and is the "go to" person. This isn't just a job for Peter. He cares so much. Thank you, Peter.

Thank you to all the volunteers, in so many areas: Dealers, Masterpoint Secretary, Chief Scorer, Membership Secretary, IT Personnel, Accounting, Partnership Arrangers, Catering, the Grants team, our website master, Librarian, Welfare Officer, legal advisors and our club decorating/marketing team. And not forgetting members who assist with selling of table tickets and those who launder our table covers.

Thanks to Alan Kestenberg for taking on the role of Congress Convenor, Sponsorship and is also going to put together next year's Diary.

The Directors, both non-playing and playing. Non-playing Directors sacrifice their time to direct a session, while playing Directors sacrifice their game while directing.

Our Club could not run efficiently without your assistance.... thank you all.

There are people within the Club who need special mention.

- Paul Brake who wears many hats and is always available to answer your queries. His legal advice gives us assurances that we are doing things correctly.
- Jenny Martin who has put up her hand to do the Chair of Tournament role. Her calm and helpful disposition makes her most suitable.
- Two very special members Eva and Tony Berger. Their contribution to the club over the last forty years is enormous.

Eva has at various times fulfilled so responsibly, effectively and cheerfully such positions as President, Secretary, Chief Scorer, Masterpoints Secretary, Membership Secretary and Chair of Tournament. Eva has worked in most, if not all, of the club roles over the last 40 years. What an achievement.

Tony has been on the Board for so many years. Over the last 40 years he has cared for the club and looked after all our maintenance. Tony's foresight led to many renovations to our club house such as upgrading the kitchen, installing a handicapped toilet, air conditioning. The list goes on and on. At one time the Board desperately needed a Treasurer and Tony stepped in.

Both have made an exceptional contribution to the club and the club wishes to thank them with a gift voucher to Shiraz.

Also, a big thank you to all our sponsors. Our members enjoy playing in sponsored events and especially receiving cash prizes when they win.

Lastly, I want to thank all the members who support our club through your attendance. GCBC is an AMAZING CLUB and I'm honoured to have been President. To have met and mentored the new members, enjoyed making new friendships and getting to know all members of our Club.

Warmest regards, Odette

Arrive 20 minutes before start of play.

As a courtesy to our Directors, please make sure you **arrive at the club at least 20 minutes before the start of play**. This allows the director to correctly count the number of occupied tables and set up the movement for the session. If the movement setup is wrong, the whole scoring system and Bridge mates must be re-started, meaning a start delay (and later finish).

Similarly, **at the end of play** and just like us, our directors like to get home at a reasonable hour. After play finishes at your table, please tidy your table by pushing in your chairs, returning the table numbers and boards to the relevant area, and return the Bridge mates to the relevant crate.

Interstate Winners - Congratulations



Several GCBC members played at the Coffs Coast Gold Congress. First in the Open Swiss Pairs was Sandra and Andrew Richman.

Jeff Conroy and Ed Hahn (photo) played in the open field and received the first prize for the under 1000 master point. A very good result and \$500 richer.

Thank you, Bijan Assaee, for forwarding this to be included in the newsletter. The Editor is very happy for members to forward results and photos of winners at events other than at our club for inclusion in the newsletter. Please send to juliekwicks@gmail.com.

August Events Winners – Congratulations

Mudgeeraba Cutting Pairs – Cecile Senior and Shirley Wanz

Gold Coast Pairs

- under 500 mps - Sew Yoon Yap-Giles & Liz Moss
- under 100 mps - Fiona Evans & Anne Moase

Club Championship – Eva Berger and Kathy Johnson

Local Newsletter Pairs

- Under 50mps - David Lewis and Xiaohong Zhou
- Open - Libby Persson and Carolyn Waters

Australia Wide Open Pairs

- N/S - Ann Liu and Usher Zeng
- E/W - Pat Beattie and Robyn Fletcher

September Events

Tuesday Pairs 5th & 12th September. Open and under 100 mps. Sponsor Just Jewellery

Friday 8th September. GNOT Final at SPBC. All day

Sunday 10th September. Interclub (Ballina) Challenge

Thursday Evening 21st & 28th September. Joan Leckie Memorial Teams. Sponsors: Williamson, Swanson, Sear, Dean, Homik.

Promotions

Bronze Life – Shayne Palfreyman

Bronze Local – Beverly Jarvis

Club – Michael Rootes

Graduate – Susan Aarons, Brett Hughes

New Members – Welcome

Elizabeth Foster, Maggi Fisher

September Birthdays

1st - Sandra Feingold, Trish Miller; 2nd - Patricia Anagnostou; 5th - Elma Watson; 6th - Thuy Trinh; 7th - Mary Denison, David McLeish, Judy Stephens; 8th - Trusha Radia; 10th - Sonja Bailey, Debbie Foot, Sonya Palfreyman; 11th - John Bunker, Jennifer Sawyer; 12th - Jennifer Martin; 13th - Kevin Hall; 14th - Xiaohong Zhou; 15th - Richard Metcalfe, Carolyn Waters; 16th - Jane Parry; 18th - Pamela Jessep; 20th - Frances Taylor; 21st - Allanah Aitken; 22nd - Joan Phillips; 23rd - Diana Board; 25th - Leonie Daniels, David Grout, John Sear; 26th - Vivien Henesey-Smith; 27th - Maxima Fogelgarn.

In the Beginning....Jim Moodie

Shelley and I moved with our two boys to the Gold Coast in August 1986 for me to take up the position of Deputy Principal at Benowa State School. Shelley recommenced teaching in primary schools in 1990 when both our boys were at school.

When we both retired at the end of 2007, we decided we would learn how to play bridge. In our early married life, we had enjoyed playing cards, such as canasta, 500, poker and cribbage. Two of our former school colleagues, Lynn Gerrard and Di Hodges, recommended we take lessons and join the GCBC as they were already members of the club which they enjoyed immensely.

In February 2008, we commenced our series of 8 lessons at the club. We missed the first lesson as we were on holiday but were ably taught the fundamentals of the game by Charlie Howard and two sessions of supervised play conducted by Kathy Johnson. We have found over the years that many of the excellent players in the club are happy to give advice about the game if asked.

With the fundamentals under our belt and with some trepidation, we commenced playing in the restricted section. We found the three and half hours of play quite exhausting when we first commenced but as time goes by you learn the ropes and you get in the swing of things. Some differences in those early days of play included no bridge mates. You had to fill in the “traveller” that accompanied each board with the score achieved at that table. When you reached the princely number of 50 master points, you moved from the restricted to the open section. During this time, we made many bridge friends enjoying their company at weekly bridge and on the special days organised at the club. We have never had a lot of goals for our bridge play other than enjoying the game, but we are quite proud of being on the Honour Board for winning our section in the club’s Pairs Championship in 2019. We have taken the opportunity in our travels to play at other bridge clubs and very much like our own club, you are always made welcome.

As often expressed at the club there is always a need for volunteers. I spent several years reorganising and looking after the club’s key register. Shelley and I have been the partner organisers at the club for the past 13 years which we have enjoyed doing, having the opportunity to talk to many club members and visitors seeking a partner. Always rewarding to find partners for new members to play with and get an introduction to our club. At the end of this year, we will be passing this position onto another club member.

Quiz Answers.

Last month I included the quiz below on the left-hand side. Each of the song titles include the word club, diamond, heart, or spade. Solution on the right-hand side.

AOS – Motorhead
CATEOTS – Elton John
DAAGBF – Marilyn Monroe
DAF – Shirley Bassey
DGBMH – Elton John & Kiki Dee
DOTSOHS – Paul Simon
HH – Bruce Springsteen
HOG – Blondie
HOG – Neil Young
LITSWD – The Beatles
QOS - Styx
SOYCD – Pink Floyd
SPLHCB – The Beatles
TEOTH – Bonnie Tyler
TH – Phil Collins

Ace of Spades
Club at the End of the Street
Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend
Diamonds are Forever
Don't Go Breaking My Heart
Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes
Hungry Heart
Heart of Glass
Heart of Gold
Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds
Queen of Spades
Shine On You Crazy Diamond
Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
Total Eclipse of the Heart
Two Hearts

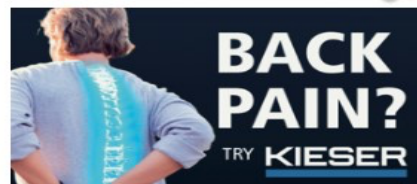
Happy Bridging Julie Wicks

Need a Partner: Use your Pianola account to request or find a partner or contact:

Mon - Sat Jim & Shelley Moodie...5591 2135 or 0402 634 013
Thursday Night. Tom Strong.....0421 106 986

Welfare Officer: Cheryl Millar 0409 879 081

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